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FLOATING HOME

Pools and playgrounds are so passé. At the Citadel, the fun is right outside your window. A Dutch concept, the Citadel is a floating apartment complex. It's not only a neat place to live, it's also an environmentally sensible one. During wet weather, the lake surrounding the Citadel absorbs excess rainfall, which prevents flooding. The apartments rise and fall with the changing water level. The Citadel consumes 25 percent less energy than regular apartment buildings thanks to solar panels, heat from nearby greenhouses, and the lake itself, which helps warm and cool the floors. A bridge lets you walk or bike to land—but why bother with roads when you can swim over to a friend's house or sail to baseball practice?

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