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Best place of the week: California style near Central Park



By Gina Pace



Melanie Green/VHT

Biologist turned Palo Alto-based architect David Solnick created this nearly 2,200-square-foot space on 63rd St. out of two apartments. [Listing](#) agent Frances Katzen says the views are on par with those of 15 Central Park West, one of the most expensive buildings in the city, but available at a fraction of the cost – in this case, three bedrooms for \$5.28 million.



(Melanie Green/VHT)

“When I walk into New York apartments, so many compromises have to be made. There always seem to be throwaway rooms that are weird shapes or are really small or have a view to nothing,” Solnick said.



(Melanie Green/VHT)

But Solnick said for this space, he tried to make sure all have nice proportion, size and view. It follows an open-floor plan that’s more common on the West Coast. Superconscious of space, he even fit in a vertical wine rack near the open kitchen and dining area.

“A square foot in Manhattan is a couple thousand bucks,” Solnick said. “You don’t want to throw any of it away.”