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As the dreary days of late winter begin to take a back seat to the warm spring sun, our minds begin to pack our bags. Whether you’re planning a family vacation for spring break or looking for a weekend getaway between now and summer, March is our first foray into outdoor living once again. The saying “March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb,” we’re certain, was uttered on the first warm day of spring when the world seems totally new. It roars through our weary mental fog and awakens us to longer days, warmer nights, and multiple escapes on the horizon.

It’s this type of daydreaming that inspired our March outdoor living and escapes-focused issue. We got caught drooling over vacation homes in paradisical regional locales like Mount Pleasant, Blowing Rock, Badin Lake, and even waterside in Maine. We took mental vacations to the mountains of Utah, the sandy beaches of the Bahamas, and the rocky coastline of New England, and hope to tempt you, too, with our expanded travel section.

Whether it’s escaping into your home oasis or hopping a flight over blue seas, we feel you. Spring and summer are near, and we hope this issue inspires your adventurous spirit as much as it inspired ours.
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For Keeps

LIZ CARROLL DESIGNS FOR TWO FAMILIES IN ONE HOME ON FIGURE EIGHT ISLAND.

TEXT BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY
WHEN DESIGNER Liz Carroll was pulled into the new-home build on a gorgeous lot on Figure Eight Island, North Carolina, her original directive was to design the home to sell. Her clients had been coming to the island for a couple of generations, vacationing at their home on the same street, when the father and son decided to buy the new lot and build a spec home. The further into the process the family got, however, the more they fell in love with their project. Soon, they called Carroll and told her that it was for keeps.

“They were building an open-concept home with a lot of seating and a lot of space for big gatherings, and I think they realized it would be ideal for a multi-generational family like their own,” she recalls. The design shifted from picking universal patterns and finishes to making the home truly personal and functional for her clients’ large family. “I was excited for this pivot in plans,” says Carroll, “and working with both the father and mother, and the son and his wife, we forged ahead with new vision.” Carroll smoothly combined the styles of two families to create an all-in-one home with space for everyone and a vacay-all-day vibe.

VIEWS FOR DAYS
Carroll created a home that speaks to the locale without screaming at it, and both families feel easily accommodated and comfortable. “I know that the kids gravitate to the game room, but I could lay on the couch in that living room forever,” she laughs. “The views and the natural light make this room, and really the whole home, a stunner.”
COLOR PLAY
The family’s love of art, color, and interesting patterns made Carroll’s job easy. “We chose performance fabrics because . . . beach. But they also had a great sense of style and let us use some fun fabrics and pop-y prints,” she says. That extended to bedrooms and bathrooms, with interesting tile and color choices. In the guest room, vintage benches are covered in Schumacher fabric. The owners’ suite boasts a Bernhardt bed covered in woven abaca for a dose of texture alongside Arteriors lamps. Chaddock swivel chairs and ottomans create a sitting area.
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Working with two couples instead of one made for some interesting decision-making, but family ties made compromise among the four parties easier. "There were a few hiccups on design choices occasionally, but it was mostly supply chain that presented the bulk of challenges," admits Carroll. "Of the twelve dining chairs we ordered for the large dining room, eight arrived broken. We had to start over picking out new chairs, but in the end, the Lucite chairs from Gabby Home complement the room so well." Carroll adds that the oversized textural lighting from Palacek takes center stage, alongside the custom-made Chaddock dining table. Art around the home is by Chris Frick.
ESCAPE AT HOME

DESIGNERS SHARE THEIR FAVORITE NEW OR TRIED-AND-TRUE OUTDOOR LIVING PRODUCTS THAT MAKE THE EVERYDAY FEEL LIKE AN ESCAPE.

PRODUCED BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY

SIDE BY SIDE
Designer Bronwyn Ford of Pursley Dixon Ford Interior Design has an arsenal of go-to side tables for outdoor seating and surface options. "Absolutely love these side tables from Gloster. They come in some great color options and two heights, so they can be nestled together," she says. gloster.com

LAZY SUMMER
"I’ve got a crush on summer, and Harbour Outdoor is a fab brand that blurs the line between indoor and outdoor," says designer Lisa Sherry of Lisa Sherry Interieurs. "Harbour is based in Australia, but it’s perfect for North Carolina weather. The silhouettes are classic and modern at once, and the teak finishes are my favorite—so organic and tactile." shopharbour.com

HOT STONE
Designer Carrie Moore loves the heated concrete seating from Galanter & Jones. "Heated outdoor seating immediately came to mind as my favorite outdoor item—possibly my favorite piece of furniture ever, as it’s so sensory and cozy," she says. "Their line of concrete furniture heats between 80–120 degrees, so you can be comfortable outside any time of year. The seating feels very therapeutic, like a hot stone massage. I own two of the Apollo chairs, which have a fun shape, but their Helios sofas are also a favorite for their beautiful curves and color options." galanterandjones.com
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MARKET

LIGHT THE NIGHT

“Lighting is an art form, bringing life and personality to every space we create,” says designer Sarah Catherine Garvin of SC Collective. “Our exteriors deserve lighting that is just as thoughtful as our interior fixtures, and this outdoor half dome lamp from Kettal embraces the beauty in minimalist design, creating beautiful impact that lights up the night.” kettal.com

NEXT-LEVEL POOLSIDE

“To me, there’s nothing better than lounging on a chaise or daybed outside,” says Brittany Roux of Roux MacNeill Studio. “Bonus points if it’s near a pool!” She loves this one from Lee Industries for ultimate lounge-ability and because of its easy-living outdoor fabric. leeiindustries.com

S’MORE GOOD LIVING

Triangle designer Kristin Tharpe of Parker Tharpe loves the Solo Stove Bonfire. “It’s great for brisk evenings and having a few friends over for drinks around the fire,” she says. “Not to mention making s’mores, which my kids are all about! It’s simple, stylish (which the designer in me loves), and compact.” solostove.com
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MARKET

COOL, CALM, COLLECTED
Designer Nichole Blough is excited to use Castelle outdoor furniture for the first time. “My client loves The Breakers in Palm Beach, and since they use Castelle around the pool and patio, I decided to bring that element to my client’s outdoor space,” she says. “It is absolutely luxury meets classic. I always recommend investing in quality pieces a little at a time. Wrought iron or aluminum are my go-to when designing outdoor spaces.”
castellefurniture.com

SUN LIT
“Sophisticated lanterns add color, texture, and whimsy to any outdoor space,” says designer Gray Walker. She loves The Others lanterns from Dedon. “I like mixing the shapes and sizes to create artful groupings of light.” Bonus: solar panel lights mean these lanterns can stay lit up to eight hours. dedon.de

AL-FRESCO STYLE
Designer Dominique DeLaoney loves the new Abbot outdoor dining chair from McKinnon and Harris. “Nothing screams spring like dining al fresco, and we are smitten with this chair. The Greek key detail on the back is casual yet elegant. Toss in a chic pillow made from Alex Conroy’s new floral medallion fabric, and you’ve got yourself the perfect pair.”
mckinnonharris.com
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FROM THE TRANQUIL CARIBBEAN TO THE STEEP MOUNTAINS AND CANYONS OF UTAH TO THE COAST OF MAINE, THESE THREE DESTINATIONS OFFER A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE.

TEXT BY SARAH CROSLAND AND BLAKE MILLER
FIELD TRIP

NASSAU, BAHAMAS

There are few places in the Caribbean that are less than a two-hour flight from the US. Just a short ninety-minute journey from Miami, Nassau, the capital of the Bahamas, is a growing and idyllic destination for a long stay or a quick weekend getaway.

Unlike other properties in the Bahamas, The Ocean Club, A Four Seasons Resort, which celebrates its sixtieth anniversary this year, is quiet and private. Located on thirty-five acres of Bermuda grass-laden land, palm tree-lined pathways, and pristine gardens, including its famous Versailles Garden, visitors can wander the private property without ever seeing another guest. Pre-dinner drinks are best at the hotel’s Martini Bar and Lounge, where bartenders serve up what may be the best martinis in the Caribbean. For a classic, order up the Vesper, a gin and vodka martini named after James Bond. (The 007 movie Casino Royale was partially filmed on the property.)

But if it’s nightlife you want, a room at the ultra-private Rosewood Baha Mar is a top pick. The 226-room property epitomizes Bahamian refinement and sophistication. Baha Mar is also chock-full of some of the best dining in the Bahamas. Marcus, Iron Chef Marcus Samuelsson’s namesake restaurant, is the highlight of the property. Inspired by local fare, the menu offers a taste of everything from jerk chicken to coconut Caribbean seafood. For a true Bahamian experience, book dinner at the historic Graycliff Hotel. Guests come here not only for dining but also to tour the third largest private wine collection in the world. Graycliff boasts a private cellar dining room that’s hosted the likes of Jay-Z and Beyoncé, Pink, and Michael Jordan, among others.

If casual is more your speed, head to nearby Arawak Cay (a.k.a. Fish Fry), on West Bay Street. This popular place is home to a variety of authentic local restaurants, featuring traditional dishes from the Islands and ice-cold beverages with a local twist.

PORTLAND, MAINE

With its cobblestone streets and working waterfront, Portland, Maine, has the hallmarks of any historic maritime town. But the city’s vibrant cultural and culinary offerings draw a distinctly more cosmopolitan crowd.

Reserve a room at The Press Hotel, a chic art-centric hotel located in what was once the Portland Herald Press building, where you’ll find quirky design touches like a floor-to-ceiling...
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lobby wall stacked with typewriters. The hotel’s central location means that much of the city’s shops, galleries, and restaurants are an easy stroll from your door.

Speaking of restaurants, start your day at The Holy Donut, where a line often wraps around the corner for its luscious donuts made from Maine potatoes. For lunch, the iconic crispy Belgian frites at Duckfat—best served alongside their house-smoked pulled pork Cubano sandwich—should be your next stop. And just down the block is the equally notable Eventide, known for its briny New England oysters and decadent brown-butter lobster roll. (You’ll want to order a few of both with dinner.)

And while Portland may have a reputation for craft ales—be sure to pay a visit to Allagash and Rising Tide breweries—Blyth & Burrows, a nautical-themed vintage cocktail bar in Old Port, offers an ideal spot to cozy up after dinner. Sip the Loose Cannon, a boozy mixture featuring cold-brew vodka, coconut, and espresso, for a sweet end to your evening.

To explore the region’s gorgeous coast, take a twenty minute ferry ride to Peaks Island, where you can rent bicycles to explore breathtaking views from its 3.9-mile winding perimeter road, then grab a waterside picnic table at the Island Lobster Company to indulge in lobster dishes hauled fresh that day from the restaurant’s own boat.

Just a half-hour drive from Portland is Kennebunkport, a bustling coastal village known for its beautiful beaches and waterside shops and restaurants. Spend a morning meandering through the boutiques and galleries of Dock Square before walking over to Mabel’s Lobster Claw for a bowl of its “World Famous Clam Chowder” and fried clams. End your afternoon with a walk on one of the nearby beaches—Colony or Arundel—to soak in the sun and salty breeze.
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SPRINGDALE, UTAH
It may be the red sandstone cliffs and tree-studded canyons that draw millions of visitors each year to southwestern Utah’s Zion National Park, but there are also plenty of destinations off its winding trails for those in search of tasty fare, relaxation, and fun.

If you’re staying inside the park, options range from wooded campsites to historic hotel rooms at Zion National Park Lodge. But for a luxurious experience that combines the simple joy of outdoor camping with the comfortable amenities of a resort, there are plenty of glamping options including East Zion Resort. Here, you can sleep in an open-air canvas tent at the foot of a mountain while you enjoy plush linens, hot showers, and even heat, for those cold desert nights.

On the scenic drive between the park and your tents, you’ll find Cordwood, a rustic restaurant at Zion Mountain Ranch where the bucolic views of the ranch’s gardens and horses will rival the seasonal farm-to-fork menu for your attention. After a rigorous day of hiking, its oversized bison burger and expansive wine list are the perfect indulgences.

But Zion offers much more than hiking. From helicopter rides over the park to rappelling down canyons, there’s no shortage of adventures beyond the trail for those in search of an adrenaline rush. In nearby Kanab, sign up for Kanab Tour Company’s sunset ATV tour, which includes a walk through Peek-A-Boo Slot Canyon, a stop to see ancient Native American pictographs, and even a chance to go sandboarding in the dunes before returning to your luxe tent for the night.

Whether you’re a novice or an experienced trekker, Zion has plenty of options to hike. Start at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, which includes a gift shop perfect for souvenir shopping, and catch the park shuttle to all the top trails. The park’s most iconic path, Angels Landing, is a 5.5-mile round-trip hike with steep drop-offs between 800 to 1,000 feet that requires not only good physical condition, but also a permit. For seasoned hikers, though, its gorgeous canyon views from the peak make every strenuous step worth it.

Those in search of something less intense but equally stunning can check out The Narrows, a gorge within Zion Canyon where the Virgin River is shallow enough to hike upstream in the cool water. (For the easiest version, enjoy the two-mile round-trip paved riverside trail.) On hot days, this is an ideal stop for your last hike, and its flat terrain and cool water make it a favorite for families. ♦
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THIS VIBRANT PINK IS BOLD, ELECTRIFYING, AND ALWAYS SURPRISING.

PRODUCED BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY

From magenta tones to amplified bubble gum, shocking pink is not for the faint of heart. Showstopping in a high-contrast study or unifying in a thoughtfully colorful landscape, the commonality is that this marvelously traditional color becomes delightfully unexpected when intensely saturated. A.k.a. hot pink, a.k.a. kinky pink, the vivid version of this hue was introduced in the packaging of a fragrance called Shocking by fashion designer Elsa Schiaparelli, which was inspired by the pink diamond from Cartier owned by Daisy Fellowes. The shock has never worn off.

Designed by Charlotte Lucas, this living room pulls at every shocking pink heartstring.

1. #MeToo by Summer Ayers Savin / $2,600 / standoutcreativdesign.com
2. Eye Silk Euro Pillow / $195 / houseofnomaddesign.com
3. Hot Pink Velvet Lumbar Pillow / $120 / lauraparkdesigns.com
4. Tiffany Etagere in Hot Pink / $2,465 / chairish.com
5. Geared Up Side Table in Benjamin Moore Hot Lips / to the trade / wildwoodhome.com
6. Queen Charlotte Candle / $160 / runberg.com
7. Begonia Melamine Plate / $10 / lauraparkdesigns.com
8. Ibiza Bohemia Coffee Table Book / $105 / neimanmarcus.com
Designer Zandy Gammons founded Miretta Interiors in 2013 with the intention of bringing a modern twist to traditional Southern interiors. Weaving her detail-oriented designs into clients’ homes, Gammons loves layering with color and texture.

The owners of this primary bathroom wanted a design that felt as well-traveled as they were. “This couple had finally settled down in the Triangle and were ready to embrace their new home while incorporating treasures from their journeys,” explains Gammons. “From the antique corner chair adorned with a hand-painted gold velvet pillow with bold bullion fringe to the vintage Baker étagère from Chairish, this private space oozes their personality.”

Gammons chose a Brunschwig & Fils wallpaper in warm brown and cream, and complemented it with powder blue Roman shades from Bassett McNab in her favorite Interlachen pattern. “I chose Syrian-style accent tables to flank the modern tub from Kallista,” she adds, “because it seemed like the perfect spot to place a glass of wine or cup of tea while you unwind in comfort.”

1. Kingsley Drink Table / $1,795 / bunnywilliamshome.com
2. Chair Pillow in Tigre / to the trade / scalamandre.com
3. Roman Shades / to the trade / bassettmcnab.com
4. Vintage Shelf / $3,295 / chairish.com
5. Brunschwig & Fils Bird and Thistle Wallpaper / to the trade / kravet.com
6. Prosecco Bubble Bath / $42 / anticafarmacista.com
7. Kallista Sunstruck Bathhub / $5,526 / kohler.com
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LOCATED ON THE BANKS OF LEE’S SOUND, A MODERN-DAY BEACH HOUSE OFFERS BREATHTAKING VIEWS, SPACE FOR ENTERTAINMENT, AND ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUN.
Chaise lounges and an end table perch on the ledge of the pool. The hot tub was installed for their sons, but now that they have it, the couple uses it almost every night. To the right of the pool is the homeowners’ dock, allowing guests to arrive at the house by boat.

OPPOSITE: The O’Learys enlisted architect Tony Frazier to design the home.
AS LIFELONG BOATERS, Kathy and Sean O’Leary knew they eventually wanted to live on Harbor Island. The area is home to the famous Wrightsville Beach Marina, which provides easy access to the inland waterways and the Atlantic Ocean. When a little cottage perched on the sound side of the island came onto the market in 2016, the O’Learys, who are originally from Cary, snatched it up.

It was an ideal location for the couple—not only was it near Wrightsville Beach’s sought-after Lee’s Cut waterway, but the property also came with its own dock. The house itself, though, was a different story.

“It had been made into two condos, and it had a Pizza Hut–style roof,” says Kathy. But the biggest problem wasn’t the facade, it was the structure. The house sat on the ground instead of pilings, which help protect coastal houses
A sliding-glass door in the family room opens to a sweeping view of Lee’s Sound, where the family often goes boating. The O’Learys installed a window to the right of the fireplace so they can watch the sunset. **OPPOSITE:** Off the main entryway, a set of stairs leads to the first floor. The dolphin sculptures, which are from Phillips Collection, are a nod to the home’s waterfront theme.
To carry the wood theme from the owners' bathroom to the owners' bedroom, Groeschen hung a faux wood wallpaper by Thibault on one wall. **OPPOSITE:** The O'Learys wanted a peaceful, spa-like retreat for their owners' bathroom. In front of the freestanding tub, Groeschen designed a walnut feature wall and hung a glass chandelier from the ceiling. To the right, a window overlooks the coastal waterway.
The second island functions as a kitchen table, with chairs on both sides. An outlet was placed on the floor so family members can work on their laptops while they eat, watch TV, or admire the view. "It's almost like a Starbucks island," says Kathy.
Instead of installing one plate light fixture on the ceiling, Groeschen mapped out a design for custom hanging pendants; each one extends one to three feet from the ceiling. When viewed from the street, the lights appear as if they’re floating.

from flood waters—something that the couple learned firsthand after Hurricane Florence hit the island in 2018.

“After the hurricane, we had terrible mold issues,” says Kathy. “And when we started tearing down the walls inside, we noticed there was termite damage.” So the O’Learys decided to demolish the entire house and build their dream home instead.

The couple knew they wanted a contemporary house that stood out from the rest of the homes on the beach, so they enlisted the help of architect Tony Frazier, builder Dennis Moeller, and interior designers Chris Groeschen and Bridgett Mazer of Bridgett Mazer Interiors to bring their dream to life.

With Groeschen’s and Mazer’s help, the O’Learys began creating the perfect family beach retreat—one that would help lure their three adult children back home throughout the year. “We did it because we wanted them to come home,” says Kathy. “They grew up boating on the weekends and they all love swimming and surfing. And I knew that if we made our home on the island, versus being inland, they would make an effort to come back.”
Groeschen designed the space around a collage-style picture of John Lennon that Kathy sourced from a restaurant in Malibu, California. The seating was styled to bring the music-loving family together. The underside of the piano was wrapped with a design made by Kathy’s son, and two replica Prince guitars hang on the wall.
All five guest bedrooms have their own en suite bath and are large enough to accommodate a king-sized bed. To save space, Groeschen eliminated the closets and installed custom built desk-and-closet combinations for storage.
Groeschen tailored the floor plan to suit the O’Learys’ fun-loving lifestyle. She turned the massive formal dining room into a music room, complete with overhead color-changing LED lights, and added a glass wall to help contain the sound. To make room for a king-sized bed in each of the five guest bedrooms, she removed the closets and opted for custom built desk-and-closet combinations instead. And in the kitchen, the designer installed two marble waterfall islands—one for food prep and the other for casual eating. “We were so lucky to work with Chris,” says Kathy. “Our styles are similar and we hit it off right away.”

The hard work paid off. The O’Learys’ three grown children and their spouses, along with their two grandchildren, spend holidays and summer vacations at the house. As for Kathy and Sean, they live in the home full-time—and couldn’t be happier. “People always ask me if there’s anything we would change or do differently, and I can honestly say there isn’t,” says Kathy. “I love everything that we did.”
Designed to be a more intimate version of the home’s family room, this cozy morning room is flooded with natural light during the day. In the evenings, sconces by Visual Comfort provide warm lighting in the space, which features Lee Industries swivel chairs and a round faux shagreen cocktail table atop a sisal rug.
LOW-COUNTRY

OUTDOOR LIVING TAKES CENTER STAGE AT THIS GORGEOUS WATERFRONT HOME.

WHEN DESIGNER JUDY PICKETT of Design Lines Signature began work on a four-bedroom coastal getaway in Wilmington, North Carolina, she couldn’t have possibly predicted the challenges.

“The project started in 2018,” says Pickett, who had worked with the family previously on their primary home in Raleigh. “Unfortunately, a hurricane blew through during construction, which meant that the floors and windows had to be replaced and redone. Then in 2020, there was Covid.”

But the homeowners and Pickett pushed through both the hurricane and the pandemic, creating an inviting Southern home, perfect for hosting friends and family or simply relaxing on vacation.

While the home is on the Intercoastal Waterway and offers easy access to nearby beaches, the homeowners weren’t looking for an especially beachy theme. They wanted something more subtle. “As you approach it, it’s really just low country,” says Pickett. “Without the palm trees, it could be anywhere. Having a house like that meant we could remain classic with a subtle coastal feel.”
The home, which overlooks the Intercoastal Waterway, was designed and built to have a classic low-country look with subtle beach accents.
Ornate paneling and hand-planed oak floors in an oil stain create a dramatic entrance in the two-story foyer, while more casual nautical elements like a Martine ottoman with navy fabric offer an inviting coastal vibe.
ABOVE: Artisan-finished paneling and a leather sofa set the tone for a more masculine study space in the home. Touches like contemporary art from The Centerpiece Gallery and sconces by The Urban Electric Co. complete the look.

OPPOSITE: The home’s two-story family room, which overlooks its veranda and pool area, features hues of blue to bring in the outdoors. The homeowners wanted plenty of seating for family and friends, which they found with this English arm sofa from Hickory Chair and swivel chairs with wood detailing from Lee Industries.

To accomplish this aesthetic, Pickett and the homeowners established a color scheme that integrated nautical shades of blues and whites throughout the home. A front parlor with more neutral hues and a study with paneling by a local artisan drew from other palettes, but both flow smoothly into the blues of the other spaces.

“The homeowners really love blue,” says Pickett, who incorporated indigo-colored sisal wallcoverings, navy fabrics, and blue-and-white porcelain into many of the rooms. “Anything that’s the crisp white with navy and cobalt. I call it dressed-up beach.”

While it may be a bit dressed-up, the space is still very welcoming. Hand-planed oak flooring with a simple oil finish throughout and textured wallcoverings in many of the rooms add warmth. Glass doors that open to the pool and surrounding outdoor space create an easy flow between the house and its idyllic setting.

“When you have the doors from the primary bedroom and the family room open, it’s really one big space,” says Pickett. “We wanted to integrate those spaces, and I think the fireplace outside really draws you in.”
Small vignettes throughout the home feature a mix of elegant furnishings alongside subtle coastal touches like this shell art and coral tabletop decor. Navy wallpaper completes the classic coastal look. **OPPOSITE:** The tongue-and-groove ceiling with painted beams may be the most eye-catching part of the home’s primary bedroom, but the Vanguard bed in oyster linen fabric and the porcelain table lamps by Ralph Lauren give the space an undeniably sophisticated feel.
The dining room's classic Southern style features chic gray Bermuda Hemp wallcovering by Phillip Jeffries offset by Guy Chaddock chairs in a white crypton fabric. Lantern pendant lights by The Urban Electric Co. and Visual Comfort table lamps offer cozy lighting around the evening dinner table. **OPPOSITE:** This poolside table by Elegant Earth is perfect for dining al fresco on summer days. Chairs by Kingsley Bate with durable outdoor fabric cushions make this an ideal space for the family to linger over food and drinks.
Incidently, the outdoor space has ultimately been everyone’s favorite area of the home. The homeowners wanted it to be reflective of easy summer living, which Pickett depicted in the adjacent poolside dining and fireplace areas. “It creates an amazing space,” she says, noting that she used a Kingsley Bate sectional and chairs to offer the same sense of refinement outside as the inside imparts, while ensuring durability in the coastal weather.

Of course, it’s that same salt air that makes the home so special. The blues and whites of its interior are a reflection of the stunning views from its windows and porches. “The views are incredible,” says Pickett, noting that the Intercostal Waterway is just out the front door. “You drive up and are immediately relaxed. It’s just a beautiful home.” ♦
COUNTRY ROADS

TEXT BY BLAKE MILLER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY DUSTIN PECK

A RALEIGH FAMILY FINDS PEACE, RELAXATION, AND TIME TO BOND IN THEIR MOUNTAIN HOME IN BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA.
The large, open family room was designed to be a relaxing hangout space after a long day skiing, hiking, or exploring. To accommodate seating for large family gatherings, Goldberg designed the layout with options like the two leather armchairs by Four Hands and a custom sofa swathed in a Revolution fabric.
Goldberg slightly tweaked the builder plans in the kitchen to enhance the view over the kitchen-sink window by removing cabinetry and adding open storage and floating wooden shelves. It gives the kitchen a cleaner, more modern look.
ON A WARM SUMMER EVENING in August 2020, Molly Glasgow and her husband had an epiphany. As they watched their then three-year-old daughter running barefoot on the pristine lawn of the Blue Ridge Mountain Club while the sun set, they realized they had to make this getaway a permanent part of their lives. “When the pandemic hit, we became stir-crazy like everyone else. I was pregnant with our second child, too, so we escaped to the mountains,” says Glasgow. “We kept going up there because it was such an easy place to get away to [from Raleigh, where we live full-time]. But that night, as we watched our daughter running free and so happy, we looked at each other and said, ‘We gotta figure out how to make this a part of our lives permanently.’”

That was the moment the couple decided they’d no longer rent a mountain home but build their own instead. And it wasn’t hard to decide where to look. “When you drive into the Blue Ridge Mountain Club, the views are just breathtaking,” says Glasgow. “It’s like, how is this in North Carolina? It’s gorgeous.” Not only was the couple smitten with the views, but they also loved the amenities the residential resort afforded: hiking trails, a swimming hole, restaurants on site, tennis, and much more. “We loved that you could reconnect with nature so easily here, and we wanted that for our kids,” says Glasgow. They settled on a lot with a jaw-dropping view of the Blue Ridge Mountains beyond. Having worked with designer Liz Goldberg on previous homes, they enlisted her to help with the pre-build design, which meant reworking some of the floor plan and outdoor living spaces.

“This home was all about the view,” says Goldberg. “They really trusted us. They wanted to have fun with color and make it a really memorable space. We chose the color palette based on the views when the leaves were changing in the fall, so there are lots of greens and oranges and rust hues throughout. While we were picking out our finishes, we started thinking through how that would translate to the soft-good design items. It came together from nature. Knowing they were OK with pops of color and we didn’t need to stay too neutral was such a great inspiration.”
The owners’ suite was all about the view and a “natural, organic feeling to truly relax—a real retreat,” says Goldberg. The designer added the wooden beams to the high ceilings and designed custom window treatments to help frame the stunning mountain view.

To maximize the sleeping options, Goldberg designed a bunk room with both full and twin beds. Each bed has its own green swing arm light for late-night reading.
The guest bedroom needed to double as a home office, so Goldberg added a small wooden desk and a small-scale green velvet swivel chair with an oak base to serve as a workstation.
Varying woods like white oak and walnut are mixed with more antiqued wooden finishes and layered throughout to add warmth and an organic touch to each space. Wooden beams were added to the main living room, creating a cozy, enveloped feel to the room where the family gathers the most. Goldberg’s innate ability to layer textures seamlessly with the earthy accents and finishes resulted in a space that feels a touch midcentury but with a modern rustic vibe.

Designing a mountain home—and, likewise, a coastal home—can be difficult, as it’s easy to skew toward a theme that can turn kitschy instead of elevated. But Goldberg was able to hit the mark of a sophisticated yet family-friendly mountain home sans deer antlers and tree motifs. “We feel really strongly that a home’s interiors shouldn’t have a theme, and so we made sure that their home was all about taking advantage of that view,” she says.

While the home took a little longer than anticipated due to supply chain woes, once it was completed, the Glasgows found that their mountain getaway was exactly what they needed in their lives. “It’s amazing to see our kids there and see how much they love being outdoors,” says Glasgow. “Our five-year-old has become this little hiker. She gets out in the woods and is so brave and courageous. You really can teach life skills by being outdoors and experiencing things.”

This past year the couple hosted their first family Thanksgiving, one of many more in the future. “Because we worked together so much, Liz knows our style and she knew we needed this to be comfortable for a large family,” says Glasgow. “That’s the beauty of it. We got to the point with Liz where she turns something over to us and we don’t make any changes. That’s why this home turned out so beautifully. We let the artist do what she does best, and it was amazing.” ✓
RALEIGH | $2,475,000
7145 North Ridge Drive
Eddie Cash | 919.749.1729

RALEIGH | $1,280,000
6313 Stephens Ridge Court
Brian Wolborsky | 919.427.9508

RALEIGH | $825,000
2936 Turning Brook Lane
Meredith Hilbert | 919.418.6507

RALEIGH | $625,000
10601 Six Forks Road
Carolyn Swenson | 919.413.5427

UNDER CONTRACT
Pulitzer Prize winner Jhumpa Lahiri once wrote, “That’s the thing about books, they let you travel without moving your feet.”

The same can be said of art. It transports us to faraway places. The vastness of the world and its travel possibilities are mirrored by the vastness of the exquisite collection at The Centerpiece, a gallery renowned not only for its high-quality art, but also for its custom framing, exquisite sculptures, and hand-blown glass.

Indeed, the breadth of travel-inspired art available at The Centerpiece allows one to “travel” anywhere in the world: the pleats of the Great Smokies with Ron Williams’ Fontana Lake, NC; the Carolina coast at twilight with Cora Ogden’s Sunset at Topsail; a sun-drenched French garden in Jean-Paul Courchia’s Le Rosier Dans le Jardin, or the ambience of an Italian harbor in Eugene Segal’s Amalfi Marina.

New work—from local, national, and international artists alike—arrives at the gallery almost weekly, creating a sense of wonder and excitement for patrons and collectors. And, of course, the artwork expands beyond travel-inspired art and ranges from traditional to abstract. The gallery’s connections to its artists and their work are part of its lifeblood. The curation of the gallery is managed by director Kathleen Deep, who navigates, creates, and builds these connections.
To keep inventory fresh, Deep stays on the pulse of trends, both from an art and an interior design perspective. However, as she explains, “Synergy between our clientele, the artists, and their art is always top of mind for us,” adding that “the timelessness of the works that are added to The Centerpiece’s inventory is always a priority when deciding to add any artwork.” One can feel the symbiosis when walking through the gallery, whether it’s during a spotlight show, a seasonal show, or on any given day of the week. The careful coordination and placement of artists alongside one another lets you know the relationships have been nurtured, similar to a fine meal where all the ingredients come together to present the perfect dish.

The extreme care, attention to detail, and custom options that make up the framing department dovetail beautifully with the rest of the business. After all, great art deserves the finest framing. Our framing experts ensure the layout and design is exactly right for a client’s work of art. When presented with their finished piece, clients see the extraordinary difference the framing update made to their treasured heirloom, or the way the frame they chose truly complements the art they love.

As if this wasn’t enough, The Centerpiece also offers workshops and classes, in-home consultations, and more, making it the ultimate gallery experience full of exhilarating possibilities.

“SYNERGY BETWEEN OUR CLIENTELE, THE ARTISTS, AND THEIR ART IS ALWAYS TOP OF MIND FOR US.”
—KATHLEEN DEEP
GET CREATIVE

COMBAT KITCHEN CLUTTER WITH CREATIVE CABINETRY SOLUTIONS.

WRITTEN BY DANA W. TODD

There’s nothing that destroys a beautifully redesigned kitchen more than a hodgepodge of countertop appliances, kids’ backpacks, and dishes occupying every available horizontal surface. The designers at Kitchen & Bath Galleries know how to conceal the clutter, maintain the original design aesthetic, and provide functionality in the kitchen. Here are a few of their tried-and-true tips:

Use a peg system for storing dishes. Unlike visible plate racks, peg systems built into deep drawers provide a home for plates, cups, and bowls with easy access for daily use.

Make major appliances look like cabinetry. Panel-ready appliances have custom cabinet fronts built for them that match your cabinet door style. No one will know which doors house storage and which ones hide the refrigerator and dishwasher.

Hide countertop appliances. A bi-fold door system is a sleek way to hide the stand mixer, toaster, and blender, and is more up-to-date than the old “garage door” look.
Install a double drawer. A pullout drawer-within-a-drawer keeps small items from getting lost inside a deeper drawer and expands the amount of storage by using a formerly unused space. Since both drawers are enclosed behind one cabinet face, the look is slightly more minimalistic, but this feature is ever so handy.

“ALL OF THESE FEATURES CONCEAL STORAGE WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE OVERALL STYLE AND DESIGN OF THE SPACE.”

—MAY WAHDAN-LLOYD

Add cold storage in unusual places. If there’s a small nook in the kitchen, like an underused kitchen desk, turn it into functional space by adding a refrigerator or freezer drawer as an unobtrusive method of additional food storage.

Stow unsightly items. Hide the trash can and recycling bin in a dual slide-out located inside a lower cabinet.

Create a kid-friendly drop zone. Stash a series of coat hooks for holding backpacks and jackets behind cabinetry doors for a cohesive look in the kitchen and attached spaces like the mudroom and the hallway to the garage.

Go full-on with a storage system. A complete wall of cabinetry in a breezeway or hallway adjacent to the kitchen can be built to coordinate with kitchen cabinets for a unified look.

“All of these features, when integrated into specially designed cabinetry, conceal storage without compromising the overall style and design of the space,” says May Wahdan-Lloyd, manager of Kitchen & Bath Galleries’ Raleigh showroom. “They are a practical yet elegant method of organizing your kitchen, no matter how busy it is.”

Contact KITCHEN & BATH GALLERIES at KANDBGALLERIES.COM, call 919-783-7100, or visit the Raleigh showroom at 8411 GLENWOOD AVENUE.
HEAVEN IN THE HILLS
SECOND HOMES ARE BETTER WITH A MOUNTAIN VIEW.

WRITTEN BY BRANDY WOODS SNOW

As a retirement sanctuary, a vacation home, or simply an investment property, second homes have the distinction of being a “want to” rather than a “have to” purchase, affording buyers the opportunity to truly pursue their heart’s desire. Nestled at the core of North Carolina’s picturesque Appalachian Mountains, two distinct regions—the High Country of Boone and Blowing Rock along with Highlands and Cashiers—remain top destinations for second-home investors. A simple visit to the regions is enough to entice even the most discerning buyers.

Cynthia and Craig Carlson, dubbed “Team Carlson” of Allen Tate’s Blowing Rock office, say the second home market in the area remains strong and is forecasted to continue growing in a stabilizing market. “The High Country’s wide variety of attractions, festivals, sporting events, fine arts venues, and proximity to palate-pleasing restaurants offer potential buyers convenient access to the perks of in-town living while simultaneously providing unmatched views of the countryside,” says Craig Carlson. “The diverse topography of mountains, pastures, rivers, and woods set against a textbook four-season climate makes our region the perfect place to find both serenity and luxury.”

Kelly Ramsay, who represents Allen Tate’s Highlands/Cashiers office along with partner Dan Doughty, says that the market in their region remains strong as well, with inventory hovering at about four months and more than 95 percent of home purchases transacted in cash. “The Plateau, which includes Lake Toxaway, Sapphire, Cashiers, Glenville, and Highlands, is located in one of only seven temperate rain forests in the world, and the moderate temperatures and annual rainfalls feed the lush, green landscape. Potential buyers enjoy the ample opportunities to luxuriate in nature while also seeing a few snowfalls a year. It’s the best of both worlds,” says Ramsay.
When considering a second home purchase, prospective buyers should equip their realtors with information necessary to find the best listings available. First and foremost, buyers should define their ideal lifestyle and solidify the appropriate budget. To help your realtor narrow the search, ask yourself questions like: What activities must be in close proximity? Mountain views or water views? What style of home suits my family's needs? Do I want to be remote or near town?

No matter the answers, the beautiful areas of Highlands/Cashiers and the High Country prove there is something for everyone.

“The Highlands/Cashiers region has affectionately been referred to as a Summer Camp for Adults,” says Ramsay. “Boutique restaurants and shops, hiking, fishing, boating, golfing, and festivals, along with cool nights on the deck with a good book and marshmallows at the firepit—there is so much to do here. Small town living at its very best.”

Adds Carlson, “A visit to the North Carolina High Country will provide you with an opportunity to discover the awe of natural beauty. Fresh, crisp air and an abundance of natural landscapes will supply peace to escape the rush and stress of the urban lifestyle.”

“THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO HERE. SMALL TOWN LIVING AT ITS VERY BEST.”

—KELLY RAMSAY
Sophisticated, stylish, zestful, playful, and verdant. If you ask Catherine Henegan, marketing director of Viridien, to describe the company’s vibe, she’d tell you that the luxury outdoor furniture and fireplace company believes in living “inside out.” But what does that mean?

“It’s our ultimate desire to help clients create beautiful spaces that enable them to live just as comfortably outdoors as they do in, with spaces that express their unique personalities in a relaxing and personalized oasis,” says Henegan.

Known previously as Fire House Casual Living, Viridien committed to significant rebranding under the direction of its new owner Grant Henegan after experiencing tremendous growth and evolving into a high-touch specialty store with five locations across the region.

“Our name change reflects who we really are and how we have repurposed and refined our brand,” says Henegan. “With well-known resources and an amazing team, we work to add value to homeowners’ lives, turning their dreams into reality.”

Viridien boasts the largest selection of top-quality outdoor furnishings in the Carolinas, with a range of traditional, transitional, and contemporary offerings. Newly updated high-touch showrooms provide homeowners with true inspiration, and the 25,000-square-foot flagship store in north Charlotte is exquisitely merchandised for clients to explore.
For those daunted by the task of taking on the full project, Viridien offers comprehensive design consultation services where professionally trained consultants deliver exceptional insight. Going through eighty hours of product training per year, they are true industry experts with the knowledge, experience, and skills to help clients bring their dream patios, porches, decks, and poolsides to fruition.

“Our design services help clients best utilize their valuable outdoor space so it acts as an extension of the home,” says Henegan. “We acquaint ourselves with their unique personalities and desires, then generate ideas, planning out every detail to ensure the vision is executed to perfection.”

Viridien offers many easily customizable collections with a number of cushion colors and finishes from respected brands such as Brown Jordan, Kingsley Bate, and Benett Jones, its private label. For clients looking for that unique statement maker, Viridien relishes the opportunity to custom design or special order whatever the client wants. If a multi-area design is needed, Viridien also offers an at-home design service, which includes an on-site consultation and walk-through by a designer so a comprehensive plan can be constructed that considers the home’s architecture and room-to-room flow.

At the end of the day, the Viridien team is totally committed to helping their clients discover the pure joy of creating an outside sanctuary that provides both relaxation and sophistication.

“It should be about having fun, throwing parties, relaxing, and enjoying meals al fresco. These are not stuffy occasions,” says Henegan. “Outdoor living means barefoot elegance—being carefree and comfortable yet stylish and sophisticated.”

These two ideals aren’t mutually exclusive, as proven by Viridien’s portfolio. From hardwood IPE furniture to teak and wicker, each collection offers the ultimate in both comfort and style. Says Henegan, “We curate our selections specifically for the Carolinas, bearing in mind the beautiful homes they will occupy.”

WE CURATE OUR SELECTIONS SPECIFICALLY FOR THE CAROLINAS, BEARING IN MIND THE BEAUTIFUL HOMES THEY WILL OCCUPY.”

—CATHERINE HENEGAN

For more information, contact VIRIDEN at 919-235-0002 (Raleigh), 919-578-6060 (Cary), or visit VIRIDEN.COM.
A ROOM WITH A VIEW

BY DAVID PAYNE

A LANDSCAPING PLAN IS, BY ITS VERY NATURE, A FRAMEWORK FOCUSED ON IMPROVING THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME.

Where should you place plants for better curb appeal? Where should you plant trees as a natural fence between your yard and your neighbor’s house? How can you optimize the enjoyment of outdoor living spaces?

Some of the best landscaping plans also improve the view from inside your home. At my house, for example, a strategically placed grove of banana trees allows me to experience a lush, green view out of the living room window as I sit in my favorite chair. For visitors enjoying conversation in another spot in the room, I planted a grouping of palmetto trees for a scenic surprise from inside.

Paying special attention to the interior spaces of your home when landscaping can exhilarate other senses like sound and smell. The rustling leaves of a weeping willow created by a passing breeze is delightful when the windows are open during the milder seasons. Open windows allow scented enjoyment of fragrant shrubs like gardenias and tea olives when used as foundational plantings.
Cold weather, when many plants go dormant, doesn’t have to affect the view from inside. Garden structures like decorative birdhouses, pergolas, garden statues, and other garden art provide window-gazing interest all year long, even in the winter. Designing interesting perspectives for the home’s landscape is as simple as inviting your landscaper inside your home. Personally visit each window and evaluate the view. Check out the main living areas, the bedrooms, and even special nooks like a reading alcove or window seat.

While assessing your scene, consider how strategic placement of shrubbery and trees can simultaneously block a view from the street or a neighbor’s eyes. For one customer, a mature Burford Holly provided a touch of green while also blocking a bathroom window on the front of the house from passerby views. Privacy plantings don’t have to be snuggled up right against the house; they can be planted at a slight distance and still provide the same sight lines and privacy.

Designing for both inside and outside is not complicated; it just requires a thoughtful inspection of the landscape from all angles by an experienced professional. While you’re designing or renovating an existing landscape plan, double the enjoyment and plan for beautiful interior views, too.

DAVID PAYNE is the owner of HOME & GARDEN LANDSCAPES and can be reached at 919-801-0211 or HOMEANDGARDENLANDSCAPES.COM.
A SUSTAINABLY SOURCED HOME

BY KRISTIN BARTONE

Suddenly, a simmering mentality of self-care and environmental consciousness jumped to the forefront. Today, a greater number of my clients are interested in introducing environmentally friendly furnishings into their homes, and trade-only manufacturers have begun offering more sustainable—a.k.a. “green”—products.

Sustainability is one of the most popular lifestyle choices of the past decade, and that confidence is now transforming into a second-nature response to the world’s stresses. As we transition from lives focused on cheap, fast, and convenient resources to lives of environmentally conscious choices, sustainability will continue to permeate almost all aspects of daily living.

Why is the home industry an important contributor to sustainability? The home furnishings and design industry exerts massive impact on our environment and is directly related to a myriad of environmental concerns such as emissions and global warming, deforestation, indoor air quality, hazardous chemicals, toxic waste, water pollution, manufacturing facility waste, and social equity. Home furnishings—including shipments of furniture on wood pallets—and construction are some of the largest wood users in this country, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, so responsible forestry and wood sourcing by manufacturers is critical in slowing global warming and other eco-concerns. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that plastic and other packaging waste makes up around 30 percent of total U.S. waste annually, much of this created during the shipping
SUSTAINABILITY WILL CONTINUE TO PERMEATE ALMOST ALL ASPECTS OF DAILY LIVING.

of online purchases. As a conscious consumer, you can greatly impact the global health and well-being of our planet while simultaneously making your home a healthier place to live by choosing vendors who sell sustainably produced furniture, upholstery, and decor.

To address these concerns, Bartone Interiors has chosen to use only sustainable options for LED lighting and recyclable packaging, along with internationally sourced rugs produced by socially equitable means with the removal of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and more. Whether our clients choose to shop for individual items in our online store, secure a room design package with curated furnishings, or enlist our full-service design firm in a whole-home refresh, they can relax knowing only eco-friendly products will be used in their designs.

Check out the inaugural issue of Sustainable Living magazine, available on our website, where we discuss how to choose sustainable, stylish furnishings and ask designers nationwide about their favorite ecologically sound sources.◆
COLLABORATIONS: NEW PAINTINGS
CRAVEN ALLEN GALLERY
March 25–May 6
cravenallengallery.com

Featuring new paintings by artist Damian Stamer, Collaborations highlights Stamer’s continued exploration of home, memory, and place, as well as a new body of work created in collaboration with artificial intelligence. Instead of his traditional process of using photographs as source material, Stamer used an AI text-to-image generator to compile reference imagery. The resulting oil paintings are visually striking and raise timely questions about our relationship with the digital world. Opening reception on March 25 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

THIS IS NOT: ALDWYTH IN RETROSPECT
GREGG MUSEUM OF ART & DESIGN
Through October 7
gregg.arts.ncsu.edu

This exhibition celebrates the life and work of Aldwyth. Now in her late eighties, the artist surveys the constellation of influences that have brought her this far. Aldwyth has lived and worked in the same octagonal studio/house at the edge of a salt marsh on a small island adjacent to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, since 1980. For more than six decades, she has been producing significant work in relative seclusion from the larger art world. This retrospective takes measure of her entire artistic output from 1953 to present, highlighting the points at which her fascinations have evolved into obsessions. It also traces the connections between her personal biography and the content of her work.

LINDSAY JONES + ANNA VAUGHN KINCHELOE
ARTSOURCE FINE ART
March 20–April 24
artsourcefineart.com

Local artist Anna Vaughn Kincheloe and Charlotte-based artist Lindsay Jones help us welcome springtime in this colorful exhibition. Both artists share a love of the North Carolina coastline, and their outstanding abstract landscapes will instantly transport you to the seashore.
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