

RESTLESSLIVING

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VILLA FIDJI

Cap d'Antibes, France

Originally built as a neo-Provençal styled house in the French Riviera, Villa Fidji has been refurbished by the Cannes based architecture firm Caprini Pellerin Architectes and is now a warm contemporary home with Mediterranean influences. We got the opportunity to talk to the architects behind the project, Kevin Caprini and Jerry Pellerin.

When considering the house from the outside, the villa stands out through its blend of traditional elements such as ancient stone cladding, limestone coated walls and a traditional tiered garden ('restanques') planted with Mediterranean essences. To contrast these traditional elements, the contemporary top block is made of concrete and features minimalistic windows with modern wooden blinds. "Despite the challenges of working with the existing volumes of the original house in combination with local construction laws and regulations for this town, we were able to rework interior perspectives to frame the stunning sea views whilst increasing privacy from onlooking properties", Jerry says.

These radical changes make the existing house unrecognizable. "We are proud of the result because we were able to totally erase the previous architecture and through the choice of materials create a harmonious volume that blends the outdoor components with those inside", Jerry says. In fact, the blend of outdoor components with those inside is brilliantly illustrated in the design of one of the house's bathrooms. "We designed the bathroom in an unusual way – as a miniaturized replica of the materials used on the villa's facade", Kevin explains. When assessing the entirety of the house – and not only the bathroom – it is evident that there was a strong focus on the architectural concept.

Architecture by **Caprini Pellerin Architectes**

Photography by **Thomas De Bruyne**



