





Dealing With Nature's Constraints

Existing rock outcroppings result in a dramatic, innovative pool design

Horseshoe Bay, a quaint and picturesque seaside village on the north shore of West Vancouver, British Columbia, is the site of this breathtaking pool installation by Aloha Pools Ltd. of Burnaby, British Columbia.

This uniquely-designed, rectangle-shaped 3.9 m x 9.1 m (13 ft. x 30 ft.) gunite pool has a depth of 1 m to 1.8 m (3 ft. 6 in. to 6 ft.) with stairs in the middle of pool that lead toward the shallow end.

As the City of West Vancouver does not allow blasting or drilling into rock for swimming pool installations without special permission, Aloha Pools decided to contour the pool within the existing natural confines of the site – a narrow, rocky promontory overlooking Horseshoe Bay. This meant that the stairs and interior bench of the pool had to be installed over the existing rock outcroppings – a fortuitous necessity resulting in a dramatic, innovative design.

The homeowner wanted the pool to look like a natural extension of the house – which features a clean, contemporary look – and did not want the pool to obscure the view of the ocean. To achieve this, Aloha kept the pool design as minimal and symmetrical as possible using a white plaster finish and white border tiles on the pool's interior and buff-coloured concrete decking to match the stucco exterior of the home. Surrounding the pool and deck area are clear glass railing panels that allow bathers to enjoy the ocean view while relaxing in the water.

The entire pool and deck area, as well as the ocean beyond, can be seen from the house which sits much higher up on the property than the pool.

Special Design Elements

- Minimalist design to complement exterior of house
- Pool stairs and bench built over existing rock outcroppings
- In-floor cleaning system
- Clear glass railings for unobstructed ocean view

Builder

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