



CLUB TROPICANA

Textural pieces complement the modern architecture of an island beach house with breathtaking sea views



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Can you describe the project?

This is a beach house in the Balearic Islands that was built for my clients. We worked with a local architect on the project, which includes a huge terrace that spans the width of the property and leads down to the pool. The large overhang not only provides shade for the outdoor seating areas, but also creates terraces for the four bedrooms on the floor above.

Which architectural materials were used?

We chose smooth white limestone for the floor and a white render for the walls of the building. The pale palette serves to reflect the light and

keep the terrace cool, while also creating a beautifully crisp, clean-lined effect.

Any tips for choosing outdoor furniture?

My most important piece of advice is that it has to be fit for purpose. If the weather conditions mean the furniture will have to be stored away over winter, make sure that it is light enough to move and, crucially, that you have somewhere to keep it. If the furniture is to remain outside all year, opt for designs that will survive the elements. The salty air here meant that outdoor furniture with chrome was out of the question; we could

only use pieces with stainless steel and couldn't even have chrome taps in the bathrooms.

What influenced your choice of pieces?

I created a dining area at one end of the terrace and two identical seating arrangements, one of which is positioned out of shot. As the sofas sit in front of the glazing, they had to be low so as not to obstruct the view of the sea from the living spaces. I didn't use armchairs, as these would face back towards the house and hinder movement along the terrace; instead, I introduced pouffes and ceramic side tables for a relaxed, versatile grouping. I am not one for bright colours so the palette is neutral, but it is infused with a variety of textures, such as rope cord on the sofas and high gloss finishes on the ceramic tables, to contrast with the linear feel of the architecture. The teak dining table was

designed by our studio and bleached under sun lamps. We sourced oversized ceramic candelabra to introduce a sculptural element and add height to the table.

Did you use any clever lighting tricks?

We wanted the lighting to be both soft and atmospheric, hence the groupings of white cane lanterns, which add a decorative element and look fabulous when the candles are lit. The steps to the pool feature recessed lighting, while the pool itself has a tritrych of spotlights that illuminate the water with a subtle wash. We also installed lights in the three trees flanking the pool and at the base of the palms dotted around the grounds. These highlight the textural quality of the trees and again serve as a counterpoint to the sleek simplicity of the contemporary architecture.

WHERE TO BUY

FURNITURE Bespoke dining table in bleached teak, Fiona Barratt Interiors, fionabarrattinteriors.com. Mood dining chairs, £320 each; Mood sun loungers, £1,520 each; both Makutti at Go Modern, gomodern.co.uk. Sabi sofa, from £5,222; Play pouffes, £8.76 each; both F Rota for Paola Lenti at The Modern Garden Company, moderngardens.co.uk. InDot 44 ceramic side tables, £295 each; Paola Navone for Gervasoni at Mink Concept Bedrooms, minkconceptbedrooms.co.uk

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