

A Homecoming

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KITCHEN / GREAT ROOM

Living in Palos Verdes is a dream come true for many homeowners. The area is lush with beautiful trees that line the city streets, property sizes are large enough that some have horses on-site, and a select few enjoy breathtaking ocean views. But for Franklin and Renee Pratto, the city on the hill had one major drawback — Palos Verdes wasn't Naples Island.

The couple first lived in the famed Long Beach community for 16 years and didn't want to leave, but decided to move to Palos Verdes because the distance between their home and their daughter's education at Chadwick School was becoming an issue. In Palos Verdes, the family lived on an acre, but the constant maintenance of the property — combined with their daughter's upheaval to the University of Pennsylvania — meant that the Prattos not only required a smaller living space, they also could live wherever they wanted. With

this in mind, the duo said goodbye to 13 years in Palos Verdes and began to look in the Costa D' Oro section of Naples, where they found a three-story waterfront home that was everything they were looking for — and then some.

"The isolation in Palos Verdes got to be an issue," Renee Pratto said. "The trek to the freeway could take 45 minutes, and there is nothing to do up there. Here, we go outside our front door and we can walk to a bunch of restaurants. The convenience of everything here is great."

Living in Naples also puts Renee closer to the industrial buildings she owns in Santa Fe Springs, but the retired Franklin jokes that there are days when he spends up to two hours reading the newspaper on his patio.



DINING ROOM

“We looked at the weather, and this area has the best for a beach city in Southern California. You cannot beat Alamitos Bay.”

—Renee Pratto

The Prattos bought their current residence in 2005, but due to a complete remodel of the property, the abode was not finished until September 2008. Just about the only aspect of the couple's three-story, 4,250-square-foot Lido Lane home they didn't alter was the bay water that serves as their front yard, as the outside was refurbished with stone, smooth stucco, teak, copper, stainless steel and succulents operated by WeatherTRAK, a satellite system that automatically waters plants based on local weather conditions and landscape needs.

For the inside of their home, the couple “counted every inch” in order to maximize the 27-foot width of each floor. Nana doors allow the duo to incorporate outside patios with their indoor living spaces, while European toilets save eight inches because they do not use the same type of tanks as the American counterpart. Baseboards are flush with the walls, and a retractable television on the first floor allows the usual



GUEST BEDROOM