

Completing Your Getaway

Every vacation property has a unique feel and personality to draw on. Designing these properties is a rewarding and challenging process.



This particular home, the interior of which was designed by Jana Design Interiors, is greatly affected by natural light. Elements like that must be taken into consideration when working on decorating a home, either primary or vacation.

Photo courtesy of Jana Rosenblatt

Jana Rosenblatt
Community contributor

When I first stepped into this coastal Puerto Vallarta, Mexico resort destination, I was instantly drawn to the sea, sand and sky. I could feel my blood pressure go down, my breathing slow, and a sense of relaxation, mixed with anticipation of adventure, flow through me. I know the Northridge-based owners, my clients, must have felt the same sensations. It was my job as their interior designer to enhance their experience.

In our firm's 15 years of designing vacation homes from coast to coast, I've learned that each property has a unique feel and personality to draw on. This is based on the surrounding area's aesthetics, as well as the home's specific exposure to its natural elements. This wonderful Puerto Vallarta home was more affected by the movement of the sun than any other residence I'd developed before. From the moment the sun rises in the morning, the interior walls reflect

the mood of the day: clear, cloudy, or stormy. As day progresses into night, it's like watching a movie where you can see fiery, glowing sunsets, followed by the moon rising to chill the night sky.

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It's especially important to achieve these color-based feelings when designing a vacation property, as even in paradise, the rain will fall. When you're on a

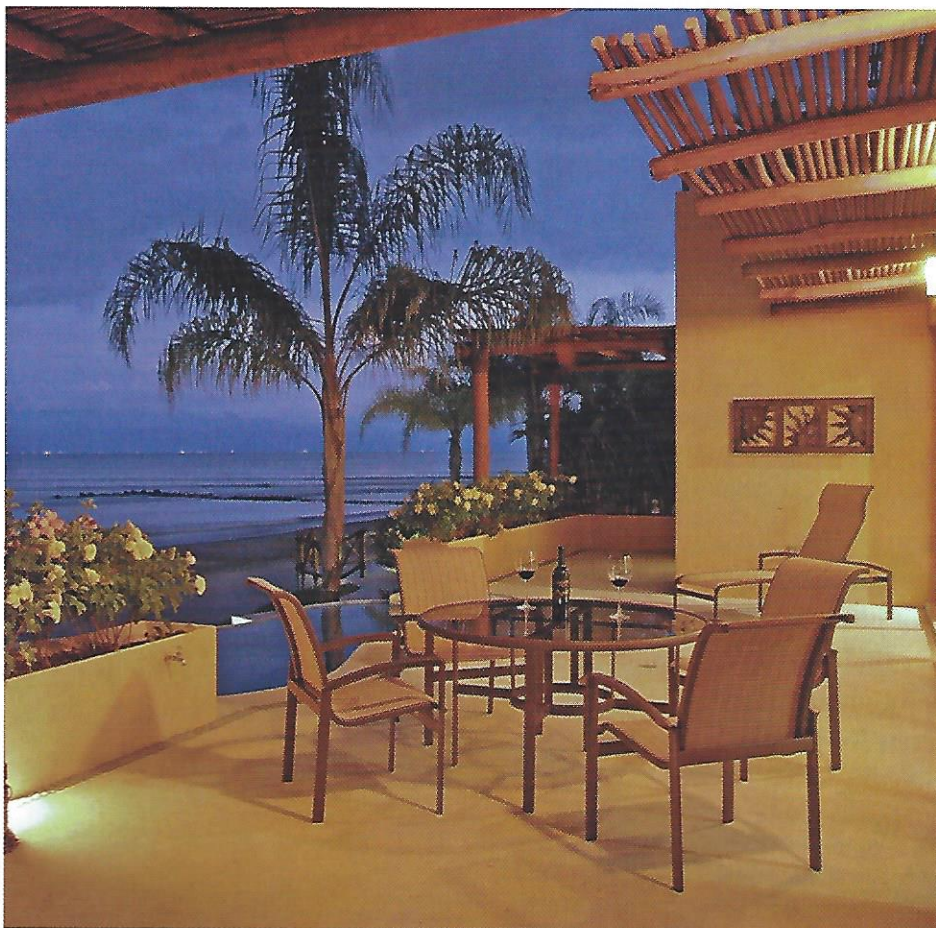
tropical vacation, the goal is to maintain that warm glow inside, even while watching the drama of nature outside.

When the darkness of night begins to envelope the exterior spaces of this home, the image of the vibrant painting of boats floating on the sea and the tropical accessories seem to blend with the sound of the waves. Design elements like these are used to remind you that remind you that you're far away from the stress of everyday life.

The color palette changes subtly throughout the three-bedroom, three-bathroom unit to maintain a harmonious and balanced flow. A pop of accent colors in shades of blue, green and orange, give each suite its own personality. In the morning, the exterior pergola reflects watery shadow lines on the floor of the guest suite, so we added a sea blue area rug to support the feeling of the bed floating on gentle seas.

In tropical areas like Puerto Vallarta, we often bring in the softer furnishings from a distance to achieve the desired comfort level. The "flavor" of the place is best shopped locally. Furniture made from native woods will last well, as the pieces are already acclimated to local humidity levels. The craftsmanship of the furniture will add charm. All of the finishing materials, mostly natural stone and ceramic tile, were selected not just for their beauty, but also for how easy they are to use and maintain, as no one wants to fuss while they are on vacation.

We look forward to helping to turn your primary or vacation home into a paradise. Call 818-765-1915 or reach us through our website at www.janadesign-interiors.com.



Furniture made with local materials will fare better against the elements, especially in the tropics.
Photo courtesy of Jana Rosenblatt

1939 The president of the Granada Woman's Club opened a grocery in 1939 that became the town's post office.

In June, 1939, Mrs. Roy Miller, then the president of the Granada Women's Club, opened a grocery store in the Granada Building., which she operated but four years. Mrs. Miller was also the first postmaster of Granada Hills. In May, 1942 the name of the community was changed to Granada Hills, so as not to conflict with Grenada, California, and the Granada Hills branch post office was opened. Emerson Bates now owns and operates the Granada Hills Market.

NORTHRIDE SPARKLE CLEANING UP

On April 27, the Northridge Sparkle Campaign organized a street cleanup to "help bring the luster back to Old Northridge." The street teams spent time cleaning out planters, sweeping, and doing a general clean-up of Reseda Boulevard from Gresham Street to Nordhoff Street. Each volunteer was armed with a hat, gloves, sunscreen, and a smile. Over the past two years, the Northridge Sparkle Campaign has conducted various beautification projects along Reseda Boulevard including community clean ups, graffiti and trash removal, repainting benches, and the installation of "Northridge Village" to signs promoting community cohesion. These beautification efforts are all accomplished by volunteers who donate countless hours of time and resources to better Northridge.

—*Courtesy of Councilmember Mitchell Englander*



The Northridge Sparkle Campaign cleaned up a stretch of Reseda Blvd., from Gresham St. to Nordhoff St.
Photo courtesy of hibu