

THERMAL STEAM BATHS

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The Tunisian Thermal Steam Baths are a public and private bathing complex which reinvigorate the Tunisian bathing ritual. The organic, concrete design is inspired by the exquisite use of geometry in Islamic architecture.

The interaction of three circles inform the building design, enclosing smaller spaces in each subsequent level. Circular forms give rise to a large, open floor plan, combating the problematic overcrowding in many Tunisian baths. Coloured glass block windows and skylights create dramatic interior lighting, while achieving a sense of escape and privacy.

The first floor addresses the public bathing ritual, which has slowly developed in Tunis since Roman times. The floor features a circuit of three baths; the frigidarium, tepidarium and caldarium, as well as changing and staff facilities. The second floor features small, enclosed spaces for private bathing. This style of bathing particularly addresses the expansion of Thermal Baths as a tourism industry in Tunisia. The third floor boasts a luxurious master bath, and three large balconies which provide a stunning view over the Medina.

