

design anthology

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WANDERLUST / GUESTHOUSE, SCOTLAND

Highland Hideaway

When Anne Holch Povlsen — wife of Danish billionaire Anders Holch Povlsen — collaborated with Swiss-born stylist and designer Ruth Kramer on the interiors of design-led Killiehuntly Farmhouse and Cottage, they ideated a new, evocative style that became known as Scandi-Scot. Layering the rugged patinas and earthy materials of rural Scotland with clean, urbane Nordic aesthetics, the duo continue to craft deeply atmospheric, intimate spaces where old and new coexist, and light and shadow transform simple rooms into mesmerising time capsules.

Killiehuntly, in the Cairngorms National Park, is just one of the handful of holiday estates owned by the Povlsens' nature conservation and hospitality group Wildland Limited. In September 2019, Povlsen and Kramer completed the interiors of Lundies House, Wildland's latest Highland guesthouse, in the remote coastal village of Tongue in the northern county of Sutherland.

With outlooks of the historic Castle Varrich, Ben Loyal and the wild and rocky loch known as Kyle of Tongue, Lundies House is a 19th-century Georgian stone dwelling that was once the home of a clergyman. The Povlsens hired Edinburgh-based Groves-Raines Architects to restore the building's original woodwork, plaster mouldings and flagstone floor and convert the interiors to accommodate three guestrooms, a loft apartment and communal areas.

'The interior is made up of a combination of major and minor spaces, offering open areas as well as cosy private corners that encourage guests to put their feet up and enjoy a drink after a day

outdoors,' says Povlsen. 'The design is influenced by our respect for quality materials and furniture that's simple but functional and long-lasting. The rooms were created to be good for the soul — to warm our spirits as the sunlight moves through the house.'

In addition to the main house, the property's steadings were converted into three minimalistic courtyard studio guestrooms and a self-contained family apartment that surround a courtyard garden and parking area.

The studio rooms have a more contemporary, industrial look, with mezzanine beds, a palette of stone, polished concrete and oak, exposed brickwork, and expansive windows that open out to the courtyard. The apartment, which has a kitchen and a Le Corbusier-inspired living lounge, is fitted with terrazzo floors, wood-clad walls and brass details.

'We want Lundies to feel genuine and personal, not staged or contrived. Every item was carefully sourced and selected,' says Povlsen, explaining how every element found in and around the house is something that she, her husband and Kramer care deeply — 'and have quite strong opinions' — about.

'Sometimes it was easy for us to decide on a design detail, but other times we discussed it for a long time before finding the right colour, artwork or piece of furniture. Because of this, the house is a very personal expression of our own tastes honed over time. Being here feels like being in an art collector's private home,' she says.

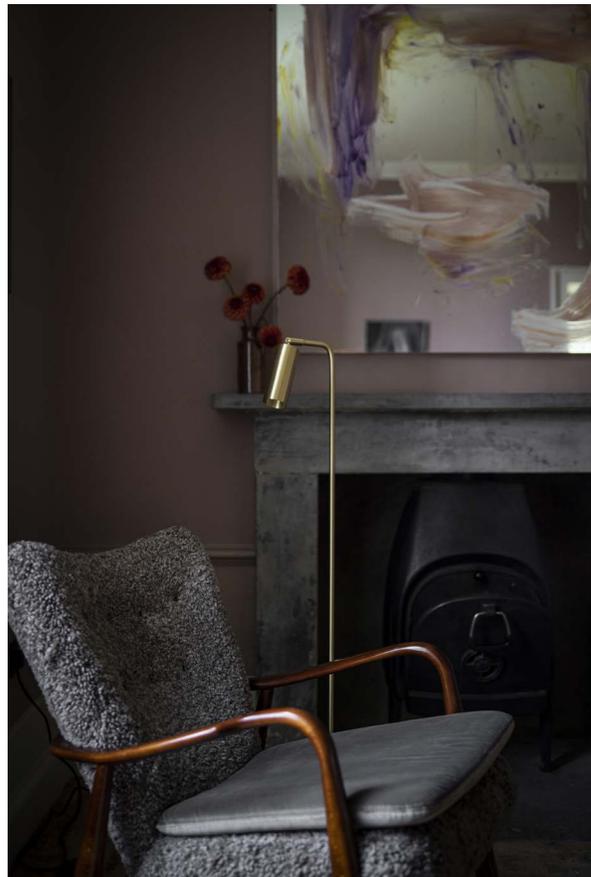
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Located in the remote northern Scottish village of Tongue, Lundies House is the latest guesthouse to be created by Anne Hoch Povlsen and Ruth Kramer under the Wildland Limited brand, which Povlsen established with her husband Anders

Facing page
The guesthouse's Scandi-Scot style continues where Povlsen and design collaborator Kramer left off with Killiehuntly Farmhouse and Cottage. Edinburgh firm Groves-Raines Architects meticulously restored the property's original woodwork, plaster mouldings and flagstone floor





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 The main house's interiors were converted to accommodate three guestrooms, a loft apartment and communal areas. All of the guestrooms have a serene and muted tone that channels the aura of paintings by Danish masters like Vilhelm Hammershøi. The property's steadings were converted into three minimalistic, more modern studios and a self-contained family apartment

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 Setting is a feature here, with outlooks of the historic Castle Varrich, Ben Loyal and the loch known as Kyle of Tongue from the property, and the picturesque Tongue a short stroll away



The 19th-century Georgian stone dwelling was once the home of a clergyman, and retains its bucolic charm