

Soulful GETAWAY

Reclaimed Tile from
Chateau Domingue

INTERIOR DESIGN BY ROZANNE JACKSON
ARCHITECTURE BY GLEN OXFORD

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER VITALE
WRITTEN BY LINDA SHERBERT

Opening pages: Walls of white stucco, used throughout Alys Beach, Florida, frame a Gulf view. Pillows are by Designers Guild. The walnut altar table is from southern France. Flooring is Indiana limestone with repurposed cement inlay tiles from France. This page: Whitewashed linen custom draperies soften spaces. Vintage sconce is from France. Right: The vintage marble-top table has a painted iron base. White linen ottomans with nail heads are by Lee Industries.



A Nashville decorator and her architect husband collaborate to create their serene second home in Alys Beach, Florida

Sun-kissed summers at the beach. Splashing in the surf. Hunting for shells. Dining on fresh fish and shrimp. Such seaside memories tugged at Rozanne Jackson, who owns an interior-decorating business and home-furnishings shop, The Iron Gate, in Franklin, Tennessee.

"When I was a child, I had fun going with my family to the coast in Texas," she says. "Later, I lived in Los Angeles and could go to the beach. Then I moved to Tennessee. I felt landlocked!"

Now, she and her architect husband, Glen Oxford, have combined their design talents to build and decorate a second home in Alys Beach on the Florida Panhandle. They also enjoy this walkable town, a New Urbanism green community planned by Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company, the firm that pioneered the movement at nearby Seaside, some six miles away. Alys Beach is becoming widely known for its modern, white stucco courtyard homes evocative of architectural traditions in Antigua, Morocco, Greece, and Bermuda.

"We just spent a long weekend at Alys Beach," says Oxford, sounding mellow upon his return to their primary residence in Nashville. "Got some sun and ate soft-shell crab." Jackson chimes in, "A little vitamin D makes us feel better. We love the Gulf's clear waters and the white sugar-sand beach." He adds, "We had clients with us, but we often invite family and friends."

Clearly, this beach home rejuvenates the busy two-career couple. "The first time we visited Alys Beach," Oxford recalls, "with all of that pristine white architecture, we got this totally relaxed feeling." They bought a Gulf-front lot, only steps from the beach, and began tossing design ideas back and forth. "This was our first from-the-ground-up house we'd done together," the husband says. Happily, pillow talk did not become pillow fights. "Both of us have a strong vision," his wife says with a smile, "but we work well

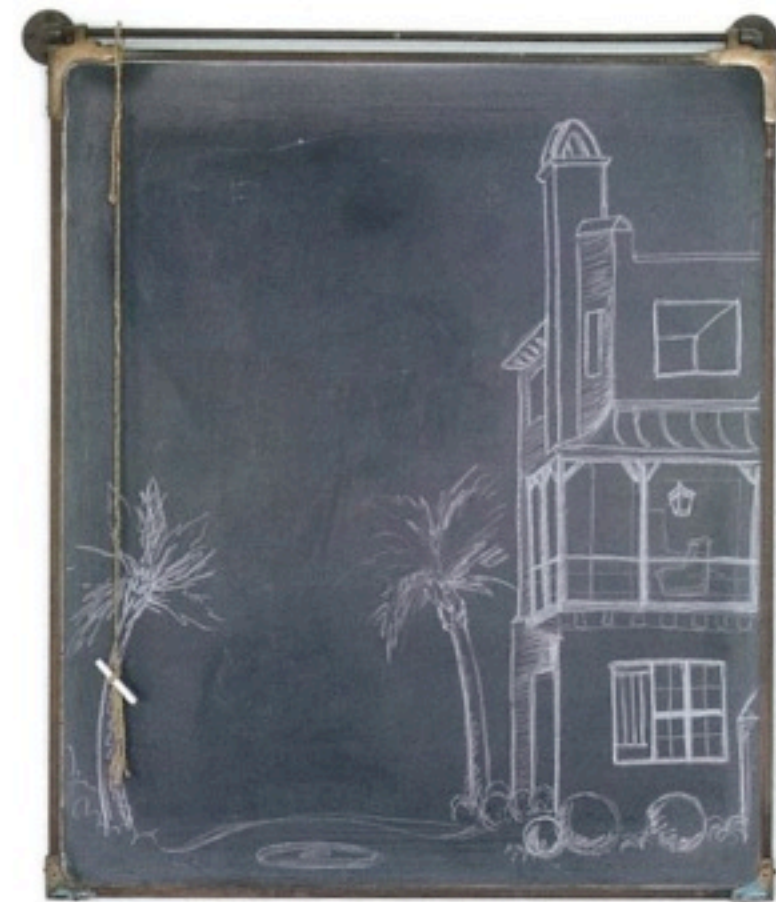
together because we respect each other, and it's very joyful. We'd sit down on Sundays, and he'd draw and I'd visualize the spaces."

Their shared labor of love resulted in a three-story home that exudes the requisite serenity. "My main design criteria? Capture an image of the Gulf from as many rooms as possible," Oxford explains. "That's the money shot when you're living on the coast. You can see the beach from every room on our second and third floors except for the guest powder room."





The home's airy living and sitting spaces flow into each other. The custom sofa, slipcovered in stone linen, is from Verellen. The white linen side chairs are by Gervasoni. The black walnut and iron coffee table was custom-designed by Glen Oxford.



Left: The owners enjoy morning meals in the breakfast nook or the kitchen. The island and countertops are made of Covelano silver marble. The stainless farm-style sink is by Franke. The hood was designed by Rozanne Jackson. Above: The owners' daughter provided a rendering of the beach house.

“I designed the HOUSE, but my wife MADE IT A HOME,” says Oxford.

For a guest bedroom, Jackson designed a built-in bed with white linen bedding by Bella Notte. The slipcovered club chair is by Lee Industries. A pair of vintage nickel bedside lamps adds a retro touch.



On the home's second-floor porch, with its view of the dunes and Gulf, a pair of swivel club chairs, slipcovered in a Sunbrella fabric, sit fireside. The chevron pillow fabric is by Schumacher.

Reclaimed Tile from
Chateau Domingue