

Wide open living spaces bring views of the ocean into every room



Keeping It Fresh

Three refrigerators and a sleek look make this kitchen refreshingly unfussy

Walking into the open living space of Chez Gaby, one is amazed by the breathtaking views stretching out past the infinity pool to the ocean.

However, the kitchen is the showstopper of the house.

With clean lines and elegant design features, the kitchen has become the focal point of the ground floor.

Located on Brighton Hill, Chez Gaby was never intended to be a party home, but owners Simon and Megan Benedek adore having family and

friends over for good food and fellowship.

Ted Wood, a partner in Botelho Wood Architects, says, “The owners really enjoy entertaining and cooking, fine food and wine, so the kitchen was the all-important aspect of it.”

He says the three elements of the kitchen area, which flows into the rest of the ground floor living space, are the prep kitchen, a spacious pantry, which helps keep unwanted items out of sight, and the magnificent kitchen itself.

Mr. Wood adds, “This area is the

driving force of the home. It had to be part of the main house and open up to the living area both inside and outside.”

“The ideal of the house was to keep the geometry as simple as possible. Houses get complicated anyway. We started with a very rectangular living space with a kitchen at one end.”

Chez Gaby’s kitchen is equipped with three stainless-steel refrigerators. Besides the large main refrigerator, it also has one for wine and one for fruits and vegetables.

The kitchen is the showstopper of the house



Mrs. Benedek, having lived in London and Budapest, was used to European-style appliances but chose Sub Zero for their refrigeration and Wolf for their cooking needs.

She says, “Sub Zero is supposed to be good for tropical climates. What I like about the fridge is it isn’t too deep so nothing gets shoved to the back of it.”

The double Wolf oven has much to offer those who enjoy practicing their culinary skills. A stainless-steel convection steamer oven offers a great way to bake bread. Plus there is an induction top stove as well as a gas top stove to help ensure whatever is being prepared is simmered to perfection. The under-counter microwave is there to save time and zap food fast.





The luxury master bathroom



Mrs. Benedek wanted the kitchen floor flush to the “exterior terrace to give a continuous flow from the kitchen to the outside entertaining area by the pool.”

Moving upstairs, the Chez Gaby master bathroom’s luxury is evident as soon as you enter through the frosted glass sliding door.

An epoxy screen was printed on aluminum, which helps it bestow the illusion of a wet look. European fixtures add elegance to the dual counter sinks.

Mr. Wood says the owners again wanted “simplicity and clean lines” with the shower blending into the room.

“We changed the tile size to give a better grip on the shower floor,” Mr. Wood says. “The shower drain just disappears into the slot into the wall. It’s a bit trickier with the exhaust, but it appears as a simple slot in the ceiling.”

The luxurious shower includes both overhead and side showerheads with a bamboo accent.

The heated Italian tile floor keeps toes warm on cool Bermuda winter days.

Mr. Wood says that “the owners and I had the same vision from the beginning, the same approach to detail, and the same simplicity for clean, modern lines.”

Mrs. Benedek says Chez Gaby was above her expectations. “We set out to build a family home but ended up with a party house, which is great because we love having all our friends and family over.”

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The kitchen has a clean, simple look, without any hardware that protrudes or sticks out.

The kitchen’s low-key colour scheme backsplashes were custom-made in Italy in simple grays and whites, into which the stainless-steel blends.

Mr. Wood says the fabricated millwork, “is hand-polished, which is a tedious process and takes a lot of time, but it looks very slick.”

The spacious island has a solid oak countertop. The rich grain of the wood gives off a beautiful, warm feel.



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