

# Vintage Voyager

Easy to look at and easy to live in, this Shingle-style home on Lake Michigan is designed to welcome a multigenerational family year-round.



# You know you're onto a good

thing when even the family pooch starts to sulk and act depressed if you stay away from your holiday house too long. Alex and Marilyn Bogaert certainly sympathize with Emma, their 7-year-old wheaten terrier's doldrums. They go into withdrawal in winter, when their everyday life in Detroit and poor weather keep them away from their second home near Petoskey, Michigan.

To bolster their spirits until spring, they've learned to make the trip north at least once a month year-round. "When we get up there, Emma gets out of the car and she's so excited that she runs around in circles," Alex says. "We know exactly how she feels."

For Alex, who is an architect, and Marilyn, a native of Rhode Island, the house was a dream 40 years in the making. The couple met when Alex was stationed on the East Coast with the Navy. They spent many happy hours touring the seaport estates of

Newport and nearby towns before getting married and moving back to Alex's native Detroit. "We raised a family, built a few homes and cottages, but never forgot those first New England homes," Alex says. "To us, they were the epitome of style and grace."

When they found an enviable site with Lake Michigan to the west and Bay Harbor Lake and marina to the east, it seemed only natural to go back to their roots and build a Shingle-style getaway. The result is a home that boasts breathtaking water views and a shingled exterior as well as an open floor plan with a two-story great-room and spacious bedroom suites. "We took the best of the Shingle style and adapted it for today's lifestyles," Alex says.

For the Bogaerts, that meant a house large enough to accommodate their three adult children and three grandchildren. "We love company, and the whole point of the house is to be a place where we can slow down and enjoy our family and friends," Alex says. "For us, there are not enough weekends in the year."

Rooms throughout the house share a subtle and serene beauty that complements, but does not compete with, the home's natural setting. Simple yet sophisticated shades of white and sand dominate in the great-room and dining area, keeping the views and sunsets as the home's centerpiece. Dark wood floors and furniture ground the spaces without appearing heavy.

The couple worked with Detroit-area designers Diana Dutchesen and Caryn Satovsky-Siegel to ensure the furnishings were as distinctive yet down-to-earth as the house. "If you have good furniture and wonderful accessories, you don't need a lot of other things," Satovsky-Siegel says. "Northern Michigan homes focus on the outside and try to bring that beauty in."

With five porches, there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy the lake. "We migrate to wherever the sun is," Alex says. "In summer, there's no place in the world we'd rather be."



Adirondack chairs facing Lake Michigan get plenty of use in the early evening at Alex and Marilyn Bogaert's vacation home. "By that time of the day, the winds off the lake have calmed down and the sun is warm," Alex says. "It's like a heat show. You definitely don't need a television."





Clockwise from top left: The third story features a bank room where the Dogaerts' grandchildren can hang out in style. Chaise longues provide a picturesque spot for soaking up summer sun. An oversized armchair and ottoman oriented to take advantage of the great-room's two-story windows provide a quiet place for reading. While outfitted with the latest amenities, such as a heated floor, the bath maintains a cottage style thanks to shutters and a claw-foot tub. The kitchen's sand-hued limestone countertops and whitewashed cabinets blend with the simple palette found throughout the house. Besides the promise of family gatherings, it's the sunsets that lure Alex and Marilyn back to their home weekend after weekend. White paneling, wide crown molding, dark wood floors, and crisp banister millwork accent the stairs to the upper level.





Sofas dressed in washable white slipcovers complement the blue of the lake and sky beyond, while mirrors, including one above the fireplace, reflect it. The mantle has a simple carved design and angled supports for a distinctive silhouette. Even painted to blend with walls, millwork, and furnishings, it quietly catches the eye.

**This photo:** A large trestle table provides plenty of room for the Bogarts' frequent guests; white slipcovers make it easy to entertain children, too.

**Opposite:** Classic Shingle-style architectural details combine with dramatic walls of windows and a breezy floor plan to create the perfect lakeside retreat.



Situated at the end of the house, a third-level guest suite has a bay window with views of both lakes and access to a deck. The room's window treatments are simple, like most throughout the house, so as not to compete with the views.

