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HEATING UP

ALFRESCO ESCAPE

A MECCA FOR TRANSPLANTS, THE SOUTHEASTERNMOST PART OF THE COUNTRY BOASTS A SANS-SNOW CLIMATE THAT'S ESPECIALLY CONDUCTIVE TO DAYS SPENT OUTDOORS YEAR-ROUND.



One of Lotus Sculpture's many garden statues, this Buddha adds character and zen to an outdoor living room. Seated Granite Buddha Statue with Halo, \$2,450; lotussculpture.com



Part of Summit Furniture's Smoothie Collection, this contemporary chair features elongated lines and comfortable cushions. Smoothie Lounge Chair, price available upon request; summitfurniture.com



Jeffrey Court's crushed glass mosaics are perfect for dressing up an accent wall behind a grill or outdoor kitchen. Wisdom Crushed Mood Glass, price available upon request; jeffreycourt.com



Sutherland Furniture's dining table features a teak top with lazy Susan attachment. Cast Stone Base Dining Table, price available upon request; sutherlandfurniture.com



DINNER PARTY

The rear terrace of this Coral Gables, Florida, estate comfortably seats 10 at a glass-topped dining table set atop cast stone bases from Sutherland Furniture.

PERFECT MATCH

Every South Florida waterfront home begs for ample outdoor lounging space, and this Tuscan-style structure by interior designer Carola Hinojosa, principal at Miami's Hinojosa Design Studio, and Miami architect Ramon Pacheco, of Ramon Pacheco & Associates, Architect and Planner, is no exception. "We aimed to create a very relaxed and calm atmosphere," Hinojosa says. The spacious rear terrace features stone columns, light-walnut travertine flooring and contrasting dark wood beams on the ceiling.

SOCIAL NETWORK

Designed to be enjoyed alone or with the owners' frequent guests, the terrace is equipped with a variety of seating options, including single chaise lounges by the pool, space for two dining rooms—one more formal and the other casual—and a lounge area. Outdoor kitchen and bar areas allow the hosts the freedom to stay near their guests. "I encourage my clients to enjoy the outdoors as much as they can," Hinojosa says. "That's what living in Florida is all about."

MATERIAL WORLD

Though it's easy to enjoy an outdoor living room, South Floridians must take heed of the furnishings they opt to leave outside. "Choosing the correct materials is essential for the outdoors in Florida," Hinojosa says. "Avoid any metals, unless they are powder coated or protected, due to the risk of oxidation." The humid climate of South Florida works best with wood, stone and outdoor-friendly fabrics, as evident in Hinojosa's selections of the teak Sutherland furniture and fabric from Perennials seen here.



Adorn the wall behind an outdoor grill with tile or a stone mosaic to mimic a kitchen backsplash.

Counteract the hot Florida summers with both functional and aesthetically pleasing outdoor ceiling fans.

A thin shelf topped with garden statues, candles and planters can act as both a display space and divider of seating groups.