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BUILT WITH A DIFFERENCE

BY COMBINING ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS features, state-of-the-art technology and avant-garde design, Michelangelo Homes has garnered a well-deserved reputation for designing estate homes with a difference.

Many of these differences take the form of standard features built into every Michelangelo Home and include applications that are low-maintenance, yet environmentally sound and safety conscious. Michelangelo Homes uses Icynene® insulation in every home they build. This open cell



foam insulation works as a temperature barrier and prevents moisture and mildew while offering the homeowner decreased energy costs and does away with the need for soffit vents.

Storm abatement features include high-impact windows

and doors and the construction of roofs with fewer vents to prevent air intrusion during a hurricane. Air conditioning units are designed to bring in fresh air from outside the home, rather than re-circulating stale air throughout the home.

According to Annette Richardson, sales manager at Michelangelo Homes, "Exterior maintenance in all of our homes is kept to a minimum through the use of stucco and pre-cast stone applications on the home, which hold up to the elements and time better than wood."

In addition, the exterior of every Michelangelo custom home is given a stucco finish that differs from other stucco applications in that it is hand-applied.

"Every neighborhood in which we've built, we've had both subcontractors and homeowners stopping by our job site during this application process in order to see what the product is and how it's done," says Walt Hogan, vice president of Michelangelo Homes, "We apply the stucco to the exterior walls by hand and then use a sponge to finish the application. It's very labor intensive, but it truly gives our homes an Old World look."

All of these elements, coupled with outstanding design, have won Michelangelo Homes numerous industry awards, many of which were awarded to the Salerno model home located in the Trevi community in Fort Myers. The Salerno's awards include nine Lee Building Industry awards at the 2007 Parade of Homes and a 2007 Aurora award in the \$2-3 million-dollar category, which included homes from 11 states.

With 3,685 square feet under air, the four-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bath Salerno also offers a three-car garage and a separate detached wine room. The classic Italianate design was inspired by one of the firm's partners, Herbert P. Baum, who owns a residence in Italy. Hogan himself spent 11 years living in Italy.

Elegant brick pavers line the Salerno's driveway and lead up to custom Cantera™ solid entry doors with iron detailing. Further exterior architectural details include pre-cast stone window surrounds, corbels and entry columns. Lush mature landscaping and designer outdoor lighting add further curb appeal. ▶



Inside the Salerno, the Tuscan-inspired, two-story foyer boasts 24-foot ceilings and a stunning staircase featuring treads of hand-scraped, aged walnut and a custom wrought iron handrail, designed to mimic the ironwork at the entry doors to sustain design continuity. Wrought iron medallion and sconces add more Old World ambiance to the space.

The Salerno's Italianate design scheme includes the use of rich fabrics and embellishments, liberally placed pre-cast columns and beautifully stained hardwood built-in details. Rectified travertine floors in a warm taupe hue cover the floors throughout the home.

Enclosed by distinctive arches, the elegant dining room includes an oversized breakfast room with both storage and display areas and a square dining table of exotic hardwoods, flanked by dining chairs covered in an almond and earth tone patterned fabric. This pattern is carried through to the coffered ceiling above via a custom faux paint application

and provides the perfect display area for an ornate glass chandelier that hangs above the dining table. Drapery panels are made of fabric that incorporates a blue and earth tone design, while a butler's pantry connects the dining room to the kitchen. Functional and distinctive, the dining room provides the perfect setting for elegant social gatherings.

With golden walls offset by double crown mouldings painted a clean bright white, the office also offers custom mahogany built-ins that provide ample space for both display and storage. Above, the ceiling's center coffer is ▶

ABOVE – Enclosed by distinctive arches, the elegant dining room boasts a ceiling faux finished to mimic the fabric that covers the dining chairs. Functional and distinctive, the dining room provides the perfect setting for elegant social gatherings.

OPPOSITE – The Salerno's Tuscan inspired, two-story foyer boasts 24-foot ceilings and a stunning staircase, featuring a custom wrought iron handrail designed to mimic the ironwork at the entry doors.





painted in a slightly darker shade of gold than the walls, while the flooring is a hand-scraped walnut. A handsome carved desk and leather chair sit atop a vibrant Oriental rug, while the formal dark blue drapes at the window are embellished with gold trim. Layered lighting bathes the space in a soothing ambiance and includes a richly-wrought iron

chandelier, table lamps and can lights. This elegant design scheme creates an office that is functional and welcoming.

Warm honey-toned walls lend a classic feel to the kitchen and set off the raised panel glazed cabinetry to perfection. At the range, a pre-cast stone hood with decorative carvings, listello and a tumbled stone backsplash complement the



cream, white and gold granite. A Sub-Zero® refrigerator and KitchenAid® appliances make the space functional, while decorative elements such as the carved corbels at the eating bar and stone details give the kitchen a decidedly European flair.

Intimate and inviting, the breakfast nook sits in its own alcove, which contains a decorative iron table with glass top and a banquette with storage and drawers beneath. Two

other chairs with washed wooden frames are covered in the same deep blue fabric that appears at the banquette. Light-filled and laden with charm, the breakfast nook is completed by a finely-wrought iron chandelier.

Deep blue wall paint gives the guest bedroom character, ▶

ABOVE – The intimate breakfast nook sits in its own alcove and features a decorative glass-topped iron table and a banquette. A finely-wrought iron chandelier completes the space.

BELOW – The golden walls of the office are contrasted with double crown mouldings painted a clean, bright white. Custom mahogany built-ins and a coffered ceiling are further architectural details that make the office a space that is both functional and welcoming.

OPPOSITE – Warm honeyed walls lend a classic feel to the kitchen and set off the raised panel glazed cabinetry to perfection. Decorative elements, such as the carved corbels at the eating bar and stone details, give the kitchen a decidedly European flair.





while the decorative wrought iron artwork above the beds ties the space to the rest of the home. The bed features a handsome hardwood headboard that is covered with an ice blue silk comforter and accented with blue and cream silk shams. The rattan chair and the blue and white toile fabric, used to cover the side tables, lends a feminine touch to the room.

The Salerno's distinctive gold master bedroom suite features truly one-of-a-kind design elements, including Venetian plaster walls and a separate columned seating area. The seating area has a groin ceiling that has been faux finished with a labor-intensive custom treatment incorporating layers of paint, glaze, and brown tissue paper giving the ceiling an elegant crinkle finish. Here, a regal pair of chairs has been covered in a lush gold silk fabric that is repeated at the windows. Above the king-sized bed, the vaulted ceiling displays the same crinkled faux treatment as in the sitting area. French doors open out onto the pool area.



The master bath is a private retreat complete with an inviting soaking tub set into an alcove and flanked by two satellite columns. The tub window looks out onto an ivy covered pergola and seating area, shaded by mature oak and mango trees. An entry alcove opens into a private shower covered in travertine marble and accented by earth-toned listello tiles. Granite counter tops complete the high-end built-in mocha glazed cabinetry and add to the master bath's retreat ambiance.

In the outdoor entertainment area, the fireplace features a stone surround and a remote-controlled gas fire. The outdoor



ABOVE – In the master bedroom, the king-sized bed sits beneath a vaulted ceiling, while French doors provide access to the pool area.

CENTER – A separate columned seating area in the master bedroom suite boasts a labor-intensive custom treatment incorporating layers of paint, glaze and brown tissue paper giving the ceiling an elegant crinkle finish.

BELOW – The master bath is a private retreat complete with an inviting soaking tub set into an alcove. Granite counter tops complete the high-end built-in mocha glazed cabinetry and add to the master bath's retreat ambiance.

OPPOSITE – Sans pool cage and rich in natural stone elements, the formal swimming pool and raised spa look as though they have been transported from a villa in the Tuscan countryside.



kitchen offers a stainless steel grill, under-counter refrigerator, sink and plenty of storage for entertaining essentials. The floor of the spacious seating area is covered in brick pavers, while the ceiling is paneled in pecky cypress wood, finished with a substantial application of crown moulding.

Sans pool cage and rich in natural stone elements, the formal swimming pool and raised spa look as though they have been transported from a villa in the Tuscan countryside and perfectly complement the Italianate design elements that define the Salerno.

While every Michelangelo Home is immediately recognizable by its quality materials and visually stimulating design

elements, the award-winning Salerno stands as a testament to design vision and authentic detailing. Rich in natural elements and one-of-a-kind architectural details, the Salerno's timeless design translates into a home that has been created for luxury living. ♦

*Courtesy of Michelangelo Homes
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