

southern new england

HOME

YOUR GUIDE TO EVERYTHING HOME





Vineyard Escape

Getting away from it all is what this whitewashed, sun-filled Edgartown home is all about.

Written by ANNIE SHERMAN Photography by GREG PREMURU

Features of the white cedar shingled facade include a bracketed overhang at the front door to extend the roof for weather protection, and a rectangle bay projecting from the kitchen to increase the natural light and add architectural interest.



From the outside, the house looks like it might have been here for decades. Its weathered white-cedar shingles and robust landscaping imply a maturity that belies its new-construction status. Nestled on a half-acre, the vacation home with its double-gabled façade and enveloping windows enjoys a stately presence.

This aura of steadfast grace was not unintentional. Architect Patrick Ahearn FAIA, who wrote the design criteria for the Field Club neighborhood and designed eleven homes within, wanted each house to be independent and significant on the land. “Based on the lot (size and orientation), the house is long and linear,” says Ahearn. “The architecture of the house is silent in terms of the garage—because the carriage doors don’t face the street, it doesn’t read as a garage but as a wing.” As a result, the 3,385-square-foot island hideaway, he says, looks more intimate than it is.

For the homeowner, a New York City executive, the ultimate goal was to have a gathering space where she and her extended family—all of whom have spent a lifetime summering on the Vineyard—could put the concerns of urban living at bay. She also wanted a flowing connection between indoors and out, a pool and a cabana.

Inside, fine detailing throughout every square inch is exhibited by cathedral ceilings, custom built-in bookshelves with natural mahogany tops, three granite-faced fireplaces, and mahogany flooring featuring a custom stain color. “There are many great parts of this home,” says builder Kevin Cusack of Autumn Construction. “However, my favorite is the integration of the large, projected kitchen window—a 16-foot expanse of glass that embraces the southern exposure and brings an abundance of natural light.”

The centrally located kitchen is a hub for family and guests, and there is a cozy den. The remainder of the first floor is strategically organized with the living, family and dining rooms all leading to the striking pool and patio.

The white-on-white color palette with pops of blue is crisp, simple and appealing. According to the project’s interior designer, John Murphy of Tracker Home Décor, the clutter-free, whitewashed style reflects the homeowner’s love of [interior designer] Victoria Hagan’s restrained elegance. Lee Industries eco-friendly upholstery in easy-care linen welcomes everyone to relax on sofas and armchairs. Carpets, luxurious throw pillows and kitchen bar stools carry out the dominant blue and white color scheme. The rare few walls lacking a window display art selected by the homeowner.

A romantic master suite occupies half of the second floor, with a sitting area, dressing room and a private deck overlooking the side yard. Two guest bedrooms with bath and a laundry room complete this level. The basement level houses exercise and media rooms along with a kids’ hangout room.

Landscaping distinguished by gentle curves and a large backyard perennial garden further lends an essence of permanence to the new property. Cammie Naylor, garden designer at Donaroma’s Nursery, says that the homeowner loves pink, blue and white, “so hydrangeas are a staple, while boxwoods, English holly, dogwoods, crepe myrtle and pink-flowering spirea all add to the classic Vineyard landscape.”

Just as the homeowner desired, a feeling of having truly left the city is pervasive in this tranquil setting where there is a strong connection between indoor and outdoor living. “[The house] is timeless in its appeal,” sums up Ahearn, “but lives in a very modern way.” **H**





The kitchen is organized for easy entertaining with unique access to a wet bar and pantry. The white backdrop of Carrara marble countertops, beadboard ceilings and white cabinetry allows the pops of blue to stand out.



ABOVE:The master bedroom fully articulates the roof lines of the gable wing and inset balcony. The homeowner likes to have coffee here when getting ready in the morning, and enjoys reading in the cozy chair. **OPPOSITE PAGE:** The living room features floor-to-ceiling built-ins flanking the fireplace.







ABOVE: The house and pool cabana frame a bluestone terrace surrounding the pool. French doors allow for access from the interior living spaces. **OPPOSITE PAGE:** The dining room is open to the family room and living room on either side.

