



**SWEEPING VISTAS**

The downstairs master suite at this Dana Point residence evokes a bright and airy feeling, with large glass, accordion-style doors that open to reveal spectacular views of the coastline and the massive Headlands rock.

ORANGE COUNTY

## NATURAL BLEND

In Dana Point, all the trimmings of a traditional Cape Cod-style home make a surprisingly modern statement.

By Wendy Bowman | Interior photography by Matt Weir | Portrait by Robert Benson

When Orange County-based residential developer Brad Kuish commissioned a 6,600-square-foot, two-story residence within The Strand, one of the most exclusive gated communities in Dana Point, he wanted to try something new. Most of the homes that populate the beachfront location are Tuscan or Spanish in style, but Kuish decided to try a more classic, East Coast-inspired look. "The CONTINUED...





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...CONTINUED Eastern Seaboard style was very appealing to me. That's what inspired me to choose that direction for this house," says Kuish, who hails from the Midwest but has family on the East Coast. "My last two projects were an Italian villa and a very contemporary home in L.A., but I'd done a Cape Cod prior and it was very popular. It was also very pleasing to me—it's a style I would want to live in."

For the interiors, Kuish called on L.A.-based Brown Design Group ([browndesigninc.com](http://browndesigninc.com)), with which he had partnered on a Hollywood Hills home now owned by Swedish DJ Avicii. The five-bedroom, 5 1/2-bath oceanfront residence boasts natural light and spectacular views, so the designers, Ryan Brown and Diego Manchamp, dreamed up their own vision of East Coast-meets-West Coast style. The duo, who also has offices in Santa Barbara, channeled their love of the Hamptons. "The home is refined, inviting and warm, but it's still tidy. It's like the perfect preppy outfit," says Brown, a former cast member of Bravo TV's *Flipping Out*. "It's like having on a crisp Polo shirt, a nice pair of khaki shorts and some Sperry Top-Siders."

Toward that end, the designers created a space that is fun and beachy, and fully in keeping with the home's architecture—gray shingles, white trim and paned windows. The airy interior sports 10-foot ceilings, white paneling and molding, and dark wood floors.

Hamptons-esque furnishings now fill the home, including down-filled sofas, tufted leather easy chairs, natural fabrics and nautical-inspired lanterns. "The whole house has a very expensive feel to it, but CONTINUED...

#### SUNNY OUTLOOK

From top: At this exclusive Strand residence, additional sets of glass doors in the great room open to the patio to create the ultimate indoor-outdoor feel; the charming Cape Cod-style home along the Southern California coastline boasts a traditional, East Coast-inspired gray-and-white trim exterior with paned windows and a shingle roof.







#### STYLE FILES

Clockwise from top left: The designers mixed antiques with comfortable pieces like down-filled sofas; the kitchen features light fixtures by The Urban Electric Company and Calacatta marble work; L.A.-based interior design duo Ryan Brown and Diego Monchamp.



...CONTINUED it's an amalgamation of highs and lows—pieces from Restoration Hardware and Serena & Lily, as well as bespoke and antique shops, like Lucca Antiques in L.A.," adds Monchamp.

Among the many standout features is the cozy media room, which is separated from the adjacent wine cellar by a cleverly designed glass-wall storage system. Glass also comes into play in the accordion-style doors used in the great room/kitchen area, which opens to the patio, welcoming ocean breezes. The same doors were used in the downstairs master suite to similar, enlivening effect.

The outdoor environs are an extension of the home, thanks to landscape designer Stormi Weathers of The Garden Path in the City of Orange. The terraced backyard offers multiple seating areas furnished with vintage settees, chairs and coffee tables, and the alfresco bar features woven rattan-and-teak bar stools and an impressive barbecue. Other special outdoor features include a covered dining area that hosts a reclaimed-teak table and folding yachting chairs, a large spa and a 360-degree view rooftop deck.

"Our goal, jointly, was to create a beautiful space—where people walk into it and are just wowed by it," Monchamp says. "Yet it's an approachable luxury that's very appealing. You're surrounded by nice things, but feel like you could just sink into the sofas and chairs." It's the perfect combination of East Coast style and laid-back California living. ■