

The kitchen is tricked out with top-of-the-line appliances so guests never have to go inside. **Wine column, range, and refrigerator:** Thermador, through Purcell Murray. **Chandelier:** Cisco Home. **Stools:** Bungalow Classic. **Tile:** Walker Zanger. **Faucet:** Brizo. **Swivel chairs:** Room & Board.

POOLSIDE WINE

Ensuring pool guests a steady supply of beverages meant having a full wine column installed opposite the fridge.

HIDDEN APPLIANCES

To keep with the blue color scheme, Robin paneled the fridge to match the cabinets.

DURABLE ANTIQUES

A 19th-century French butcher block from Sonoma Country Antiques adds texture—and can also withstand the elements.

A Culinary Getaway by the Pool

One family's guesthouse kitchen is a dining destination right at home.

By Hadley Keller

WHEN YOUR HOME is already in dreamland (California wine country), what do

you do for a vacation house? Build it next door.

Such was the case for this family, owners of a stately Victorian in Healdsburg, California, who enlisted designer Jennifer Robin and architect Stephen Sutro to devise a guesthouse—featuring a fully loaded, open-air kitchen just off the pool—on their property. “It’s a counterpoint to the main house’s traditional architecture,” Sutro says, “a visual backdrop for the end of the big lawn.”

An average day in the alfresco kitchen might see overnight guests making breakfast, friends coming over for a barbecue, and swimsuit-clad kids running in for snacks. “It had to be comfortable for extended guest visits, yet rugged enough to tolerate poolside entertaining with children,” Robin says. Entertaining essentials like a pass-through window and wine fridge are paired with vintage accents and textural furniture. “This is a casual hangout that’s unpretentious,” Robin says, “like the owners!”

Who Lives Here?

A family with young children that frequently hosts overnight houseguests and casual pool parties.

KITCHEN OF THE MONTH



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2



A WIRE LAUNDRY BASKET IS THE PERFECT CATCHALL FOR WET TOWELS.

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1. Serving Window

"It's kind of like a bar," says Sutro of the open window from the kitchen to the outdoor living room. "You can communicate with someone prepping lunch, or ask kids with messy barbecue fingers to pass their plates through instead of coming inside."

2. Alfresco Dining

In addition to the indoor kitchen, the poolhouse is equipped with a full outdoor kitchen, pizza oven, and bar. "You can spend all day here," Sutro says. "You can move from the pool to the guest room to the outdoor kitchen for dinner."

3. Covered Lounge

The U-shaped poolhouse was built around a central outdoor living room. The climate is mild, so you can always be outside. If it does get chilly, though, a fireplace provides warmth, and the sofas are shielded from rain.