

Fall / Winter 2022

VOLUME 15

# Living

LAVISHLY  
on the Central Coast



FARM TO TABLE

ENTERTAINING

HIDDEN GEMS

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# CASA DOLCE CASA

## Rustic Italian Farmhouse in Creston

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*Architect: Andy Homan (original design)/Ken Nagahara (addition)*

*Builder: Plemons Construction*

*Landscaping: Madrone Landscapes*

*Photography: Trisha Butcher*

*By Amy Blasco*

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Welcome to Italy... in San Luis Obispo County! It's often said that the Central Coast enjoys a temperate, Mediterranean climate. Designers and builders took that shared weather to heart when they created this beautiful, 20-acre estate. Likewise, the thoughtful landscaping takes local aird climes into consideration as well.

*Living Lavishly* recently chatted with the property owners to learn more about the inspiration and thought process behind this gorgeous home.







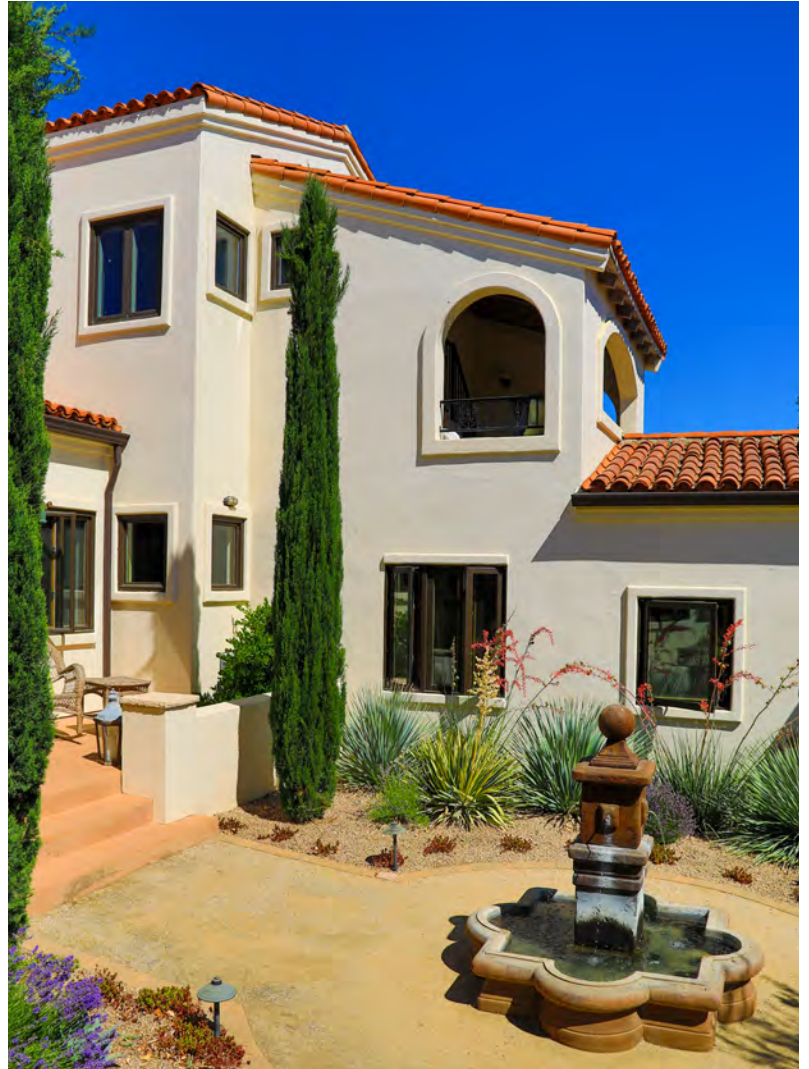


## Gone Native:

When the current owners of this Rustic Italian Farmhouse in Creston bought the property 5 years ago, all of the front landscaping was lawn. This required an extensive amount of mowing and, of course, water to keep the grass green. The owners decided they wanted a more natural environment with year-round pops of color and reached out to Madrone Landscapes for design and installation.

## Flora & Fauna:

The home is surrounded by a natural forest of blue oak trees and native grasslands that's home to neighboring wildlife. With that in mind, Madrone Landscapes incorporated animal-friendly plants and flowers that attract pollinators like butterflies and hummingbirds.



## Patio Perfect:

The design included a new patio and hardscaping that flows around the residence. The goal was to create several outdoor spaces for entertaining and relaxing with meandering pathways and wired awnings and canopies to provide plenty of shade. The slide-wire awnings across the back patio act like hanging drapes that can be opened and closed depending on the time of year.





## Rustic Romance:

This secluded courtyard with a European-style fountain used to be a rose garden that had to be fenced in to prevent deer from eating the blooms. The new design opened up the front of the home and provided easy access to a mature lemon tree that grows delicious fruit.



## Water Whimsy:

A custom lap pool at the front of the home is perfect for exercising and cooling off during warm days. The new landscaping includes manzanita trees and other plants native to California.



## Spectacular Views:

Located in Creston, the property has endless views of the hills and local vineyards. Fun fact: it also has its own vineyard of table grapes (about 20-25 plants), an apple tree, and a small adobe-style outbuilding for storage and tinkering. It's the perfect place to get lost in hobbies, entertain, or enjoy the sunset with a glass of Central Coast wine.



## Happy Place:

The current owner worked with Madrone Landscapes to update an existing pond on the property with fresh equipment, healthy fish and plants, and a cascading flow. A nearby hanging swing and loveseat swing add to the idyllic atmosphere.

## Warm & Welcoming:

The sun-dappled dining room was part of a recent addition, along with a powder room at the front of the house. It draws inspiration from the home's natural oak beams and reclaimed barnwood. The French doors create a natural feel, letting in lots of sunlight and providing easy access to the outdoor patio for al fresco dining.