

MODERN LUXURY

# Interiors

BOSTON

## WELL TRAVELED

A CLIENT'S LOVE FOR TULUM IS  
BROUGHT TO THE FOREFRONT IN  
ONE CAPE COD ABODE

ON THE  
HOUSE  
LUXE SECOND  
HOMES  
THROUGHOUT  
NEW ENGLAND  
AWAIT INSIDE



STYLISH  
HOTELS  
IMPRESSING  
US NOW





A calming palette of white and creams combine with natural materials for an overall serene and cozy vibe.

# WELL TRAVELED

This home transports clients and their family to their favorite place on Earth: Tulum, Mexico.

By Antonia DePace  
Photographed by Michael J. Lee





### THE PROJECT

A vacation home on Cape Cod was given a total makeover with inspiration from Tulum, Mexico, the clients' favorite place to visit. "They had purchased this home on the Cape and it was very much stuck in the 1980s, and so they had engaged with an architectural firm, EMBARC," says Paula Daher of Daher Interior Design ([daherinteriordesign.com](http://daherinteriordesign.com)). "EMBARC focused on reorganizing the flow of the

home, reorchestrating the staircases, moving the kitchens and updating most bathrooms. And they needed an interior designer to work through the interior architecture detailing and furnishings to make it a home."

### THE CLIENTS

After being wowed by a previous project of the firm's in an issue of *Modern Luxury Interiors Boston*, the clients reached out to Daher to

bring a bit of magic to their escape. "We needed to come in and really make it a home," she explains.

### THE GOALS

With three boys under the age of 9, the family's main goal was to keep everything kid friendly, all while having a sophisticated and elevated style. "Everything that we did needed to be durable, rough and tough, yet they really wanted it to feel elevated and feel refined when they were going to entertain," Daher adds. The second home is also a main gathering space for the homeowners' extended family, of which there are nine siblings on the husband's side—some of which have their own children to accompany as well.

### THE CHALLENGES

"The biggest, biggest challenge was that they were hosting a wedding for the husband's brother and his soon-to-be wife," Daher says. "They were in the service and they only had a certain amount of time. And they were going to have 100 people at that house for the wedding. And we had to pull it together." The project, which started in December, needed to be completed by July in order to have everything ready by the upcoming nuptials.

### DETAILS, DETAILS

Upon entering through the double doors and into the foyer, one large focal point stands out: a stunning, double-sided fireplace made with walnut panels from Albuquerque, N.M. "It really was the bridge or the launch that really just made the house sing," Daher explains. Juxtaposed by crisp white walls, the behemoth stands all the way to the highest ceiling point, which composes two stories, and faces both the dramatic



A kitchen banquette by David's Custom Upholstery calls for sunny morning breakfasts in the kitchen. Opposite page: A closer look at the games table in the billiards room.





living room and family room. Looking closer into the living room, which is the first space seen when walking into the home, neutral tones and fabrics play against the warm fireplace, like a custom ottoman designed by Daher Interior Design, upholstered in Cowtan & Tout ([cowtan.com](http://cowtan.com)) fabric, and two rattan chairs. A large chandelier from Franzolini & Jimenez ([casadesigngroup.com](http://casadesigngroup.com)) replicates the geometric pattern made by the panels. “We really had to come up with something that felt airy and ethereal, but that had the scale that could really fill that room. And yet we didn’t want to take away from the drama of the fireplace,” she adds. Also in this space, an underwater Buddha painting the clients purchased in Tulum that adds a splash of color. Looking to the other side of the fireplace sits the family room, which was made with movie and games nights in mind. Here, a gigantic sectional beckons the family to relax, along with mushroomlike ottomans in a plethora of fun shapes and sizes. “They wanted 25 people to be able to

Fun Bludot ottomans serve as the perfect spot for movie nights with family and friends, while a glass door behind the sofa leads to an indoor pool.







sit in that space and watch movies and games,” Daher explains, noting that a custom millwork piece for a giant television also helps to fulfill this goal. For further entertainment, a glass sliding door behind the couch leads the family into a large indoor pool, making the typical summer escape into a year-round occasion. Next door to the family room, a game room provides more spaces for play, complete with a pool table, wine refrigerator, two card tables and more. More nods to the geometric patterns in the fireplace come into play here thanks to a Cerno (cernogroup.com)

wooden chandelier. Heading to the other side of the home, the open kitchen and dining room act as the perfect areas for wine nights and intimate dinners. Taking cues from a paneled stair railing, Daher continued the pattern into the headboard of the banquette, which overlooks the home’s stunning views of the pond. A generous island provides more seating for the large family. Take one of the two white oak stairs to the second floor, where four bedrooms await, along with a sanctuary for the wife to enjoy light reading and quiet time. A special request came in

the form of the primary bedroom, where the clients wanted a private space to retreat to at the end of the day—one that would transport them to Tulum without the flight. Now, the clients spend time dreaming on the bed that’s accented by a Salmon Falls Woodworkers (salmonfallswoodworks.com) custom canopy and plush Romo (romo.com) fabric.

#### THE OUTCOME

“Oh my god, they love it,” Daher says of the clients’ reaction. “They absolutely love it.” So much so that the firm has already started their second project with the family. ■

## DESIGN DETAILS

#### TYPE

Single-family home

#### INTERIOR DESIGNER

Daher Interior Design  
daherinteriordesign.com

#### ARCHITECT

EMBARC  
embarcdesign.com

#### CONTRACTOR

Boston Property Contractors  
buildbpc.com

#### PAINTER

BMC Painting  
bmcpaintinginc.com

## RESOURCES

#### APPLETON KITCHENS

Cabinets, kitchen  
appletonkitchens.com

#### BLUDOT

Ottomans, family room  
bludot.com

#### COMPLEAT GAMESTER

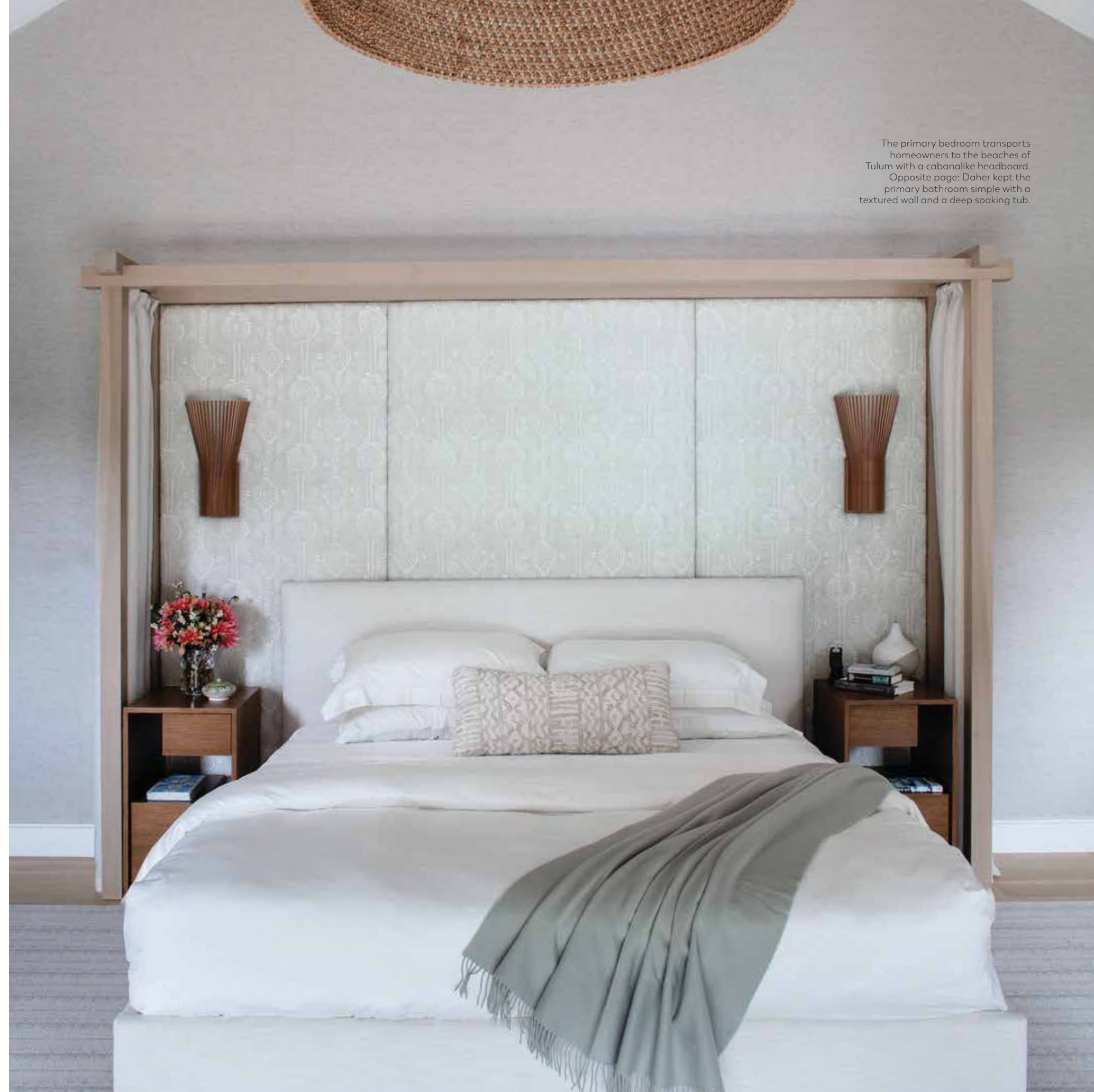
Pool table, game room  
911g.com

#### STEVEN KING CARPETS

Custom area rug, living room  
skcarpets.com

#### SUBMATERIAL

Wood fireplace, living room  
submaterial.com



The primary bedroom transports homeowners to the beaches of Tulum with a cabanalike headboard. Opposite page: Daher kept the primary bathroom simple with a textured wall and a deep soaking tub.