

# Hilltop Hideaway

Earthy, sun-baked tones inside and windows and decks to capture expansive views outside recall an Italian vacation in central California.

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The large expanse of glass doors and windows in the living room overlooks the Carmel Valley and captures the sunset in the evening. Shades of pale straw, golden honey and rich creams were chosen for the upholstery, and hand-trowled plaster walls complement the sun's warm rays. The iron coffee table is inset with honed grey limestone. A traditional leather chair and ottoman is placed next to the fireplace—a cozy spot with a view.



A mohair and wool area rug and soft-colored pillows in shades of gold and sage in the living room create a warming sensation. The landscape painting above the couch is by a South African artist, Paul Balmer ([paulbalmer.com](http://paulbalmer.com)).



 Nestled high in the hills on a promontory above the central coast of California, this sun-drenched retreat boasts views of the Carmel Valley to the south and western views to the Pacific. Suzanne Tucker, the designer, and Sandy Walker, the architect, worked as a team to highlight the beauty of the natural surroundings.

Large expanses of glass and numerous outdoor decks capture the views and the rise and setting of the sun. Indigenous stone was used on the exterior of the house as well as the interior fireplaces, creating the warm color palette used throughout the house. Rough-sawn cedar planking for the pitched ceilings was

TOP LEFT An antique china cupboard makes a contrast to the contemporary woven leather chairs that surround a walnut plank table with a cast-stone pedestal base in the dining room. TOP RIGHT The high barstools in the kitchen are by McGuire. Twin pendant lights with linen shades are by Holly Hunt and the painting above the cabinetry is by William Dunlap, an artist and friend of the homeowners. LEFT The fireplace was built using indigenous Carmel Valley stone, a flagstone material that is typically chalky cream and caramel in color, blending with the interior color scheme. Owl andirons flank the hearth.

## Coordinate

Thwart matchy-matchy looks by using strong patterns in light doses, and don't place them right next to each other. Also, choose contrasting patterns, like one wavy and one linear, to build interest.



The vertical-striped bed skirt and matching upholstered armchair offer a fun punch of color in the guest room. A colorful Missoni-style pillow thrown on the chair riffs on the stripe motif.



used throughout to add warmth and texture. Hand-hewn and sandblasted woods, a mix of antiques and modern furnishings, as well as a keen use of fabrics gives the house a clean, contemporary feel with a traditional twist.

Using colors that tie in with the tones of the local landscape and surrounding hills helped accomplish the cohesive, comfortable feel of the home. "It's a house that takes full advantage of its location with its south-facing views and marvelous light. It's a home created to relax and soak in the sunlight, whatever time of day."

ABOVE The serene, soft green tones in the master bedroom tie in the natural shades of the outdoors. Large glass doors offer views of the hills from the bed and upholstered chair. An outside deck offers a private spot to have a morning coffee.

RIGHT The twin beds have upholstered headboards and traditional bedding in shades of gold and yellow. A comfy armchair placed between a window and glass doors provides a spot from which to take in dual exposures.

