Another Round

A new build in Nashville offers a toast to unconventional touches—including a hidden Irish pub.

interior designer JFY Designs / *writer* Meghan Shouse
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DINING AREA
Under a 23-foot vaulted ceiling that stretches over the open-plan living room and kitchen, Marie-Joe Bouffard of JFY Designs set apart a dining area using custom banquettes and a round table. **Table:** Branch Home. **Rug:** Fibreworks. **Chairs:** Hickory White. **Hutch:** vintage.

DESIGNING A brand-new home to feel lived-in is complicated, but it's a request Marie-Joe Bouffard commonly hears from clients. Creating an attached Irish pub—and making it look and feel coherent with the rest of the home—was an entirely new challenge. When the founder of JFY Designs sat down with her clients—a family of five who had relocated from California to Nashville—the husband's first order of business was clear: He told her, "Driving through the Irish countryside, you'll suddenly come across what looks like an old house—but it's actually a pub. That's exactly the feeling I want."

Always ready to try something new, Bouffard and the homeowners hired an Irish Pub Company consultant to advise them on, and source items for, the project, complete with a whiskey snug and vintage cash register. **"Everything was shipped from Ireland and then installed in place,"** Bouffard says, from wall cladding to furniture.

Positioned above the home's attached garage, the bar, named The Master Plan, connects to the house via a set of stairs and a narrow hallway. There, ancestral photos and an antique sconce create a transition from family home to fun hangout.

To ensure that the rest of the 7,500-square-foot interior melded with the historic feel of the hideaway, Bouffard lined almost every room in either stone, shiplap, Roman clay, or wallpaper, all in a warm, neutral color palette. "The desire to make the house feel aged and imperfect meant we could leave very few walls untouched," she explains. She spent weekends combing antique markets for vintage treasures—an old leather bike now has pride of place in the family room, and a butcher-block table caps the kitchen island. "Everything was handpicked to feel authentic, not staged," Bouffard says. "In the end, the devil's in the details."

KITCHEN
The stone on the two-way fireplace and wall matches the home's exterior, lending continuity. **Range:** BlueStar in Ripe Olive, Sherwin-Williams. **Pendants:** antique, Collected by Schwung. **Cabinet paint:** Shadow White, Farrow & Ball. **Wall treatment:** Piano Room Roman clay, Portola Paints.

LOW-HANGING PENDANTS MAKE THE HIGH-CEILINGED SPACE FEEL COZIER.

GIRLS' BEDROOM
The family's two daughters share this space in the attic. Shiplap adds character and conceals the door to a secret reading room on the wall opposite the beds. **Chandelier:** Regina Andrew. **Nightstand:** Branch Home. **Duvet** and **coverlet:** Pom Pom at Home.

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FAMILY ROOM
Performance fabric covers the Bernhardt **sectional,** allowing the whole family—including their Irish wolfhound—to nestle comfortably. **Chandelier:** vintage, Collected by Schwung. **Chair:** Verellen.

SEATING NOOK
When an old walnut tree on the property had to be cut down, Bouffard used its wood for the steps of this floating staircase. **Chair:** antique, Architectural Anarchy. **Floor lamp:** Visual Comfort & Co. **Bookshelf:** Clubcu. **Rug:** Fibre by Auskin.

PLAYROOM
The metal slide and fruit tree **wallpaper** by York span from the upstairs hall into this play area. A whole wall of storage for toys and crafts stands perpendicular to it. **Ceiling wallpaper:** York. **Chairs:** Crate & Barrel. **Sheep:** Interlude Home.

GIRLS' BATHROOM
Pink cabinets in Calamine by Farrow & Ball keep the room feminine and youthful. They're balanced by sophisticated touches, like a vintage stool and textured **wallcovering** by Rifle Paper Co. **Sconces:** Hudson Valley Lighting. **Mirrors:** custom.

PUB "LONG SEAT"
"One of the focal points of this corner is the ancestry wall of portraits, beginning with the client's great-great-grandfather, who came to the U.S. from Cork, Ireland," Bouffard says. As in the rest of the pub, all **furnishings** were curated by The Irish Pub Company.

PUB: ALLISON ELEFANTE

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PRIMARY BEDROOM
To give the room a sense of age, Bouffard used a Roman clay on the walls for a tea-stained patina. A **canopy bed** by Woodbridge Furniture adds a storybook vibe. **Love seat:** custom, Moss Home. **Nightstand:** Phillips Scott. **Rug:** Surya.

PUB BAR
Stocked with 500-plus whiskey bottles, the pub can easily seat over a dozen people. "I didn't want this to feel like a [theme park] pub," Bouffard says. "It's so cozy and comfortable, and you forget you're in someone's home; you truly feel transported to Ireland."

SWINGING DOORS LEAD TO THE WHISKEY SNUG, AN INTIMATE TASTING AREA.

ALLISON ELEFANTE.

"Salvaged pieces can bring so much warmth and history to a new build."