

HOME







OUT OF THE BLUE

When the owners of this Bethesda home did a total renovation, they wanted to turn the primary bath into a space that felt like stepping into a vacation. That meant something with "an indoor/outdoor vibe" that was also "very, very fun," says Jim Rill of Rill Architects, who designed the update alongside his colleague Cara Medeiros.

Step one: covering the wall, bathtub, and counters in a rare, statementmaking blue marble flecked with brown, black, and white. The stone is complemented by an eye-catching pair of walnut vanities, aligned so that the wood's veining patterns flow seamlessly across. Sand-colored porcelain tiles, gold fixtures, and a glam Hubbardton Forge chandelier and Visual Comfort mirror sconces play off the wood's warm tones. The outdoors are also brought in via the windows lining one wall of the steam shower, which overlooks the backyard. (Not to worry-there are retractable shades.) Heated floors and a combination toilet-bidet up the luxe factor.

Rill says he's seen a growing interest in combining home and nature using organic materials like wood and stone-a core part of what's known as biophilic design: "[People want to] pull the outside in and the inside out."



BIOPHILIC BLUE:
The plan for this
Bethesda bathroom
was to blend indoor
and outdoor via
natural materials like
walnut (the vanities)
and marble (the
showstopping blue
tub and walls).



