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# COASTAL RETREAT BECOMES HOME

A RENOVATED SUMMER CONDO WITH ENHANCED  
GULF VIEWS BECOMES A YEAR-ROUND HOME



For two decades, a couple enjoyed the best of both worlds — the cultural richness of city living in Indianapolis and the relaxed vibe of their vacation home in a seventh-floor unit at a luxury Windsor high-rise in Bay Colony, an upscale gated community in Naples, Florida. But, as full-time Southwest Florida residents well know, the allure of the Gulf is simply irresistible, so, the homeowners decided to leave “The Railroad City” in their tracks and make Naples their year-round home.

They hadn’t updated their unit in the Windsor building since it first rose 20 years ago, so they realized it was time for a major renovation. They enlisted Collins DuPont Design Group — an interior design firm headquartered in Bonita Springs. It was an insightful choice, considering how well-versed Lead Designer Sherri DuPont is when it comes to The Windsor, where she’s already completed several units, including a penthouse. DuPont’s familiarity with the property, along with her team’s acumen for innovative solutions and unmatched attention to detail, made this a foolproof recipe for design success. ▶

**Sitting Area:** The designers electrify the sitting room with a Dimplex Opti-Myst fireplace that enhances ambiance, giving way to fireside comfort by way of two barrel chairs and a metallic leather ottoman by Burton James. The plush, round area rug from Kravet offers added warmth to the space, and the draped wall sconces by Terzani add a touch of class.

**Entry:** The decorative, silver leaf eglomise panels in the entry are true works of art created with painstaking detail. DuPont and project leader Hailey Burkhardt of Collins DuPont Design group worked closely with local artist Christine Adele Moore to ensure the delicate magnolia pattern on the entry wall was picture-perfect in terms of both scale and detail. Six months and several mockups later, this one-of-a-kind wall treatment was installed and the client was overjoyed. The skillfully crafted linear console from Old Biscayne Designs sits just beneath it, adding bold contrast to this elegant space.

**Living Room (previous spread):** From sunrise to sunset, the lighting in the living room is sheer perfection. An organic, amoeba-shaped chandelier — custom-made in Italy by Serip Lighting to the designers’ specifications — reflects beautifully on the pearlized Venetian plaster ceiling while an LED tape light illuminates the armchairs, a pair of A. Rudin sofas upholstered in an Armani/Casa textile, a set of coffee tables from Old Biscayne Designs, and a Stanton Carpet area rug.

**Kitchen:** What once served as the vent for a gas cooktop is now a soffit with recessed lighting. Other notable features in the kitchen include high-gloss eucalyptus cabinetry and a pearlized shagreen leather panel by Bailiwick Design Studio framed in polished nickel that showcase the SubZero refrigerator/freezer locally sourced through Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery. Counter stools by Italmond Furniture upholstered in a Romo fabric complement the Cristallo Smokey Quartzite seen in the kitchen island, countertops, backsplash, and kitchen walls.



The mission was clear — eliminate anything that stood in the way of the home's spectacular views of the Gulf. "When you walked into the master suites of these units, you walked into walls," says DuPont. "By opening up the spaces, the view becomes part of the interior no matter what room you're in."

DuPont teamed with Collins DuPont Design Group's Project Leader, Hailey Burkhardt, to re-evaluate the space plan, and they rolled up their sleeves for a full-scale "gut job" that included installing windows where there weren't any before, demolishing bathrooms, and replacing the synthetic marble countertops of the past with the stunning natural stones and porcelains of the present. A striking Vietnamese marble was deftly formed into master bath vanity tops. Passé 8" x 10" floor tiles were torn up throughout to make way for large-scale, thinly grouted 24" x 24" – 30" x 30" contemporary tiles. "The trend in tile now is 'the bigger the better,'" DuPont confirms. Here, the team chose Via Lattea tiles, an exotic marble from Africa, which was flawlessly installed by Tropical Tile & Marble throughout the common areas. ▶



With the Gulf finally in the well-deserved spotlight and the surfaces having risen to their rightful place in the new millennium, DuPont and Burkhardt were ready to work their magic on finishes. Collaborating with Naples-based luxury builder BCB Homes, exquisite products were selected, including eucalyptus kitchen cabinets glazed to a mirror-like shine that were expertly installed by Bailiwick Design Studio. An Antolini Precioustone Smoky Quartz “Light” bar top is backlit to showcase its spectacular colorations and veining. “An incredible property of this caliber demands elements on par with its extraordinary locale, superior construction, and, of course, the architectural vision of Rob Herscoe and Mitko Yankov,” states Greg Brisson, president of BCB Homes. ▶

**Bar:** The shape of the bar is an engineering feat by Bailiwick Design Studio that is accomplished by curving the faces of the cabinetry, which mirrors the custom-built shelving unit above the bar. It boasts floating starfire glass shelves and dimmable, integral LED lighting strips that highlight the crystal stemware. Graceful barstools from Swaim Furniture swathed with sumptuous Casamance velvet round out the elegant aesthetic.

**Nook:** After expanding the window to its outer limits — thus clearing the way to a stunning Gulf view — DuPont worked within the parameters of the building’s venting system to design this unique ceiling detail. With a breakfast nook showcasing such spectacular water views, why limit this seating area to the first meal of the day? The dining chairs are refinished by Collins DuPont Design Group and boast cushions upholstered in an Armani/Casa fabric. The custom oval table has a eucalyptus finish that complements the kitchen cabinets.



This extensive renovation project required a dedicated group effort by all parties involved. “The owners got the exact look they were going for, which I attribute to the synergy of the team,” says BCB Homes’ Robin Chand, project manager of this endeavor. “The whole experience was fantastic.”

This summer will be the homeowners’ first in what they are now thrilled to call their full-time residence. And in such gorgeous surroundings, it’s sure to be one they’ll treasure for years to come. ■

**Master Bathroom:** “The homeowner wanted to open up the master bath, and we obliged with a complete renovation,” explains Burkhardt. “By placing the tub in the center of the room, we were able to create the open feel they desired.” DuPont and Burkhardt designed a curved floating wall behind the tub as a backdrop using Titanium Striato glass tile, sourced through Ruben Sorhegui Tile and installed by Tropical Tile & Marble. Attached to it is Graff’s polished chrome, wall-mounted Luna Spout from Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery — a dramatic form-meets-function effect. Opulence abounds with the lacquered walnut cabinets, the dazzling Corbett chandelier and sconces, and the glossy Lunar polished marble floors.

**Master Bedroom:** The designers masterfully employ a neutral palette in the master bedroom by layering subtle variations and textures for the custom-designed upholstered bed and luxury gold-toned bedding. A shimmering blend of fine fabrics from Romo are seen in the headboard, while Casamance is responsible for the coverlet and shams, and Zoffany for the accent pillow. A glass John-Richard table lamp sits atop an ebonized Century Furniture nightstand, while cream-colored, organic plush Fabrica carpet lies underfoot.





**Family Room:** To invigorate the home with a burst of color, the designers decided on a blue accent wall for a less formal family room. The blue hues in the stunning art piece adorning this wall adds playfulness to the space and harmonizes with the crushed blue velvet throw pillows that decorate the transitional Century Furniture sofa. When you consider the pops of bright yellow, the room's palette pays homage to sun and sea. A modular cocktail table from Old Biscayne Designs centers the space, and a Hancock & Moore armchair provides additional seating.

Written by Robin Hodes  
 Photography by Blaine Johnathan Photography

**Interior Designer**

Collins DuPont Design Group  
 8911 Brighton Lane  
 Bonita Springs, FL 34135  
 239.948.2400  
 collins-dupont.com

**Luxury Home Builder**

BCB Homes  
 3696 Enterprise Avenue, Suite 100  
 Naples, FL 34104  
 239.643.1004  
 bcbhomes.com

**Resources:**

Bailiwick Design Studio  
 1225 Sandpiper Street  
 Naples FL 34102  
 239.860.2944  
 bailiwickdesignstudio.com

Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery  
 38 Goodlette-Frank Road South  
 Naples, FL 34102  
 239.963.0087  
 build.com/ferguson

Ruben Sorhegui Tile  
 3876 Mercantile Avenue  
 Naples, FL 34104  
 239.643.2882  
 sorheguitile.com

Tropical Tile & Marble  
 3696 Enterprise Avenue, Suite 203  
 Naples, FL 34104  
 239.643.7904  
 ttminaples.com



3876 Mercantile Ave | Naples, FL 34104

239.643.2882

SORHEGUITILE.COM