

Press Kit - The Cardrona Cabin by Abodo



Short project description

Set in the harsh alpine climate of New Zealand's South Island, the cabin demonstrates the durability, along with the beauty of Abodo timber products and processes.

Externally, the slatted Vulcan Screening in Sioo:x Finish is designed to age and weather to the grey tones of its rocky environment, while the concrete base is imprinted with the grained texture of timber formwork.

The interior reflects warmth, texture and heart with a crafted carpentry of exposed timber structure, and highly grained timber panelling evocative of sarking in early period cottages in the area.

Long project description

This cabin showcases New Zealand material, detail and craft in the alpine environment. Sited in the Cardrona Valley between Wanaka and Queenstown, the building demonstrates the Abodo range of thermally modified timber products in practice: cladding, structure, linings, flooring, fenestration, joinery, furnishing and fence posts showcase the products.



The gable form is derived from the Central Otago stone shed, though the traditional appearance has been abstracted. Elements that normally communicate building scale are absent, the form is presented as a monolith of rigorously set-out battened timber, floating on a recessed piled foundation. Slight variations in the batten spacings signify windows, a single street-side door is sheltered by a steel arch.

In contrast to the restrained exterior materiality, the interior structure and surfaces are a rich articulation of New Zealand carpentry codes and builders craft, using a wide array of Abodo timbers and finishes.

Extensive use of timber throughout - a few carefully crafted details include:

- Façade and Roof: Abodo Vulcan timber screening, finished in Sioo:x, a silicate-based wood finish designed to silver off.
- Entry Platform: Board formed concrete with “bush hammer” finish.
- Structure: Abodo Vulcan timber in exposed studs and rafters in raw finish combined with exposed steel portals.
- Interiors: Abodo Vulcan Panelling TG9 – raw finish.
- Flooring: Abodo Thermally Modified Silver Beech, finished in Whittle Evolution hard wax oil
- Kitchen: Abodo Vulcan facings, with Abodo Thermally Modified Silver Beech bench top, finished in Rubio Monocoat Intense Black

No longer can we use slow grown, imported timbers to build premium homes and structures. This building is a showcase of what can be achieved when we think differently - it is designed to inspire others.

Abodo timbers are sourced from rapidly renewable FSC® certified New Zealand plantations that help to mitigate climate change by absorbing vast amounts of carbon.

Using state-of-the-art thermal modification and grain orientation technology, we can craft beautiful timbers that stand the test of time, reducing the carbon footprint of buildings, without disadvantaging future generations.



Reducing Carbon Footprint – A Case Study: Cardrona Cabin

Over 9 tonnes of carbon is stored in the Vulcan timber elements alone, dramatically offsetting the small amounts of concrete and structural steel used in the building.

- [Read more here](#)
- Download Abodo's [Environmental Product Declaration \(EPD\) here](#)

Image galleries:

Please note, photography credits are required (as below):

- Chris Lea: [see images](#)
- Brad Willetts: [see images](#)
- Simon Devitt: [see images](#)

Video links:

- Trailer: [see link](#)
- Interview with architect, Assembly Architects: [see link](#)

Additional information:

- [Vulcan Screening](#)
- [Vulcan Panelling](#)
- [Sioo:x Natural Wood Coating](#)
- Architect: [Assembly Architects](#)
- Builder: [Dunlop Builders – Wanaka](#)
- [See full project](#)

