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Connecticut Cottages and Gardens

KITCHENS
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OLD WORLD

Well-considered design goes hand in hand with water views

A COUPLE IN DARIEN turned to Louise Brooks of Brooks & Falotico for a house that could properly showcase their extensive art collection while also maximizing magnificent views of Long Island Sound. "The over-stucco walls and limestone floor were the starting point of the kitchen design," says Brooks. Kitchen materials—brick, stucco ceiling, wood beams, tile and custom cabinetry—were carefully selected to complement each other and create an aged look. "Our client loved the warmth of the brick and the reclaimed beams and thought they would provide the ideal backdrop for his collection of Hudson River paintings and gorgeous Kilim rug," she says.

For the kitchen's main island, "we designed a beautiful custom copper hood," says Brooks. "But the owner thought it blocked the water view and the sight lines to the fireplace wall, where some of their artwork is displayed." Instead, a downdraft vent and a pair of Paul Ferrante light fixtures were installed to the delight of the homeowner, who now enjoys cooking with a clear view of the Sound.

Custom wood cabinets painted in eggshell had a hand-glaze applied to create an aged patina. Ann Sacks terra cotta tile complements the cabinets and the brick walls that continue down to the lower-level entertaining spaces. A second island separates the living space from the cooking area and is a convenient hideaway for a flat-screen TV, which can be raised for easy viewing. "They use this room as their primary living space," says Brooks. "I've even noticed that the kitchen has become his satellite office."

The Big Island

The main cooking area is centrally located next to a breakfast nook and a second island that separates it from a cozy sitting area. All countertops are Jerusalem Gold/Gray marble. Double Sub-Zero refrigerators are hidden in custom cabinetry. Butcher blocks (below left) flank a Wolf cooktop. Rocky Mountain hardware complements the custom cabinetry's hand-glazed finish. See Resources.





203-847-6880; casafornabrande.com
Fixtures, KWC Fixtures through Kliff's, Norwalk, 203-866-1601; scarsdale.ny.914.740.1800.kliff.com **Stove**, Wolf through Albano Appliances, Pound Ridge, NY, 914-764-4101; albanoappliances.com
Refrigerator, Sub-Zero through Albano Appliances **Sink**, D&D Fine Homes, Darien, 203-633-4451; dndfinehomes.com
Barstools, Coulter Pottery, Darien, 203-633-9773; coulterpottery.net **Pages 52-53: Architecture and kitchen design**, Louise Brooks, Brooks & Fikree, New Canaan, 203-966-8480; brooksandfikree.com
Page 52-53: Kitchen: Brick walls, Stepping Stones, Norwalk, 203-834-0112; clawson.com **Light fixtures**, Old Iron, Paul Ferrante (T), D&D, 212-353-7283; paulferrante.com **Island countertops**, Jerusalem Gold, Gray marble, Greenwich Tile, Greenwich, 203-869-1709 **Cooktop**, Wolf through Clarke, Norwalk, 866-838-9383; clarkecorp.com; subzero-wolf.com
Refrigerator and freezer, Sub-Zero through Clarke, subzero-wolf.com
Hardware, Rocky Mountain Hardware, Holly, ID, 888-788-2033; rockymountainhardware.com **Sink**, stainless steel, Kliff's, Norwalk, 203-866-1601; scarsdale.ny.914.740.1800.kliff.com **Cabinets**, CJS Millwork, Stamford, 203-708-0380; cjsmillwork.com **Faucet**, Wolf through Kliff's

UNPREDICTABLY CHIC

Pages 58-65: Architect, Thompson Ranson Architects, Stamford, 203-399-0100; tr-architects.com **Interior design**, Melinda Fensholt, Melinda Fensholt Interiors, Darien, 203-633-1888 **Landscape design**, leonowicz and Michael & Sons Nurseries, Elmford, NY, 914-932-6620; michaelandsonnurseries.com **Pages 58-59: Sunroom: Shade fabric**, Smokibush, Galbreath & Paul through Holland & Merritt (T), D&D, 212-353-6241; hollandmerritt.com **Chairs and ottomans**, Scarfed, Holly Hunt (T), D&D, 212-755-6333; hollyhunt.com, with damask table linen **fabric** by Rogers & Goffigon (T), Greenwich, 203-332-8008; D&D, 212-888-1242 **Round ottoman**, Interiors Habitat, Darien, Stamford, 203-969-7227, with Dima Melange **fabric** by Maharam (T), D&D, 212-319-4789; maharam.com **Pillow fabric**, City Interiors, Olive, Celery and Dynasty Green, Flax through Douglas (T), D&D, 212-803-9533; douglas.com **Sofa fabric**, Fresh Canvas in Deep Violet, Holly Hunt **Floor lamp**, Sonoma, Paul Ferrante (T), D&D, 212-353-7283; paulferrante.com **Wallpaper**, pattern discontinued, Hays &