

# INDIA Good Homes

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# Life by the Bay

Overlooking the Bay of Bengal, this apartment in Chennai takes its style cues from the cool of the ocean waters

FEATURE **AVRIL NOEL D'SOUZA** PHOTOGRAPHS **YASH R JAIN**



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The different views of the Bay of Bengal take centre stage in this home. Classic, understated interiors paired with muted colours ensure your attention stays on the stunning sea vistas.

— **Amrita Thomas**, Founder and Principal Designer, *ALARA Studio*



The living and dining area showcases a textured oak wall with a hidden onyx bar cabinet. Paul Matter's 'Satellite' and 'Tango Two' lights add simplicity, while custom Alara Studio furniture, Jaipur Rugs carpets, and curated artefacts complete the space.





**IDEA TO STEAL!**  
A curved, fluted wall organically traverses the living room. Within this wall, a concealed bar cabinet offers a simple yet smart, space-saving solution.



**AMRITA THOMAS**

**Architect and Interior Designer**

Having studied architecture from CEPT Ahmedabad, Amrita Thomas co-founded the furniture brand 'ALARA' in 2017. She blends her architectural expertise and passion for interior design to create spaces that balance style with function. Amrita promotes indigenous techniques and crafts by collaborating with local artisans.



“Our vision was to create a home that exudes quiet luxury, celebrating the stunning sea views visible from every corner. We planned the design with minimal and simple details, ensuring a timeless and elegant appeal.

— Amrita Thomas, Founder and Principal Designer, ALARA Studio

**U**p high in the clouds, this 3,500sqft residence on the 39th floor enjoys an envious view of the Bay of Bengal. For designer Amrita Thomas of ALARA Studio, this was the starting point. In pursuit of a high-sensory experience, the floor plan features easy transitory passages, elegant surface treatments and custom-designed pieces that structure a look focused on celebrating the waters of the bay.

With expansive glass walls and vertical gardens, Amrita used the inherent qualities of the skyscraper to her advantage. She colluded with these modern aesthetics to orchestrate a style that celebrates nature. From the view to a profusion of greenery gracing the interiors, Amrita marries these worlds succinctly.

God is in the details. Natural marbles, travertines, oak wood, and linen fabrics form the crux of this luxurious materiality. Intricate oak details, such as fluted walls in the living room and slatted panels in the bedrooms, are paired with ash marble floors. The foyer features the Sade console, a piece by ALARA Studio, while in the living and dining area, a textured oak wall and concealed onyx bar cabinet are the heroes. In the family room, open shelves and a versatile sofa bed from Ventura focus on functionality, while the master bedroom features a leather-upholstered wingback bed against an oak-panelled wall.

With so much to admire and enjoy, the bay has our hearts and our hearts have found itself at home in this address. 🏡

**(BOTTOM)** The entrance features a striking composition of well-designed pieces like the Sade console by ALARA Studio, inspired by chess pieces, and the minimalist light fixtures by Hatsu. These simple forms stand in perfect synchrony with the expansive sea view. Amrita has cleverly curated a look with hints of black and brown, as they frame the view and create a lovely silhouette.

