





THE SWEET ESCAPE

Famed winemaker Robert Mondavi, Jr. and his wife Lydia are settling into their Beaufort, South Carolina home.

Kelly Adams

Robert and Lydia Mondavi have taken up residence in Beaufort, South Carolina, and brought enough wine to serve the entire town. Their immaculate Lowcountry vacation home on the banks of the Port Royal Sound melds together the essence of Napa Valley wine country with the sights and sounds of the Lowcountry.

The color palette of the home was inspired by high and low tides and the cooling calmness of the surrounding area. With your first steps into the home, serenity engulfs you as if you've entered a new world, one created specially by the Mondavis.



SUSTAINABLE LIVING

The Mondavis wanted this home to reflect their desire for sustainability.

“We took redwood from the original Charles Krug winery tanks, the first winery bought by my family in the ’40s,” Robert said. “My great uncle Peter, who will turn 100 in November, saved the wood. When they took down the original tanks he had them save everything.”

The wood from these tanks, has so much character, the couple couldn’t bear not to use it. You can see the wood in the beams and doors throughout the home where the wine-soaked color creates beautiful and varying hues, making the wood a piece of art, rather just a functional entity.

The floors throughout the home were constructed from the remains of the Old Crow Bourbon Distillery in Woodford County, Kentucky. Even though they are a wine family, the Mondavi’s are huge bourbon fans, so it’s fitting they fell for the heart pine floors.

THE ART OF LIVING

The purpose of this house is to entertain. “When we are there we are on vacation,” says Lydia. “We want to eat, drink and just be with our family and guests.”

The house is open to itself and to the outdoors.

“We wanted the space to have so many windows,” comments Lydia. “We wanted everything to be open, to be able to see outside from everywhere in the home.”

There are only two obstructed walls in the entire house. One houses a beautiful abstract painting and the other, the television, hidden by a heavy door made from the Krug redwood.

They keep it hidden because they don’t want technology to overload the tranquility of the space. But in order to entertain guests in the South, a TV is somewhat essential.

“If you’re in the South and you don’t have the game on, you’re in trouble,” laughs Robert.

When some families go on vacation, they don’t





Opening Page:
SEASIDE ESCAPE:
OVERLOOKING
PARRIS ISLAND, THE
MONDAVI'S BEACH
HOME MARRIES
THE BEST OF NAPA
VALLEY AND THE
LOWCOUNTRY.

Far Left:
OUTDOORS IN:
ONE OF THE THREE
SCREENED-IN
PORCHES THAT
ALLOW OUTDOOR
LIVING YEAR ROUND.

Bottom Left:
TIDAL PALETTE: THE
SOOTHING GREYS
AND BLUES IN THE
HOME ARE MEANT TO
MIMIC THE SERENITY
OF HIGH AND LOW
TIDE.

Left:
OPEN HOUSE:
MONDAVI'S SPEND
A LOT OF TIME IN
THE KITCHEN, SO AN
OPEN CONCEPT
WAS VITAL FOR
ENTERTAINMENT.

THE DETAILS

Architect:
REU ARCHITECTS

Build/Design Team:
NATE SCHOEN AND
ALLEN PATTERSON
RESIDENTIAL

**Tiles and
Backsplashes:**
ANN SACKS

**Wine Refrigeration
Systems:**
THERMADOR

**Decks, Columns and
Siding:**
TREX

Floors/Wood:
AUTHENTIC RECLAIMED
FLOORING

Paint:
BENJAMIN MOORE

Lighting:
CIRCA LIGHTING

OUTDOOR LIVING

want to worry about cooking, but for the Mondavis, the kitchen is their relaxation. It is the epicenter of the home and the room that brings everyone together.

"The first thing we want to do is cook and get in the kitchen," says the couple. "We enjoy the art of living well. We enjoy cooking and entertaining and pairing fabulous food and wine."

Preparing delicious foods to go with his favorite wines is second nature for Robert. He was lucky enough to grow up with one of the most beloved chefs in the world; Julia Child and her husband used to stay at the Mondavi home in Napa. As a kid, Robert would ride his bike down to the guesthouse to see her. She would even employ young Robert as her sous chef!

Having a home in the Lowcountry is a dream come true for Lydia. Her family has strong roots in the area. She is a descendant of John Rutledge, who fought in the Revolutionary War, and John Rutledge his son, who fought in the War of 1812. Additionally, John and Edward Rutledge signed the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

"My paternal grandfather served as a Marine in World War II and was trained at Parris Island, the very island we overlook off our deep water dock now," muses Lydia.

Having those roots, Lydia spent a lot of time as a child enjoying the outdoor world of the Lowcountry. She now gets to share that with her 3-year-old son, Robert Mondavi III.

"It's my dream come true because I am from the South, and now I get to show him all the things that I used to do, like go shrimping and clamming and fishing off the dock."

There are certain pleasures the Lowcountry

brings that you can't enjoy in Napa. "There are things you don't get in Napa, like watching a thunderstorm and lighting from your screened-in porch or listening to rain on a muddled tin roof, or the sound of katydids and cicadas," Lydia rattles off.

Her son truly will get to enjoy the gifts of the Lowcountry. There are three screened porches around the house. The one off the back looks out onto the Port Royal Sound and a long deep-water dock. Family and friends visiting the house will get to enjoy the dynamic luxury of being steps from the beach and having a deep-water dock perfect for cannonballs.

The Mondavis were able to bring the outdoors in and the West to the Southeast with their new home on Port Royal Sound. Marrying together two cultures and two coasts is never easy, but as long as you have wine, there are connections everywhere. ■

For the latest products and a peek inside their home visit MondaviHome.com