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# ARCADIA

Cross-Country Style,  
Architecture and Design

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## ARCADIA

Off Shore



### Feix & Merlin Architects

Eyes Wide sHut (Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire, UK)

Part of an environmental improvement scheme led by local government, Eyes Wide sHut boasts two larger-than-life picture frames, one in front and one at the rear. These carry floor-to-ceiling mirrored polycarbonate panels allowing unobstructed views from inside but reflecting a view of the beach in front and the town to the rear, as if someone had taken a picture and put it in the frame. From the inside they function as one-way mirrors. The interior is wallpapered with an illustration of a life-size clearing in a forest, providing an escape from the warm beach into a cool woodland. The mirrored front frame of the hut slides, opening at the front while serving as a windscreen for the garden from the wind.



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### Fantastic Norway

Atrium cabin on Vardehaugen  
(Gröttingen, Åfjord, Norway)

A coastal cabin located on Vardehaugen, an outcropping beside the mouth of a fjord, 35 metres above sea level, with 360-degree views of sea, rock, heath, and, sometimes, harsh weather. The building was inspired by the traditional Norwegian cluster villages that feature flexible indoor-outside spaces and clear social organisation, and shaped like a mountain fox curled up to avoid the wind. The living room is situated on the edge of the property and doubles as an observatory. From here, inhabitants enjoy a sea view in three directions and can observe the movements of the sun from the sofa. The open plan also accommodates more intimate nooks and crannies. Likewise, metaphorically perhaps, the black roof can fold inward to fortify the walls in the directions most exposed to the climate. The walls are also canted at the angle that gives the wind the least purchase on the building.

