

COMING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

WITH SPECTACULAR COASTAL AND COUNTRYSIDE VIEWS, LUXURY INTERIOR DESIGNER, KRIS TURNBULL HAS DESIGNED EVERY ELEMENT OF THIS CHARMING COASTAL COTTAGE IN CASTLEROCK.

Located on the edge of the cliffs overlooking Downhill Strand, this cottage was set to be a dream holiday home. The brief from our client was clear: design a place with plenty of 'wow factor' – think understated, yet very unique. Somewhere to switch off from the world, relax and unwind with family, friends and, of course, the dog too.

The complete renovation of this uninhabited coastal home was an interior design challenge Kris immediately embraced. The property had good proportion, a welcoming, cosy feel, but it was very tired and in need of renovation. The location is only a one minute walk to one of the most beautiful beaches on the north coast whilst the village is home to less than fifteen hundred people.

A labour of love, the interior for this coastal cottage received a sensitive approach to its decor; the design studio was mindful of the property's original heritage and reinstated the lime plaster and oak beams whilst adding a characterful yet modern take on a farmhouse kitchen to suit the luxury holiday rental market.

Firstly, we completely remodelled the cottage, transforming the previous tired and dilapidated interiors whilst extending it to suit the need for space. The garage was incorporated within the new interior layout to become a master suite. Each bedroom was further reconfigured to become more spacious and the furniture chosen was simple, yet effective. Exuding luxury in its use of soft, sumptuous fabrics and warm, natural finishes, this charming cottage is the embodiment of coastal living. »

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» Managing the project from initial architectural drawings through to completion of the building work, Kris's interior design embraces the property's special arts & crafts heritage with the addition of beautiful and unique oak trusses.

Our client requested the ultimate escape. We sourced some unique materials and had great enjoyment developing original ideas into each space to help create a haven away from our client's fast-paced world of business. Kris's use of cosy, comfortable furniture, rich fabrics and warming finishes ensure the modern "creature-comforts", reflecting the stunning coastal surroundings of Mussenden Temple. The result was a charming place, filled with unique character, and ideal for entertaining lots of guests with ease.

The secret to making a welcoming home is to strike the fine balance by combining tradition with contemporary aesthetics, mixing simple lines with soft touches.

This holiday home is just as suitable for a winter getaway as it is for a summer break and translates into the ultimate retreat for family and friends at Christmas. The chunky corner group sofa and welcoming fireplace make this living room the perfect place to relax after a long walk or festive dinner.

The custom-made dining table is dressed for Christmas with an elegant centrepiece, finished with colourful candles matching the beautiful fabric upholstered feature wall. The deep blue bar and kitchen units add a vibrant splash of colour to the plain walls and light oak flooring. »



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» Deep shades of blue give it such a cosy coastal feel that continues in the hallway, where a playful wallpaper visually enlarges this space leading to three cosy guest bedrooms and the master suite. Each guest bedroom is uniquely designed and has a different style and feel to it whilst all have crisp white bedlinen and slippers laid out to add to the welcoming feel.

Embracing the intimate ambience of the guest bathroom, Kris has incorporated dark and rich colours, adding pattern and textures along strategic lighting and statement pieces to create a moody atmosphere.

Unlike the guest bedrooms, the master suite had to be more personal to the client, comfortable yet timelessly elegant. To achieve this, we created a serene retreat in peaceful and soft shades of dusty pink, duck egg blue and ivory. Hand painted feature wallpaper, sculpural lighting, soft wools and beautiful textiles are layered throughout for a tactile and inviting mood.

Though the client lives mainly between the east and west coast of the United States, the holiday cottage in Castlerock is where she feels most comfortable, happy and at peace.

**For enquiries on renting this holiday cottage, email:
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PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER BRUCE**



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