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THE 239 ISSUE

SHOWCASE

COMFORTABLE COASTAL FLAIR

A SPACIOUS BEACHFRONT CONDO PROVIDES AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO REGULARLY ESCAPE A COLD CLIMATE

BY MARY THURMAN YUHAS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY AMBER FREDERIKSEN



Not yet retired but ready for frequent escapes from their busy lives in King City, Ontario, Mark and Marcella Di Poce thought about purchasing a second home. Mark's family had spent many blissful hours at their vacation home in Naples when he was young, and the lumber company owner wanted his wife and their two sons to enjoy a similar experience.

Mark already had his eye on the Enclave of Naples, a high-rise beachfront condominium on Gulf Shore Boulevard. Built in 1991, the 29-story building offers one unit—greater than 6,000 square feet in size—on each floor, with stunning 360-degree Gulf and Venetian Bay views. When a furnished four-bedroom unit became available, the Di Poce family jumped on it.

To customize their new home, they hired interior designers. After the initial one did not work out, Mark googled interior designers in Naples and discovered Barbara Schwenk, a designer at Jinx McDonald Interior Designs. "Barbara made everything easy," says Marcella. Though the condo was purchased furnished, almost all of it—save a few key pieces—was replaced. "She made



DESIGNER BARBARA SCHWENK BLENDED TRADITIONAL AND COASTAL ELEMENTS SEAMLESSLY IN THIS NAPLES CONDO.



us feel confident in our decisions; it was an easy process," Marcella adds.

Schwenk relays that her clients wanted to feel like they were in Florida, though not via tropes like pink flamingos and palm trees. Nor did they want anything too cold or modern. "They wanted a warm, welcoming space to enjoy their family and guests—balancing traditional with a coastal touch," notes Schwenk. "And they wanted to move in immediately."

The beachfront home is no longer white in every direction. The much-loved, often-visited abode is awash in blues and ivories, with bits of grays and greens included. "It really is fabulous," says Schwenk. "As the building is a circle, they have Gulf views from all the west-facing windows and sliders. It's like they are on a cruise ship."

Luxe living begins with an ascent in the homeowners' private elevator. Crisp, white walls, a blue grass cloth entry ta-

ble, and a sky-blue ceiling in the lobby hint at what will follow in the residence. Nine-foot entry doors open to spectacular Gulf views. The foyer includes an informal space, ideal for sipping a glass of Champagne with guests or that first cup of morning coffee.

Schwenk's clients requested that the great room be a gathering place. Wrapped in a comfy white performance fabric, the sofa is accompanied by four blue swivel chairs. Boxed beams sporting can lights add sophistication and practicality. Reminiscent of the sea's strength and beauty, the wall art in the corner of the room is an abstract print applied to Plexiglas. Threads of blues and gold run throughout the hand-knotted silk rug, which helps to soften the floors.

Without question, the family room is the most used space. Here, a forgiving dark blue fabric encases a cushy sectional.



INSET AND TOP LEFT: CRUISE-SHIP-LIKE VIEWS ABOUND IN THE CONDO, WHICH FEATURES SEVERAL LARGE WINDOWS. TOP RIGHT: ABSTRACT ART WITH POPS OF BLUE COMPLEMENTS THE SWEEPING VISTAS OF THE SEA.

RESIDE



LEFT: TO DISTINGUISH THE PRIMARY BEDROOM FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE CONDO, SCHWENK INCLUDED SOFT GREENS AND WHITES. FAR LEFT: A UNIQUE WALLPAPER ADDS DIMENSION TO A BATHROOM VANITY.

Ample built-in cabinetry provides storage for the family's games, technology, and miscellaneous items.

Per Mark and Marcella's request, the primary bedroom has a uniqueness of its own. "For the bedroom, I chose a light green color," reports Schwenk. "It is an oasis." In the corner of the bedroom, two swivel chairs are perfectly placed to enjoy the view. Secreted away in the wall, black-out shades automatically roll down.

As comfortable and stunning as a five-star hotel room, the gender-neutral guest bedroom features dark colors with a little sheen, including in the pillows and lighting. Punchy wallpaper in the en-suite bath adds personality to the small space.

"This house is not a cookie-cutter style," Schwenk says. "I had fun finding new items and mixing them with select existing pieces." And, success for all involved, the Di Poces love their beachfront home. ◀◀

A living room with two white armchairs and a striped ottoman. A vase of purple flowers sits on the ottoman. Large windows in the background offer a view of the ocean.

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