

DETTE ESTATE in the Stags Leap District of Napa Valley, which rounds out a trio of wineries courtesy of hospitality powerhouse the PlumpJack Group, was constructed to enchant you with elegance, strength, femininity, and a contemporary stance on environmental responsibility. By enlisting renowned firm Signum Architecture, which also designed fellow PlumpJack property CADE winery, Odette was able to execute strategies such as recycling shipping containers to be used for the winemaker's office and lab, creating a rainwater capture, and minimizing earth disruption by working with the existing grade and cave portal.

"The organic nature of the Odette concept, with its curves and gentle lines, helped guide the design toward the final shape and the integration of the building with the surrounding landscape," explains Signum partner Juancarlos Fernandez.

Fernandez revealed that one of the most uniquely efficient and sustainable components of the project is the 8,500-square-foot living roof. "Most of it is planted with perennial sedums, improving its natural thermal performance and biodiversity and reducing storm water runoff into the property," says Fernandez. "The rest of the roof is covered with solar panels that generate electricity. The shape of the roof and the layout of the building allow the structure to be tucked into a natural cove of three hillsides, minimizing the overall site development."

Signum Architecture's execution of such a mindful endeavor has awarded Odette Estate with a LEED Gold certification and continues to provide a visual delight that is also giving back to the land it inhabits. —Caitlin Donovan