

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2013

# VERANDA

*The Warmth  
Of Winter*



A photograph of a rustic dining room. In the foreground, a round table is covered with a vibrant red, quilted tablecloth. The table is set with white plates, silverware, and several glasses. A bottle of wine is also visible. Surrounding the table are several light-colored, textured fabric chairs. In the background, a stone fireplace is visible, along with a window with red curtains and a lamp. The walls are made of wood, and the floor is light-colored wood.

# THE MAINE EVENT

*A COUPLE'S ADVENTURES  
ON SAFARI INSPIRE A  
WORLDLY COMPOUND ON  
THE NEW ENGLAND COAST.*



They anchored the interior with a Palladian floor plan, situating the dining room at its heart and flooding it from all directions with natural light. "What we built was a big little house," Saladino explains. "It isn't huge in square footage, but because we eliminated corridors it has a very spacious feeling."

A soaring entrance hall leads into the cozy Douglas fir-paneled dining room, while broad stairs extend down into the large living room made warm and intimate by sturdy supporting beams that recall old barns, the signature scratch plaster walls that Saladino pioneered in 1963, and high-back sofas.

One of the strongest nods to Africa can be found in the living room, in the form of the uneven fieldstone that Saladino darkened with a butcher wax stain, a woven figue rug, and a large wood elephant sculpture that lends a noble presence. Meanwhile, the staircase landing displays

woven baskets, antique figurines, and textiles that King has brought back from her travels.

But it is the master bedroom that is most reminiscent of the luxury lodges that captured the couple's hearts. The lofty ceiling features sisal panels to imitate thatching, there is a freestanding travertine bath and open shower, and the wood four-poster bed is hung with mosquito netting. "The bed is snug and inviting in this very tall room," says Saladino. "The mosquito netting isn't really necessary, but I love the fact that it provides them with a little protected space to hide in at night."

Enormous bronze doors lead to a balcony overlooking a forest of birch, maples, and ferns, giving the bedroom the feel of a tree house. "It's as close to Africa as you can get, not counting the weather," says King, who has christened the house *Asante Sana*, which, in Swahili, means "Thank you very much." □



***THE DESIGNER LOOKED***  
***TO THE EARLIER HOMES OF MAINE, WITH THEIR NEW***  
***ENGLAND STONE, CEDAR SHINGLES, AND***  
***LARGE WRAPAROUND PORCHES, AS INSPIRATION.***