

THE PEAK SELECTIONS DOMAIN – VILLA VOYAGE

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PORTFOLIO

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For Dato' Farah Khan, her mission behind Villa Voyage on the island of Nusa Lembongan, Bali, was simply to build the house of her dreams. "It was never meant to be a destination but, rather, a holiday home for us, our families and good friends to enjoy," she explains. "But it suddenly became well known after luxury travel company Abercrombie & Kent approached us and asked to have the villa featured in its catalogue, which is the only property it has listed in Bali."

Despite its close proximity to a 30-minute boat ride from the more commercial main island of Bali, Sandy Bay Beach on Nusa Lembongan offers a picture of unspoiled serenity. Nestled between the ruggedly beautiful rock

formations and golden beach of the bay, Villa Voyage immerses visitors into a place that's half a world away – that of the Mediterranean.

Farah's love for the coasts of the Mediterranean inspired her villa. "We love things that are natural: from the sea, to the rocks, sand and the waves rushing to shore. Nothing is man-made on the beach." Incidentally, these glowing golden sands are also a turtle sanctuary. Lined along this strip of coast are many spectacular rock formations, including the jagged Dorely Tree, a promontory which provides a breathtaking view of crashing waves where the currents collide.

Initially intended as a humble beach house, this project quickly grew in scope and scale as Farah – who is the



The entrance to Villa Voyage.



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A view of one of the open suite bathrooms.

chief designer behind her eponymous international fashion label – turned to her many muses to design Villa Voyage. "I come from the artistic world. In my industry, the worlds of fashion, music and architecture are totally intertwined. So, working with architecture and design was very natural because, when you work with fashion, you work with interiors," she says. "I've also always loved homes so it was a joy working on this villa and being able to fill and decorate it with all the things I've picked up in my travels over the years across the world."

Upon first sight of Villa Voyage, one can sense its warmth. "The house is very organic," Farah explains, referring to both its evolution as a project and its traditional tropical architecture,

which includes along-ship grass, coconut wood, cinnamon and eucalyptus. These elements combine to create an immersive sense of nature while providing insulation and protection from the hardest outdoors.

"Over time, we added this and that, and we built it up very simply with all the things we love. We didn't even know the name of the house for a long time," she says. "We eventually named it Voyage to reflect our love for travel and adventure, and, for the interior, I decided to fill it with our experiences from around the world, which includes a collection of travel and art books, vintage Louis Vuitton bags and photographs from our travels."

In the bedroom, there is a transition from the sun-soaked beaches of the

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Villa Voyage certainly never stopped evolving, and continues to reflect Dato' Farah Khan over the years.



"I love looking at the beach, the air and the water from the pergola and it makes me realise how beautiful life is."

Mediterranean to that of a safari, which Farah created through the use of Blanton seats. Meanwhile, the living and dining rooms provide the air of French Provence through the white-washed furniture with a splash of chic luxury using Pierre pillows to create a blend of the traditional and the modern.

However, the undeniable highlight of Voyage has to be the stunning and minimalist view of Sandy Bay Beach. Folding glass doors – extended across and around the entire living and dining rooms – enable "the outdoors and indoors to connect." This allows us to have a direct experience with the amazing scenery. The beach also extends to a great part of the property with white sand being an important element of the interior and exterior landscapes.

A realisation came in the creation of a haven in this construction of the Voyage. In such a secluded and remote location, presented a multitude of challenges. Chief amongst them was managing the logistics of building materials and craftsmen.

"Apart from the Lembongan stone, there were no other local materials we could use and we had to organise things that shipped in the containers and building materials from Bali to Bali," Farah explains. "We also had to make a lot of trips to Nusa Lembongan from Bali, over many months, to deal with the architects and the various challenges that arose. The logistics were so complicated, that it took us three years to complete the project."

In the end, though, the hard toil was fruit in the form of Villa Voyage, to which Farah could not help but sigh in relief. "I've always loved the location of the villa, so it was great to finally be able to enjoy living in it." For Farah, this journey, this voyage, has also been a process of discovery. "Looking at the ocean is an extremely powerful form of meditation," she says. "I love looking at the beach, the air and the water under my favourite spot, the pergola on the front deck, and it makes me realise how beautiful life is."

If one were to return to this exact same spot, depending on the time of year, one might practically spot the many schools of dolphins and even the occasional whale that often pass very close to the beach on the way to Australian waters. "Many times, we talk through life in a rather painstaking way because we are always creating something," says Farah. "Here, there is no need to chase anything. You have time to watch the waves and enjoy everything that is God-given." ■

The pergola offers the perfect ocean view while enjoying a glass of champagne.

Bon Voyage

The exclusive retreat of Villa Voyage in Bali's Nusa Lembongan seamlessly merges stunning interiors with the natural beauty of Sandy Bay Beach. This adroit architectural masterpiece recalls the Mediterranean coastline, an inspired home that its owner, Dato' Farah Khan, has aptly name Villa Voyage.

"We love things that are natural: from the sea, to the rocks, sand and the waves rushing to shore."

For Dato' Farah Khan, her intentions behind Villa Voyage on the island of Nusa Lembongan, Bali, was simply to build the house of her dreams. "It was never meant to be a destination but, rather, a holiday home for us, our families and good friends to enjoy," she explains. But it suddenly became well known after (luxury travel company) Abercrombie & Kent approached us and asked to have the villa featured in its catalogue, which is the only property it has listed in Bali."

Despite its close proximity of a 30-minute boat ride from the more commercial main island of Bali, Sandy Bay Beach on Nusa Lembongan offers a picture of untouched serenity. Nestled between the ruggedly beautiful rock formations and golden beach of the bay, Villa Voyage immerses visitors into a place that's half a world away — that of the Mediterranean.

Farah's love for the coasts of the Mediterranean inspired her villa. "We love things that are natural: from the sea, to the rocks, sand and the waves rushing to shore. Nothing is man made on this beach," Incidentally, these glowing golden sands are also a turtle sanctuary. Lined along this strip of coast are many spectacular rock formations, including the jagged Devil's Tear, a promontory which provides a breathtaking view of crushing waves where the currents collide.

Initially intended as a humble beach house, this project quickly grew in scope and scale as Farah — who is the chief designer behind her eponymous international fashion label — turned to her many muses to design Villa Voyage. "I come from the artistic world. In my industry, the worlds of fashion, music and architecture are totally intertwined. So, working with architecture and design was very natural because, when you work with fashion, you work with interiors," she says. "I've also always loved homes so it was a joy working on this villa and being able to fill and decorate it with all the things I've picked up in my travels over the years across the world."

Upon first sight of Villa Voyage, one can sense its warmth. "The house is very organic," Farah explains, referring to both its evolution as a project and its traditional tropical architecture, which includes along-along grass, coconut wood, ironwood and driftwood. These elements combine to create an immersive sense of nature while providing insulation and protection from the harsher outdoors.

“Over time, we added this and that, and we built it up very simply with all the things we love. We didn’t even know the name of the house for a long time,” she says. “We eventually named it Voyage to reflect our love for travel and adventure, and, for the interiors, I decided to fill it with our experiences from around the world, which includes a collection of travel and art books, vintage Louis Vuitton bags and photographs from our travels.”

In the bedroom, there is a transition from the sun-soaked beaches of the Mediterranean to that of a safari, which Farah created through the use of 'floating tents'. Meanwhile, the living and dining rooms provide the air of French Provence through the white-washed furniture with a “splash of chic luxury using Pucci pillows to create a sharp contrast of the traditional and the modern”.

However, the undeniable highlight of Voyage has to be the stunning and uninterrupted views of Sandy Bay Beach. Folding glass doors — extended across and around the entire living and dining rooms — enables “the outdoors and indoors to connect. This allows us to have a direct experience with the amazing scenery. The beach also extends to a great part of the property, with white sand being an important element of the interior and exterior landscapes.

A cautionary note in this creation of a haven is how construction of the Voyage, in such a secluded and serene location, presented a multitude of challenges. Chief amongst them was managing the logistics of building materials and craftsmen. “Apart from the Lembongan stone, there were no other local materials we could use and we had to organise barges that shipped in the craftsmen and building materials from start to end,” Farah explains. “We also had to make a lot of trips to Nusa Lembongan from Bali, over many months, to deal with the architects and the various challenges that arose. The logistics were so complicated that it took us three years to complete the project.”

In the end, though, the hard toil bore fruit in the form of Villa Voyage, to which Farah could not help but sigh in relief. “I’ve always loved the location of the villa, so it was great to finally be able to enjoy living in it.” For Farah, this journey, this voyage, has also been a process of discovery. “Looking at the waves is an extremely powerful form of meditation,” she says. “I love looking at the beach, the air and the water under my favourite spot, the pergola on the front deck, and it makes me realize how beautiful life is.”

If one were to return to this exact same spot, depending on the time of year, one might perchance spot the many schools of dolphins and even the occasional whale that often pass very close to the beach on the way to Australian waters. “Many times, we rush through life in a rather painstaking way because we are always chasing something,” says Farah. “Here, there is no need to chase anything. You have time to smell the roses and enjoy everything that is God-given.

<http://www.villavoyagebali.com/>