

# WE DESIGN IN PARADISE



Two large-scale equine photographs by Shelli Breidenback flank the limestone-clad entrance hall of a Carpinteria residence designed by architect Barry Winick.

## Double Vision

A well-designed coastal residence is nestled between a nature preserve and the Pacific Ocean

Few California homes feature stunning outdoor vistas from both sides of the building. But a strip of land located between Carpinteria's Salt Marsh Nature Park and the Pacific Ocean provided exactly that opportunity for clients of local architect Barry Winick. "What's beautiful about the site is that on one side you have the beach and on the other side the salt marsh," says Winick, who >

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was commissioned to create a new house for the dynamic spot. The result is a striking, well-designed structure that maximizes available views of both ocean and salt marsh.

Winick was clearly up to the task. Armed with degrees in fine arts and architecture from the Rhode Island School of Design, he clocked 20 years with noted New York architect Peter Marino (for 11 of those years he helmed Marino's 120-person office). In 2009 he relocated to Santa Barbara and established **WINICK ARCHITECTS**, specializing in luxury residential and retail projects. "We're known for really high-end quality work with a focus on materials," he says.

Building next to the ocean is a technical challenge, so early on in the process Winick brought in local contractor Allen Construction (with more than three decades of building experience) and its production manager Daniel Mault. With good reason: The site required pouring a 12-inch-deep concrete foundation on top of a grid of 40 caissons—each 30 inches wide—going down 60 feet. ("We could park an aircraft carrier on it," Mault says jokingly with justified pride.) The impressive foundation also serves another purpose: It provides heat for the floors.



The opposite side of the site faces the salt marsh, a protected environment that is home to many rare and endangered plants and birds, and rigid requirements (understandably) apply to any adjacent development. "Plantings had to be approved by a biologist to make sure nothing on the site would be invasive in the salt marsh," Winick says, "and the plan had to be approved by both the homeowner's association and the county planning department."



PHOTOGRAPHS: PAUL WARCHOL

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The third member of this dream building team is Lyn Muse of Lyn Muse Interiors, who chose a balance of modern and traditional furnishings for the indoor and outdoor spaces and also oversaw the landscaping. "She really understood the style of the house," says Winick, noting that Muse "likes materials that have a textural quality, and there's a lot of tone on tone in her design." Bespoke elements Muse provided include two unique rugs; one features drawings by the clients' children, the other is a rendering of ocean surf that "flows" underfoot in the living room.

Included in the home's 5,500 square feet are six bedrooms, each with its own bathroom (the tub in the master bath is on an axis with the ocean), and an open-plan dining room with a sleek Poggenpohl kitchen. The interior is light and airy, with limestone walls and floors that extend seamlessly through to the outside. The living room's floor-to-ceiling glass walls are completely retractable, linking the entire front space to the ocean front.

From the outside, the building is a combination of wood and glass, with a series of angled roofs. The defining characteristic of the house—specifically requested by the clients—is its parallel orientation to the ocean, a departure from the neighboring homes that face the water at an angle. This placement not only maximized beach frontage but, according to Winick, "helped establish the geometry and the kinds of axial focus through the house."

Among the most dramatic views—there are many—is the grand entry, where arriving guests can see straight through the glass front door out to the ocean's horizon. Upon exiting the house, guests are treated to a different, but no less breathtaking, opposing view of the salt marsh with its majestic mountain backdrop. As Winick says, "You're never far from the outside of the house." It's California living par excellence. 805-770-3400, [winickarchitects.com](http://winickarchitects.com). L.D. PORTER



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The sleek Poggenpohl kitchen is on an axis with the ocean; the master bedroom, with a Patterson Flynn Martin woven rug, has its own oceanfront terrace; retractable fabric awnings provide shade on the ocean terrace where David Sutherland's teak dining furniture fronts the stone fireplace. OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The front of the residence overlooks Carpinteria's Salt Marsh Nature Park, home to endangered plants and birds; floor-to-ceiling glass walls in the living room completely retract, linking the space to the ocean front (a custom Tai Ping rug resembling the surf with irregular foam edges "flows" underfoot); the oceanfront side of the home is a dynamic combination of ipe wood siding and glass, with a grand staircase leading to a seagrass dune.

