



Three Cool Pools

Maybe they're not ideal for laps, but they sure are perfect for relaxation. Clockwise from left: A water tank is transformed into a pool at architect Olle Lundberg's Sonoma cabin. Lundberg also designed Chris Barnes's elegant pool in Calistoga and Marc Benioff's endless pool that looks out over the Napa Valley.

Although San Francisco architect Olle Lundberg resides in a city where outdoor pools are only slightly more common than snowplows, he's designed a number of watering holes for second homes outside the city limits—his own included.

Despite their differing shapes and sizes, the three Lundberg pools shown here—a circle, a rectangle, and an asymmetrical sort of teardrop—are all on intimate terms with the surrounding landscape and have infinite edges that lull the eye toward the great beyond. They also feature adjacent hot tubs, because, jokes Lundberg, "it's against the building code in California not to."

Up in the Napa Valley, at the Calistoga weekend retreat and party pad of Chris Barnes, the pool and guest house embody Lundberg's mission of blurring the distinction between indoors and out. Built into a sloped hillside, the pool house has glass wall doors that fold back and slate flooring that continues out to surround the 50-foot lap pool, which trails off into an

endless horizon where the site drops away from view.

At 100 feet long and 30 feet wide, Marc Benioff's resort-scaled swimming pool outside of nearby St. Helena can cool a lot of heels. Set at the edge of a steep hill, hugging the end of the knoll on which it rests, the pool follows the contour lines of the site. An underwater bench runs along the straight side, and a swim to the outer edge offers sweeping views of an even larger body of water—Lake Hennessey—and the surrounding forests.

At Lundberg's own Sonoma cabin, an old-growth redwood water tank rescued from a client's property spirals off the deck and inspires memories of the bathing gals in *Petticoat Junction*. Twenty-five feet across and 16 feet deep (that's 50,000 gallons of water), it has built-in platforms for reclining under sun or stars. Undisturbed, the glassy surface is like a huge reflecting mirror; dive in, and at 20 feet aboveground, "you feel like you're swimming in the treetops." ■