

# AS SEEN IN *Architectural Digest*

EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN | CENTRAL FLORIDA

## AUTHENTIC ESCAPES

Interior designer Tera Smith enhances Floridian living through projects reflective of the landscape and her contagious passion for nature

**W**hen a New Jersey couple approached interior designer Tera Smith, owner and principal designer of Smith Interiors, to create a home environment that could enrich their family's Florida vacations, they weren't looking for a place that was familiar as much as they sought one that would let them escape.

"This client has homes in different states and countries and wanted this one to be the epitome of Florida rather than resemble their primary home," says Smith. "Every selection serves a purpose and is something the clients love while looking completely different from what they're used to."

Smith wove the landscape in and out of the home through subtle details that enhance rather than distract. Travertine flooring recalls sand, muted greens and blues reflect the view of the lake and nature preserve seen from massive window walls, and a bedroom converted into an air-conditioned outdoor kitchen allows guests to enjoy the scenery.

While nature is the centerpiece, modern sensibilities elevate the home. Showstopping pieces with dark metallic accents—such as the dining room's black iron tree branch chandelier and the foyer's dark walnut stairs with dark iron railing—welcome elegant contrast.

"If everything was light and bright, there wouldn't be much depth in the home," says Smith. "I love taking a room and transforming it into a space more inviting and memorable than they had envisioned. A home should give you that warm, fuzzy feeling; it's important to me that clients are happy where they live. Learning their style makes the process seamless and so much more enjoyable."

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** Muted earth tones throughout an open living and dining space reflect the exterior Floridian landscape. A mirror reveals a sleek modern tub framed by foliage. Tera Smith, Owner and Principal Designer. Providing a curated canopy of visual interest, a black iron tree branch chandelier echoes the rich tones of the dining table below.

