



NAPA VALLEY



TIBURON



PALO ALTO

# ALNO San Francisco by European Kitchen Design

By Sean Ballent

HAVING DESIGNED SOME OF THE MOST REMARKABLE KITCHENS IN THE BAY AREA, ALNO SAN FRANCISCO BRINGS DREAM KITCHENS TO LIFE.

**F**or many, the kitchen is the home within the home. It's the center for family gathering, both a workplace and a place to relax. The room's versatile dynamics not only make it the most important space in the home, but also a complicated room to get right. One of Europe's largest and most respected designers and manufacturers of luxury kitchen environments has opened a new showroom in San Francisco's South Beach.

Showroom owner and award-winning interior designer Deganit Albalak opened her first showroom in the Bay Area in 2003, which was called ALNO Palo Alto by European Kitchen Design. Five years later and after designing hundreds of kitchens in the area, she relocated the showroom to San Francisco to better serve the entire Bay Area. The 2,300-square-foot showroom houses the finest cabinetry, appliance, countertop, and sink brands available.

Offering a range of kitchen styles, ALNO San Francisco caters to a diverse clientele. One such client owned a modern home in Tiburon with spectacular views of the Golden Gate Bridge. While traveling in Europe, she visited ALNO London and took to

the ALNOTECH PRO line of cabinetry. When she returned home, she contacted Chris Chapek of Alliance Custom Builders who asked Albalak to help select the cabinetry for the project. "This kitchen needed a 'fitted' look," Albalak said. "The doors and panels were built directly around the appliances so that they fit seamlessly into niches and spaces, creating smooth transitions with contemporary flair." The result is stunning.

Nearby, ALNO San Francisco proved its versatility, providing an 1895 A.W. Caulking Victorian with a contemporary kitchen makeover. Despite the home's numerous previous owners and renovations, special attention had been given to preserve the original Victorian façade and historical value. In an attempt to make this home both modern and cozy, the ALNO design team went to work. When finished, the kitchen sat truly contemporary through its colors and elements. The slim lines of ALNO cabinets and the combination of colors—creamy yellow, vanilla, and charcoal gray—combine to create the bright-yet-intimate feeling of a modern kitchen. An ocean-blue mosaic tile backsplash provides the acid-washed limestone countertop with a balanced look. Glass panels

divide the kitchen from the family room, adding a decorative element to the island.

A final example of ALNO San Francisco's adaptability is a contemporary kitchen designed for a stunning Napa Valley home. The homeowners chose ALNO-SIGN in high-gloss gray and black finishes. To enhance the shiny aesthetic, designers added frosted, tempered-glass cabinets with open shelving in a high-gloss lacquer to showcase the homeowner's art collection. The kitchen also features an eat-in area with sleek black granite countertops. Square fluorescent light fixtures underneath the cabinets add task lighting and provide a subtle glow.

"We have completed numerous projects throughout the Bay Area from the Napa Valley estate to the Victorian to the modern loft—this truly depicts the versatility of ALNO," said Albalak. "The trick is ensuring that the design integrates technology, function, and the aesthetic into a single thought." 

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