

## ISLAND LIVING

THE PERFECT GETAWAY FOR A MANHATTAN FAMILY, A SERENE VACATION HOME ON SHELTER ISLAND DRAWS ITS DESIGN INSPIRATION FROM THE AREA'S NATURAL BEAUTY.

WRITTEN BY CHARLOTTE SAFARI PHOTOGRAPHY BY TRIA GIOVANI

Many clients have always loved Shelter Island and its getaway atmosphere," says interior designer Sara Story of the summer residence she recently completed for a New York-based professional couple with two young kids. "They wanted me to create a retreat for them, a relaxing place where they could spend time with their family and friends."

For inspiration, Story did not need to look far. The coastal cedar-shingle home designed by architect Joshua Brandfonbrener sits three stories tall on a bluff above the ocean. When Story first came on board, ground had not yet been broken, but the natural beauty was ever-present. "Shelter Island has these lovely bands of vegetation from coastline to water's edge: cedar groves, sassafras trees, beach grasses," Brandfonbrener says. "My goal was to ease the house into the topography, and make it feel private, while maximizing the scenery."

INTERIOR DESIGN Sara Story, Sara Story Design  
ARCHITECT Joshua Brandfonbrener, Joshua Brandfonbrener Architect  
HOME BUILDER Steve Christie, Farrell Building Company  
BEDROOMS 6 BATHROOMS 8 SQUARE FEET 8,000



Above: Luther Quintana sofas nestle around the fireplace, while a Tim Mitchell wall sculpture captures hues in the landscape outside NanaWall window-walls. The Six pendant by Riem adds warmth to the space. Jun Ho's Ulu table (seen on previous page) adds a sculptural element. Right: A pair of Jacobsen sconces illuminate the foyer.



The saturated blue of a James Nares painting is picked up in a single thick stripe on an accent pillow from ABC Home. The Lotus table by Baker and chaise by Paul McCobb in Christopher Farr Cloth fabric lends a nature-inspired feel.

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Most rooms, including the upstairs bedrooms, have ocean views. The principal level, which encompasses the kitchen, dining and living rooms, is also connected along the exterior by a 78-foot main terrace, overlooking the sea and creating an indoor-outdoor circulation loop. "I wanted the interiors to be very neutral and for the focus to be on the spectacular scenery outside," says Story. "I took my palette from the sky, beach, water and trees." The flooring is of white oak, complementing the casual chic beach décor. The walls are mostly a creamy hue with minimal moldings, serving as a backdrop to clean-lined transitional furnishings.