

Tuscany revisited

With its distinctive stonework, towers and arched openings, this Italian-style house by Pinnacle Architectural Studio looks right at home in the Las Vegas landscape





Preceding page: This Italian-style house in Las Vegas reflects an authentic design approach by the team at Pinnacle Architectural Studio. Materials include locally sourced stone, imported limestone, terra-cotta and pre-aged copper. Entry is through a landscaped courtyard with a water feature.

Above: The great room and kitchen open up to a large pool terrace. Both the pool and landscaping are illuminated at night.

Tuscan villas are defined by their solid stone walls and terra-cotta tile roofs, which not only give the homes a sense of permanence, but also protect them from climate extremes. It's an architectural style that works equally well in a hot desert landscape, such as Las Vegas.

This new house, designed and constructed by Pinnacle Architectural Studio, takes the traditional Tuscan architecture and adapts it for a modern lifestyle.

Design principal Quinn Boesenecker says creating an aged look was a critical part of the design. Every element, from the stonework and

the landscaping to the finish on the interior walls, was designed to convey the sense of a home that has aged over time.

"Authenticity was key, starting with the exterior," Boesenecker says. "The towers and the multi-layered roof line, for example, reference traditional homes in Tuscany. We also added copper roofs, which have been treated to create an aged patina. And all the arched windows and doors feature limestone sills and surrounds, just as they do in Italy."

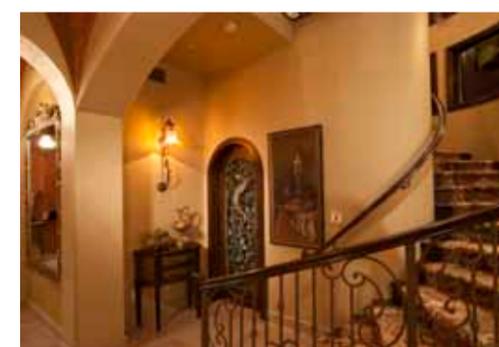
The entry to the house is through an arched opening and a landscaped courtyard, complete

with old-style granite pots and water feature.

Arches also define the interior, which includes a large great room with a soaring, 24ft vaulted ceiling and a double-height decorative limestone mantel. The main hallway incorporates classically styled columns and a groin vault ceiling with a Venetian plaster finish.

Most rooms open to poolside terraces or balconies, creating an easy indoor-outdoor flow.

For details, contact Pinnacle Architectural Studio, 9755 West Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89117, phone (702) 940 6920, fax (702) 940 6921. Website: www.lvpas.com.



Top and left: The sense of layering that starts with the courtyard entry continues on the interior, where a series of arches define key circulation areas. A wine cellar is tucked beneath the circular stairs, behind a traditional decorative metal door.

Above: Designed for easy entertaining, the great room includes a bar with a xxx granite bar top, and a dining area. The flooring throughout these areas is Peruvian limestone, laid in a Versailles pattern.



These pages: The interior of this Las Vegas house is defined by a sense of luxury and attention to detail. Interior designer Victoria Rothermel of Victoria's Creative Designs specified all the furnishings, from the elaborate furnishings in the master suite and powder room, to the draperies, furniture and special effects on the vaulted ceilings. The designer takes a hands-on approach to all her projects, working closely with subcontractors from start to finish.

Every picture tells a story – and so does every interior. For this Las Vegas residence, designer Victoria Rothermel of Victoria's Creative Designs provided a refined, classical Italian interior that is in harmony with the grandeur of the architecture.

As with all Rothermel's projects, products were custom tailored with painstaking detail inspired by the designer's own passion for European interiors.

"Many of the design motifs are reminiscent of traditional interiors I have seen in Italy, Spain and France," she says. "But the interior is also

unique to this client – the furnishings on all our projects are custom designed, and not replicated elsewhere."

Victoria's Creative Designs has its own workroom specialists and a team of subcontracting specialists, all of whom have worked closely with the company over many years.

For details, or to visit the comprehensive showroom, contact Victoria's Creative Designs, 1301 South Commerce St, Las Vegas, NV 89102, phone (702) 400 5680, fax (702) 380 6956. Email: victoriascreativedesigns@yahoo.com. Or visit the website: www.victoriascreativedesigns.com.



Top and above right: Vaulted ceilings in the dining room and hallway feature an antiqued Venetian plaster finish by Gabriel Frans Design.

Above: The company also created other ceiling embellishments, which highlight decorative mouldings, corbels and lighting fixtures. Artist Edward Frans Rijborz says a large hand-painted canvas, in the traditional fresco style hangs above the bar area in the great room.

For centuries, traditional castellos and villas in Italy have featured colorful frescoes, ornate ceiling detailing and Venetian plaster walls.

Gabriel Frans Design, a specialist graphic design company that has been in business for 35 years, was contracted to re-create similar decorative elements in the Las Vegas house.

Artist Edward Frans Rijborz says the firm provided an aged look for the front doors and entrance, and created Venetian plaster walls and ceilings in the traditional style. These include the 120ft-long center hallway, which features 16ft-high vaulted ceilings. The outside of the

hallway arches are embellished with onlays. The dining room walls and ceiling have special paint effects that highlight the lighting.

Other dramatic features in the house include an antiqued gold-leaf dome ceiling – gold leaf also features on surrounding onlays and corbels.

A 7ft x 16ft hand-painted canvas wall mural, etched glass doors, and original oil paintings in an old-world style are other decorative features.

For further details, contact Gabriel Frans Design, 26933 Camino de Estrella, Suite B, Capistrano Beach, CA 92624, phone (949) 228 1862. Website: www.gabrielfransdesign.com.

Classical lines may define the look of this Las Vegas residence, but the audiovisual and home automation technology features the most up-to-date, high-tech systems available.

Specialist technology company R2W, Inc was contracted to design and install a custom audiovisual system, and all the home automation, which includes controls for lighting, security, HVAC and pool systems.

Sales manager Sean Hendler says R2W is experienced at finding customized solutions for challenging projects.

"The owners of this house spend half their

time in New Jersey, so we have given them an interface application they can use on their iPhone or iPad, which exactly mimics the touch screen in the house."

Hendler says R2W also designed special in-wall installations for televisions, speakers and sub-woofers to maintain the aesthetics of the interior. Other special features include a custom-designed home theater and audio and visual distribution throughout the house.

For more information, contact R2W, Inc, 5957 McLeod Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89120, phone (702) 434 6500. Website: www.r2winc.com.

Top: It is home theater, but not as you know it. R2W, Inc installed all the audiovisual equipment in this Las Vegas house, and provided easy-to-use touch screens.

Above: R2W, Inc also provided a home automation system interface application for an iPad that mimics the touch screen in the house.

Above right: In-wall installations ensure the televisions and speakers do not overpower the decor.