

A family takes their cherished beach house down to the pilings to achieve a fresh headquarters for memory-making and relaxation.

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The kitchen aims for minimal visual impact with Shaker-style cabinet doors that add discreet elegance. Two types of barstools accommodate just perching or settling in for the evening. Glass pendant lights nearly disappear over the island. The dining table can seat up to eight comfortably. Waxed floors of European oak provide a tough yet elegant surface for high-action family fun.







This page, above: The kitchen overlooks the ocean, allowing clear views of the surf for the cook. Above right: A butler's pantry along the back wall offers self-serving of beverages and keeps traffic out of the cook's domain. Opposite page, clockwise from top left: A painting by Andrea Castro hangs over an acrylic console. A small sitting room offers a cozy vibe in contrast to the bright, open living room. Shaded by the upper porch, a row of outdoor seating options faces the beach. The bunk room with curtained sleeping nooks is a kid's dream retreat.

indoor-outdoor to endure the wear and tear of the active family with four boys. "The house is designed to withstand everything from latenight parties to outbursts of Nerf gun battles," says the designer.

On the second floor, the large airy living room offers expansive ocean views. "The space is an exercise in textures," Biagini says. Upholstered furniture in classic silhouettes gives the family a comfortable place to spread out and relax. Just off the living room, a smaller sitting area offers a contrast in mood with fabrics in deeper hues and a colorful Oushak rug. "With its darker palette, this smaller, more intimate den is a counterbalance to the large, bright living room," says Biagini.

Entertaining options include a 9-foot-long island with bar, a kitchen table that can seat eight, and an outdoor dining table on the second floor. Beneath the balcony, a spa-like arrangement of furniture offers space for lounging in the shade or informal cocktails at sunset.

In another departure from the usual beach-house treatment, the bathrooms emit a luxe vibe with marble showers and vanities and custom cabinetry. Plush bedrooms include tufted upholstered headboards, silky rugs, and beds piled high with pillows. "The family wants guests to be reminded that they are on island time while visiting this home," says Biagini. It's the same mindset that drew family and friends to the original cottage for decades and is sure to beckon visitors for years to come.

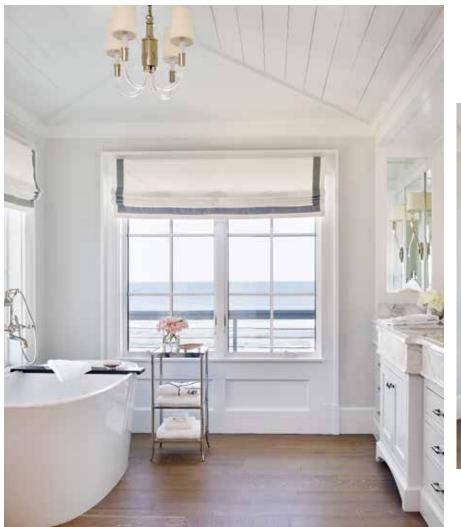




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Opposite page: A silk-and-bamboo rug and a plush, upholstered headboard create luxurious comfort in the guest bedroom. Above: The master bedroom's seating area offers a meditative respite. Left and below: Marble counters and refined cabinetry emit elegance in the master bath. The tub offers 180-degree ocean views.

