



From top: In the living room, a carpet-inspired tiled pattern emblazons the floor; The staircase serves as a vibrant sculptural element (OPPOSITE PAGE) Clockwise, from top: The warm and earthy flooring is a reflection of the surrounding landscape; The home features an infinity pool that sits in topological agreement with the river; The dining room overlooks the swimming pool and offers unending green vistas

SPACES

Den by the River

THIS HOLIDAY VILLA BY PURPLE BACKYARD IS INSPIRED BY THE COLOURS OF THE EARTH AND THE OWNERS' FAVOURITE FLOWERS

In the sleepy Goan village of Alorna, hides a villa where time takes a breather. "It was designed to be a little oasis that melds into the local landscape; a place where its Mumbai-based owners could escape when they needed a break from the Maximum City," says Kumpal Vaid, founder and principal designer of Purple Backyard, who, along with a team that included Rutu Mehta, Kunal Pawar and Anjali Jadhav, was brought on board by the homeowners to conjure up a colourful holiday villa.

Rare is that village home with a lush backyard, a pool, a cabana and a jetty. "That was precisely the idea; the entire experience was meant to inspire wow moments," says Kumpal. Step into the garden and it's clear that the "experience" isn't limited to the interior alone. A gleaming river sidles past the rear, while the backyard houses a self-sustaining organic vegetable patch.

With earthy tones, patterned floors and natural grain furniture, the interior is a reflection of the outdoors. So much so, that the house seems almost like it could have emerged from the earth. The seating and beds are cast into the shell, presenting a charming Cappadocia-style aesthetic. "They're also low-maintenance and add little

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load to the environment," says Kumpal, who opted for a carpet-like floor mosaic for each realm, replacing the need for sand-attracting rugs.

For the bedrooms, Kumpal took inspiration from the Nambiars' favourite flowers, christening them Allamanda, Water Lily, Bougainvillea and Frangipani. "We gave each one its own identity with colours reminiscent of its namesake flower. And we mirrored the soft floral palettes in the bathrooms too," she adds.

"What's special is that the property was made by local village contractors who lent their own vernacular signature. It's imperfectly perfect in every way," she signs off. ♦ purplebackyard.com

