



Dongodaji Lodge: A Modern Expression of Northern Nigerian Architecture

Located in the heart of Kaduna, Dongodaji Lodge is a 39-room hotel focused on providing a quality, affordable hospitality experience. The project was developed in line with the design and operational guidelines of the Nordic Hotel Group, resulting in a scheme that is highly efficient, streamlined, and cost-effective to operate.

Built on the site of a former family compound, a low-intervention approach was adopted, preserving the original foundation, clay walls, and mature trees. A practical and sustainable strategy that significantly reduced costs while anchoring the structure in its historical context.

The architecture takes practical inspiration from traditional Northern Nigerian palaces, granting the modest-budget structure a grand feel. It carefully uses familiar features like stepped rawani parapets and collonaded walkways to create a straightforward yet cohesive rhythm. These functional elements are complemented by tropical breeze blocks that offer crucial sun shading and natural privacy, removing the need for burglar-proofing- a modest nod to the light-filtering designs seen in classic Hausa architecture.

At the heart of the scheme is a beautiful atrium and courtyard, which efficiently introduces natural light and necessary cross-ventilation. The covered walkways also provide sheltered circulation, ensuring a comfortable guest experience. Dongodaji Lodge offers a modern yet rooted hospitality that combines functionality, respect for the local context, and accessibility for a wider guest demographic.

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