

## **DESIGN CONCEPT**

Conceived like a fold of paper, the Aearth Resort is built in the idyllic context of Naggar, Manali in Himachal Pradesh where its every facet harmonises with the sound of nature. It draws its inspiration from the local architecture of Naggar with its use of slate walls, pine wood windows and sloping roofs, the design stays indigenous, yet, merges congruously with the contemporary realm. The project is divided in two parts; its cottages designed as biomorphic pods emulating ant hills on a slope and the main resort building which strikes a harmonic balance between the traditionally inspired architecture with an origami roof unfolding all over it. Every cottage unit within the resort is conceived as a cocoon growing sporadically from the land, just like an anthill, connected in its parts. The main building that comprises of the reception lounge, the restaurant, art gallery with bar and the spa has been designed to build around the existing pine trees on site conspicuously carving an entrance between the existing tree cluster. The reception block at the entrance level with its folded roof and a see through provides a clear unobstructed view of the snow covered hills and the lush green valley that forms the panorama for the entire resort.



## STEEL APPLICABILITY

Every component contributes to a larger whole in creating a canvas for the grand spectacle of nature. With the use of triangulated folded system and a calculated balance of sky lit and green roof panels, each cottage appears to be emerging from the hill as a manipulation of the grass covered slopes. The cottage pods and the roof for the main building have been designed as a composite structure using a skeletal of tubular steel framework covered with a thin ferrocement shell. This roof design would facilitate a green roof where the local flora would take over in simulating the feel of moss covered rocks in a forest. The double glass skylights create the desired cracks into this perceivable solid form for the exchange of light between inside and outside. Steel has been used in the roof, wall, floor and staircase.







Length

71.3 m 5.7 m

207.05 m 16.95 m

