



## Villa Savoye

The Villa was designed by Swiss architect Le Corbusier as a country retreat, and built between 1928 and 1931 in the international style. Corbusier designed all four sides of the Villa in response to the view, and the orientation of the sun. His design responds to his stylistic interests in elevating the building from the earth to allow for an extension of the garden beneath; creating a functional roof serving as a garden and terrace; reclaiming for nature the land occupied by the building; designing a free floor plan allowing walls to be placed freely and only where aesthetically needed; having long horizontal windows to provide light and air; and designing facades that serve only as a skin of the wall and windows rather than having to bare the weight of the structure. The Villa was designated as an official French historical monument in 1965 and is currently as house museum.

### Talk the Talk:

Le Corbusier - (1887-1965) was not only a pioneer of modern architecture, but he was also a designer, writer and painter. Le Corbusier is actually his nickname (born Charles-Edouard Jeanneret).

facade - the front of the building or any of its sides that face a public way or space.

floor plan - a plan of a room or entire floor of a building as seen from above after a horizontal section is cut and the upper portion removed.

aesthetics - a philosophy that deals with the nature of art, beauty and taste and is used to establish the meaning and validity of critical judgements concerning art and architecture.