



JACOB LONGBAEK & TRINE KORSHAGEN
1960 SUMMERHOUSE
KORSNAGE, DENMARK

WORDS
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PHOTOGRAPHS
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The Thatch House

"We come here to be someone else," Jacob Longbaek says about the Korshagehus, a summer home designed by his father-in-law (and famed Danish architect) Erik Korshagen. "You normally don't allow yourself to just meditate about who you are when you're in the middle of work or in town. This is the perfect place for that." Jacob and Trine took over the family home in 1998. Each summer they return to the town of Korsnager, which is located on a peninsula an hour and a half north of Copenhagen, to enjoy the solitude of the forest and the calls of the seabirds from the nearby coast. Featuring a thatched roof, an unusual floor plan and a Japanese influence, the Korshagehus

has been deemed a protected historical home. Although they can't alter the exterior, the couple says the 1960 home is still in perfect condition and doesn't need renovating. "When the house was built, there were no doors between the rooms," Jacob says. "There's also a boardwalk all the way around the outside of the house. The idea was that be outdoors as much as possible." The dark interior, a result of the overhanging roof, encourages the couple to get out into the forest as often as possible. "You sit in the dark and watch the light," he says about being inside the house. "It's like going to the cinema—the landscape is lit." Existing in nature allows for

meditation, as does the home's unusually high doorsteps. "Being elevated gives you this ship-like feeling that you're floating in the middle of the forest," he says. "You're in a world by yourself—anchored, but only loosely. You could always float away." Jacob believes simplicity provides the best background for adding creative and personal touches to a space. "If you keep the furniture very simple, you always need a centerpiece, some oddity," he says. "The centerpiece is the focal point. It's something that gives the room personality. When people open the door, they have to be able to say, 'Ah, I'm home!' And if their home is decorated exactly like thousands of others, it's not really home."

