

Zuri® Premium Decking by Royal® Case Study

Bluffton, South Carolina

As retirees with a passion for the outdoors, Stuart and Cathy Malone purchased a vacation property in the South Carolina Lowcountry where they could enjoy maritime forests and serene coastal living. Located in Palmetto Bluff, a high-end residential community in the Town of Bluffton, the property is positioned alongside the marshes of the May River. The Malones wanted to maximize the property's spectacular views and turned to Court Atkins Architects to design and build three beautiful structures, including a carriage house, a main house and a garage. The project team began with the carriage house, where the couple would reside during the construction of the main house. The couple wanted to get to know the community and property well before deciding how they would tailor their home to the environment. They also wanted a casual living environment that could be enjoyed year-round.

Traditionally, South Carolina Lowcountry architecture has reflected the hot, humid climate of the area. Common features include high ceilings that allow heat to rise and raised first floors that allow air to circulate under the house and provide a buffer against flooding. Piazzas or porches with large overhangs—usually on the south side of the home—provide shade as well as space to enjoy the outdoors.

“As we were designing the home, outdoor living spaces became important to them—how they connect to the landscape and the indoor spaces and how they could entertain,” said William Court, a partner at Court Atkins Architects.

The main home is roughly 3,500 square feet with an additional 1,400 square feet of outdoor porches and decks. The design is flowing and casual, with a focus on big, open, screened outdoor living spaces at the back of the house. Because the Malones do not live there full time, the use of low-maintenance products was essential.



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“When they are here, they don’t want to spend the time servicing the property, so they really gravitated toward materials that were new or innovative and more suited to the coastal environment,” said Court. “We chose Zuri® Premium Decking, which allowed us to get a very natural, traditional look typical of a wood porch in South Carolina, but without the maintenance.”

While other synthetic decks have promised low maintenance in the past, Zuri Premium Decking by Royal delivers and is backed by a 25-year warranty. Zuri offers homeowners incredible design versatility that can be used on porches, stairs, ceilings and docks. Zuri offers customized inlays and is available in five colors: Chestnut, Walnut, Pecan, Brazilia and Weathered Gray.

Court Atkins chose Zuri not only for the observation terrace just off the master bedroom on the second floor, but also for the main deck, which runs across the entire rear of the property and connects the living, dining and kitchen areas. It’s sectioned into different zones for outdoor grilling, screened outdoor dining and screened outdoor living. Raised planters bring the landscape closer to the porch area.

With the design and construction of three structures, the total project cost more than \$1 million and took about 12 months. “It was great to have key members of the Zuri team available during construction to train and teach and make sure the product was installed in the best possible fashion,” said Court. “And we liked the consistency, the color renderings, the character and quality of the finished product.”

For more information on Zuri,
visit zuri.royalbuildingproducts.com.

