

Spain scoops award

The Move! Channel

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Catherine Deshayes

A villa in Sotogrande, on the Costa del Sol, has just scooped the 'Best Architecture [Spain](#)' accolade in this year's CNBC-sponsored European Property Awards...

The villa was designed by Mexican architects Legorreta and Legorreta, the first time they have ever lent their signature style to a private residence in Europe.

Paul Rossiter, Managing Director of Costa del Sol-based [Contemporary Villas](#), who are currently marketing the property, said, "It took quite literally years of persistence on the part of the owners to ensnare Mexico's most famous living architects to design the 700-square-metre, five-bedroom house which overlooks the Mediterranean. But the finished product, which is as liveable as it is striking, rewards their perseverance."

Undoubtedly and unashamedly 'different', Casa Mexicana respectfully keeps many of its quirkiest features on the courtyard interior, displaying an inoffensive geometric deep-red terracotta-hued exterior to the passing public.

Only those privileged enough to cross the threshold will appreciate the full extent of Ricardo Legorreta's thoroughly modern take on Mexican architecture.

Flamingo pink, lemon yellow and burnt sienna washed walls, accented by a lattice of perforations, create a riot of colour and light which perfectly frames the Andalucian countryside and seascapes.

Walnut, maple and oak flooring can be found in the bedrooms and inner living spaces, whilst a glass-encased marble courtyard leads to a terrace and refreshing aquamarine pool flanked by a tumbling pebble water cascade.

Thousands of Europe's most affluent residents live in the 2,000-hectare Sotogrande estate, conceived by American Joseph McMicking back in 1962.

Renowned for its 683-berth marina, world-famous polo fields and so-called 'Golden Triangle of Golf' - comprising San Roque, Valderrama and Real Club de Golf Sotogrande - Casa Mexicana is within strolling distance of the Hotel Almenara, a five-star Eden H resort with spa and equestrian centre, and a just few minutes' drive from the marina with its chic shops, bars and restaurants.

Paul said, "Examples of honest, pure, modern architecture are hard to come by in southern [Spain](#), but society is changing and demand is growing.

"Undoubtedly Channel 4's television series [Grand Designs](#) has fuelled a hunger for all things contemporary, meanwhile the age bracket is also dropping in this area and many younger buyers are more interested in modern designs."

Casa Mexicana is currently on the market for €3.5m.

For more see: www.contemporary-villas.com