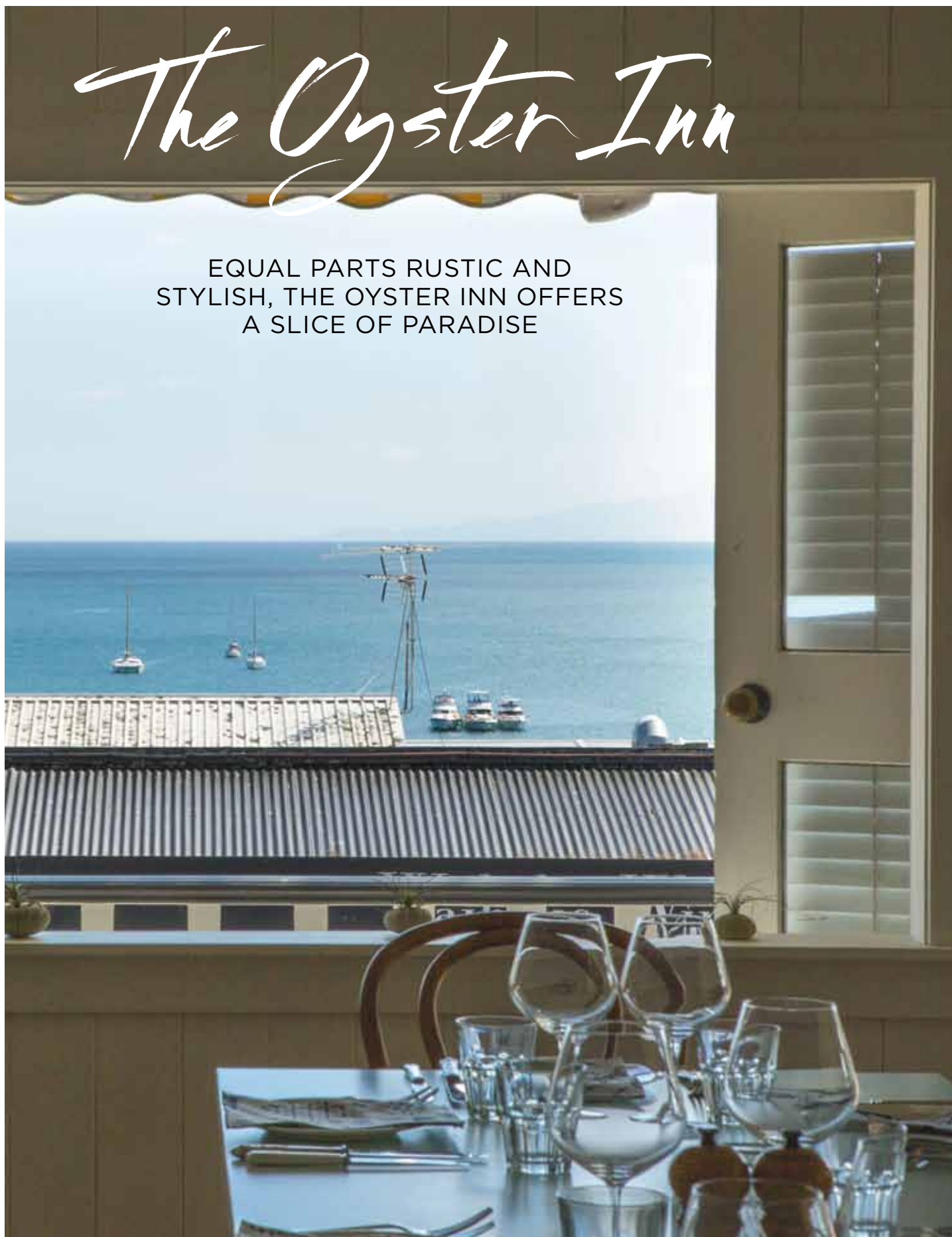
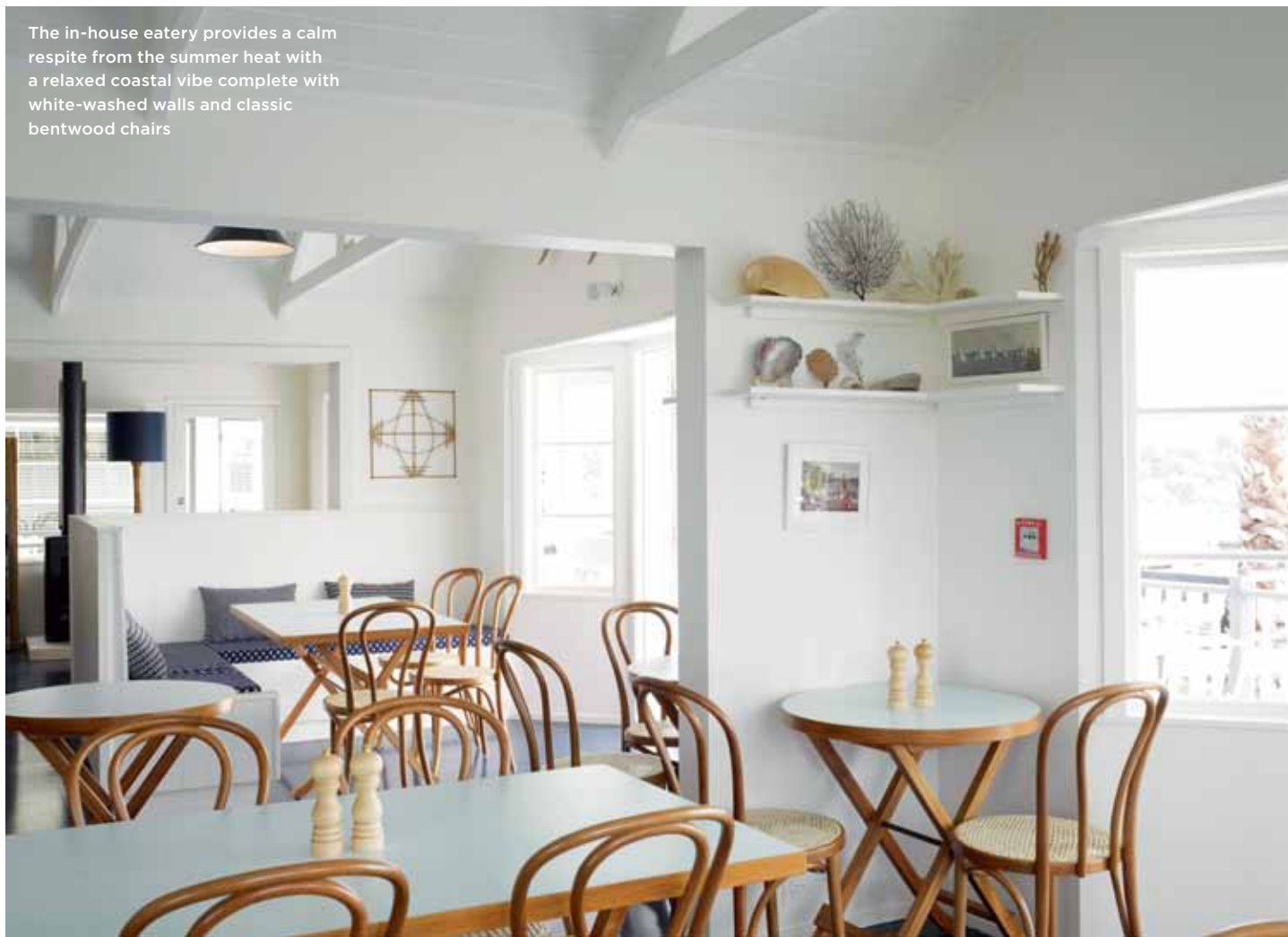


The Oyster Inn

EQUAL PARTS RUSTIC AND
STYLISH, THE OYSTER INN OFFERS
A SLICE OF PARADISE



The in-house eatery provides a calm respite from the summer heat with a relaxed coastal vibe complete with white-washed walls and classic bentwood chairs



The owners kept the tarnished patina of French furniture for an authentic vintage aesthetic



WORDS // TINA STEPHEN

Owners Andrew Glenn and Jonathan Rutherford Best have created the Oyster Inn by taking the essence of a quintessential Kiwi holiday and establishing a place that resonates with the international style of a boutique hideaway hotel.

The vibe is laidback, but the attention to detail certainly isn't, with the service, food and design truly world class. With only three guest rooms featuring an adjoining luxurious bathroom and views out to Oneroa Beach, guests are given Andrew and Jonathan's full attention along with a dose of their easy-going charm.

The Inn was born after a decision was made to leave their high-profile careers in London. Andrew and Jonathan both have family connections to New Zealand and landed in Waiheke with a different kind of life focus. With concept in hand and a worn-down restaurant purchased, the duo began renovating the dilapidated building over a period of nine months.

The focus was on a simple aesthetic with a limited colour palette, which enhances the

surrounding natural environment. "We wanted to create something coastal in feel that was also timeless, so we kept the colours limited," says Andrew. "The floors are a Bic blue colour, which remind us of the deep blue of the open sea. Navy blue is one of my favourite colours, and Jonathan's, too."

The duo engaged interior designer Katie Lockhart — whose signature style revolves around simple, honest materials and a focus on soulfulness — to transform the spaces with a timeless, unpretentious quality. The guest rooms were stripped back with the goal of creating a minimal and organic fit-out. Retaining the exposed trusses and sarked ceilings, the rooms were then white-washed, establishing a blank canvas for selected furniture, including daybeds and side tables from Another Country. Textures are layered in simple luxury fabrics, with crisp white bed linen contrasted with bold flat-weave kilim rugs.

Vintage fittings were sourced for their authenticity and left in their original state, adding to the charm of the central hospitality



The Oyster Inn focuses on a boutique hotel experience

ABOVE Each bathroom fit-out is created with simple luxuries in mind
ABOVE RIGHT Guest rooms are simple yet striking, with bespoke furniture from Another Country
RIGHT Vintage pieces add charm and character

spaces. "We immediately loved the Davey lights, which were used throughout the Inn to unify the project," says Andrew. "We did initially struggle in lighting the bar, so we installed the lights upside down on the bar counter, which added a nautical feel without being kitsch."

This rings true for the entire fit-out of the Inn, which boasts bespoke elements, a bold use of colour and a focus on quality fittings and furniture. The Oyster Inn has settled into its natural surroundings and has evolved into an iconic part of the Waiheke landscape, having become a mainstay for visitors and locals alike.

"Overnight guests love the Inn," says Andrew. "They love being central to the village but just a couple of minutes from the gorgeous Oneroa Beach. They love being able to enjoy delicious food without having to go too far from their room, and they love the beach shop, too. It's a micro-resort environment all on one floor that's nestled in a thriving community." You can sleep, swim, shop and eat locally, making The Oyster Inn the perfect holiday bolt hole and a welcome respite from the daily grind. ♡
theoysterinn.co.nz





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Get the Look

- 01:** Vintage hand-woven Antalya kilim rug around 50 years old from kilim.com
- 02:** Coasters from cittadesign.com
- 03:** Marine light from icotraders.co.nz
- 04:** Wall plaque from toodlesnoodles.com
- 05:** Chair from thonet.co.nz
- 06:** Dulux Mt Aspiring Quarter from dulux.co.nz
- 07:** Down to the Woods boat in a bottle from teapea.co.nz
- 08:** Daybed from shop.douglasandbec.com
- 09:** Nomad blue rug from templeandwebster.com.au



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