

# 15 Patterns

## OF BIOPHILIC DESIGN

### NATURE IN THE SPACE

1. **Visual Connection with Nature.** A view to an element of nature, living systems and natural processes.
2. **Non-Visual Connection with Nature.** Auditory, haptic, olfactory or gustatory stimuli that engender a deliberate and positive reference to nature, living systems and natural processes.
3. **Non-Rhythmic Sensory Stimuli.** Stochastic and ephemeral connection with nature that may be analyzed statistically but may not be predicted precisely.
4. **Thermal and Air Flow Variability.** Changes in air temperature, relative humidity, air flow across the skin, and surface temperatures that mimic natural environments.
5. **Presence of Water.** A condition that enhances the experience of a place through seeing, hearing, or touching water.
6. **Dynamic and Diffuse Light.** Leverages varying intensities and color of light and shadow that change over time to create conditions that occur in nature.
7. **Connection with Natural Systems.** Awareness of natural processes, especially seasonal and temporal changes characteristic of healthy ecosystems.

### NATURAL ANALOGUES

8. **Biomorphic Forms and Patterns.** Symbolic references to contoured, patterned, textured or numerical arrangements that persist in nature.
9. **Material Connection to Nature.** Materials and elements from nature that through minimal processing, reflect the local ecology or geology and create a distinct sense of place.
10. **Complexity and Order.** Rich sensory information that adheres to spatial hierarchy similar to those encountered in nature.

### NATURE OF THE SPACE

11. **Prospect.** An unimpeded view over a distance for surveillance and planning.
12. **Refuge.** A place for withdrawal from environmental conditions or the main flow of activity, in which the individual is protected from behind and overhead.
13. **Mystery.** The promise of more information, achieved through partially obscured views or other sensory devices that entice the individual to travel deeper into the environment.
14. **Risk/Peril.** An identifiable threat coupled with a reliable safeguard.
15. **Awe.** Stimuli that defy an existing frame of reference and lead to a change in perception.



**TERRAPIN**  
BRIGHT GREEN

As seen in *Nature Inside: A Biophilic Design Guide* (RIBA Publishing, 2020)

