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A Study in Sculpted Stillness: Grounded Design Reimagines a Dubai Villa for the Next Chapter of Luxury Living

Dubai, UAE | May 2025 - Set within the verdant enclave of Jumeirah Golf Estates, Lime Tree Valley A20 has emerged from a transformative redesign led by Grounded Design as a serene and sculptural retreat. What was once a dated villa has been reimagined as a contemporary estate—one that eschews trend-chasing in favour of permanence, clarity, and emotional resonance.

Rather than merely renovate, the design team set out to rethink what it means to live well. Their goal: to create a home that balances architectural precision with sensorial intimacy, one that elevates every moment of daily life while quietly increasing its long-term value. Over nine months, the house was stripped back, reshaped, and thoughtfully reassembled into a refined statement of spatial fluency.

“We approached the project not just as a physical upgrade, but as a curatorial exercise in what the future of residential luxury should feel like,” says the Grounded Design team. “This is a house that had good bones—it just needed a new language.”

A Philosophy of Quiet Opulence

From the outset, the design concept was rooted in restraint. Inspired by the tonal textures of Dubai’s natural landscape, the palette draws from soft travertine, natural woods, and warm neutral stones. The materiality is tactile but unpretentious; the forms are expressive yet measured. It’s a home that speaks softly—and with intention. At its heart is a belief in timelessness. Grounded Design avoided overt gestures or theatrical excess, opting instead for clarity of form and elegance of detail. Large-format apertures welcome light deep into the interiors, shifting the mood throughout the day. Volume is used sparingly but effectively, allowing spaces to breathe without feeling vast or impersonal.

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Architecture as Sequence and Story

The journey through Lime Tree Valley A20 is a choreography of thresholds and atmospheres. A double-height entrance hall sets the tone, flanked by custom wood paneling and a sculptural mirror. A custom console anchors the space, while the subtle inclusion of greenery softens its geometric lines.

Beyond, the home unfolds in a rhythm of connected yet distinct rooms. The living and dining spaces are unified by a long sightline and a central fireplace—custom-designed to provide both warmth and architectural drama. Sliding glass doors dissolve the boundary between interior and exterior, opening onto a landscape defined by native planting, textured stone, and a sunken fireplace set within a reflective water feature. The kitchen, conceived as the home's informal heart, is both refined and robust. A large island doubles as preparation zone and gathering point, while cabinetry blends open and closed systems for balance. A run of large-format windows behind the cookline frames garden views and floods the room with light, dissolving the line between inside and out.

A Home of Moments, Not Monuments

Rather than impress through scale, the home impresses through intentionality. The wine cellar is not hidden away, but presented like an art piece—visible from key rooms and softly lit like a gallery. The lounge area integrates a bar, where brushed brass meets dark marble to create a scene of understated glamour.

The master suite, perched privately above the garden, is a retreat in every sense. A generous walk-in wardrobe with concealed joinery offers visual serenity. A spiral staircase—a sculptural centerpiece in itself—rises through a light-filled void, anchored by a Zen garden below that punctuates the stillness with calm.

Everywhere, spaces are designed to support life's quiet rituals: a reading nook beneath a picture window that frames an olive tree; soft lighting that shifts with time of day; acoustics that hold conversations in intimate reverberation. The home is layered, but never loud.

Design Meets Discipline

Executing a project of this scale and subtlety demanded more than design intuition—it required rigorous discipline. Grounded Design oversaw every detail from conceptual planning through technical documentation and on-site supervision. Materials were sourced with both performance and aging in mind, ensuring that every element—from porcelain tile to hardwood—would maintain its beauty over time.

Smart home automation has been integrated seamlessly, enabling zoned climate control, adaptive lighting, and discreet AV systems. Sustainability was not an afterthought but a baseline: high-performance insulation, energy-efficient systems, and water-saving technology elevate the home's operational intelligence.

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A New Benchmark for Boutique Residential Design

Lime Tree Valley A20 stands as a refined counterpoint to the excess often associated with luxury homes in the region. Its value lies not in showmanship, but in its coherence.

It's a house that doesn't need to announce itself—because it has already been considered, curated, and crafted to endure.

For Grounded Design, this project is not just a portfolio piece—it's a manifesto. A call for slower, more thoughtful design in an accelerated world. A reminder that true elegance whispers.

Project Details

Plot Area: 897 sqm

Built-Up Area: 614 sqm

Bedrooms: 5

Completion: April 2025

Duration: 9 months

Contractor: V-Renovate

Design Lead: Grounded Design

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