



Coasting

Four amazing estates that overlook the water



by DIANE SEMBROT

photographs by OLSON PHOTOGRAPHIC

When it came time to find candidates for *Fairfield Living* magazine's annual piece on spectacular homes in town, our thoughts turned to the coast. The sound of the waves lapping on the beach, an unimpeded view of the Long Island Sound, a cascade of green grass and coastal flowers, and those briny breezes—it's easy to indulge in the soul-refreshing pleasures of days and nights near water. Take in a brilliant sunrise with a cup of coffee and toast a colorful sunset with a glass of wine (champagne if it's a particularly glorious sunset). Even tempests become part of life, deepening a respectful wariness. Living in touch with nature's changes enriches the story of a life well lived and fully aware.



2081



Beach Road, Fairfield

STYLE:
Scandinavian look,
European

YEAR BUILT:
2000

ARCHITECT:
Architect Richard Swann protectively encased a light, bright, breezy interior (which was designed by the owner) within a bring-on-the-New-England-seasons shingled shell—like a pearl inside an oyster (a remarkably gorgeous one).

OWNER'S FAVORITE FEATURE:
"It's very modern and sleek on the inside. The inside is the antithesis of the outside."

WHAT WE LOVE:
At 1,800 square feet, with seven rooms, the home makes use of every inch of its space, yet remains resolutely uncluttered—just like its views of the beach and water. From its large windows to its long, sloped roofline, the design makes no apologies for soaking in all of the coastal delight it can. This compact and handsome house has a way of saying, "I like *this* spot, with *this* view, and *this* patch of beach, and I'm squeezing in to get it." Moxie. Also, it's has authenticity—it's built on the beach and is framed with natural coastal elements like rustling sea grasses and a pebbled driveway.