BlueForest
Exclusive TreeHouses & Eco-Lodges

Finca Bellavista Tree House Method Statement

Introduction:

The following method statements describe the techniques to be used in the construction of the proposed tree houses at the Finca Bellavista.

The descriptions relate specifically to the three tree house concept plans in the enclosed presentation. As requested, these plans include two timber post/stilt based tree house designs and a third a bracer based fully arboreal tree house design.

Please note that the plans do not show the exact position of the host trees or tree house sites proposed at the Finca Bellavista and that the plans are purely designed to provide a visual representation of the possible structures. The position of the host trees and major boughs and branches will change from site to site and the structures may encompass a number of branches not shown on the concept plans.

Post/Stilt based Tree House Construction Method (Concept Plans One & Two):

The tree house concept plans 'One' and 'Two' show a free standing structure supported on solid timber posts (See Image 1). The posts will be individual secured into the ground using a small amount of concrete in hand dug holes. This process allows the assessment of the root structure of the nearby trees to ensure that they sustain no damage. Minimal landscaping work will be required, as the tree house structure is designed to fit into the existing environment with little or no effect on the surrounding habitat.

The platform on which the tree houses are built will be is assembled with the use of large foundation timbers (approx. 200mm/50mm) and will be lined with timber decking to ensure a safe, solid and level surface. The height of the deck will vary according to the specific location of the structure. This is to insure that the tree house fits its surrounding environment in the most suitable and secure way, with the absolute minimum negative impact on the trees themselves. In each case the tree house will not be supported by the tree itself and plenty of space will be left around the bough of the tree to allow for movement and growth (100mm minimum).

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Image 1. Showing a Tree House Supported Using Solid Timber Posts.

Bracer Based Fully Arboreal Tree House Construction Method (Concept Plan Three):

Tree house concept plan 'Three' shows a structure supported by solid timber bracers secured to the main bough of the tree (See Image 2). The method we have developed for fixing the bracers to the tree has been proven over time to be both safe and secure. The bracers are fixed using a custom made galvanised steel bracket/joist hanger and a stainless steel bolt. The bolt passes through an eye-hole in the bracket and is fixed through the bark, cambium layer and sap wood and eventually into the heart wood of the tree. By securing in this manner the tree simply grows around the fixing as though it where a limb with no negative consequences. Once again minimal or no landscaping work will be required, as the tree house structure is designed to fit into the existing environment with little or no effect on the surrounding habitat.

Once again the platform on which the tree houses are built will be assembled with the use of large foundation timbers (approx. 200mm/50mm) and will be lined with timber decking to ensure a safe, solid and level surface. The height of the deck will vary according to the specific location of the structure. This is to insure that the tree house fits its surrounding environment in the most suitable and secure way, with the absolute minimum negative impact on the trees themselves. Although the tree house is fully supported by the tree itself plenty of space (100mm minimum) will be left around the bough of the tree to allow for movement and growth. (See Image 3 & 4.)

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Image 2. Showing Tree Houses Supported Using Timber Bracers.

Image 3. Sub-frame illustration.

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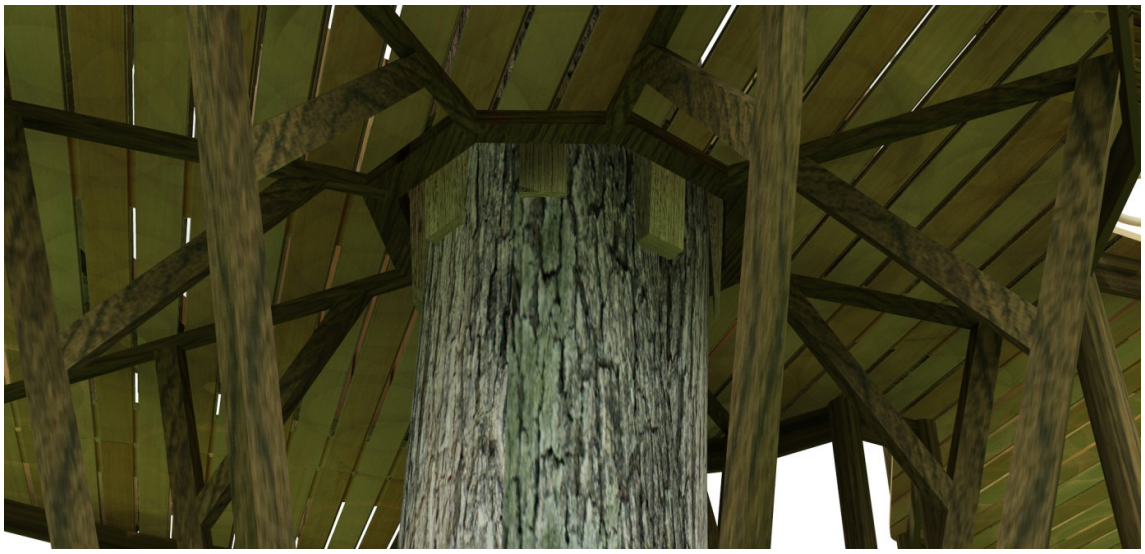
Image 4. Sub-frame with Platform



Appearance:

The structures have been designed to appear as natural as possible and to blend into the surrounding environment. This will be achieved with the use of a variety of natural timber cladding materials as illustrated in the concept plans and images below.

The sawn materials used for the construction of the tree house frame and supports will all be stained a neutral colour to ensure the structure blends in with it's surroundings.

A few examples of tree houses with a similar cladding are below:

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Conclusion:

As a company Blue Forest has worked hard to develop processes that reflect best practices in our sector, indeed we have been pioneering in our approach as there are very few people in our business. Our approach to the design and construction of our tree houses above all takes into consideration the well being of the host trees, the safety of our structures and the sustainable means in which each of them is built.

If further information is required we would be happy to provide it. Please contact the Blue Forest office on 01892 750090 or e-mail info@blueforest.com

Kind Regards

Simon Payne
Director

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