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# From The Land: Backen, Gillam, & Kroeger Architects



## Synopsis

Elegant rusticity meets unpretentious luxury in the work of this award-winning architecture firm. Howard Backen, principal of the architecture firm Backen, Gillam & Kroeger, is at the center of a popular movement in home design that emphasizes elegant simplicity and embraces the rustic charm of natural materials. This volume, the first on his work and that of the firm, is an artful exploration of this aesthetic, featuring farmhouses in the Napa Valley, hilltop homes, seaside retreats, and lakeside hideaways. Throughout the work, a sense of intimacy, warmth, and informality pervades. Natural materials, such as wood, stone, and brick, form the foundations, walls, and ceilings of these subtly luxurious spaces, while nature itself plays a considered role that is at once complementary and also intricately conjoined with the work. Sensitive, alluring, and wonderfully resonant with the suggestion of invitation, the work of Backen, Gillam & Kroeger is both thrilling to the eye and restorative to the soul.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I live in Sonoma County in California. This is a beautiful book that truly reflects the beauty of this area. However, I was hoping for a book that focused more on residential architecture. Over half of the photos are actually of wineries. If that is what you want, this is a great choice.

This book is GREAT for designers and Architects. It's a nice big book with floor plans and tons of unpublished pictures, so there's something fresh to check out. The mostly wineries and winery

residences pictured here make you really want to move to Napa Valley, California. I have a friend who works at this firm and is pictured in the back, and I was so happy with the book I had to email him and congratulate him on such great work. Love it.

Bought this for my husband for Father's Day (he is an architect who dreams of designing a home for our little ones to grow up in!) for some fun inspiration, and he was very excited when it arrived since he had mentioned loving this book after a client showed it to him. The photos are beautiful, it's nicely laid out, and it's got an impressive heft to it. It personally bugs me that the book is very large since it takes up nearly the entire coffee table and doesn't fit on our bookshelves....but the hubby likes it, so that's all that matters in the end. A great gift for design junkies and architects to add to their library!

I love this book. I have bought ten at least on as gifts. It's a beautiful coffee table book as well as a resource for some interesting places to visit in the Napa Valley. Howard Backen is a genius architect. This is well worth the read.

This book is beautiful, the architecture is wonderful, and the book actually showed some basic plans, which made up for the writing, which wasn't all that illuminating, at least as far as architecture goes. The book is well worth the money, and will probably be something you can enjoy time after time.

Stunning architecture. No matter if you call it 'rough luxe,' "modern farmhouse" or "contemporary rustic" design, this book is a treasure trove of inspiration. I first encountered Backen's work when I stayed at Meadowood Resort many years ago. With outstanding photography, the oversized coffee table format provides so much more detail and case studies than any online resource. Well worth the price, whether for designing your own similar house or merely dreaming. If I build my dreamhouse, this is the design that will guide it.

My husband and son have worked for Howard Backen in previous years. Also, well laid out with great photos. Yes, I would definitely recommend to someone. Thank you.

Homes were so beautiful the text described the architects and usages wonderfully. If you have ever been to California's wine country, this is fascinating.

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