

ondon-based interior designer

Caroline Legrand describes her Balearic retreat as 'like a paradise, with its tropical garden and fantastic vegetation'. Caroline was so set on owning the house in 2013 that she was already en-route to Miami to hunt for furniture when the news reached her that she'd secured the property. Td never been to the vintage design stores there before so didn't know what to expect. I took pictures of everything I liked and realised that vintage was going to be my theme. I didn't want to do the typical Ibizan boho look - that's just not me - or anything very modern either. So I decided to pick a few key pieces, all

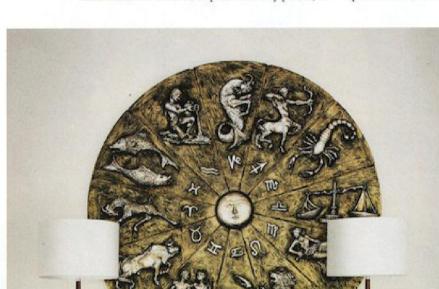
of them full of character, such as headboards, lamps, sideboards, and some art and sculpture, that would go well with the house.'

Nestled on the south coast of the island, two minutes' drive from Porroig bay, the main 300-square-metre space of this 1980s-built property had already been renovated before Caroline moved in. 'All I needed to do was bring in the furniture,' she says. 'The features that were in place were very simple: white walls and a lot of marble.' Caroline contrasted this cool backdrop with warm, light-coloured woods and wicker. 'I love wicker, but if you have too much of it then your home can begin to look very Palm Beach, so I have mixed in more contemporary pieces, too.'

With the house ready to be moved in to, Caroline turned her attentions to the garage, transforming it into a cabana with two en-suite guest rooms (bringing the total number of bedrooms up to six) and a gym. She's also designed a bedroom for her boys – 12-year-old Oscar and Arthur, ten – next to a chill-out zone in the garden. 'I love those 1970s houses where the outdoor entertaining space is on a lower level and I always dreamt that if I had a holiday

home it would have sunken seating,' she says. 'When I saw the garden in this house, I knew it was perfect.' The area has an outside kitchen equipped with a barbecue and a dishwasher, a dining table that seats 20 people, and an open-air cinema for evening film viewings. 'I suddenly thought: I can do whatever I want here, so let's have a cinema. How cool is that?'

Caroline is not someone who drags her heels; she completed the changes to this house within three months. 'I had a vision, a budget and a good builder,' she says, simply. The most important thing for me was to ensure that I was telling a story that linked all of the rooms; the vibe and energy had to feel the same.' She spends at least two weeks a month on the island over the summer, fitting in work around tending her garden and practising yoga. 'I'm not a green person but as soon as I bought the house I planted my own vegetables and flowers,' says Caroline. 'I enjoy doing things here that I wouldn't do in the UK,' she explains. So which lifestyle does she prefer? Ibiza has so much to offer: the weather, the beauty of the island; it's a much more chilled way of living,' she muses. 'I couldn't be here all year round, though. I'd miss the buzz of London. I have a double life and I need both,' carolinelegranddesign,com



Detail Caroline's favourite piece in the house, a striking zodiac sign from the 1970s purchased from Antique & Modern Design in Miami, hangs above a vintage cabinet Entrance hall A Pierre Paulin 'Ribbon' chair sits on the marble-lined floor. A pair of Mies van der Rohe 'Barcelona' stools are teamed with a vintage gold lamp in the corner ➤

