

At one with nature

A wooden cabin that slides apart on rails: **Cabin ANNA** combines a love of design with being outdoors.

Almost silently, with a soft clicky-clack, the timber and glass walls glide along the rails and the roof gradually parts to reveal the sky. The birdsong seems louder, and the sun's rays feel warm on your skin. The morning dew is still glistening on the leaves. Imagine waking up like this, with nothing but a blue vault above you, surrounded by forests, meadows and silence. There cannot be a more idyllic way to start a day.

Dutchman Caspar Schols has created a place that sets new standards in indoor-outdoor living. When it is closed, Cabin ANNA is an unassuming wooden chalet. But when it is opened, a new sense of space is revealed and indoors and outdoors merge into one. It is a flexible concept that follows the rhythm of nature. The house and its shells adapt to the weather – like clothing.

Schols designed the cabin for his mother Anna when she asked him to build her a garden cottage. Although fascinated by design and architecture, he had no training in the field but looked for a design that would bring her closer to nature. He spent nine months building the cottage next to the pond in his parents' back yard from Douglas fir. A report in the design magazine *Dezeen* brought the project to the attention of the world. Having won various awards and completed a design degree, Schols began to elaborate and perfect his innovative concept.

Since 2021, ANNA Origin, the first prototype after the private garden cottage, and four follow-up models have been available for rental in Holenberg in the Maashorst nature reserve in the Netherlands. Hidden away in the forest, these cottages are fully equipped with a double bed, heating stove, small kitchen, bathroom – and a bathtub sunk into the floor.

Working with its partner Rewilding Europe, Cabin ANNA plans to open new locations in several other European countries. If you'd rather not wait that long, two cabin models – ANNA Stay and ANNA Meet – can be purchased (prices available on request) and erected almost anywhere.



Would you like to know more?

WORDS: MERLE WILKENING; PHOTOS: WWW.CABIN-ANNA.COM



Spending the night beneath a starry sky – a dream come true.