

# An Inviting Home

Where The Finishing Touch Is Friendship  
Barclay Butera Designs With Gatherings In Mind

BY JENNIFER RABBITT PHOTOGRAPHY BY JENNIFER MARTINE



UPPER LEFT Barclay Butera and Jonathan Bernal invite guests to the table. Butera, who has made his name by taking memorable periods in design and fashion and re-interpreting them in his inimitable way, creates an experience in every corner of his Newport Beach home—of which there are many. UPPER RIGHT Jonathan Bernal passes canapés on the patio as guests arrive. LOWER RIGHT Never absent from a gathering, Ashton (left) and Carson hopefully await a nibble from the umaki plate (left).



OPPOSITE Designer Barclay Butera (center), at home with friends Linda Young (left), Jennifer Taylor (right) and Erika Garcia (far right). Butera's Newport Beach home is a traditional single-story Cape Cod-meets-California-Bungalow perfection, surrounded by English gardens and a backyard designed for pool parties, East Coast-style. LEFT Jonathan Bernal pours the wine, while backyard sunshine floods the dining room for this holiday feast, served up à la Butera. "Glen Plaid" crystal by Ralph Lauren; "Empire" dishes and servers by Ralph Lauren; "Bamboo" flatware by Ricci; Pewter pieces by Match; Candles exclusive Barclay Butera; Lauren Estate Oval dining table; Lauren chairs covered in Moroccan Stripe fabric by Barclay Butera Home. BELOW Zak Graff and Jennifer Taylor toast, intending to save room for something special from the dessert table (bottom). All products and furnishings Barclay Butera/ Barclay Butera Home.



When it comes to inspiration, designer Barclay Butera feasts on the diversity of his experiences. His passion for juxtaposed period furnishings, art and traditional rich textiles has built his empire from his home base in Newport Beach to Los Angeles, the East Coast and points abroad. "I love to travel and meet people from all walks of life," he says. His showroom at the D&D Building in New York has established him as a designer of international importance.

When he isn't designing interiors for private clients, resort and residential developers, overseeing his showrooms and retail stores, speaking at design conferences or with assorted lifestyle and fashion press, Butera relishes his time with friends and family. "I love to entertain; my friends inspire me and keep me sane," he says. "Even if we don't have time to plan a big event, we always make time to get together."

"I'm always struck by how much entertaining people do on the East Coast," Butera says. "Each year we design an installation at the Gardens at the Hampton Classic, the largest hunter and jumper horse show in the country. It's a week-long series of invitations to pool parties, cocktail parties and more dinners than you have ever seen—and all in the most amazing homes."



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In the Butera home, the bar (below) and the dessert (lower right) keep up with the inviting décor. RIGHT A group toasts to family and friends.



An invitation to a Barclay Butera home is always a treat, both socially and aesthetically. And the chances are quite high that you may be driving to a new address—Butera has transformed and sold many of his residential treasures over the years to appreciative buyers throughout Laguna and Newport Beaches in Southern California. He insists his current home stays in the family. “This one I’m keeping, no matter what else I might be working on for myself, or with the intention of selling.” Those include two condominiums in Park City, and a home in Iron Mountain, just outside Zion National Park, among others.


Butera’s eye for vintage exotic and engaging pieces—many from European Colonial periods—is evident in his Newport Beach home. One piece has made the migration from a Laguna home to this one, but with a completely new context and impact. “Remember this piece?” he says pointing to an intricate chest. “It looks totally different in the context of this space, in this home.”

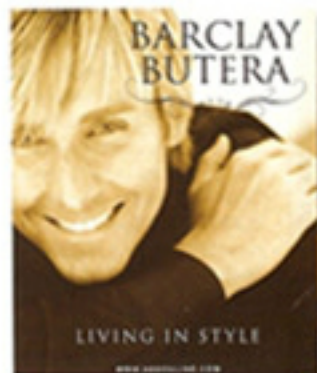
Another space, another home—another empire. As he talks about his personal and professional direction, which is pointing more and more to consulting on an international scale of residential and even urban planning, including an entire village near Mexico City, while also licensing his robust Barclay Butera brand, he surmises he will always have his retail stores. “Retail continues to be the testing ground for my laboratory. It’s part of the creative process.” 



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**BARCLAY BUTERA:  
LIVING IN STYLE**

Barclay Butera, a young and celebrated star of the design community, is known for his "fashion for the home" design approach. This book displays Butera's clean, classic interiors and creative endeavors.

Butera incorporates many elements in his designs from the glamour of mid-century Hollywood to the sophistication of Europe and the exoticism of the Far East. As a designer and homeowner, Butera has consistently embraced the themes attached to the location of each home he has owned and the lifestyle these homes inspired. These themes are explored in the variety of beautiful homes Butera has both lived in and designed including Frank Sinatra's Twin Palms estate and other desert homes, Bette Davis' bungalow at the beach, Desi Arnaz Jr.'s home in Los Angeles, mountain homes in Park City, Utah, and an apartment in New York City.

The designer's first coffee table book is produced by the prestigious French publishing house Assouline.

—Johnelle Walker

*Living In Style*  
By Barclay Butera  
Hardcover/jacket,  
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ABOVE Classic Spanish Colonial architecture that Butera designed with a blue and white palette with touches of a Zen aspect. Photograph by Mark Lohman.  
LEFT Guest room in Hollywood Hills home, formerly home to Desi Arnaz Jr., honors old Hollywood surrounded by contemporary style. Photograph by Andrew Abrecht

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