Off-Grid Hiking Cabin

Cabiner

Sustained recreation

Exploring nature and landscapes is a strong tourism trend, as well as spending the nights in unusual places. The off-grid Cabiner hiking cabins offer an inspiring new approach towards overnight stays. Following the idea of a fully self-sustained circular design, the cabins use cardboard as their main building material. They are based on a groundbreaking construction technique that involves an innovative rotating mould tool to generate the house-shaped structure. The structure consists of a total of 24 layers that are bonded together using environmentally friendly glue. The result is a robust sandwich structure with optimal insulation properties. Moreover, the processed cardboard also has a delightful aesthetic appeal and possesses exceptional constructive strength. The cabins are placed in Dutch national parks and are only accessible by foot for nature lovers who want to enjoy a night in the wilderness. The interiors are designed to offer visitors a comfortable stay with access to clean drinking water, a hot shower and a non-odorous flushing toilet. With the aim of ensuring efficient energy consumption, the system runs on a photovoltaic cell and a

manually operated water pump. Thus, the ground water is filtered and pressurised. Heating is achieved with a wood-fired stove, while an innovative exchanger serves to heat the water and ensures that there is no temperature overflow and no legionella risk.

Statement by the Jury

Following a modern minimalist approach, these hiking cabins make impressive use of cardboard as a sustainable material for creating a robust and aesthetically appealing construction. The design consistency of both the exterior and the interior is highly noteworthy. Moreover, the Cabiner hiking cabins are also extremely efficient in terms of temperature and climate regulation for comfortable overnight stays. They blend into their natural surroundings and are environmentally neutral.

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Credits

Manufacturer:
Wikkelhouse, Amsterdam, Netherlands

In-house design:
Oep Schilling
Rick Buchter

Design:
Sander Ejlenberg
Vincent Beekman, Amsterdam, Netherlands

www.wikkelhouse.com

www.cabiner.com

About Cabiner

Cabiner (https://cabiner.co/) is a unique Dutch brand that aims to connect guests with nature again. Their cabins are located in National Parks and are only accessible by foot, but unlike glamping, they're properly constructed small buildings with comforts like a hot shower and a kitchen. No Wi-Fi and no wall plugs encourage guests to disconnect from their everyday and truly relax in their new surroundings.

Cabiner needed a solution that gave them the power to automate, integrate and scale - enter Mews. Cabiner were looking for an open API to connect with bespoke software solutions, powerful integrations to connect to leading hotel tech and automation that enables unique and secluded guest experiences.

Mews Open API enables direct connections

Pain

Cabiner's unique proposition and processes mean that the business has developed many of their own software solutions. For example, their unique booking engine allows guests to choose multiple cabins based on factors like how far they want to walk, and there's a custom integration that connects a food package order to their supplier.

Solution

Mews has a truly open API, which means that Cabiner were able to connect all of these bespoke solutions directly with Mews. Mews' API documentation is open to everyone, and provides unrivalled levels of flexibility for integrations and customization, ensuring that properties with very specific needs can operate effectively.

Result

• Connect any software straight into PMS
• Flexibility to customize to any existing tech infrastructure

100% automated payments and integrated upselling

Pain

Given that Cabiner have no reception or front office, all reservation payments and other transactions need to be made simply and securely online.

Solution

With Mews, payment is taken at the moment of booking, so there's no bill that needs to be settled upon arrival or departure.

Cabiner also built an add-on functionality whereby guests can add extra people or meal packages up to 24 hours before their visit. Payment is also taken immediately for any add-ons, meaning financial data is always fully up to date.

Result

• 100% of payments are automated
• Zero payment discrepancies or mistakes through human error

Admin-free guest experience

Pain

Cabiner has to be digital as the cabins are located in difficult to reach places only accessible by foot.

Solution

Their guest experience is uniquely hands-off, and automation plays a vital role. For instance, shortly before their stay, guests are sent an automated email with their walking routes and told where they can pick up their food supplies.

The door code is also automated, and will change at check-out time after every stay, meaning that no staff need to be present at any of the cabins to facilitate handover. This aligns with the Cabiner concept of reconnecting with nature and means that guests don't have to perform any admin for the duration of their stay.

Result

• 100% of check-ins and check-outs are automated
• A fully admin-free guest experience

Integration spotlight

Cabiner currently use several integrations, from bookkeeping to workflow automation.

Zapier

Zapier is a digital automation tool that connects different software and apps to create automatic workflows. One of the many ways that Cabiner use Zappier is to improve customer communication. For instance, it's possible for someone to buy a Cabiner experience as a gift for a friend, and when the friend books the stay, the purchaser receives an automated email telling them they've just used their gift – thanks to the Zapier workflow.

View Zapier

Looking ahead

Cabiner are a hospitality brand that has fully embraced digital technology to power every element of the guest experience. Without powerful technology like Mews, the brand would struggle to deliver the guest experience that their discerning customers expect.

The team will continue to look for integrations and efficiencies to stop humans from doing the repetitive tasks, and allow people to focus on people rather than submitting data on a screen.