

LUXE CODE

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FRENCH ACCENT

Aparna Kaushik Design Group reimagines the French château for a well-travelled Delhi family of collectors, with classical grandeur softened by contemporary ease.

Photography - Ashish Sahi and Atul Prathap Chauhan











Set within a quiet enclave in Delhi, Oaklane Villa explores classical grandeur through a contemporary lens. Designed by Aparna Kaushik Design Group for a well-travelled family of collectors, the 17,800 sq ft residence on a 59,000 sq ft plot reinterprets the romance and discipline of a French château for modern Indian life, as both an architectural statement and a deeply personal home.

MEASURED GRANDEUR

The architecture draws on the vocabulary of classical French estates: fluted and Corinthian pilasters, limestone façades, wrought-iron railings and a mansard roof. Finished in deep Astros Blue tiles, the roof gives the villa a strong silhouette, while Ferragamo Beige limestone lends the façade a warm, sun-washed softness. The house earns its presence through propor-

tion, rhythm and precision rather than ornament, so its classical references feel poised rather than imposing.

Arrival sets the tone. A sweeping stone-paved driveway, punctuated by custom planters and pockets of greenery, leads gradually to the portico, and this interplay of hardscape and landscape keeps the villa's scale connected to its setting.

A CINEMATIC PLAN

Inside, the home unfolds across two levels and 19 rooms. The ground floor holds the formal living and dining rooms, a bar and lounge, and an expansive master suite; upstairs are a second master suite, the daughter's quarters and guest bedrooms. Wide corridors, framed views and daylight-moderated transitions give the interiors a cinematic pace, with moments of grandeur yielding naturally to intimacy.





A grand staircase in wrought iron and brass defines the central axis, a sculptural anchor between the villa's public and private worlds. Throughout, materials are layered with restraint: polished marble against warm wood panelling, carved boiserie with stone skirtings, hand-blown glass fixtures for luminosity, champagne-leaved ceilings for a subtle shimmer, and bronze and brass for warmth.

COLLECTED, NOT DISPLAYED

Craft is expressed in precision rather than excess. Marble inlays, bespoke metalwork, custom joinery and carefully composed lighting create a sequence of tactile encounters. Art and collected objects are integrated into niches, ledges and surfaces instead of standing apart as displays, so the interiors feel collected and lived in despite their formality.

Modern life is embedded quietly within the classical frame.



Integrated automation discreetly controls lighting, curtains and security. Oaklane is not a period piece, but a contemporary residence that borrows from the past while responding to the present.

OUTDOOR ROOMS

Lawns, terraces and a poolside cabana soften the built form and create a series of outdoor rooms. Seasonal planting, filtered sunlight and reflections from the pool become active parts of the composition, lending the residence movement and atmosphere.

Oaklane Villa finds its strength in equilibrium: classical symmetry and permanence balanced with the warmth and ease of a contemporary Indian home. Rather than reproducing another era, it reinterprets it, creating a home that feels timeless yet closely tied to the lives within it. □