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Luxe S P A C E S

Elegant, lavish, unique residences

A GUIDE TO PREMIUM HOME INVESTMENTS IN INDIA AND OVERSEAS

FORBES INDIA

MARQUEE

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On the Cover: **A back to nature home designed by architect Dipen Gada back to nature home; Photographed by Tejas Shah**

Disclaimer: The prices and information quoted have been verified to the best of our ability at the time of going to press. The same will need to be confirmed with the builders. All images and artistic renderings of the development projects have been provided by the featured builders.

Luxe Spaces

Forbes India Marquee is back with its eighth edition: Luxe Spaces devoted to premium real estate investment options. As always, we've highlighted the very best in luxury residential spaces for our readers.

For the design aficionados, we open with five luscious homes in our Designer Habitat section. The world is getting smaller and design ideas have criss-crossed regions. A trend that is showcased beautifully in singer-actor Cher's lavish pied-à-terre in Hollywood, embellished with South-Asian artefacts to reflect her love for Buddhist traditions. The luxury line-up continues with a stunning, open-to-nature residence in Vadodara, moving to Bengaluru with a tropical haven. Our vote for the most brilliantly located home goes to a contemporary dwelling that's perched on a cliff-top with sweeping vistas of Cape Town. And for the surreal home experience there's a mesmerising Amsterdam villa.

Our Indian Luxe section highlights a premium list of offerings from real estate developers across the country. Available for your good money are plush sky villas and gated communities, equipped with the best of services: your own 'backyard' golf courses, clubhouses, gyms and spas.

Our Global Luxe section features well-thought-out options from the UK, Turkey, Australia and Dubai. The UK has two presentations, one from a luxury apartment block in tony Belgravia, London, and the Dune House in Suffolk. Holiday home options in Bodrum, Turkey that be will be managed by luxury hospitality chain, Mandarin Oriental Hotel. Other offerings are a villa in Victoria, Australia, and the upcoming apartment complex in Dubai that's being promoted by Versace.

We hope you enjoy the selection.

Happy Reading!

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LUXE SPACES

Five homes in India and overseas, crafted with lavish contemporary tones and elegant designs...

FROM A SPRAWLING eco-chic masterpiece in Vadodara THAT EMBRACES NATURE, TO A BENGALURU HOME THAT BASKS IN SUNLIGHT AND SERENITY TO LUXURY HOMES OVERSEAS — songster, diva and actor Cher's Indian style Hollywood apartment, AN Amsterdam villa WITH DREAMLIKE OVERTONES TO THE STUNNING AWARD WINNING cliff-top residence in Cape Town.

RHS J R HOUSING



1 Everyone's favourite spot, the Zen garden features white, marble-chip flooring, a minimalistic bench and stone spheres.

SUBURBAN OASIS

On the outskirts of Vadodara, Gujarat, is architect Dipen Gada's eco-chic masterpiece – a 5BHK family home that's wrapped in nature.

TEXT: GRETCHEN FERRAO
PHOTOGRAPHS: TEJAS SHAH; COURTESY THE ARCHITECT
(WWW.DIPENGADA.COM)

Ahmedabad-based architect Dipen Gada revised the blueprints a couple of times, before his clients settled on the 8,420-square-foot, 5BHK abode that it is today. After all, anyone with the luxury of a 6,000-odd-square-metre property is bound to be a tad indecisive about how best to use it. The one thing they were certain about was that the house had to connect with the outdoors.

Plenty of floor-to-ceiling glazing, coupled with skylights, ensures that every pocket of this home is visually open to an element of nature: a water feature at the entrance, a back deck with a Zen-inspired garden; a courtyard attached to the master bedroom; and a green patch near the kitchen.

In keeping with his sensitivity to the environment, Dipen incorporated several passive cooling techniques in the overall architecture. "The house has been planned such that it doesn't receive direct sunlight. The layout breathes; there is a continuous flow of air (south-west to north-east), which keeps the home cool. Also, cavity walls reduce heat transmission to the rooms," elaborates the architect. Externally, too, the terrace and walls have been dressed in white to reflect heat during the region's harsh summers.

In contrast to its contemporary architecture, this home's interiors have been infused with traditional elements such as the Colonial influences in the furniture design. The material palette — painted white walls, beige travertine flooring and walnut-hued wood — has been kept minimal to highlight the decor and artwork.

Both, client and architect are satisfied with the residence which exemplifies the age-old mantra of 'beauty in simplicity'.



- 2 A wooden canopied walkway dramatically rolls over a water body towards the main entrance.
- 3 The 16-foot-high living room features floor-to-ceiling glass panels that visually connect the interiors with the exteriors. A subtle backdrop (Italian marble flooring and white, painted walls) helps highlight the artworks in this space.
- 4 Jharokha-like niches serve as candle-holders and create a spa ambience in the master bathroom.
- 5 The formal dining area opens out onto a wooden deck and the Zen garden beyond. The Colonial-influenced, reclaimed-wood furniture here has been sourced from stores in Ahmedabad.
- 6 An alfresco bar area, with deck-wood flooring and a Colonial bar design, is perfect for entertaining.

Story Courtesy: Better Interiors