

THE DESIGN EDIT

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The art of ideas

+ SABYASACHI: INDIA'S DESIGN LANGUAGE
+ CREATIVE HUBS TO EXPLORE
+ THE BEAUTY OF MODERN PLATING
+ FUTURE-FORWARD ANTONI GAUDÍ

STAR ALLIANCE

INTERPRETING EUROPEAN SPLENDOUR, THE INDIAN WAY

***Aparna Kaushik** translates timeless elegance into modern calm, crafting a home of balance and understated refinement.*



Designed to reimagine the grandeur of a French château, the Oaklane Villa, spread across 17,800 sq. ft. on the busy fringes of Delhi, prioritises timelessness above all other architectural features. Right from the entrance, one is greeted by a tiled mansard roof sitting atop an astutely symmetrical façade and its quiet, tranquil reflection. This preludes an introduction to the soft opulence of the Corinthian pilasters and the palatially proportioned spaces, from the boulevard to the interior foyer.

Strategically articulated to respond to Delhi's erratic climate, the design is cohesively fluid in its planning and looks inwards as much as it opens itself up to the vistas of the surrounding trees.

TRUE OPULENCE LIES IN PRECISION

For a family that enjoys travelling as much as the residents of Oaklane Villa do, the design narrative had to be tailored to accommodate their multigenerational needs as well as their pleasures. Thus, French vernacular heritage: an inspiration that stayed with them long after their travels, alongside the collectibles they brought back; served as the guiding framework for the development of the spatial grammar. This was further refined through planning strategies such as a master plan of the habitable spaces that seamlessly absorbs recreational and formal pockets into its flow. Travel, as a theme, presented the challenge of accommodating diverse tastes and inclinations.

A fitting solution was devised to honour this individuality while weaving together the

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"Design is inherent in everything. I design to accentuate the natural qualities of a space; amplifying its particular beauty through seamless functionality and unique form."

—Aparna Kaushik



various functions through a cohesive material palette. Strongly guided by the visual principles of Neo-Classicism, the materiality, textures, wall-ceiling-floor treatments, and overall aesthetic palette were driven by a contextual interpretation of French grandeur through localised design principles.

POETRY IN PROPORTION

The spaces flow with quiet grace, featuring marble flooring throughout the principal areas, warm wooden panelling, and artisanal details, including hand-blown glass fixtures and champagne gold leafing. The villa embodies sophisticated living through elaborate walk-in wardrobes, an expansive bar and lounge for entertaining, and a private spa and salon. The estate's outdoor amenities include a swimming pool with a cabana, a sweeping stone-paved driveway, a covered pergola, and extensively landscaped grounds designed for privacy and tranquillity. Special attention was devoted to carving out secluded outdoor spaces while maintaining visual connections between the interiors and the landscape.

Completed over 22 months, Oaklane Villa represents a collaborative design process that balanced the residents' vision of European-inspired splendour with the demands of practical luxury living.

