



A NATURAL AND RUSTIC SWISS CHALET

Indian-origin and London-based designer Kamini Ezralow unveils a Swiss chalet in Verbier, designed for a family of five.

By Anuradha Varma, Photos by Yves Garneau



The furniture in the living room (left and above) is all bespoke. The barstools, too, are bespoke and use Romo, Mark Alexander fabric for the backs. The floor lamp is by Nicholas Haslam. The leather armchairs are from A. Rudin, using J Robert Scott super-kidskin leather. The chandelier is antique, the client's own.

The 2,500 square foot chalet, located in Verbier, Switzerland, is a vacation home for a family of five and comprises four bedrooms and a loft. The chalet has been rebuilt from scratch after the old structure was torn down. Says interior designer Kamini Ezralow, of Indian origin and now based in London, "The clients wanted something that was elegant, but comfortable. They were very specific about all the materials, from old oak and Luzerne stone on the floors to an antique 200-year-old sink from an old castle that was used in one of the bathrooms. We complemented the natural feel of the chalet by using fabrics and textures that harmonised with the environment—wools, linens and furs, besides some embellished textiles, to bring a touch of glamour."

One of the main bedrooms has a luxurious bath-tub for the residents to soak in before bedtime. The designer remarks, "This was directed by the client's vision. The room was

large and they wanted a unique touch."

"The bathrooms have all the modern conveniences, set in an environment of old stone and wood. The cabinets were custom-made to suit the space and in the children's bathroom, there are even custom foot stools for the little ones to reach the sink! The clients handpicked the stone from Italy."

Leather sofas also lend character to the chalet. Ezralow says, "Today, we have so many options from different grades and thicknesses, to colours and textures. Leather also ages very well; the more it's used, the more of a patina it gets. I combine the leather with other materials, such as wool, silk, linens and furs."

In the children's rooms, there is space for four children, with each space a little cocooned haven for them. The bunk-beds have the initials of each child and there are sayings embroidered on linen panels in each bed space.





According to Ezralow, the bed from *And So To Bed* (facing page, above) seemed perfect for this room. She says, "It was inspired by saddles and is made with cast-iron straps, fashioned to look just like leather." The dining table (above, right) and bench is bespoke, the chandelier from *Bella Figura*, crockery by *Julska* and silverware from *Christofle*. Old oak has been used on all the floors, except in the kitchen (left) and bathrooms, where old Luzerne stone is used.



BESPOKE FURNITURE CONNECTS TO THE PAST

A lot of the furniture is bespoke and has been made by various craftsmen all over the world, from Italy, UK and the US. "Even the towels are embroidered with the family logo, which was custom-designed together with the client," explains Ezralow (left). She adds, "The whole project was immensely enjoyable to work on. Every inch of the house is well-thought out and has special and unique touches. It was especially enjoyable to work with clients who stayed true to rebuilding a chalet with the integrity of materials that would have been used in the past."