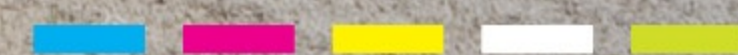


Australia's Best

# BEACH HOUSES



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Australia's Best

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Edited by Gary Takle

With Text by:  
Jade de Souza  
Corey Thomas





Australia's Best

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*Back cover photography:*

*From left to right:*

*Marcus Roberts Photography by Marcus Roberts*

*Peter Downes Photography by Michael Simmons*

*Vibe Design Photography by Robert Hamer*

*Humphrey Builders Photography by Ron Tan*

***Edited By:***

*Gary Takle*

***Staff Writers:***

*Corey Thomas*

*Jade de Souza*

Australia's Best Beach Houses is published by Think Publishing

ABN 97 131 984 128

Level One, 28/545 McDonalds Road South Morang Victoria 3752 Australia.

Telephone: +61 3 9404 5579 Fax: +61 3 9404 5582

[info@thinkpublishing.com.au](mailto:info@thinkpublishing.com.au)

[www.thinkpublishing.com.au](http://www.thinkpublishing.com.au)

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Australia's Best Beach Houses

ISBN: 978-0-9808314-2-9

Designed by Media Art One, South Morang, Victoria.





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# Cloudy Bay

Located towards the southern end of Bruny Island, south of Hobart, this remarkable home, designed by 1+2 Architecture, epitomises and makes evident the raw beauty of the land.



On a sandy windswept site of coastal heath, this residence boasts breathtaking views of stretching beaches, plunging dolerite cliffs and the darkness of the Southern ocean looming on the horizon. Offering a rare sense of isolation, this is the ideal spot to forget your busy lifestyle and embrace the therapeutic essence of seaside living.

The architecture responds to the surrounding environment through an interlocking configuration of spaces. Its low profile appears to float above the dunes and grassland below, while an intimate connection to the land is achieved through carefully considered design.

With its separated living zones, the home is highly configurable. The external environment is fully embraced within the main living spaces, while the more solid and closed-down secondary zone provides more protection, enclosure, security and warmth from the elements.

The ample exterior glazing makes a bold architectural statement. It creates a seamless bond with the expansive views, flooding the interior with natural light. In addition, crisp whites and creams combine to brighten the indoor environment and reflect the light entering through the glass.

The home has been carefully designed to cater for all manner of functions and occasions, with the expansive outdoor timber decking providing ample space for entertaining guests, or for simply sitting and enjoying the million dollar views.



The ample exterior glazing makes a bold architectural statement.

1 Plus 2 Architecture

31 Melville Street,  
Hobart TAS 7000  
Australia

T: +61 3 6234 8122

[www.1plus2architecture.com](http://www.1plus2architecture.com)

Photography by Jonathan Wherrett





# Global Style

Conceived as a compact and low maintenance residence for a retired couple in Cottesloe, Western Australia, this modernist inspired beach home has a clear and rational design that suits the needs of its occupants.







The design draws inspiration from modernist ideals of living which are tempered by a critical regionalist response to climate and landscape. Minimal lines and planar forms reference the modernist inspiration whilst materiality and detailing draw from a local palette of materials.

The planning concept is based on a courtyard typology featuring a pond, around which the private spaces and the public entertainment areas are organised. The duality is emphasised by the pond and the different architectural treatment of the separate spaces. The living pavilion containing lounge, dining and kitchen is open plan and outward-oriented under a floating Miesian roof to capture the ocean views, while the private spaces are more inwardly focused and enclosed within thick masonry walls which create a sense of retreat.

From the exterior, the design can be read as a direct response to location and environment. Randomly stacked limestone walls act as retaining walls defining the site's edges, while rammed limestone masonry walls form the house's primary enclosure. A steel roof maximises span with minimal support while allowing the double-glazed timber doors to hang beneath. A plane of travertine extends across the site uniting inside and outside, while functionally allowing the occupants ease of access to the garden for maintenance.

Environmental considerations included maximising views, protecting against south-west winds and optimising solar access to the north, particularly during the winter months. The design responds to those constraints directly and affords the occupants a high degree of control over their internal environmental conditions by means of cross ventilation and solar shading utilising sliding louvre screens and large overhangs. Double glazing on doors and thick masonry walls provide thermal insulation to minimise heat loss and gain.

The Salvado Street Residence, drawing simultaneously on the spatial qualities of international style and the regional context of coastal Western Australia, revealing a unique take of contemporary Australian architecture.



Bates Smart with Madeleine  
Blanchfield Architects

243 Liverpool Street,  
East Sydney NSW 2010  
Australia  
T: +61 2 8354 5100  
[www.batesmart.com](http://www.batesmart.com)

Photography by Tyrone Branigan





# Privileged Position

Located in Cape Schanck on Victoria's scenic Mornington Peninsula, this home away from home enjoys a privileged position, adjacent to one of Australia's premier golf courses.



The owners' love for quality time spent with family and friends is fostered within this home, which can best be described as an entertainer's paradise. While water and golf course views are enjoyed during the day, at night it is the shimmering lights of Sorrento and Portsea that capture one's attention. In addition, the western sunset over bass straight and the golf course makes for a spectacular and picturesque backdrop for enjoying wine and cheese.

At first impression, the dwelling appears single storey. However, entry is actually onto the second level, as the home discretely falls down the site towards the nearby golf course and Peninsula. A vertical pier emphasises the house's linear presentation of cantilevered roof and balcony forms. Frameless glass balustrades across these balconies allow for unobstructed views of the surrounding environment. The lower level features a lap pool and jacuzzi, ensuring that an aquatic lifestyle is accessible even

during those times of year when Victoria's beaches are just a touch too icy for a swim. Living and entertaining areas on both levels have access to undercover outdoor spaces that take in the panoramic views.

Bedroom quarters are zoned for adults, guests and children, with each room featuring an ensuite. The master and guest bedrooms, study and kitchen are upstairs, while the garage, service areas, cellar and plant room are dug into the hillside in order to allow the downstairs living and children's rooms to access the views, with the living room doubling as a fully equipped cinema, complete with black out blinds.

Muted brown and olive tones complement the natural vegetation, which is a key theme of the house. Surrounding Moonah trees and local grasses provide a native framework for the new structure and assist with its integration into the landscape. In addition, the use of natural, local stone provides warmth and visual appeal.



The very natural aesthetic of the exterior is carried inside with the use of wide, chocolate stained timber floorboards. The transition from inside to outside is made seamless by the large tiles laid around the balconies and downstairs living areas, which then flow out to the pool. The inclusion of stone bench tops and timber veneer joinery make for a practical and appealing kitchen. The home's clean lines are further accentuated with automated solar screen blinds in recessed ceiling pelmets.

This modern dwelling epitomises ultimate seaside living - a place for fun and relaxation, to be enjoyed after a round of golf, or a day at the beach.

West Valentine

99 Waverley Road,  
Malvern East VIC 3145,  
Australia  
T: +61 3 9571 0400  
[www.westvalentine.com.au](http://www.westvalentine.com.au)

Photography by Ian Ten Seldam





# Impressive Iconic

Large enough for family and friends, this delightfully impressive residence offers luxury and space – two elements which allow one to enjoy the coastal environment over three magnificently appointed floors in understated and class leading style.





Brilliant and bold, this magnanimous home makes an imposing statement from the street, declaring its presence with a strikingly large façade that overlooks the street on one side and the ocean on the other. Designed by Inarc Qld, it was constructed to serve as a home for a semi-retired couple, with ample room for a number of guests. The residence is ordered as a two-storey podium consisting largely of concrete, and includes the thoughtful use of glazing and a capped zinc roof. At the top of the podium is the mezzanine floor, which is presented as a glazed cage capped with an asymmetrical sweeping butterfly roof.

Clever use of materials allows the interior of the home to blend seamlessly with the exterior, giving a sense of continuity and inviting occupants to enjoy the outdoors, along with the gorgeous view beyond. A minimalist approach has been taken inside, with light fixtures and art work used to enhance the understated luxury and class of the home.

The ground floor is dedicated mainly to a bar and lounge area which opens up to a generously sized covered terrace, a horizon edge pool and a view to the Pacific. The upper floor and mezzanine level are zoned for living and guest areas. These spaces are tranquil with views focused on both the ocean and the western hills.

The home is designed to maximise the occupant's engagement with the outdoors. As such, a series of courts, covered rooms and decks create numerous venues for a variety of outdoor spaces and amenities, where guests can gather and enjoy the relaxed coastal lifestyle. In addition, these dedicated areas are sheltered adequately from the prevailing south-easterly wind which can be quite fierce in the winter months.

The entry courtyard genuflects to the north to allow natural light into the centre of the residence. This light floods internal voids that serve as a continuum of space, resulting in large rooms that belie the narrow ten meter wide block that the residence is built on.

Many of the materials used on the exterior of the home have been chosen carefully for their properties. In such a salty environment as the beach, the durability of materials is an important factor so as to eliminate the risk of rusting – the zinc clad entry is one example of this.

Large in size and even bigger in personality, this is one home that has to be seen to be believed.



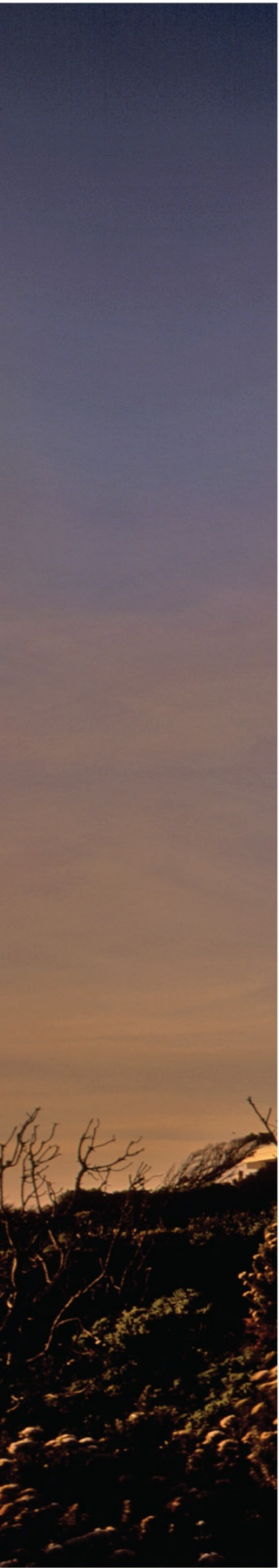
An impressive use of accent lighting is used in the home and through to the exterior, with lights featured on the façade working to turn heads every time. Against a palette of crisp and muted colours, the lighting enhances an already beautiful home, pointing out its most impressive features.

Inarc Design Qld

80 Thomas Drive,  
PO Box 130 Chevron Island,  
Gold Coast, Queensland 4217  
Australia  
T: +61 7 5592 0090

[www.inarcdesign.com](http://www.inarcdesign.com)

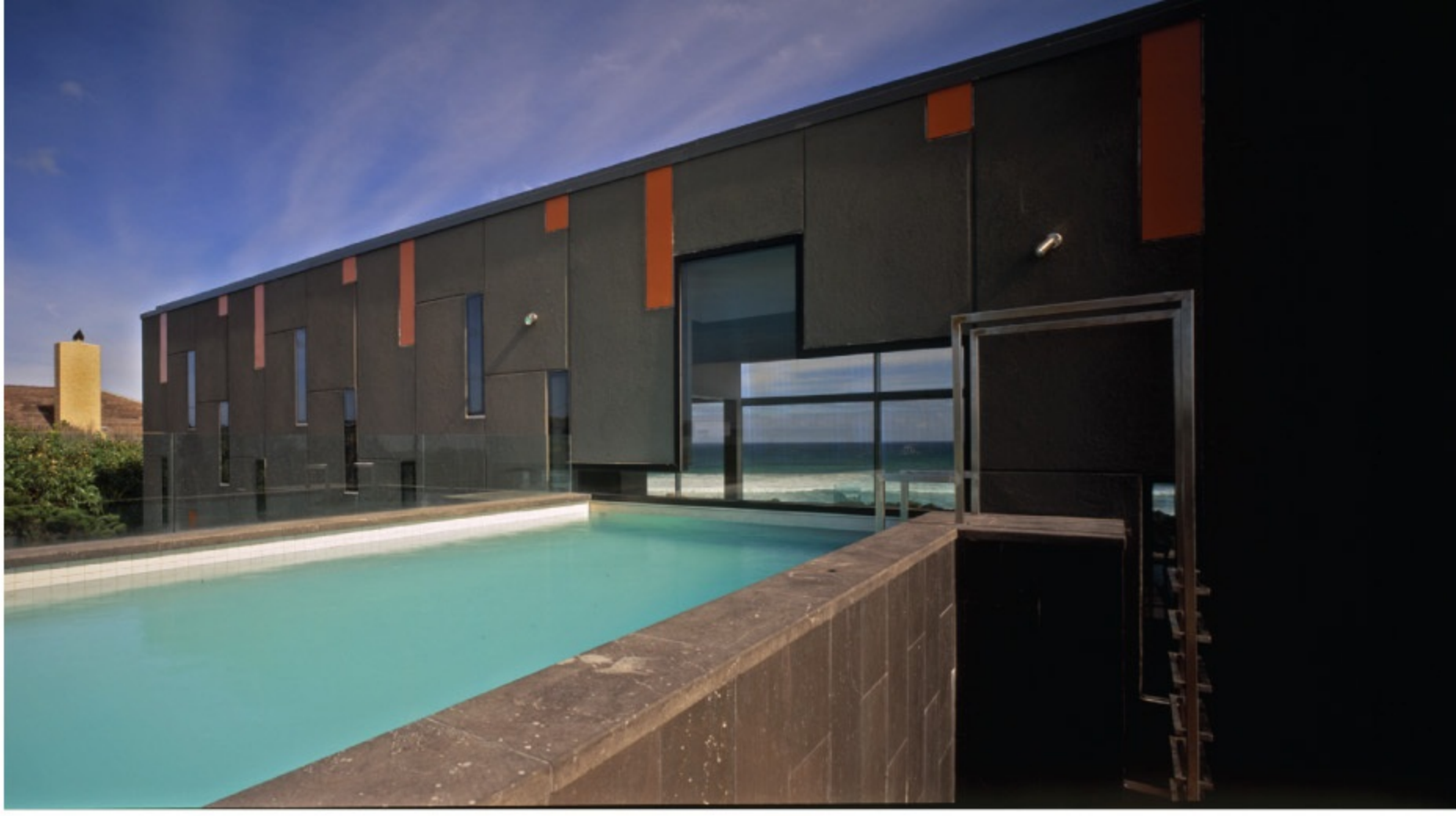
Photography by Ecophotoart





# Innovative Beachfront

Lying in St. Andrews Beach on the Mornington Peninsula, the Amatruda Residence enjoys excellent views across the coastline to Bass Strait.



Amongst a mix of residential buildings of varying ages and styles, the Amatruda Residence makes a unique addition to the streetscape. Moving away from the ever-referenced 'beach shack', the new house seeks to complement the nature of its surrounds while striking its own identity and portraying a sense of permanence.





This modern design is site responsive and well articulated, its uncluttered, linear building form sitting neatly amongst dense vegetation. The lower building form acts as a plinth as it is nestled amongst the dunes, and houses two bedrooms and games room which opens to its own deck as well as laundry, garage and storage. Precast concrete walls define the base, whose deep grey colour subtly sits within the landscape.

Predominately concrete and glass, the upper building form is simple and refined with vast areas of glass taking advantage of the ocean views and creating the impression of transparency and lightness. Perched off the ground, it has the appearance of floating above the lower shrubs. Here, two main bedrooms are separated from the living spaces – kitchen, dining and lounge – by large sliding doors that allow the floor to be completely opened up if desired.

A rhythm of concrete wall panels broken up with clear orange glazed inserts form the upper level façade. The glazing is obscure to provide diffused light to the sleeping spaces and unique and unexpected views of the building's surrounds. Affectionately named 'the chocolate box', the home's façade defines its external identity.

A timber walkway centrally breaks through the lower level form with a series of timber stairs, bringing one into the living space with a choreographed view to the ocean. The walkway continues internally, articulated by a timber floor material and terminates on the southern deck. Contemplative indoor and outdoor spaces with either broad scale expansive views to the ocean or localised glimpses of the surrounding shrubbery foster the homes interaction with the unique character of the environment.

A terraced ceiling gradually increases the volume of space as one moves towards the ocean accentuating the relationship to the view. The living spaces have large glazed sliding doors which open them out onto the balcony. Further connection is achieved through an elliptical glass cut-out in the floor of the upper level allowing observation of the sand dunes below. A lap pool bears a direct relationship both with the exterior landscape and the interior living space through an underwater window.



Robert Andary Architecture

T: +61 400 756 442

[www.ra.architecture.net.au](http://www.ra.architecture.net.au)

Photography by Tony Miller

- Archipfoto P/L

# Enviabile Elegance

Exclusive Daveys Bay on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula is home to some tremendous properties, but few can take your breath away like this cutting edge beach front masterpiece.







Here, one lives a rare lifestyle, showered with the highest level of appointments, user-friendly technology and the latest in modern design. Built by property developer John Barton in collaboration with Modularc, the house utilises local and imported materials to establish an aesthetic of contemporary Laguna Beach combined with Asian/Australian influences.

From the huge, automatic sliding glass front door to the horizon-edge pool, this 60 squares home is the benchmark of state-of-the-art excellence, built to world class standards. CBUS smart wiring controls almost every element of the home which includes four luxury bedrooms with ensuites, walk in robes and flat screen televisions that drop down from the ceiling. Together with a quiet formal lounge or media room looking out to a tranquil water garden and wall fountain, a vast open plan living area with polished concrete floors, towering windows and automated blinds, sliding glass doors

and decking surrounding a heated pool and conversation pit, supreme luxury living has found a new address.

Limestone, polished concrete and timber collaborate in the bold design, a dazzling aspect of which is a lava stone feature wall suspended above a gas pebble fire in the superb living spaces. The stunning kitchen with unforgettable views flaunts Caesar Stone bench tops and a stainless steel splash back that contrasts with the dark wood and emporite cabinets, integrated appliances, wine storage and an enormous butler's pantry.

The large master bedroom upstairs has its own balcony with views of the sun setting over the Davey's Bay Yacht Club as well as a sumptuous ensuite with city skyline outlook that includes walk-in shower and round Japanese bath and a dressing room.





Sliding doors along the back wall in the main living area open out to the horizon pool and deck, beyond which is a carefully landscaped garden. A sunken seating area adjoins the pool and is warmed by a gas fire. Similarly, the courtyard is designed for outdoor entertaining.

No expense has been spared in creating this amazing beach-front residence. From the ever-changing vistas that bring blue into every room to the high-tech features, Dolphin Cove is where living large is personified.

Modularc

Suite 1/459 Nepean Highway  
Frankston VIC 3199

Australia

T: +61 3 9770 6766

Photography by Realty Writers





# Redgate Beach House

This contemporary rural home has a strong emphasis on practical planning and material selection to take advantage of and express the natural qualities of the site.

Located in the remote area of Redgate – south of the famous Margaret River region – the home is surrounded by rural hinterland and native forest, with Redgate surf beach just a stone's throw away.

Craig Steere Architects interpreted the client's desire for a modern, passive solar home which maximised views to the ocean whilst retaining a sense of living amongst the trees with the creation of a low profile linear building form. Elevated on a low brick plinth, the house floats just above the contours of the site and is cranked to obtain ocean and valley views.

Three separate wings, the main suite, the living wing and the children's/guest bedroom wing allow the small building to nonetheless take advantage of the sweeping views in different directions.

The shape of the building was informed largely by the environmental conditions of the site. Often subject to salt-laden winds and limestone dust from a nearby quarry, the house was designed with an inward-focus with profiled steel roofs extending down the outer walls to create a protective 'shoulder' against the elements. The building materials were all selected for their durability, and combine to create a simple industrial palette, which also responds to the colours and textures of the site itself.

There was a strong interest to retain existing native vegetation and thus maintain the visual buffer between the house and the quarry, and to benefit from the natural protection the trees and coastal scrub provide particularly in the more extreme seasons.

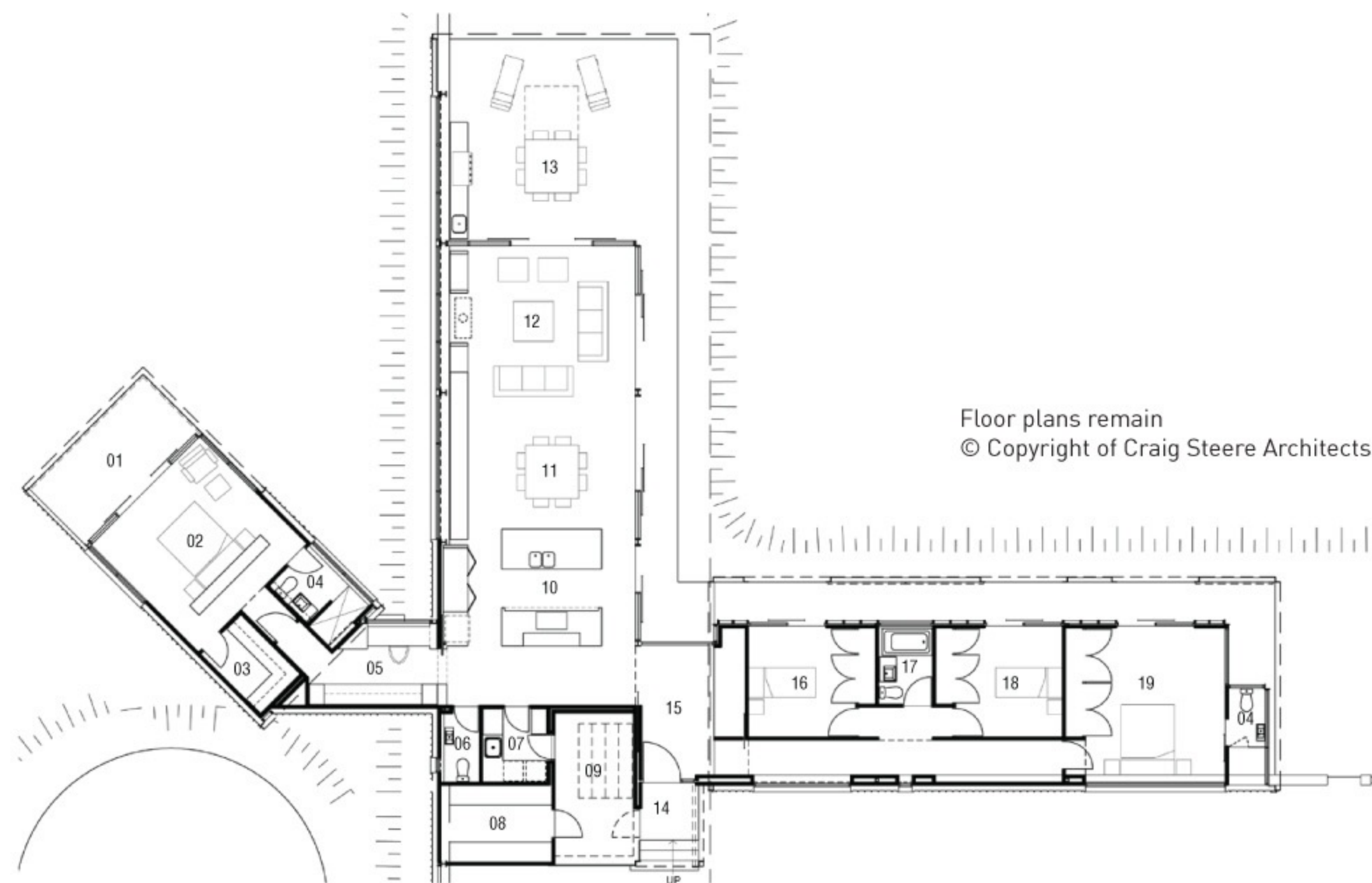


The interior spaces are lightweight and open, with the rich red tones of the walnut veneered cabinetry encouraging visual interaction with the surrounding rock and sand. Furthermore, internal steel support beams follow the roof as it becomes the wall, mirroring the steel cladding that does the same on the exterior. Exposed, polished concrete floors act as a thermal mass as well as a low maintenance finish – important in a holiday house. Large amounts of north facing glazing facilitate the entry of natural lighting into the expansive interior spaces.

A sense of elevation and lightness is maximised by the cantilevered concrete deck that creates a distinct edge between the house and landscape. Large steel-framed sliding screens extend across the west elevation of the bedroom wing, allowing protection from the sun and wind, whilst increasing the flexibility to access views from the bedrooms and verandahs.

#### FLOOR PLAN LEGEND

01 DECK	10 KITCHEN
02 MAIN SUITE	11 DINING
03 WALK-IN	12 LIVING
ROBE	13 OUTDOOR LIVING
04 ENSUITE	14 PORTICO
05 STUDY	15 ENTRY
06 WC	16 BED 2
07 LAUNDRY	17 BATH
08 STORE	18 BED 3
09 DRYING	19 BED 4



Craig Steere Architects

Suite 10/219 Onslow Road,  
Shenton Park WA 6008  
Australia

T: +61 8 9380 4662

[www.craigsteerearchitects.com.au](http://www.craigsteerearchitects.com.au)

Photography by Lee Griffith





# Clean lines and a crisp palette

Rectilinear in form, this Point Lonsdale beach house is one to marvel at. In its native coastal environment, a well established area in close proximity to the beach, with decade old eucalyptus dotted around its serene exterior.





Consisting of three pavilions linked by a continuous circulation spine, the home provides equitable living spaces with just the right amount of privacy. Designed with a young family in mind, the primary block work spine provides ample noise reduction throughout the home, while also bringing continuity of materials from outside to within. Allowing an honest and space-defining structural element, the wall also provides for thermal mass to the internal environment.

The simple yet highly efficient floor-plan dictates the composition of the three pavilions. They include a sleeping and bathing zone to the east, a living zone to the north, and the primary living zone – floating above a masonry podium and incorporating the kitchen, dining and living areas – also orientated to the north in order to maximise sun exposure and frame the wonderful view with an elevated outlook. Each pavilion is wrapped in a skin of White Cypress Timber that visually folds and interlocks with the expressed concrete block work blade walls, creating a spectacle in itself.

Naturally, living by the beach enables you to enjoy beautiful summer breezes. As such, the home maximises cross flow ventilation through a combination of operable systems. These include large sliding glazed doors, a multitude of louvered windows and a mix of both high and low level conventional windows.

The central courtyard allows the house to breathe, providing varying degrees of openness and intimacy, ample amounts of natural light throughout the day, as well as providing occupants with fresh coastal air.

Sustainable living solutions have not been forgotten either! Along with the cross flow ventilation previously mentioned, the home incorporated double glazed windows with argon gas, rain water tanks and harvesting systems, grey water systems for irrigation and sustainably managed timber and low voc coatings have been used extensively. The result is a standout home that both harmonises and integrates peacefully within its natural context.

Interesting forms, creative use of materials and an outstanding location all contribute to making this home a real dream come true.



Studio 101 have designed the ultimate in luxury 'laze'. With clean lines and a crisp palette of fresh colours, what more would you want to do here than sit by the window and read a good book, or bask in the sun's warming glow from the comfort of your favourite arm chair?

Studio 101 Architects

1 Dennys Place,  
Geelong VIC 3220

Australia

T: +61 3 5221 9131

[www.studio101.com.au](http://www.studio101.com.au)

Photography by Trevor Mein





# Coastal Delight

With spectacular views across the Canning River to the Darling Escarpment, this family home is a daily delight to the family of five who live there.

The sloping site to the riverside facilitated the opportunity for a semi subterranean entertainment area, while still maintaining views to the river. A huge pool, which is visually unobtrusive due to glass fencing, reflects an image of the imposing structure in its cool blue waters. A lovely retreat on a summer's day, the pool is but one of the many treats of this home.

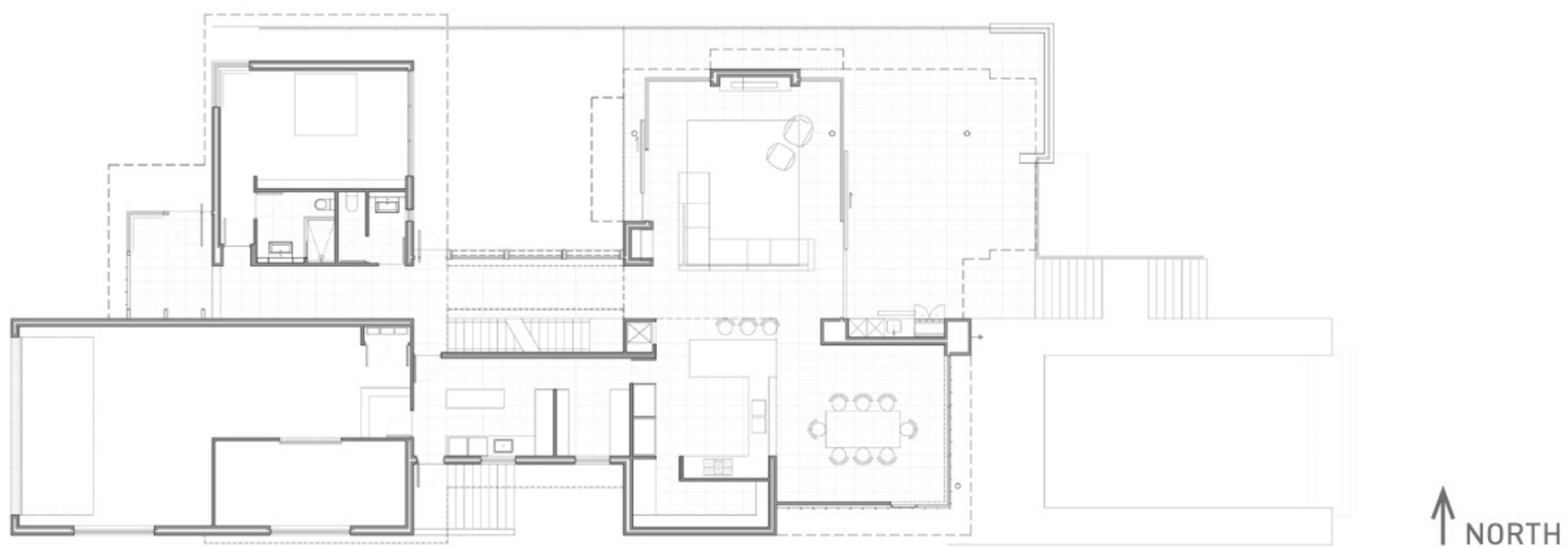
A feeling of transparency floods the ground floor living spaces, with some areas obtaining views by looking through other spaces or courtyards. An internal courtyard features a cut-out garden bed with established tree, bringing a living element into the internal spaces. A huge living room almost completely encased in glass features an L-shaped couch oriented to enjoy the view out over the entertaining deck to the water. The deck is similarly furnished with another L-shaped couch, the perfect place for an afternoon nap in the shade of the adjacent palms.

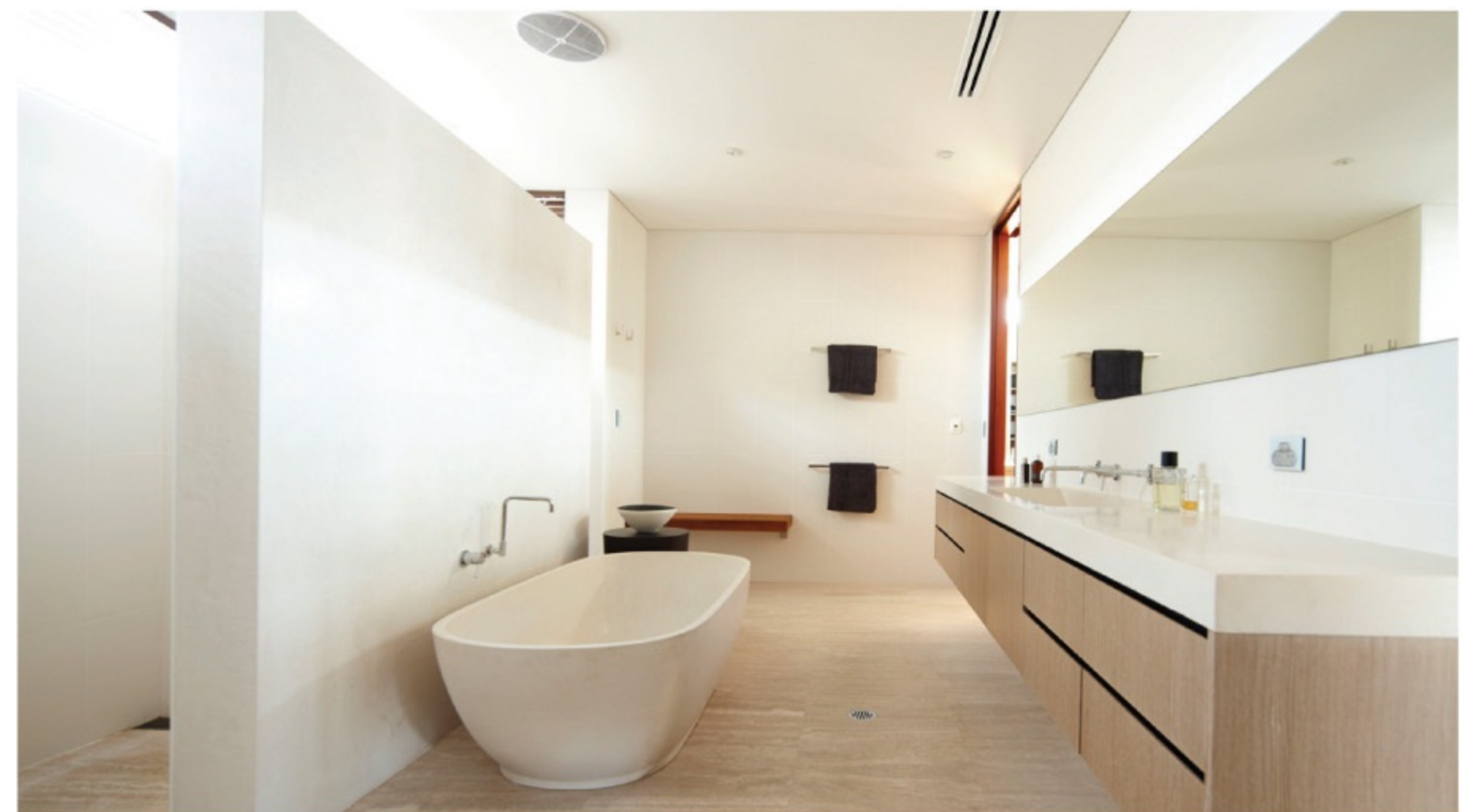
Intimate, box-like bedroom areas hover over the living zone. The main bedroom projects like a telescope into the view, which ensures a dramatic vista. This overhead structure also provides shade to the terrace below.

All directly exposed windows are protected by operable external louvre blinds to control solar gain. Passive climate control is the main ESD feature of the house. External walls, especially the west facing bedrooms are clad in copper which shields them in the afternoon. The copper cladding adds to the natural palette of materials and compliments the jarrah glue laminated structural columns in the entry and the main stair gallery.



GROUND FLOOR





## FIRST FLOOR



Floor plans remain © Copyright of  
Wright Feldhusen Architects

Wright Feldhusen Architects

4/245 Churchill Avenue,  
Subiaco WA 6008  
Australia

T: +61 8 9388 7244

[www.wrightfeldhusen.com](http://www.wrightfeldhusen.com)

Photography by Robert Frith - Acorn





# Inspirational Outlook

Sitting harmoniously in its raw surroundings, this home presents modest style and a view to marvel at.







Celebrating casual Australian architecture, this home by Wright Feldhusen capitalises on the extensive use of natural materials. Minimising to both cost and maintenance, it presents a rustic yet sophisticated finished product that seems as though it has 'grown' out of its raw surrounds.

Exposed timber beams and polished concrete floors lend this home partially to an industrially oriented design, however its composition reinforces an experience of secure intimacy. Surrounding the main pavilion is an area designed to reflect a tent attached to a caravan – a true Australian holiday picture. Consisting of the main living area and fully glazed with frameless glass, it sits in between the two wings of the home. Endless vistas are complemented by a striking and expansive pool that also overlooks the view beyond.

Greater visual permeability from the main pavilion is achieved by the use of a series of lightweight steel columns that support the sloping roof, but are removed from the glass line to avoid the clutter of glazing mullions. This abundance of glass works in contrast with the surrounding wings of the home, emphasising the light-weight lean opposing the massive and private bedroom accommodation.

Maximising the view of the ocean, the design intuitively incorporates spatial connections and caters for a large number of guests. There is ample room for entertaining, with private sleeping quarters that are separate both audibly and visually. The resultant form of the building reflects this transparent versus closed dialogue, creating a curious element in its design.

In conjunction with its environmentally conscious design, the materials used throughout ensure longevity and low maintenance. Rammed earth (Limestone) and concrete used throughout will require minimal attention, while the Alaskan yellow cedar timber boards have been left raw, requiring no maintenance at all. While the glazing is one of the more expensive elements, its benefits far outweigh the cost. In terms of sustainability, the home was designed, constructed and positioned to maximise passive solar gain and take advantage of cross ventilation. Most other materials used are those which generally age well and are known for their durability over time.

Graciously appointed with a true sense of direction and style, this beautiful home is graced with views that will never be forgotten.

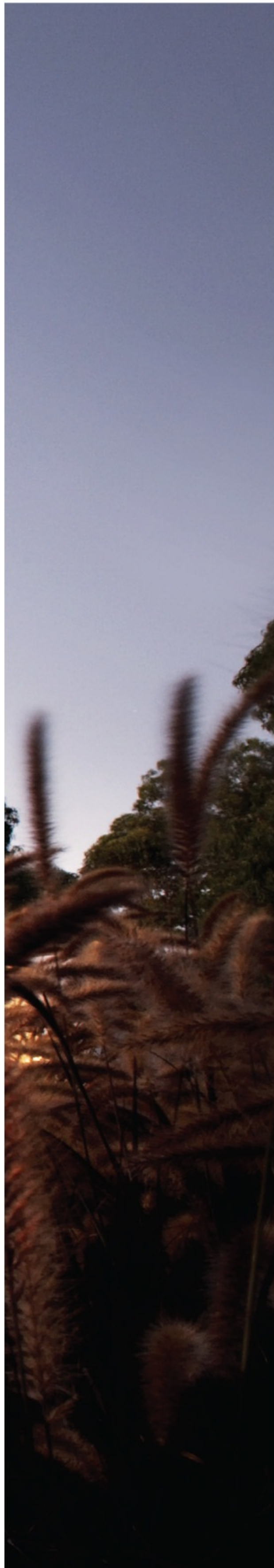


#### Wright Feldhusen Architects

4/245 Churchill Avenue,  
Subiaco WA 6008  
Australia  
T: +61 8 9388 7244  
[www.wrightfeldhusen.com](http://www.wrightfeldhusen.com)

Photography by Robert Frith - Acorn





# Luxury Getaway

Regular visitors to the Margaret River region, the owners wanted a getaway that was luxurious and indulgent, bringing together everything they love about high-end hotels and retreats in exotic locations around the world.



'Esuoh' is a destination in itself, a retreat from the everyday where one can watch a movie under the stars or sun themselves on a daybed by the pool.

Challenging conventional thinking about what a holiday house should look like, the owners presented Hofman and Brown Architects with a list of holiday houses in the area and specified that theirs was to look nothing like any of them.

Able to accommodate three families with plenty of kids, the house exudes resort ambience with modern and stylish furnishings to personal and communal spaces where guests can relax and feel pampered.

Linear in plan, the single level house comprises eight, 3.6 metre wide bays, each separated by stabilised rammed earth blade walls. Fully glazed, the northern elevation is shaded by a full length verandah that provides an indoor/outdoor transition space for the living room and each of the four bedrooms. The south, west and east elevations are predominantly solid earth walls with strategically placed 'punched' openings to frame views and capture breeze.

The interior materials reflect the exterior with waxed dado plaster and polished concrete floors combining with sophisticated cabinetwork and luxurious furnishings and accessories to great effect.

Maximum solar access, effective cross ventilation and high levels of natural daylight provide an environmentally responsive habitat. The single, low pitched skillion roof collects rainwater as the only source of water for the house.

As well as connecting with the adjacent bushland, the home features a more private 'internal' connection to the outdoors. A protected north-east outdoor room incorporates a heated plunge pool, outdoor cinema with bean bags and day bed deck, providing a unique element of luxury and fun.



Since completion, Esuoh has been a popular holiday retreat for many visitors, with their positive guest reviews a testament to the owner's desire for a sophisticated destination that is indeed out of the ordinary.

Hofman and Brown Architects

Suite 15 Napoleon Close,  
12 Napoleon Street  
Cottesloe 6011 WA  
Australia

T: +61 8 9385 4021

[www.hofmanandbrown.com.au](http://www.hofmanandbrown.com.au)

Photography by Chantel Concei

The Esuoh Residence  
[www.esuoh.com.au](http://www.esuoh.com.au)





# Barwon Boat Shed

Located only ninety minutes from Melbourne and twenty from Geelong, Barwon Heads is becoming known less as a holiday hot-spot, and more of a vibrant coastal community of beach-lovers.



The distinct elongated gable roof form of this house, located on the western fringe of the town, was developed from a client interest in the local heritage of boat houses formerly located along the estuary foreshore. Now embedded in some of the older housing stock in the town, the boat houses were of distinct proportion and treatment, and inform the two contemporary gables separated by a glass entry and stairwell.

Its western edge location affords a distinct rural aspect to adjacent farm and wet lands, its elevated views extending to the ocean beyond. The principle orientation of the building maximises this opportunity while optimising the capacity for passive sustainable design through north facing living and dining areas with summer shade, and cross ventilation throughout. Utilitarian areas of the house such as bathroom and laundry are housed in the single storey coloured concrete block pods to the south, forming a small courtyard to the boundary.

As the house is used mainly as a seaside holiday retreat it was also important for the home to run cost efficiently, requiring minimal maintenance. Materials were selected

to assist this and to further add to its environmentally sustainable design principles. Sugar gum cladding was sourced from a local sustainable cooperative and selected for its capacity to silver naturally over time; the concrete ground floor slab operates as a thermal mass while providing an easily maintained surface tolerant of the sand and water brought in from the beach. The 5,000 litre water tank services the laundry and bathrooms, reducing its draw on the town water.

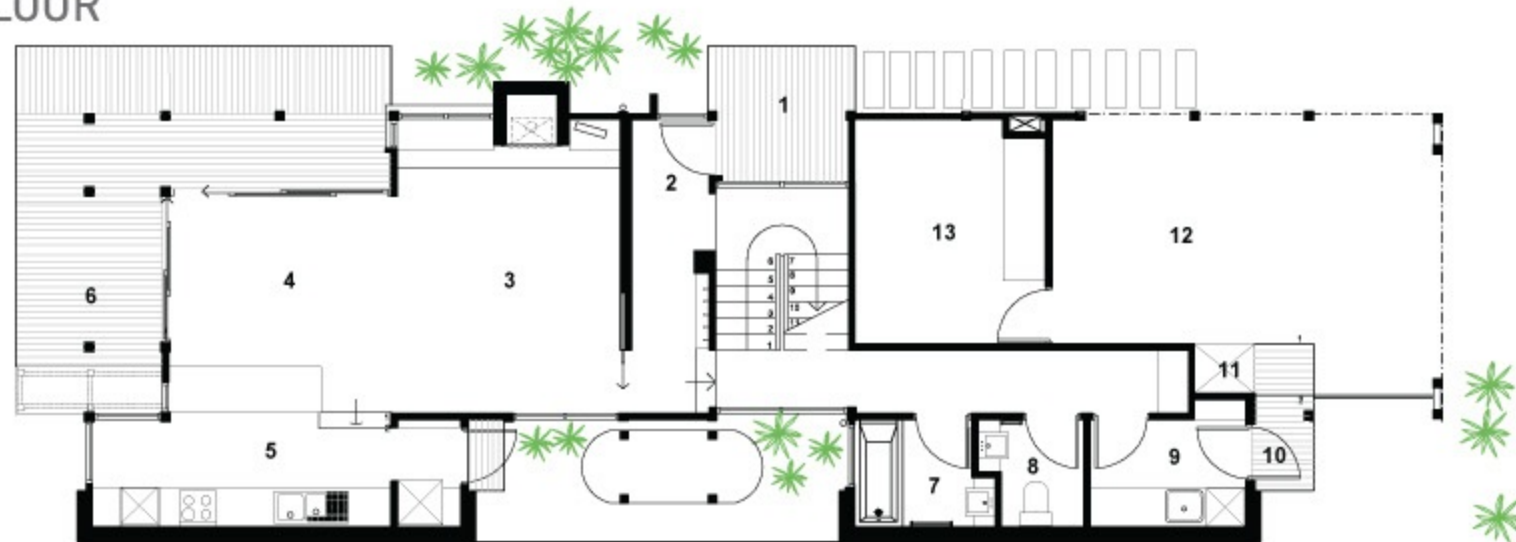
External timber cladding, posts and rails, executed by Tim Allen Design & Construction, draw on traditional building of carpentry craftsmanship, and are detailed to provide a crisp contemporary treatment. Internally, a neutral palette invoking a relaxed quality is enhanced with splashes of red appearing in kitchen flooring and hidden in shelf units, providing small moments of delight while reminding one of the fun of the holiday house.

In a wonderful articulation of a town's history, this house presents an opportunity to reflect on the laid back lifestyle of the beach, while at the same time enjoying the story of an evolving town.

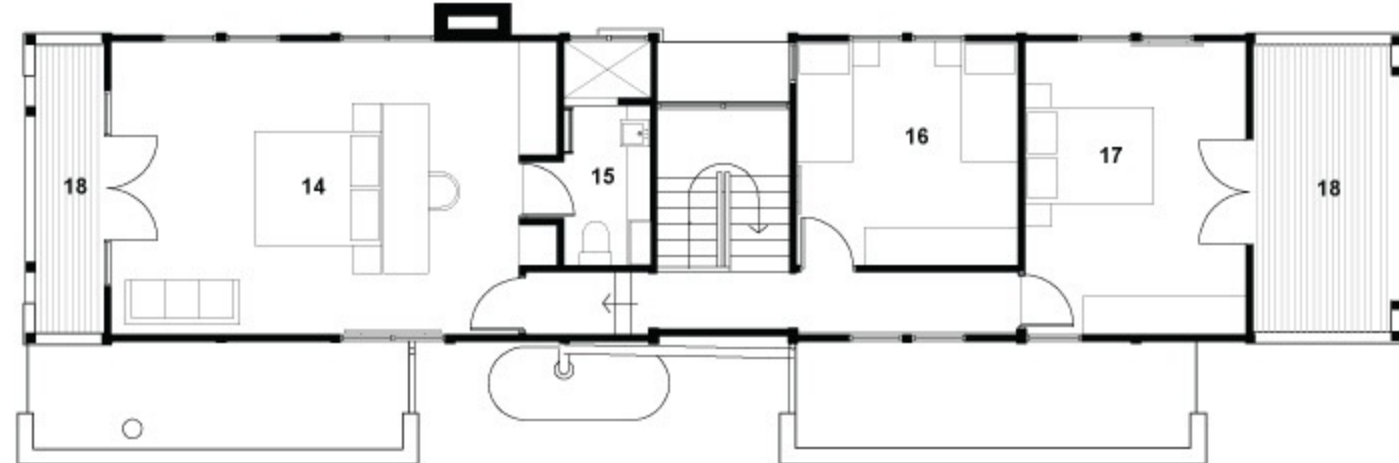




GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



- 1 Deck Landing
- 2 Entry
- 3 Living
- 4 Dining
- 5 Kitchen
- 6 External Servery
- 7 Bathroom
- 8 Powder
- 9 Laundry
- 10 East Entry
- 11 Outdoor Shower
- 12 Carport
- 13 Storage
- 14 Master Bedroom
- 15 Ensuite
- 16 Bedroom 1
- 17 Guest Bedroom
- 18 Deck

Floor plans remain  
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IRONS McDUFF ARCHITECTURE

The Studio, 23 Ozone Road,  
Barwon Heads VIC 3227  
Australia

T: +61 3 5254 1337

[www.ironsmcduff.com.au](http://www.ironsmcduff.com.au)

Photography by Michael Brand





# Beach Shack

Situated in lush native bushland on Tasmania's beautiful east coast is a humble 'Beach Shack' – a testament to environmentally conscious, coastal living.

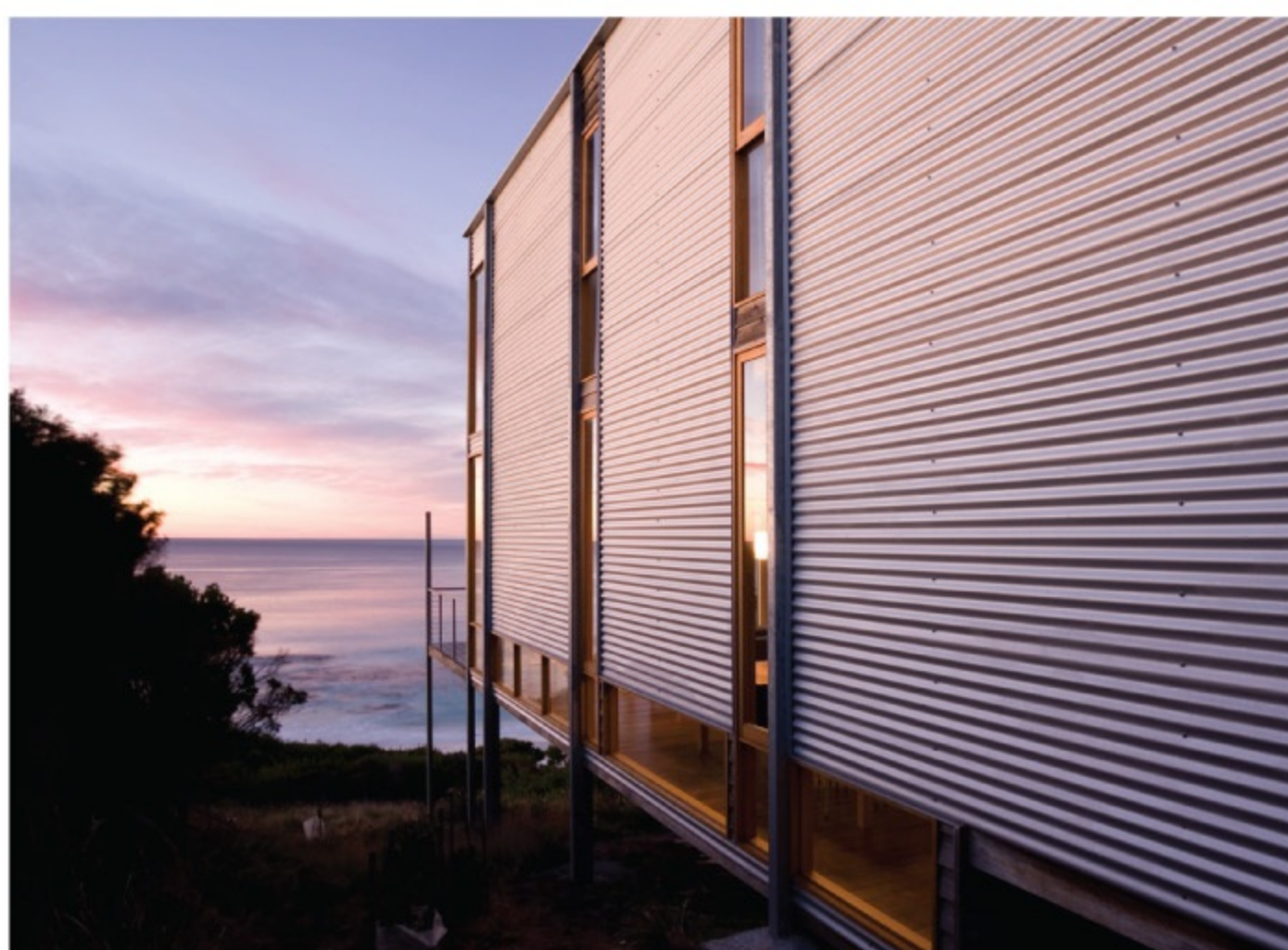
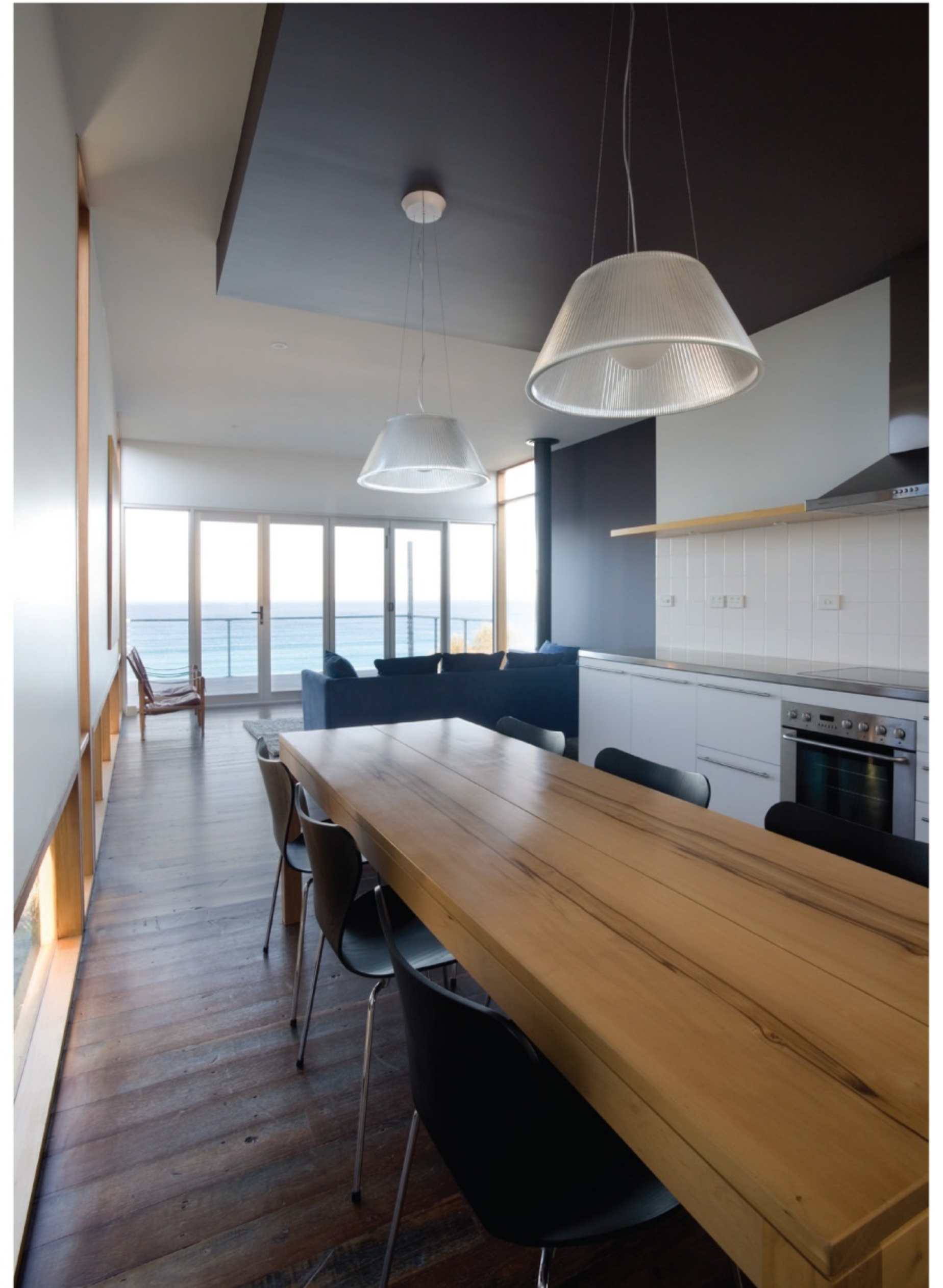


True to its style, the home – designed by Haskell Architects and built by Vikon Constructions – is shaped as a simple rectangular container and clad in inexpensively acquired, light weight but durable materials. Elevated above the land on slender steel columns, the home seems as though it could be plucked from the site leaving no evidence of its existence. This was a requirement of the international clients who have the utmost respect for the environment they chose to build in.

The nature of the location – with its slow pace, rugged terrain and beautiful climate – is enhanced by the extent of glazing that almost surrounds the home. In a flood of light, the interior reveals itself as a spacious place to unwind and relax. With open plan living areas, the flow of space allows gorgeous views out from the back of the home right through to the captivating 'Bay of Fires'.

The home consists of three bedrooms, a main bathroom, dining area, kitchen and laundry as well as a bevy of storage spaces and an expansive living area, which opens out onto a deck with a million dollar view. For comfort and sustainability, measures were taken to help control the interior climate of the home such as increased insulation in the walls, floors and ceilings. This provides a more pleasant environment to dwell in throughout every season of the year.

The seclusion of its wondrous location allows for unsurpassed coastal living in the comfort of a modest, but modern beach 'shack'. Location, economy, durability and the need for low maintenance all accounted for the use of natural materials and influenced the choice of local products. The raw and simple styling of this house is the epitome of coastal living.



The seclusion of its wondrous location allows for unsurpassed coastal living in the comfort of a modest, but modern beach 'shack'.

Haskell Architects

Level 7, 552 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

T: +61 3 8602 0700

[www.haskell.com.au](http://www.haskell.com.au)

Photography by Rhiannon Slatter





# Light Filled Spaces

Overlooking the shores of Clovelly and Coogee in Sydney's east, this architecturally designed beach house is one to enjoy everyday of the week.





A great opportunity arose for architect Joshua Bacon when he was approached to design a child-friendly, holiday feel home for a young couple who love the beach. In response, he created a labyrinth of levels with large, simple spaces, decks, terraced lawns and of course, a pool.

The home is rendered masonry and timber clad with a collection of angled roofs, skylights and a variety of windows that come together to form a unique foundation for a casual lifestyle. After entering through a security gate, one is welcomed via the walkway and feels immediately lured by the ocean ahead. Entry into the stylish interior spaces – furnished with homely, comfortable pieces by the new owners – creates a light and uplifting ambience. Opening up through bi-fold doors, the main living areas flow onto a timber deck and then out to the sea, uninhibited by the glass balustrade.

Downstairs, a rumpus room adjoins an outdoor entertaining area with pool, bar, cellar, outdoor shower and an expansive, level grassed area. The rumpus room can be divided in two by concertina doors, making a guest bedroom when required. A second external staircase from the entry means this level could easily be converted into a granny flat, perhaps for a child – who understandably – never leaves home.

A keen surfer, the owner wanted the luxury of waking up in the morning and being able to glimpse the break before heading down for a surf. Hence, the parents' retreat is located at the very top level under a raked ceiling that opens up toward the water, flanked by the Norfolk Pine. Bi-folding windows and doors out to a private terrace make this room almost an outdoor one, perfect for enjoying the warm summer mornings afforded by the residence's location.

Solar orientation and sustainability was an important consideration for the renovation. Existing windows were re-used where possible and a large water tank under the recycled timber deck supplies the garden and swimming pool. Retractable awnings and louvres, combined with good cross ventilation, help to control the heat and capture the cool sea breeze of the west-east facing home.

Combining the clients' dreams with practical fashion, Joshua Bacon has created a comfortable and simultaneously image-conscious home that caters to the family's current and future lifestyle.

As a testament to the appeal of this home, it was recently purchased by a couple who simply loved the design, so much so that they approached the owners with an offer they couldn't refuse. The new owners have since added their own unique style with the help of an interior decorator.



A keen surfer, the owner wanted the luxury of waking up in the morning and being able to glimpse the break before heading down for a surf. Hence, the parents' retreat is located at the very top level.

Joshua Bacon Design

Flourmill Studios,  
Studio 312 - Level 3  
3 Gladstone Street,  
Newtown NSW 2042  
Australia  
T: +61 2 9550 2043  
[www.joshuabacon.com.au](http://www.joshuabacon.com.au)

Builder: Mark Hando  
HB Building  
T: +61 413 994 646

Photography by Simone-Pieta Vivers





# Energy Efficient

A narrow block on Tasmania's Tamar River with a slim buildable zone of a mere 7 metres was not considered a problem but a great opportunity to be grasped for the designers at Spatial Oddity.



The clients desired a warm three bedroom home with a study and a double garage. It had to be energy efficient, environmentally friendly and stunning.

The placement of six 'crystalline' ended modules, to encompass the client's brief, had to be well thought out and exact to ensure the sculptural shape sat within the demanding shroud of the local council planning rules. Many of the module's internal walls are removed to provide open plan living and a fantastic double height space around the central stair, whilst leaving the illusion that the home is simply a series of prisms.

The river views are to the east to which the majority of the glazing faces, allowing early morning sun to penetrate deep into the space and immediately begin to warm the home. This is a paramount consideration for the Tasmanian climate.

Once midday rolls around, the sun enters the home via extensive northern glazing, allowing the warmth to filter centrally and then spread through the entire home. In summer, a shading device is attached to the top of this triangular zone to stop the intense sun from overheating the house.

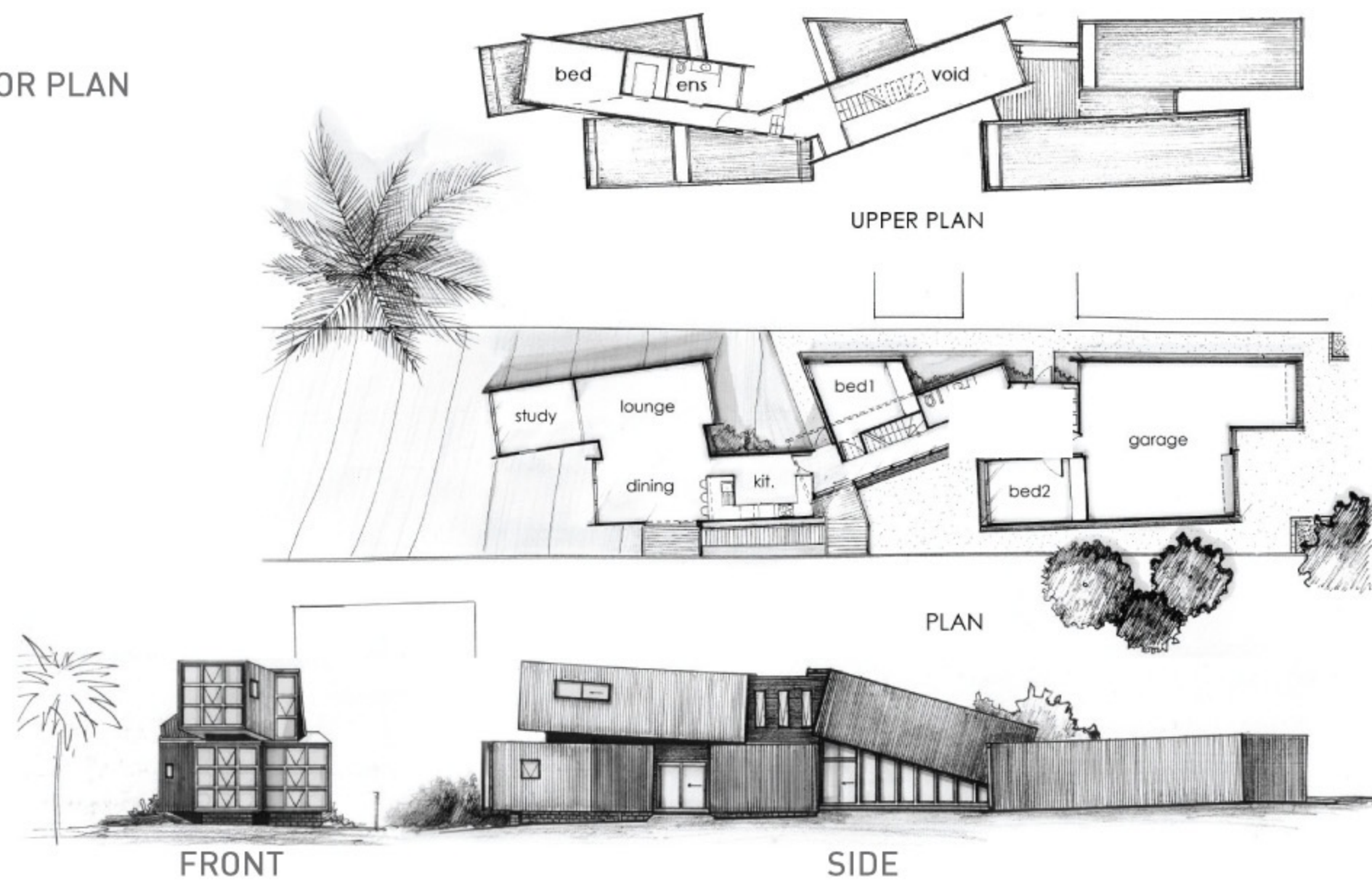
Cleverly, the top row of all glazing panels are operable awnings, allowing risen warm air to leave the house, and for fantastic cross ventilation to cool the interior when required. Due to the position of glazing and abundant air flow options, the 6.6 star energy rated home's running costs are kept to a minimum. The house can be tweaked like a yacht to suit the owner's comfort.

Expressed as a structure with 'lightness', the residence seemingly floats across the landscape like magic, minimizing its footprint. The six modules are clad in textured cement sheet, and to maintain each module's defining edges, slim corrugated steel is used for the remaining exterior surfaces. The choice of these materials was because of their low embodied energy and little need for maintenance.

The sunny disposition of the home creates a salubrious space to dwell in, while the pure abstract form provides joy to its occupants. A wondrous and buoyant atmosphere entices all those who enter the passive solar design.



FLOOR PLAN



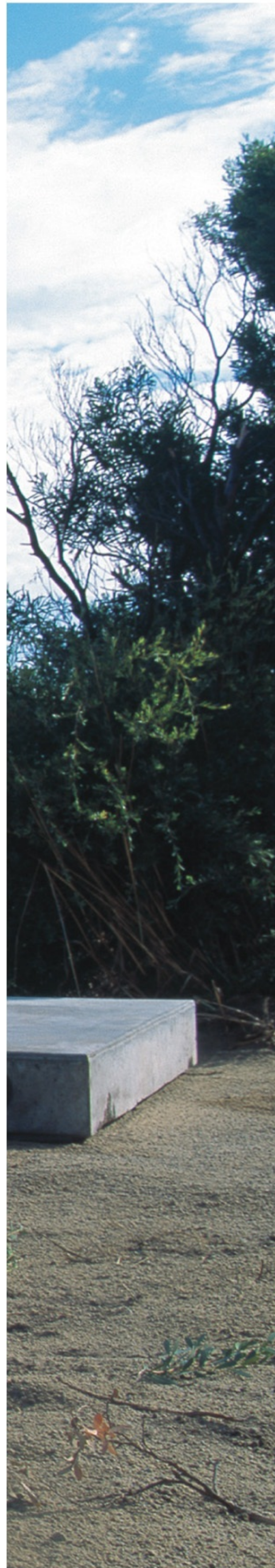
Floor plans remain © Copyright of Spatial Oddity

Spatial Oddity

104 Invermay Road,  
Invermay TAS 7248  
Australia  
T: +61 3 6326 6610  
www.spatialoddy.com.au

Photography by Jyh Chian, Chung





# Concrete Castle

Perched above the National Golf Course of Australia at Victoria's picturesque Cape Schanck, the 2.N.D House is a striking four-bedroom residence.





Predominantly constructed on a single level, the house has been designed with specific reference to the coastal environment. Contemporary factory finished materials, including raw pre-cast concrete, anodized aluminum, galvanized steel and glass form the external envelope. These elements form a 60 metre long platform abutting the east boundary. The entire west elevation is glazed to siphon the dominant view into the interior. Floor and roof plates frame the view top and bottom. Westerly sun is controlled by the projected lower eaves of the sloping roof plate. Northern light is available through a series of glazed apertures between the staggered pre-cast concrete walls.

The clients requested that a solid masonry construction system be used, and expressed a strong desire to build a concrete house. Hence, the pre-cast concrete wall panels provide the main architectural feature. Averaging between four and eight metres high, these factory finished raw concrete walls are offset from one another, providing north facing apertures to the interior as they follow the curve of the road.

Upon arrival, a visitor is confronted by the expanse of monolithic off-form concrete walls, strategically located to screen the coastal view from the street. A series of theatrical plays occur when descending the entry chamber on the concrete catwalk. The walls create a 'slice' of the coast expanse – a 'frozen moment' enhanced by the glazed front door entry chamber.

All interior finishes have been selected to compliment the external rugged environment. Tongue and groove bamboo solid flooring has been used. Solid bamboo sheets have been used for joinery surfaces. The carpet was designed to mimic the tea tree scrub canopy at window-sill level. All internal furniture including beds, couches and tables was designed by Jolson.

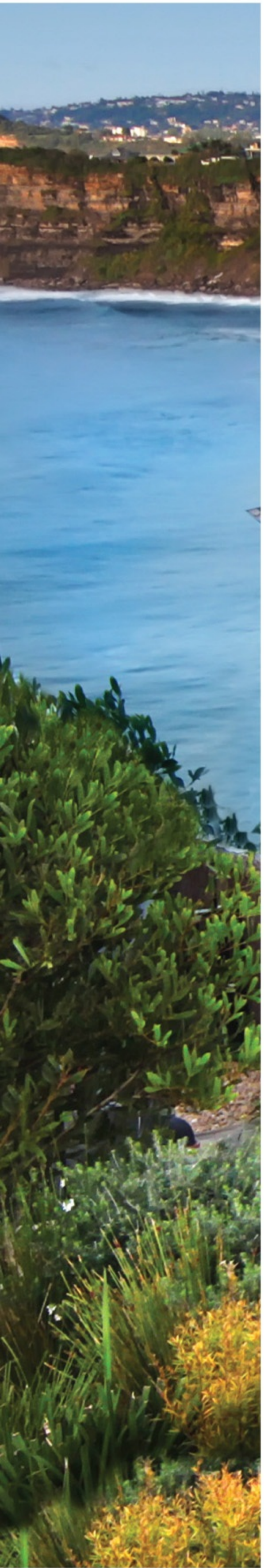


The architect's use of raw insitu and pre-cast concrete provided an opportunity for this material to be portrayed as a finish, used in its simplest form, suitable for a luxury residence.

Jolson

58 Greville Street,  
Pahran VIC 3181  
Australia  
T: +61 3 8656 7100  
[www.jolson.com.au](http://www.jolson.com.au)

Photography by Scott Newett





# Sea Change

Leaving the hustle and bustle of Sydney's eastern suburbs behind for the tranquility of the northern beaches, the owner of this tight, cliff top site with spectacular ocean views wanted a cutting edge, energy and water efficient home that exhibited that elusive 'wow' factor.





The sloping property faced to the south and had potential view obstruction issues for the neighbours. Strict council regulations regarding site coverage, height limit and setbacks posed challenges to multi award winning designer Peter Downes, but not challenges that he couldn't overcome to create a coastal house with a difference.

Located on the top level facing south, the main living area maximises views and allows for the accommodation of north-facing highlight windows for winter sun and summer breezes. The extensive use of bi-fold doors and frameless glass balustrades makes the home feel as though it is floating above the beach below. Cascading the residence down the hill further extended the potential access to these magnificent views.

The ship-like bough at the southern end, as well as the zigzag shape on the western side, orients the building to the beach and ridge views, ensuring that all of the bedrooms overlook the lap pool, which was also located on this side to capture the best of the available vista.

With its crystal blue waters reaching out towards Bungan Beach, the lap pool is the ultimate oasis on a summer's day if one is not relaxing on the inviting sun lounges, taking in some sun and some seriously enjoyable views.

The design takes advantage of the sloping site by keeping the roof level low from the street. This approach gives the illusion that the house is a single storey dwelling, thus preserving the existing views for the northern neighbours.

Curving rooftops simulate the rolling waves of the ocean below, as do the glazed panels in the front entry door. Light, airy furnishings in white mirror the white wash of the sea below, with shades of sea blues and greens adding interest and further extending the integration of the house with the picturesque coastal surrounds.

High above the pounding surf, this cliff-top house is a perfect family home for entertaining and relaxing, for both parents and children alike.



Peter Downes Designs

T: +61 2 9973 3312

[www.peterdownes.com](http://www.peterdownes.com)

Photography by Michael Simmons





# Boat Harbour House

A long association between the architect and the owner/builder saw an adventurous design and a finely crafted result.



Located at the head of a sheltered inlet punctuating the east coast of Australia, this absolute beach front holiday house enjoys an outlook past rocky headlands clad in wind-swept bush to the open sea.

Though there are other houses in the immediate vicinity, careful planning meant that the sun was able to be captured whilst screening out the neighbours and framing the views to the natural scenery.

The house was designed as two compartments with the parents residing on the top level. The bottom is used in summer by grown-up children and their families. In essence there is a masonry base, with the main level of the house featuring a steel frame floating over the site. By tilting the roof over the main living space and providing high level windows and a roof eave of suitable dimension, the room is shaded in summer and sunny in winter. To its east is a generous covered deck overlooking the sandy inlet and the ocean; at the other end is a sheltered, walled courtyard accented by a large Frangipani tree. An ideal place for the family barbecue, the courtyard is bordered in pale river stones and flagged in large white cement pavers.

On the top level, the main living space incorporates sitting, dining and kitchen areas. Also on this floor are a master bedroom with ensuite, a guest bedroom and bathroom, a laundry and a two car garage. The lower level – with three bedrooms and bathrooms – is centred by a large family room opening onto a terrace with direct access to the garden.

The planar forms of the decks and the roofs, especially the main roof which floats above the others and the string vertical forms of the pale stone colour walls, give strength and simplicity to the design. The design is such that the house emphasizes the use of metal, glass and masonry, accented by sandy-coloured vitreous tiled floors, joinery units in silver ash, and bench tops in composite stone. Given the exposure to the ocean, materials and finishes are robust.

Australia's extensive and beautiful coastline and temperate climate provides a splendid opportunity for open plan living and contemporary design, of which this house is a good example.





Tanner Architects

52 Albion Street,  
Surry Hills NSW 2010  
Australia

T: +61 2 9281 4399

[www.tannerarchitects.com.au](http://www.tannerarchitects.com.au)

Photography by Richard Glover

# Curving Beauty

A flowing, curved building form is the perfect response to the amazing cliff top site and its bay environment.









The client wanted an exciting and interesting house that would encapsulate the energy of its position and connect with the magnanimous bay views.

Drawing one to the entry are curved walls and a flowing driveway. The graceful forms continue inside with convex walls either side of a double storey entry framed by the master suite walkway and double storey glass windows beyond.

Over the swimming pool through spectacular curved butt glazed picture windows in the main living area and master suite, are grandstand views of the endless azure seascape. Glass has been incorporated into all facets of this design, from feature glass surrounding the front door to a glass canopy over the master bed to observe the night sky. While heavy drapes adorn windows in the bedrooms for maximum privacy, minimal window coverings have been used in the living areas so that views are exploited.

The master ensuite is expressively unique in its layout and design. Each element is afforded exclusive water views through panoramic expanses of glass. The succinct placement of contemporary fixtures and glossy finishes creates a luxurious and substantial space with a striking appearance.

Externally, earthy colour tones help blend the structure with the surrounding environment. Timber floors and neutral tones to hard and soft furnishings internally offer little distraction from the expansive external vistas.

Outdoor living has been located to the north, attaining natural light and extended views over the bay to the city skyline, whilst also being protected by the building from sea breezes. The home also enjoys private beach access.



Peter Jackson Design

1/267 Centre Road,  
Bentleigh VIC 3204

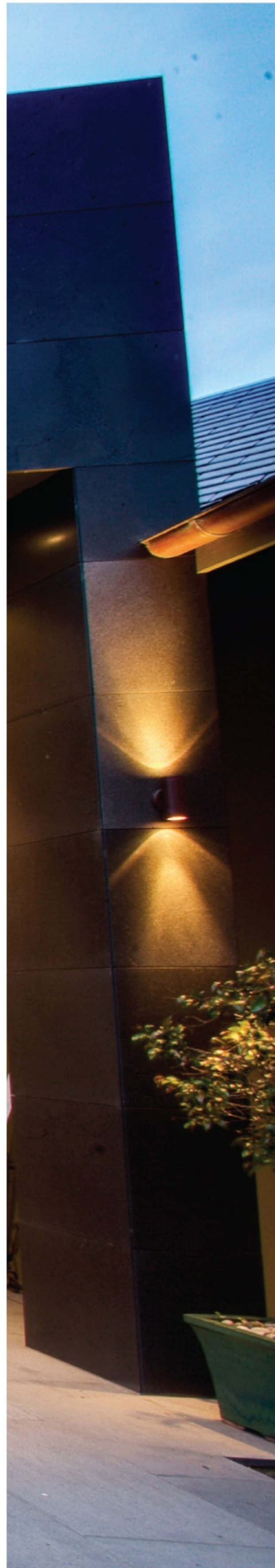
Australia

T: +61 3 9557 4790

[www.peterjackson.net.au](http://www.peterjackson.net.au)

Photography by Brett Holmberg





# Cliff Side Grandeur

This stunning residence assumes the grand presence of a country manor. The design frames the landscape, creating a dialogue between the built structure and its environment.



Reminiscent of Welsh manor houses, this Peter Jackson designed home is grand, modern and perfect for a family to enjoy absolute beach front living.

The large cliff side site enjoys 270 degrees of sweeping views to the southeast and a picturesque rural outlook in other directions. Undulations of the property presented an opportunity for interesting integration of the built structure with the landscape. Earthy tones of render over double skin brickwork construction, stone tiled piers and feature timber beams and posts were used to tie the house back into its surrounding environment.

Featuring centrally in the home is the client's love of the fine arts. Upon entry the music room takes centre stage. A spine like gallery space lines the house and also acts as an area for egress, thus exploring the potential of ancillary spaces to be dual functioning. Predominantly timber floorboards and ceramic tiles were combined for durability and

aesthetic reasons. Window coverings are kept to a minimum considering the apparent views and secluded nature of the property.

Outdoor living integrates with the indoors. A deep veranda with substantial columns encircles the structure, acting as a buffer to inclement coastal conditions. The primary outdoor living area is sheltered within the protective arm of the building yet still enjoys the ocean vista it shares with the central rooms, through large windows. An enormous pool and plenty of lawn space make for a fun and relaxing outdoor retreat for all members of the family.

The home also boasts water consciousness with rainwater harvested from the large expanse of roof and collected in concrete tanks with a total capacity of 270,000 litres. The site's natural contours are used to collect any further rainwater runoff in a dam. A compact waste water system treats all waste water for recycling.





Peter Jackson Design

1/267 Centre Road,  
Bentleigh VIC 3204  
Australia

T: +61 3 9557 4790

[www.peterjackson.net.au](http://www.peterjackson.net.au)

Photography by Brett Holmberg





# Perfect Proportions

270-degree views over the ocean, Bribie Island and the coastline north to Noosa, together with an elevated block that enjoys great sea breezes, provided Phil Darwen Design with a dream canvas for this seaside home.



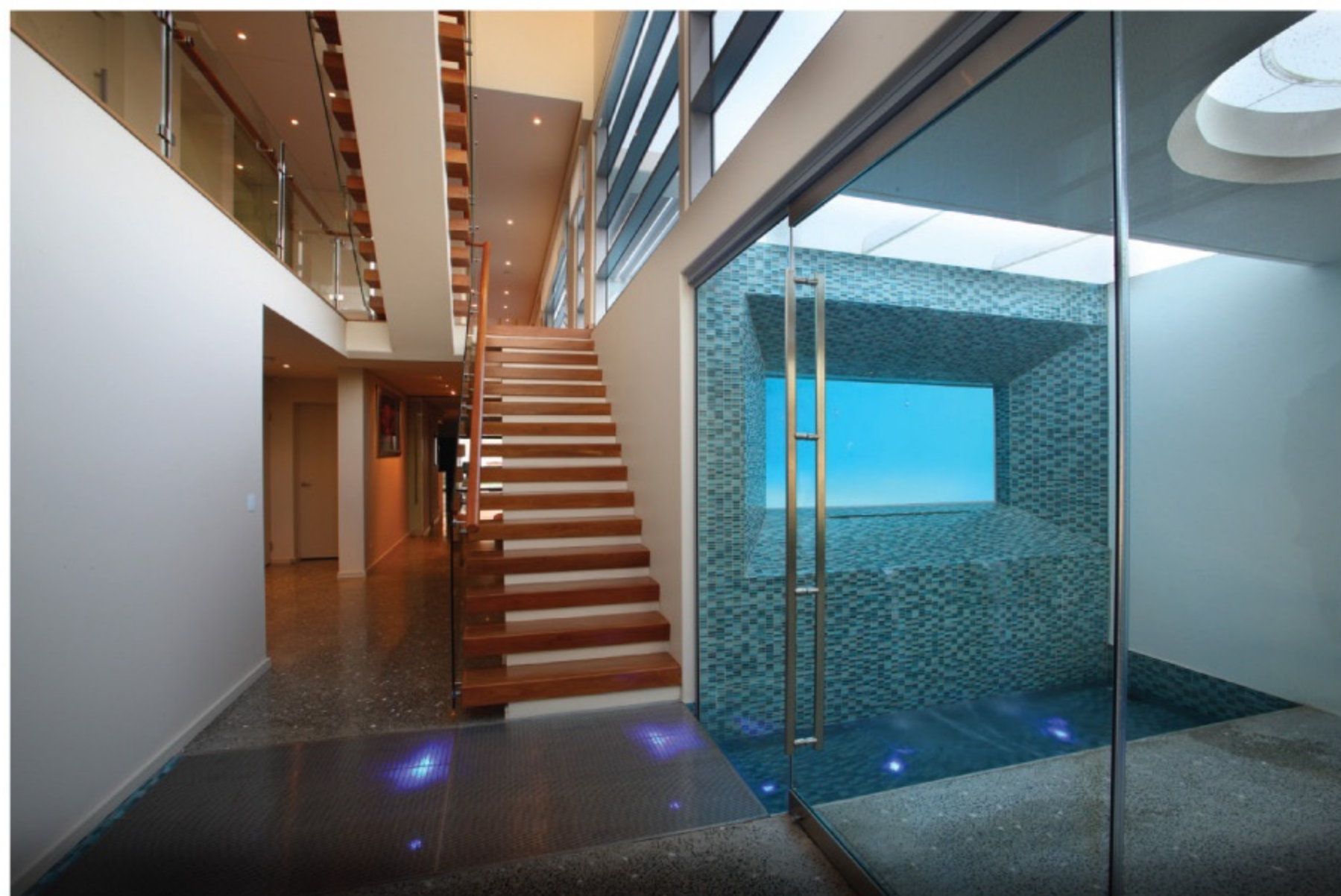
Well-proportioned elements spread throughout the home give it a balanced feel. Large living areas are offset by more intimate spaces, each created with the type of activity the room would foster in mind. All of the main spaces flow through the house in an open-plan arrangement – and with the three-storey stairwell – there is also a visual link vertically.

Interiors blend with the exterior spaces, not just through generous openings but also through the simultaneous use of materials such as travertine tiles for the terrace as well as the fireplace in the living room. A bright blue pool that flows along the side of the house becomes a feature of the interior through windows. Palm trees punch through holes cut out of the pool deck, yet another reminder of the home's privileged tropical location. The rooftop is covered in artificial grass and features a four-hole putting green and stunning 360-degree views.

With the structure presenting itself outwardly as a crisp, clean, white house – a contemporary mix of the white washed cliff-top homes of the Greek Islands and minimalist tropical living – there was the opportunity to introduce colour and texture throughout the home and landscape. The entire ground floor is concrete in either honed for the exterior or polished for the interior finishes. The expansion lines in the concrete were filled with clear Perspex which, when polished back with the concrete, provide slices of sparkle depending on the angle of the light.

Feature glass mosaic tiles were used to introduce colour around the home and this is most evident from the street, where a tiled feature wall surrounds a window into the swimming pool. A cleverly constructed water feature spills water from just below this window, giving the impression that the pool has sprung a leak.

Sustainability was an important consideration for this home, so provision was made for water harvesting and storage. The exterior paint is heat reflecting, which helps reduce the need for cooling. The guesthouse roof provides space for the solar pool heating. The entire house was designed to encourage cross ventilation to minimise the need for air-conditioning.



A contemporary mix of the white washed cliff-top homes of the Greek Islands and minimalist tropical living.

Phil Darwen Design

PO Box 968,  
Buderim QLD 4556  
Australia  
T: +61 438 230 419  
[www.phildarwendesign.com.au](http://www.phildarwendesign.com.au)

Photography by Phil Darwen Design



# French Country by the Sea

Homes by the seaside need to evoke a sense of their surroundings, exuding a light-hearted character that epitomises casual, relaxed living. This luxury home – expertly crafted by Canny Builders – does just that.



The first thing to strike you about the house is its symmetry. Despite the site's rather extreme slope, Canny ensured that the home maintained a linear form. In elongating the house this way, the creation of wide, central living spaces both inside and out was made possible.

Stretching across the rear of the house is a spacious living area inclusive of kitchen, living and dining. Decorated in a French provincial style, whites and neutral taupes are the dominant colours, warmed by timber floors and homely touches like the stone feature wall around the fireplace, patterned and textured cushions, floor rugs and elaborate wrought iron chandeliers. A huge, light filled kitchen makes for a practical space to prepare meals served up at the dining table, adorned with Bamboo chairs that reflect a similar pattern to decorative white balustrades that protect the rear deck.

French doors open this living area out to the distressed timber deck, partially protected by protruding rooms on



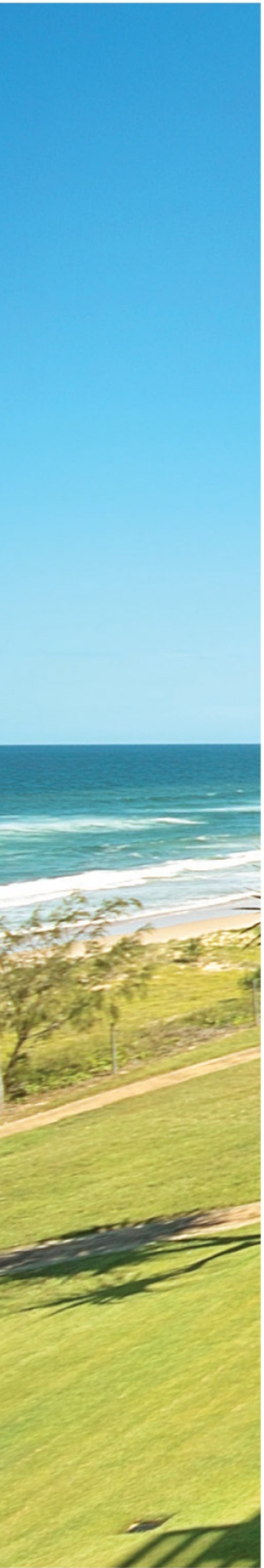
either side. A timber frame structure extends from the main doors and draws the eye out. After travelling its length you are brought to a set of divided stairs that provide access to the lush lawn. At night, the deck is illuminated by light shining down the walls of the home and up from the floor. Ornamental elements like potted plants and ceramic geese contribute to the relaxed feel.

Outdoor living enjoys high priority in this house. To one side of the main deck area is a unique inside/outside room, accessed through large wrought iron doors. This space allows for semi-outdoor entertaining even on chilly days. Extending from the side of the house is another deck for enjoying the summer sun on a timber sunlounge. The home is built around a central paved courtyard where one can relax atop cushioned cane chairs and ottomans and be protected from the prevailing winds. This area is accessed through a number of French doors, which if all are opened, give the home a glorious, breezy and seamlessly indoor/outdoor feeling.

Canny

9a Hall Street,  
Hawthorn East VIC 3123  
Australia  
T: +61 3 8532 4444  
[www.canny.com.au](http://www.canny.com.au)

Photography by Gerard Warrener







# Ocean Exposure

Behind a façade of industrial appeal, comes a home with magnificent views and the lifestyle to match. Defined by the lay of the sloping land, it blends style and function to offer comfort and unsurpassed clarity of living in a magnificent coastal location.



Built into the undulating terrain of a beachside town, this beautiful home designed by SBT Designs and built by Braeden Constructions offers the luxury of modern day living in a coastal environment. Consisting of exposed galvanised steel columns and beams with extensive use of polished concrete flooring, the home reflects the contemporary industrial theme that is fairing as the latest in 'uber chic' urban living. Bringing the lavishness of the city lifestyle to a coastal location presents this home as the ultimate home to relax in and enjoy modern living.

The focus of the home is centred on the sweeping ocean views which are taken advantage of by the inclusion of extensive external glazing. As expected, this maximises the amount of natural light let into the home, while exposed timber beams work to counteract the industrial feel, and adds both warmth and character to its composition.

Outside, durable materials were selected carefully to withstand the salty environment and harsh extremes of the building's coastal climate. VM Zinc cladding was used primarily as the most suitable material, also adding to the overall industrial, modern theme.

Tucked under the flawless wet edge pool on the second level are the sleeping and work spaces. Naturally, one would assume that such areas built into the hillside would face problems concerning a lack of light, however the clever use of timber exposed frame and Perspex walling works to provide more than enough light right through to the rear of the rooms. In addition, a natural palette of colours has been used to further brighten the areas, while maintaining a neutral effect and a relationship with the close-by sandy beach. Light timber floors and external tiles create a soft living environment, while enhancing the calm nature of these rooms' intended use.

One of the key features of the home is its avid use of water. Maintaining the home's sense of place next to the beach, the expansive wet edge pool blurs the line between ocean and living spaces, while also being utilised as a cooling barrier in the summer months. The western water garden has been provided with a protective social space away from the prevailing south-eastern sea breezes that at times, can be quite intense.

In addition to its impressive construction, design and composition, the home incorporates many measures to ensure a sustainable and comfortable lifestyle. Centred on passive solar design principles, some of its environmental conscious features include maximisation of solar gain to heat the pool, use of timber to provide shading in critical positions throughout summer and a rainwater collection system. Together, these aspects of the home work toward creating spaces that can enrich the daily lives of the building's occupants in comfort and style.

Blending minimal spaces of the industrial theme with materials such as glass, Perspex, steel, concrete and timber, the designer has successfully created places which evoke all of the senses, while providing spaces to dwell in which are both highly flexible and versatile.



Impressively, each stair of the floating stairway that leads to the second level of the home is fixed to the largest single sheet glass panes available in Australia – this creates a minimalistic effect and is a feature within itself, rather than a purely functional aspect of the home. As for that glorious ocean, the kitchen views are created with hydraulic opening awning panel windows, whilst the living zones make use of large sliding panels.

SBT Designs

23 Viewland Drive,  
Doonan QLD 4562  
Australia  
T: +61 7 5471 1162  
[www.sbt designs.com.au](http://www.sbt designs.com.au)

Builder: Braeden Constructions

Photography by Phill Mansfield



FIVE



# Enveloping Façade

Capturing amazing views over the Whitsunday Islands, this striking and contemporary home makes a dramatic statement.



A simple building form with both dramatic and understated finishes, the home plays with the simple approach to result in a unique structure that engages the eye.



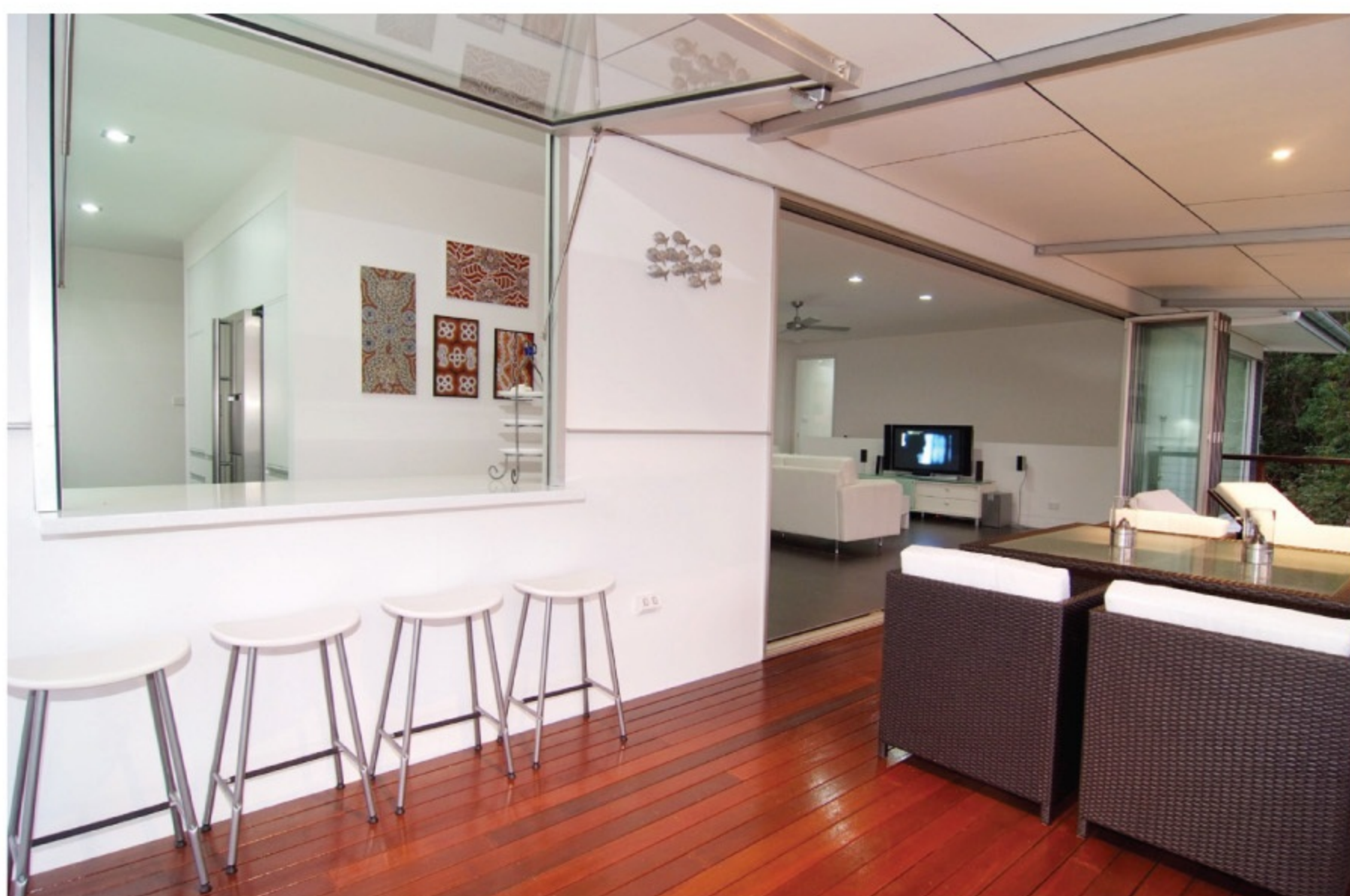


The façade is dominated by an all encompassing, double storey, timber batten wall. Not only does this feature make an impact, but it acts as a great solar barrier to the western sun and connects the structure to its bushland surroundings. The main body of the house – clad in Hardiflex sheeting with rolled Zinalume flashing to express the joints – appears sheltered and protected from the harsh elements of its ridge top location by the western wall and roof. The building's colour palette of white walls was chosen to provide a simple, clean appearance to allow the feature cladding to pop.

Above the carport, the ensuite to the master bedroom projects out from the timber feature wall in a punch of sunshine yellow, adding theatrical relief to the building form while in keeping with its linear lines. An oversized entry door is concealed within the timber cladding and furthers the degree of mystique conjured by the austere façade.

To the rear of the house, a ground floor barbecue area and spa pool is sheltered by the cantilevering master bedroom above. A top floor balcony is complete with sun lounges, table setting and gas strut servery window from the kitchen. Together these areas make for a focal point of the home, where outdoor living can be enjoyed in all weather conditions.

The upper level living zones are purposely placed to capture the main ocean aspect, as is the master bedroom. Cool finishes to the interior have been used to enhance the building's sense of comfort. As with the exterior, minimal styling and simple materials are accented by finishing details. Fresh flowers, seashells and indigenous Australian artwork enhance the aesthetic appeal of the interior.



### SBT Designs

23 Viewland Drive,  
Doonan QLD 4562  
Australia

T: +61 7 5471 1162

[www.sbt designs.com.au](http://www.sbt designs.com.au)

Builder: Greenrock Homes

Photography by Ziggy Ziegler



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# Intelligent Design

Elegance and ingenuity are combined here in a landmark project crafted by Vibe Design group.



The unusual shape of the site triggered a design response that was guaranteed to be unique in form. Vibe Design Group have embraced the irregularity of the site and invented a truly breathtaking home with surprise-hidden elements. The residence has been treated with a combination of zinc, timber, stainless steel and compressed sheet. The tilt-door to the expansive three-car garage disappears into the facade when in the closed position so as not to dominate.

Spanning two levels, the home employs distinct design techniques to articulate the façade and offer a sense of movement and transformation. The lower right hand corner of the zinc-clad box appears to have shifted. This dislodged portion serves as the entry to the property with upper storey viewing deck over.

Journeying inside the home, the splayed expansive living area is positioned for maximum appreciation of the bay views. Beyond a timber feature wall with disguised access into the powder room and cellar is the master bedroom and study/ sitting area. The primary lower storey areas flow effortlessly onto the picturesque swimming pool and outdoor entertaining area.

The second level of the home accommodates a further three bedrooms and informal lounge area. The flexible layout is perfect for the client's children and visiting international guests.

Use of irregular shaped spaces has created a floor plan layout with a fluidity and functionality, which could never have been achieved in a conventional rectangular format.

Constructed by David Walker Building, this home is a fantastic display of design innovation, offering the best of luxury living.



The unusual angles of the site required a unique design response and floor plan layout. The irregular shaped spaces create a fluidity and functionality, which could not have been achieved with a conventional rectangular format.

#### Vibe Design Group

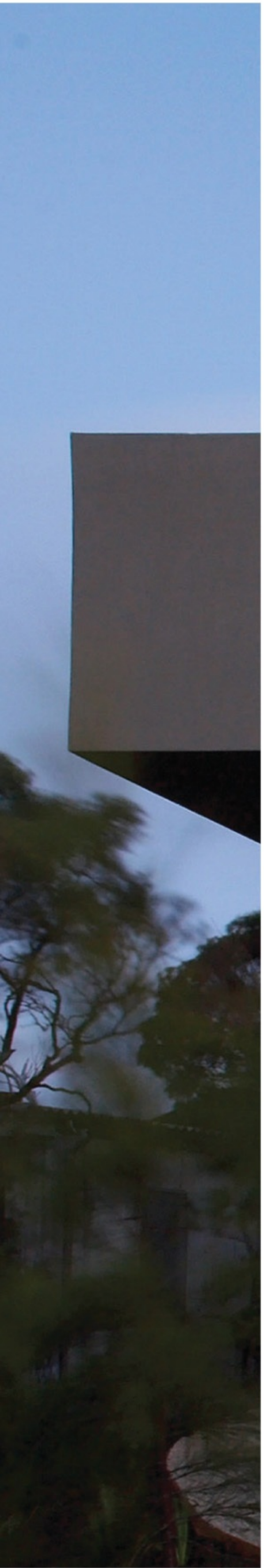
VIC:  
551 Burwood Road,  
Hawthorn 3122

NSW:  
Level 57 MLC Centre,  
Martin Place, Sydney 2000

QLD:  
Level 30 AMP Place,  
10 Eagle Street, Brisbane 4000

T: 1800 188 056  
[www.vibedesign.com.au](http://www.vibedesign.com.au)

Photography by Robert Hamer





# Bay Views

Complexities associated with coastal design are effortlessly embodied in this building of pure genius. Conceived by Vibe Design Group, this superb home maximises spectacular bay views appreciated to the north-east.



With contemporary appeal and astounding ingenuity, this home evokes envy in even the least assuming of people.



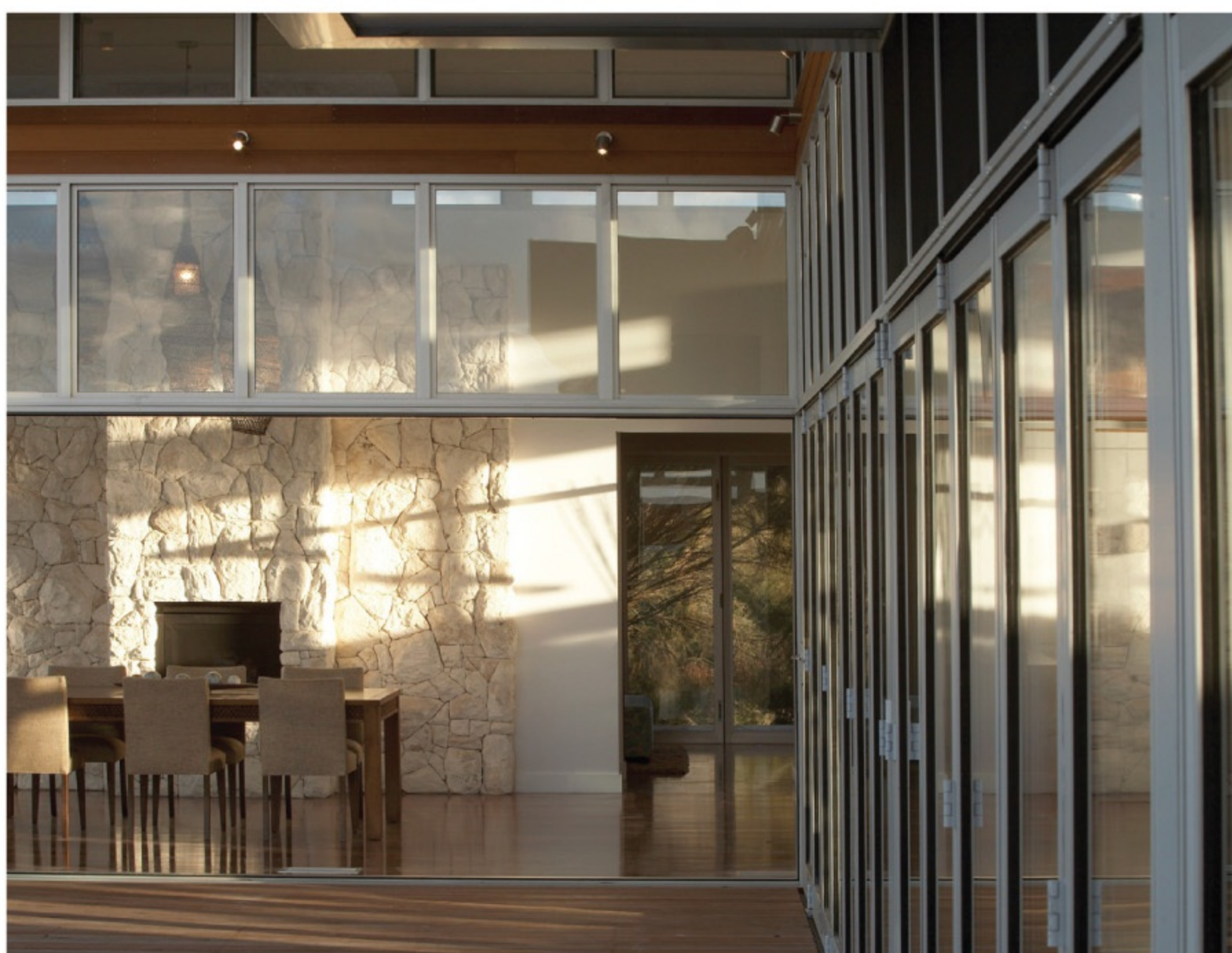


Situated in Blairgowrie on the Mornington Peninsula, this contemporary styled home offers luxuries any avid entertainer would be envious of. The main living areas and master bedroom feature concertina doors and allow the internal spaces to become one with outside. In addition to a 25 metre lap pool with integrated spa, the home features expansive outdoor entertaining areas and a billiard room with fully serviced bar. The bar is complete with a trap door down to a wine cellar below, where walls of thermal mass ensure the wine is stored at optimum temperature.

With views to the distant sand dunes, the children's' bedroom wing with rumpus area is located to the rear. The rooflines and building are designed to step down in unison with the natural fall of the land with the office/guest bedroom and gym located near the ascending entry stairs at a lower finished floor level.

The swimming pool design incorporates a 4-metre cantilever to the street frontage and negative-edge. Its considered placement offers the dual purpose of directing the occupant's line of sight to the views beyond, whilst protecting the privacy of both the inhabitants and adjoining residence.

The orchestrated arrangement of eave lines have been specifically calculated using projected sun angles for maximum penetration of sunlight in the winter months and complete protection in summer. Louvre windows allow cross-breezes to naturally cool the residence and ensure a comfortable thermal environment within the home all year round, with little need for mechanical heating and cooling.



#### Vibe Design Group

VIC:  
551 Burwood Road,  
Hawthorn 3122

NSW:  
Level 57 MLC Centre,  
Martin Place, Sydney 2000

QLD:  
Level 30 AMP Place,  
10 Eagle Street, Brisbane 4000

T: 1800 188 056  
[www.vibedesign.com.au](http://www.vibedesign.com.au)

Photography by Robert Hamer







# Coastal Splendor

In yet another striking creation by Vibe Design Group, this home on the Mornington Peninsula boasts stellar 180-degree views of the bay and plenty of room to accommodate family and friends.



Located on the Esplanade at Mt. Martha on the Mornington Peninsula, this spectacular residence sits elegantly within its coastal landscape. Vibe Design Group met the challenge of producing a stunning home with undeniable street presence, while respecting the 180-degree bay views shared with the neighbouring homes.

This home is the ultimate holiday entertainer. The adaptable, symmetrical floor plan layout can be conveniently reconfigured as one home with six bedrooms, or two apartment-style spaces, each with three bedrooms. Common areas include the foyer on the lower level and expansive entertaining deck spanning the upper storey.

Traditional beach house materials have been used in a contemporary application. The striking shapes of the structure take on a nautical theme with the building often likened to a moored boat. Weathertex cladding wrapping the upper storey is in juxtaposition to the compressed sheet cladding and stainless steel battens featured throughout the lower storey.

A restrained colour palette has been adopted throughout, ensuring the breathtaking views remain the primary focus. Glass features in the kitchen and bathroom in lieu of tiles and emulates the blue water in the bay on a summer's day. Vibe Design Group has succeeded in producing a magnificent beach house with a luxurious and opulent feel.



### Vibe Design Group

VIC:  
551 Burwood Road,  
Hawthorn 3122

NSW:  
Level 57 MLC Centre,  
Martin Place, Sydney 2000

QLD:  
Level 30 AMP Place,  
10 Eagle Street, Brisbane 4000

T: 1800 188 056  
[www.vibedesign.com.au](http://www.vibedesign.com.au)

Photography by Robert Hamer

# Sculptured Design

As if it rose up out of the land, this sculptural beauty designed by Marcus Roberts Architect and built by MM Hearn Constructions is a gallant statement of grace and splendour.













Situated in the South West of Victoria, the home presents tranquillity at its best with sweeping views of grassed coastal dunes as well as the gorgeous beach. The home itself was designed to act as family accommodation, with a degree of separation requested between the younger and older occupants for privacy and entertaining purposes. Despite this, good flow between all areas is enjoyed around the home and through to outside.

Clever positioning and design strategies give occupants a sense of seclusion and privacy whilst still being able to enjoy ocean views. From the road, the house is adequately hidden, adding an element of exclusivity to this magnificent structure.

Due to the harsh and extreme weather that homes are subjected to in coastal locations, this project encompasses a sense of solidity through visual grounding with large limestone walls. They also work as a spatially defining element around which the house is designed, threading through every room. As an added bonus, the walls are also utilised to reduce noise and maintain an even temperature. A warm palette of greys has been used on the walls and ceiling, while dark stained timber is used for joinery. The colour of the limestone adds a bright, organic softness to every room, along with continuity and harmony. Curved walls define the space of the main living area, which is treated as a glazed pavilion for the lounge and dining areas and is open to a stunning, open courtyard at the centre of the home. From here, views are available through the living areas to the beach.

Raw materials such as timber and stone add to the understated beauty of the home and have been used extensively to minimise maintenance and costs in the future. Establishing solidarity between elements of the home and its coastal setting is a dominant theme of natural products. As such, its raw beauty is akin to its surrounding environment and embodies timeless and refined simplicity.



In addition, a large outdoor area protected by an elegant cantilevered roof is graced with the beauty of a sweeping vista where guests can be entertained on a sunny summer's day.

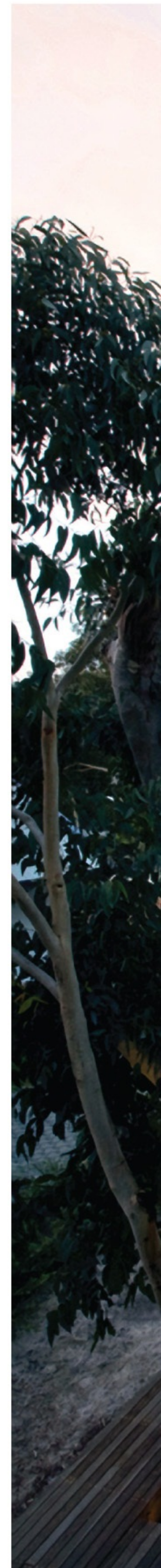
Marcus Roberts Architect

Benloch Studio  
636 Burke and Wills Track  
Benloch VIC 3435 Australia  
T: +61 3 5429 2572  
[www.benlochstudio.com.au](http://www.benlochstudio.com.au)

Interiors: John Leaning (UK)  
T: +44 207 924 2372

Builder: MM Hearn Constructions  
T: +61 3 5568 1745

Photography by Marcus Roberts





# Hazelwood Beach House

Charged with designing the perfect luxury coastal home, Sydney Design Group set about reinterpreting the 1950's style of Australian beach houses for this fresh home in Jervis Bay.



The clients wanted to feel as though they were living amongst the trees, hence the C-shaped design and internal deck wrapped around the existing Scribbly Gum Tree. Each room of the house enjoys a view back to this gorgeous gum and the great outdoors of the Australian bush.

Surrounded by natural bush reserve, the three-bedroom house boasts a gourmet kitchen, open-plan living area, expansive deck for entertaining and stylish décor. The use of natural colours in the chocolate suede sofa and pale green chairs is in keeping with the natural look of the home and its connection with nature, in particular with its leaf lodger. Blues and whites in the bedrooms reflect the light, beachy atmosphere of the location.

Though there are no balconies over the internal courtyard, sliding doors guarded by railings open over the outside space and connect the upstairs living areas with the downstairs entertainment deck. As well as creating the illusion that the outdoors is coming in, these doors allow refreshing breezes to sweep the home and for a visual connection to be made from the hallways and bedrooms back to the living areas. The result is an airy and flowing tone to a home that is the perfect place to escape to, relax and unwind.

In the achievement of a textured feel outside and in, materials were chosen for the natural characteristics they offered. The ground floor exterior, finished in Rockcote Sandcote, was used to ground the base of the building to the earth and blend with the hues of the local gum tree. Entry through inviting cedar doors reveals Blackbutt timber used for the stairs and deck and messmate for the flooring. External cladding is Western Red Cedar left to weather naturally.

Sydney Design Group has crafted a beach getaway that stays connected to its bushland surroundings by way of an environmentally responsible coastal home.



The building was designed to touch the earth lightly and its box-like design appears as though the house is floating. The stunning architecture looks particularly impressive at night when the lights inside the home are illuminated.

Sydney Design Group

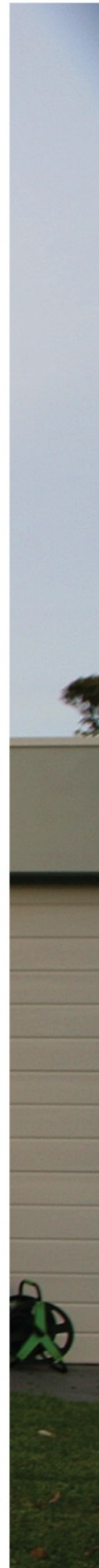
PO Box 70,  
Callala Beach NSW 2540  
Australia

T: +61 414 581 820

[www.sydneydesigngroup.com.au](http://www.sydneydesigngroup.com.au)

Photography by Simon Wood Photography





# Ocean Views

This award winning house was designed by Tony Trobe of TT Architecture. The clients, who had just purchased the spectacular waterfront block, wanted to replace the old typical 70's style brown brick two storey home with a contemporary coastal family dwelling. Ultimately, an extensive renovation was considered the best option.



The physical location and panoramic views inspired Tony Trobe to design this house so that the living areas and bedrooms have a 180 degree outlook of the Tollgate Islands and Wimbie Beach. The 'backyard' view, which frequently includes frolicking dolphins, is framed by two tall Spotted Gums.

Entering this house through a light filled tower element, one is led up the half-flight of stairs where the breathtaking views of the ocean immediately demand attention.

The upper level features the main living and dining areas with a minimalist style kitchen and butler's pantry. Sweeping decks, featuring clear unframed glass eliminate visual barriers between the ocean and the table! A simplistic palette of neutrals encourages the eye to continually take in the impressive panorama. The master bedroom and ensuite with views 'to die for' are also located on the upper level.

The abundance of double glazed floor to ceiling windows along the entire length of the

house take advantage of the north easterly aspect assisting with the thermal efficiency of the home and harnessing the natural light optimizing the 'inside/outside' feel of the spaces.

The lower level, along with three bedrooms, has a large family room incorporating a kitchenette and bar with expansive custom design fold back doors to create an indoor / outdoor mood and to service the pool area.

Externally, the roof softly curves and the soft grey colour palette reflects the colours of the gum trees and coastal landscape.

This is the quintessential beach side property, offering a singular lifestyle. With a rear garden that falls away to a quiet beach... and those spectacular views, you just can't get any better than this!





TT Architecture

35 Kennedy Street,  
Kingston, Canberra ACT 2604  
Australia

T: +61 2 6232 6311

[www.ttarchitecture.com.au](http://www.ttarchitecture.com.au)

Photography by Tony Trobe

# Overlooking the Water

This award winning home by architect Tony Trobe shows a true sense of innovation by pushing the boundaries of standard domestic construction. This edgy cliff top home arose from the synergy of a group of four families who set themselves a vision of creating a home away from home.











Strong lines dominate the exterior and make a bold statement from the street, while accents of timber add warmth to the design. Many commercial and recycled materials were used to build the homes, deviating from the palette of materials that make up the majority of new homes built today. One of the key features of the project is its curved roof, sweeping upward from one side and over to the adjoining residence. The volumes created by the roof along with the added height and expansive windows provide a stunning sense of space and light for the owners of these homes.

The relationship to the view is a defining aspect of the living spaces perched over the Pacific Ocean. The inclusion of large floor-to-ceiling windows capitalizes on an active ocean; dolphins, whales and crashing surf are all players on the stage. The dramatic glazing also enables the home to be flooded with natural light and be warmed naturally by the winter sun.

One aspect of the design which is again growing in popularity around the country is the use of the humble louvre. Originating in the Middle Ages as a simple method of maximizing ventilation, their use still has practical relevance today. Their expression is distinctly architectural in this exceptional project.

The themes of the interior complement the exterior well, with clean lines and the very limited use of strong colour. Rich recycled Red Gum flooring (reclaimed from old fence posts) contrasts with the limited palette of colour elsewhere. The simple and sculptural kitchen cabinetry makes a lively counterpoint and focus to the minimalist expression of the rest of the interior.

A centrally located in-wall fireplace is emphasized by a subtle curve in the wall. The crisp rectangular forms of the 'in-wall' uprights spaced regularly throughout the main living and circulation spaces provide drama and individuality to the design.

The simple plan form caters equally well for an intimate weekend for a couple or the 'gathering of the clan'.

This exceptional duplex exudes style and functionality while showcasing non-conventional methods of building and construction. The success of their implementation has been recognized by both the peak building organizations, the HIA and MBA in winning the 'Coastal home of the Year' and 'Dual Occupancy of the Year' in the 2010 Awards.



From the living area, large floor-to-ceiling bi-fold doors gracefully slide open to reveal the expansive decking area, giving way to breathtaking views. Perfect for entertaining, the area is partially covered by the cantilevered roof which has incorporated down-lights for use at night.

TT Architecture

35 Kennedy Street,  
Kingston, Canberra ACT 2604  
Australia

T: +61 2 6232 6311

[www.ttarchitecture.com.au](http://www.ttarchitecture.com.au)

Photography by Lisa McKelvie

- Red Zebra Photography







# Coastal Splendor

With a white palette inspired by the world famous architecture of the Greek Islands, this contemporary Australian beachside home shares a sophisticated living experience and a touch of class with its occupants.



Designed by James Cooper of Sanctum Design and built by Gremmo Homes, this house showcases the laid back lifestyle associated with coastal culture in a structured, functional and highly attractive manner, which allows the home to bond naturally with its surroundings.

At over 500m<sup>2</sup>, the generously sized home is designed to respond well to its environmental context, utilising the ocean views towards the east and maximising the gorgeous winter sun, all the while preserving the view corridors of the adjoining neighbours. Sympathetic to formal living, the home provides a practical place to enjoy a casual family lifestyle. The highly functional layout caters for an expanding family, with plenty of room for guests to stay and enjoy the picturesque Fairy Bower in Manly.

Taking cues from its coastal location, the incorporation of features such as a sand room for storage of surfboards and the like seemed only logical, while the guest loft from an interconnected pavilion and the rumpus zone connected to the kitchen, lend the core ingredients of open plan living with high usability. The inclusion of a narrow lap pool completes the seaside living experience, providing a place for the kids to cool down.

Venturing inside from the central courtyard, six metre wide openings treated with a folding door system create the kind of impressive entrance you would expect from a home of this calibre. Apart from the connection it allows the home to share with the outdoors, it creates a wonderful flow of fresh air and floods the interior with natural

light. Splashes of colour and stylised pieces of furniture bring a subtle echo of the 1950s era, bringing a sense of retrospect to the home and paying homage to the rich surfing history of the location.

Flooring is predominantly finished in a lime-washed timber, with painted T&G lining boards to the ceilings, while internal timber shutters and the ample glazing exploit the glorious views and winter sun. In addition, composite stone benches with v-groove timber cabinetry grace the kitchens and bathrooms adding that extra touch of class.

In conjunction with the home's focus on interconnectivity, the ensuite bathroom is open to the bedroom, with a layout designed to encourage views from the bath. It is the little inclusions like this that allow the home to feature all of the modern conveniences without intruding on its subtle retro feel.

The exterior composition of the home is heavily grounded in Australian origins, and is dominated by delicate screens and shading systems. The familiarities of weatherboards conform to a tradition of coastal properties, while the cantilevered timber and canvas shading systems introduce a modern element to the design.

On a grand scale, this magnificent home melds the splendour of a modern beach side family home with a humble reverence to the traditions of Australian coastal history and beach culture.



The exterior composition of the home is heavily grounded in Australian origins, and is dominated by delicate screens and shading systems. The familiarities of weatherboards conform to a tradition of coastal properties, while the cantilevered timber and canvas shading systems introduce a modern element to the design.

Sanctum Design

209/40 Yeo Street,  
Neutral Bay NSW 2089  
Australia

T: +61 2 9909 8844

[www.sanctumdesign.com.au](http://www.sanctumdesign.com.au)

Photography by Simon Wood





# High & Mighty

Escape the big smoke and experience the easy life. Perched high upon an escarpment with a backdrop of Burnie City, Tasmania, this narrow property offers a dramatic-fronted site that falls steeply towards the coastline and into the roaring seas of Bass Strait.



From the serenity of the home spa with breathtaking views of the Strait, to the panoramic glass in the living room, this home truly is a breath of fresh air. We dream of the lifestyle, and now we dream of the home.





Offering breathtaking views of Bass Strait's sheer beauty and terrific power, this striking contemporary home by multi-national award winning practice Clever Design, is one to take note of. Panoramic views, zoned living, a spa retreat (with that magnificent view) and a highly attractive, innovative design combine to create the ultimate in coastal living.

From street level, tilted, horizontal, custom made orb 'skybridge' corrugated walls and curved, descending garage 'ironstone' roofing diminishes the tall façade, allowing the home to retain a less imposing stature and blend with the 'laid-back' coastal setting. Entry is via a mezzanine level, which zones the multiple floors. Perfect for a young, busy family, these zoned sections create places to relax, play and entertain without disturbing others in the home. The functionality of the design is a key feature, with the upper floor providing a main living area, private spa retreat and sleeping quarters for the adults. The lower levels have been crafted as separate, apartment-style living areas for younger members of the family to dwell within.

The unassuming size of the home provides a delightful surprise to its occupants, catering for a large number of guests and exploiting the glorious views with a panorama of glazing over a cantilevered edge. The home integrates the indoors with the outdoors seamlessly, helping occupants feel at one with their surroundings.

Along with its astounding composition, the home incorporates principles of passive solar design, which include extensive use of grey-tinted double glazing with Low E film, a well insulated thermal mass of thickened concrete slabs, and black marble tiles for that special touch of opulence. In addition, high levels of insulation envelope the remaining walls and roof, while cross flow ventilation is provided through strategic positioning of windows and doors, resulting in an internal temperature with minimal fluctuation, providing quality comfort all year round.

Fully exploiting the challenging site constraints, the innovative form provides a sense of touching the horizon whilst hovering over the notorious Strait.



#### Clever Design

1546 South Arm Road,  
Sandford TAS 7020  
Australia  
T: +61 3 6248 8283  
[www.cleverdesign.com.au](http://www.cleverdesign.com.au)

Photography by Bob Iddon







# Modern Coastal Abode

Clean lines and solid construction bolster the already overwhelming appeal of this modern coastal home. Despite its modest footprint, the home is unassumingly large in every sense.



Over two glorious levels, open plan living gives a sense of extra space, while innovative planning enabled the inclusion of a roof top terrace, pool and grassy areas for the kids to play in.

Throughout the home, floor to ceiling windows allow it to be flooded with natural light, in addition to providing breathtaking views of the South Pacific Ocean. Upon entering the home, something tells you that this is no ordinary residence. Absolutely magnificent in its presentation, layout and composition, it is a testament to the skills of Reitsma+Associates to create such a profoundly appealing home.

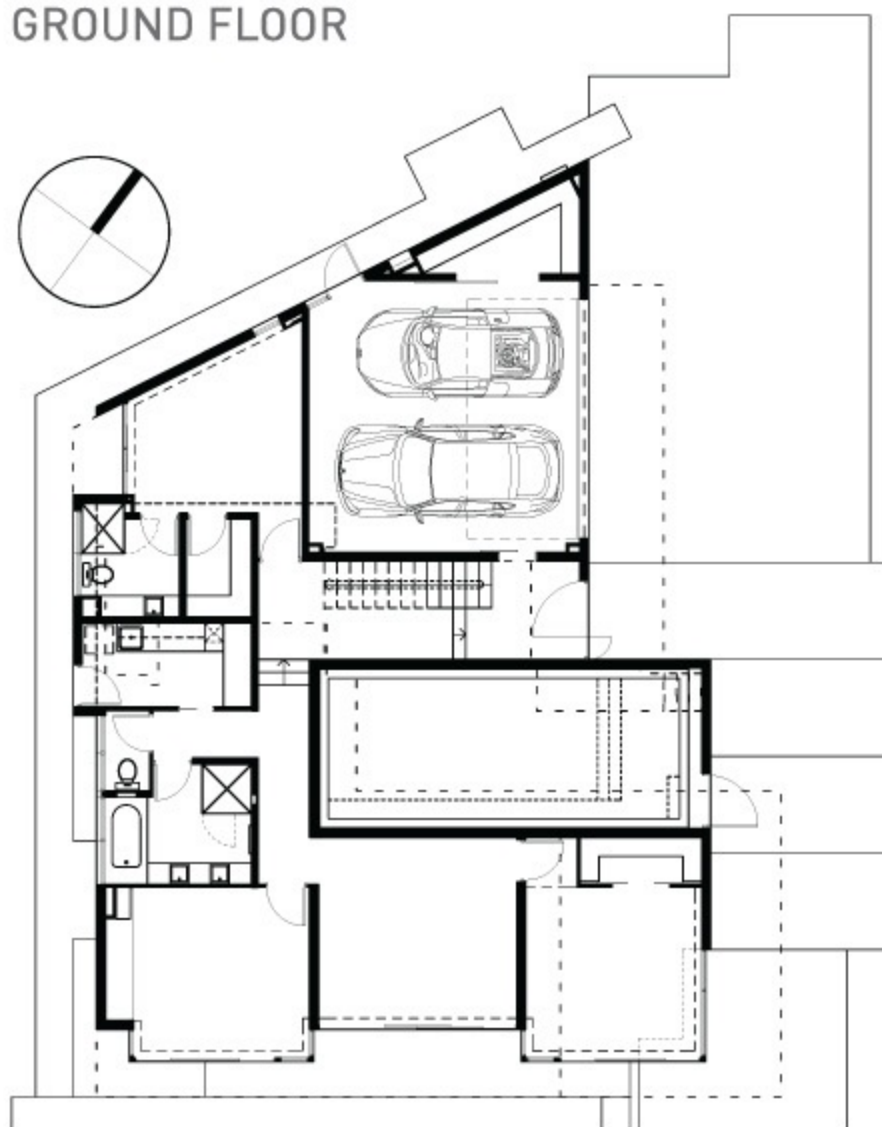
Sydney Blue Gum timber open tread stairs located within a two level volume welcome guests upward, where from the top, the glorious and gleaming elevated pool comes into view. Capturing the essence of the ever-elusive seaside lifestyle, the main living

areas to the east of the first level provide expansive views of the South Pacific Ocean through oversized, frameless floor-to-ceiling glazing. In effect, this adds to the seamless transition from indoor living to outdoor living, creating one large open and usable space for large gatherings and entertaining.

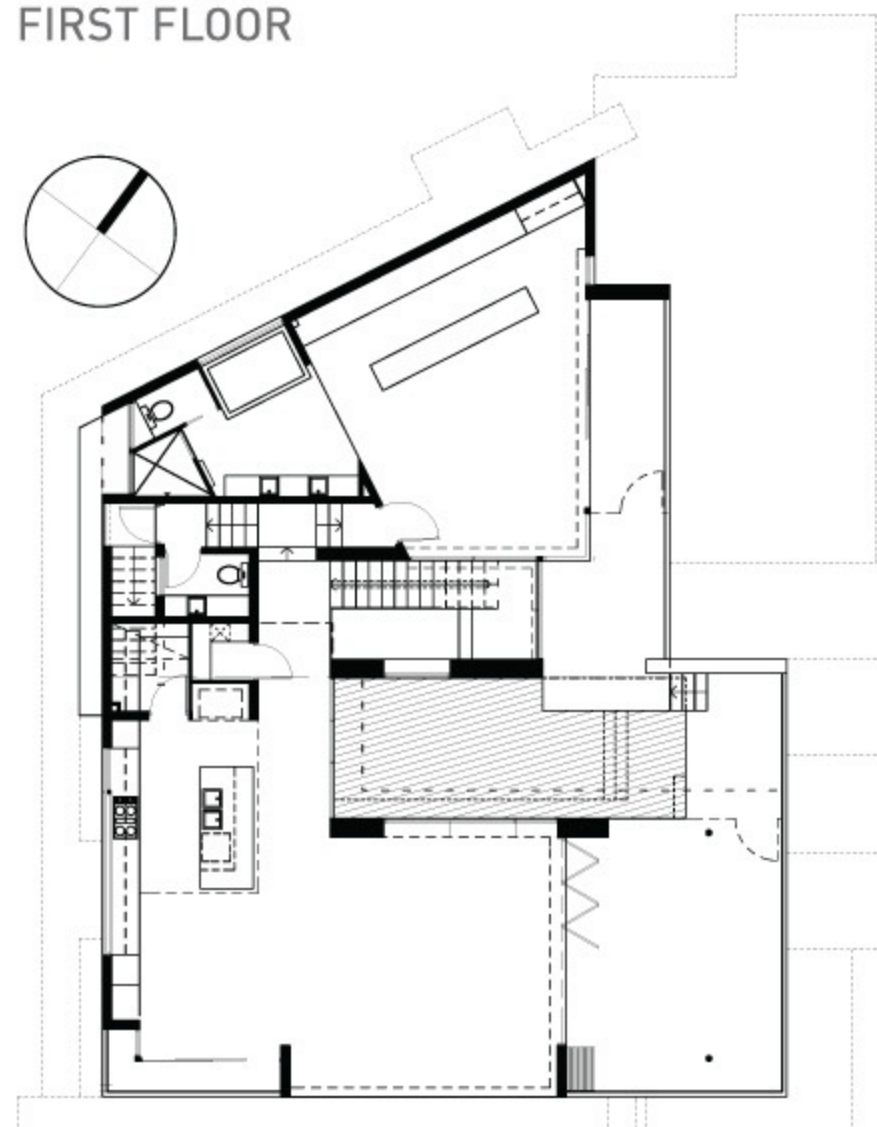
The master suite is also located on the first floor, enjoying the same multi-million dollar views as the living zones due to its 'theatre seating' positioning, cascading upward for maximum exploitation of the view. As if one had not experienced enough of the amazing view, a final treat is to be had by those who make the journey to the rooftop terrace. Accessed by a semi-concealed half flight of stairs, occupants are gradually greeted by an astounding 180° view of inspiration and freedom. The world stops as you are perched on this splendid rooftop, allowing for the ultimate escape. This is arguably the most outstanding aspect of the home, and a glorious place to spend a beautiful summer's day.



GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR

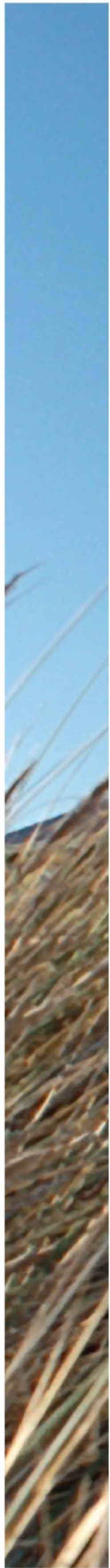


Floor plans remain  
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REITSMA AND ASSOCIATES

13 Ridgewood Road,  
Caloundra QLD 4551  
Australia  
T: +61 7 54916834  
www.reitsma.com.au

Photography by Trevor Reitsma





# Unique Individual

Narrow, but tall, this duplex considers the prevailing character of the neighbourhood in achieving views over the foreshore and sand dunes.



Perfect for a small family or couple, the size of this duplex has no restraint on the lifestyle it offers. Foreshore, geometric, cosy, well thought out spaces, void, light. Connected yet individual.





Unassuming and modest from the front, this contemporary duplex by Neil Fletcher Design oozes confidence and modern design appeal. With limited space in a long and narrow area, height is used to create a greater sense of depth and space, while a fresh, muted colour palette offers assimilation to its suburban coastal environment. In achieving views of the nearby foreshore and sand dunes, the design for this allotment had to rise 7.4 metres from street level. Six metres in width, the home ushers in floods of natural light, while providing ample room for living and relaxing. With a pedestrian pathway to the beach along one side of the property, access to the seaside lifestyle is direct.

Thoughtful design contributes to the location and extended height of the ceilings on both levels. On the ground level of both apartments, a drop down void offers a flood of natural light to its occupants, while at the same time maximising space and eliminating the obviousness of its narrow dimensions. The ceilings on the first floor of the building are also set higher than average, with a unique folded roofline over the west-facing balconies to allow for protection against the sun in the summer months. In addition, the higher ceilings encourage heat to rise to the height of the clerestory windows and allow cooler breezes and fresh air to remain at lower levels for optimum comfort of occupants.

The chosen colours of the rendered cladding and brickwork compliment the character of the neighbourhood and evoke a sense of seaside living. Adding to the natural texture of the building is the splitface blockwork.

The ground floor of the homes feature timber floorboards and matching staircases, while the top level utilises carpet and tiling in each of the rooms. Adding an industrial aspect and a sense of contrast are the semi-commercial aluminium windows and stone bench tops. These create a point of difference in the home, defining its strong geometrical construction and complementing its inclusion of premium quality materials.



Neil Fletcher Design Pty. Ltd.

247-248 Nepean Highway

Edithvale VIC 3196

Australia

T: +61 3 9772 9533

[www.fletcherdesign.com.au](http://www.fletcherdesign.com.au)

Photography by Neil Fletcher Design







# Modern Coastal Abode

Designed by Mark Gratwick of Mark Gratwick Architects and built by Andrew Quayle of Bolder Constructions, this home – clad largely in timber – breathes a breath of fresh air into the modern world of coastal living.



This beautiful home pays homage to its older 'beach shack' cousins from the 80's in using timber as the dominant material of choice for the façade. Living amongst the sand and surf could not be more enjoyable with two glorious and space filled levels with breathtaking views over the water.

Built on the slope of the land with a low street profile, the home takes advantage of top level entry to exploit the glorious views. Even from beyond the large glass entry, visitors can peer through to the ocean. However, the dream only gets better! An expansive living area fills the front of the home, which can be opened out through glass sliding doors to the huge deck overlooking the water. The use of timber outside and stone inside creates a wonderful transition and an even better harmony amongst elements. In addition to the sweeping views on offer, light is not on short supply.

An entertainer's dream, the home includes a similar sized deck downstairs which is connected to a large area of lawn, perfect for kids on a warm day. From here, guests can travel between both decks via an external flight of stairs – again made from beautiful timber to match the rest of the home.

Modern luxuries such as an outdoor shower grace the home, while indoors a flow between rooms is achieved with ease thanks to an asymmetric balance between rooms, hallways and openings. Higher ceilings and a flooding of light give the house extra appeal and an increased sense of space.

Solid, modern design is a new standard in beachside living around Australia and should be embraced in such a way as portrayed here, paying respect to the styling of former decades while allowing the design to progress with ingenuity.



Mark J Gratwick Architects Pty Ltd

148 Aberdeen Street,  
Geelong West VIC 3218 Australia

T: +61 3 5229 3896

[www.markgratwickarchitects.com](http://www.markgratwickarchitects.com)

Photography by Mark Gratwick Architects





# High Design

With an angular roofline, this home designed by Mark Gratwick makes for an interesting addition to the undulating topography of the land. The raised roof allows a greater panoramic view of the vista thanks to its razor edge soaring towards the sky.



As for sustainability, the home features its own water tanks, solar hot water systems, a stone fireplace and even a self-contained sewerage treatment plant. Perfect for entertaining and large gatherings, the home boasts plenty of open space, all with glorious views and no neighbours to bother.





Highly influenced by the geometric form, this home by Mark Gratwick Architects exhibits some of the best views available across to the Southern Ocean and Johanna Beach.

Nestled on over one hundred acres, the position of the home reflects the best choice in viewing position, solar gain and protection from prevailing winds. A series of external cladding materials, topped by the distinctive roof, high ceilings and extensive glazing provide a safe haven from the extreme wind whilst maintaining a direct visual connection to the view outside. The combination of contemporary, rural and beachside elements gives the home a unique and eclectic charm.



In addition to its large glass windows, high-level clerestory glazing allows the ingress of north winter sun, effectively warming the home without the need for heating. The home has also been creatively zoned into pods, unified by the roof forms and utilizing the natural slope of the site through internal steps.

Colours, textures and materials were all chosen to assimilate with the seaside environment, as well as being lightweight. As such, the base structure of the dwelling comprises timber and steel framing, all 'anchored' both visually and structurally to the central stone room-dividing element within. In addition to this it also acts as a 'heat-bank', capturing the winter sun through the glazed entryway. In terms of flooring, beautiful dressed recycled timber has been used throughout. Due to its integral passive orientation, double-glazing and remoteness, the home is sans window coverings.



Mark J Gratwick Architects Pty Ltd

148 Aberdeen Street,  
Geelong West VIC 3218 Australia  
T: +61 3 5229 3896  
[www.markgratwickarchitects.com](http://www.markgratwickarchitects.com)

Photography by Rod Hyatt







# My Island Home

Nestled into the rainforest on The Great Barrier Reef's exclusive Bedarra Island is this luxury holiday escape for an unbelievably lucky couple.



A shack in texture and a tree house in location, the pavilion style building is afforded a great deal more lavishness than is usually associated with those words. The house consists of three pavilions for entry, sleeping and living. The interconnecting sections each enjoy maximum views to the ocean and a neighbouring family of islands, as well as cross flow ventilation through the structure's open sides.

Particularly stunning is the external entry vestibule with a winding stair. This moves down the earth's contours to the entry pavilion which features large Balinese doors. Totem poles at 45 degree rotations act as wall cladding around the entry and are spaced to let air flow freely through. Automatically opening up upon entry are awe inspiring views.

A luxurious bed lies atop a raised platform, allowing morning views across the deck, past the plush day bed and out to the magnificent blue water and swaying palms. Off to one side of the bedroom is the bathroom which projects out like a lean-to on the side of the building. The basins were sourced on the client's travels through Asia and have been placed on a rustic slab of timber. This would have to be one of the best views from a restroom found in Australia.

As the house rises and falls with the contours of the land, it integrates with its environment like no other has done before. The structure's connection to the earth is breathtaking, particularly due to the way in which existing boulders are incorporated into the design. The overall aesthetic of this is one of incredible uniqueness. Creating a natural and seamless bridge between the rainforest behind, the timber deck with projecting rocks and the ocean vistas beyond, the rustic island residence fuses influences from around the world into its own special style.

Recycled timber sleepers form the entry staircase and the entire internal floor. The timber roof lining was sourced from an old woolshed. Chosen for their resilience and sensitivity to the coastal location, these elements have been kept as natural as possible with minimal finishes used to lesson the impact of chemicals and solvents. Smooth and rough timbers together with the emerging stone boulders give the home a natural and distinctive texture.

The hideaway retreat is self sufficient in its energy, waste and water use. Vegetation around the building filters on-site water, stored in two large rainwater tanks beneath the deck. Solar panels on the north face of the roof provide power to the building and solar hot water system.



Accessible only by boat, peace and privacy are not an issue at this secluded property and on its very own beach. An amazing place to slip away and indulge in some well earned relaxation, the Bedarra Island home – designed by Chris Vandyke – epitomises the ultimate tropical-style luxury holiday.

Chris Vandyke Designs

8 Danbullan Street,  
Smithfield, Cairns QLD 4878  
Australia  
T: +61 7 4038 3000  
[www.chrisvandyke.com.au](http://www.chrisvandyke.com.au)

Photography by Peter Lik  
and Chris Vandyke Designs





# Tropical Tranquility

Marvel at the unsurpassed beauty of this remarkable home by Chris Vandyke Designs. In a collaborative project a piece of paradise has been created, aptly in tropical far north Queensland.



Tranquillity at its best, this home is presented as an exclusive island retreat rather than a home, with ocean views from every room and a gorgeous infinity edge pool with swim-up bar under the central gazebo. With a Balinese/Asian theme, the home includes many luxuries including a state of the art media theatre with fibre optic star-effect ceiling, a games room with a view, water features and iconic Asian art which completes the picture.

Prior to building the home, many environmental factors were taken into consideration including orientation to respond to the natural make-up of the land and utilise its energy without compromising the most important element – the view! From the front, a meandering path leads guests to the entry and over a bridge where water below gives a sense of transition from the outside world into a new place. Framed by glass on either side, the entry pavilion appears virtually transparent, with views through to the water features, pool and reef beyond.

The house consists of five pavilions interconnected by walkways, levels, decks and water. The main living pavilion is perched on top of the hill projecting out towards the ocean, and features an open plan kitchen, dining, lounge, private study and powder room. The commercial style kitchen features an island bench where friends and family can gather for breakfast, a central island bench for food preparation and two serveries – one to the veranda and one to the protected courtyard eating area at the rear. This veranda has ocean and island views and looks directly over the pool. To the left of the living pavilion, a covered walkway leads to the ultra private master bedroom suite. Featuring an island wall, walk in robe and private courtyard bathroom with views to the rainforest, occupants also have a private deck with ocean views and a daybed.

Down a flight of stairs to the private home theatre, guests can enjoy quality movies when the weather turns glum. Outside, a long axial walkway with views to the rainforest provides access to three guest rooms, a laundry and powder room. Each room features a private courtyard bathroom with outdoor shower.

Also on the lower level is the games room which opens up onto the entertaining and sunbathing deck which projects out towards the ocean beyond before wrapping around the pool. The central hub for entertaining is the sunken pool bar and infinity edge pool which mirrors the line of the horizon beyond. Adjacent to the pool is a large rectangular spa which doubles as an exquisite day bed when not in use.

The main living areas of the home allow the guests to enjoy raked ceilings of exposed hardwood rafters with painted panels between. The sea views are a dominant element of each of the rooms, while the natural textured stone links ensuites to external private gardens.

Interior and exterior colours are complementary, chosen from a natural palette, while the main living pavilion and guest bedrooms are of rendered masonry construction. Contrasting this is the lightweight master bedroom and games room which projects toward the ocean and feature Thai style lightweight cladding. The render continues from the exterior right into the house, bringing the outdoors in.



This sumptuous home affords many luxuries only seen in the world's top tropical island resorts. Without being extravagant, it offers the ultimate in coastal living – a true beauty!

Chris Vandyke Designs

8 Danbullan Street,  
Smithfield, Cairns QLD 4878  
Australia

T: +61 7 4038 3000

[www.chrisvandyke.com.au](http://www.chrisvandyke.com.au)

Project Team:

Chris Vandyke  
Sophie Walter-Barrett  
Sean Reason  
Colin Richardson

Photography by  
[www.bigblueoffice.com.au](http://www.bigblueoffice.com.au)  
and Chris Vandyke Designs







# Luxury Tropical

Inspired by luxury resorts visited on their travels, the clients wanted a family home with Asian influences, oriented to maximise comfortable natural living within an oasis of peace and tranquility.



Strung across lush tropical gardens and cool ponds with water lilies, raised timber walkways connect the pavilions that comprise this enviable tropical paradise in Port Douglas. This style of structure addresses the tropical climate with large openings allowing prevailing summer sea breezes to cool the home.

The traditional Asian roof has been split to maximise the capture of prevailing winds. Large eaves and raised roofs provide shade to the masonry block walls of the ground floor. High ceilings help in the dissipation of hot air and with the use of louvre windows and clever orientation, the rooms are kept cool and comfortable. The resultant minimal use of air-conditioning is the most sustainable aspect of the home.

From the entry pavilion, an uninterrupted view is enjoyed through the structure and over the pool to the rainforest beyond. The structure assumes the lightest of forms with the use of louvres, bi-fold doors and glass partitions providing a visual connection between all parts of the property.

Flooded with natural light, the ambience of the internal environment is bright and airy. Set amongst lush vegetation and calming waters, the cool contemporary interiors enhance the natural materials of timber and marble. A palette of fresh, brilliant colours was used together with reflective marble floors and Essa stone bench tops and vanities

to help the maximisation of daylight and clarity throughout. While the colour scheme is reminiscent of traditional sea side homes, the hardwood details enhance the Asian aesthetic.

Powder coated aluminium doors and windows, framed in hardwood together with engineered structural hardwood timber columns and beams allow for a resilient palette of materials that cope well with the coastal weather conditions.

Roof top gardens separate the pavilions and provide covered access to all areas. This element creates a tropical oasis on an upper and unexpected level. In time, plants will cascade over the edges providing a complete tropical setting. The roof garden between the two upper bedrooms provides a privacy screen to separate each of their ensuite bathrooms.

All outdoor uses have been catered for with dining and living areas forming spectacular places to enjoy the temperate climate and beautiful surrounds. Perhaps the most luxurious place is the Teppanyaki bar located just off the kitchen within the central, lushly planted and watered gardens. A creative use of lighting extends the pleasure of living with the design well into the night.



Chris Vandyke Designs

8 Danbullan Street,  
Smithfield, Cairns QLD 4878  
Australia  
T: +61 7 4038 3000  
[www.chrisvandyke.com.au](http://www.chrisvandyke.com.au)

Project Team:  
Chris Vandyke  
Debora Barton  
Justin Dykes

Photography by Cambell Noonan  
of Open2View and Chris Vandyke Designs





# Surf's Up

Home to amazing surf beaches, delightful wineries and quaint seaside towns, Victoria's eastern coast is a desirable holiday destination that one lucky family can enjoy year round in this stylishly designed home.



The interior and exterior of this Mornington Peninsula home work together in creating a warm, relaxed and open beach house filled with sun, light and sea breezes.





The generous property accommodates not only a large open plan living area but a master suite and four other bedrooms, a bathroom and WC, laundry, rumpus room, workshop and a sizeable, covered outside area for boats and bikes.

The exemplary workmanship of local builder Stuart Hickey is evident in the high sloping Hoop Pine lined ceiling and the deep bulkhead to the west of the living area. Extensive joinery provides ample space for books and nick-knacks to be displayed. To accentuate the linear design of the house, Blackbutt flooring runs the length of the rooms. Against the rather neutral palette of the space, a large wasabi door stands strong at one end.



With two chefs in the family, the kitchen design was important. Mainly white with Caesar Stone bench top and stainless steel cooking area, the room is framed to delineate it from the large living space in which it sits.

The exterior of the home is graced with large decks to the east and west with a long narrow deck between them. Large sliding doors open out to the spaces and ensure one is drawn outside to enjoy the tranquil views out to farmland and the gorgeous Western Port Bay.

Often referred to as the 'butterfly house', the structure's most imposing feature is its two skillion roofs that meet in a V in the middle. Spotted Gum and painted madix cladding give the home a natural skin which sits effortlessly amongst the grand gum trees that surrounded it. Windows, placed mostly to the east and west in avoidance of overlooking issues, are all marine grade anodised aluminium in response to the home's coastal location.



Apple Architects Pty Ltd

683 Point Nepean Road,  
McCrae VIC 3938

Australia

T: +61 3 5982 1266

[www.applearchitects.com.au](http://www.applearchitects.com.au)

Photography by Apple Architects







# Sea View

Home to Apple Architecture's principle designer Colin Mitchell, this outstanding and low maintenance house enjoys wide vistas of the Port Phillip Bay heads and Melbourne's city lights.



Encompassing two bedrooms, bathroom, laundry, outdoor decks and a barbecue court in the main house, the property also has a separate studio building with kitchenette and bathroom. The studio – sharing the home's million dollar views – is the ultimate place for the talented architect to feel inspired.

The desire for minimal disturbance of the land saw the structure raised up from the very steep slope on which it sits so gently. The simple steel frame that supports the house is painted black, reflecting the wattle tree trunks in the same way grey accents compliment the gums and green accents simulate the new growth of the native trees.

After ascending the many steps to reach the house, the structure that seemed imposing from below given its projecting mass suddenly becomes a light, floating structure that soars in the trees and reaches out towards the breathtaking views. Ironbark decks provide a relaxing haven to enjoy these tranquil surrounds with glass balustrades ensuring an uninterrupted outlook right through from the living area.

Internally the home contains polished, grey concrete floors, white walls and a black laminate and stainless steel kitchen. All furniture is black and chrome with the exception of two white bar stools. Splashes of colour are minimal but striking. Bright orange Perspex doors to the bathroom match an orange, mobile joinery unit in the living room entertainment nook. Other coloured touches are in a floor rug that warms the living area and a triple panel art work that features above the dining table, created by the architect's son, Marcus Mitchell.



Walls are mainly glass, which given the isolation of the site means there is no need for window coverings. This affords the home a continual feeling of floating above the trees.

Apple Architects Pty Ltd

683 Point Nepean Road,  
McCrae VIC 3938  
Australia

T: +61 3 5982 1266

[www.applearchitects.com.au](http://www.applearchitects.com.au)

Photography by Apple Architects





# Islander Dream

Explicit attention to detail is evident throughout the renovation, with the character reminiscent of a Fijian resort.



Entry via a timber boardwalk extends over a creek-like pond and past lush green lawns where a daybed pavilion makes for a relaxing retreat. Inside, raised ceilings with bamboo ply woven inlays, Raffles-style fans and soft lighting express a holiday atmosphere.

A sweeping staircase leads from the entry to the split upper level, housing a home cinema and master suite. The master bedroom is spacious with a large picture window and built-in bench seat. Hand carved stone basins, pebble and marble make the ensuite a luxurious sanctuary with a spectacular view of the beach.

To capture the views of the ocean at ground level, the home was extended out over the existing swimming pool, topping it with a slab and transforming it into a water tank. A bright new kitchen is at the centre of the open plan dining and lounge area that are built over this tank.

Views from the rear terrace are framed by geometric openings. A roof is provided by the new floating balcony above. Existing external finishes were updated to light coloured pebble and marble in keeping with the house's new tropical theme.

A massive self-contained guest suite enjoys walk-in robes and an ensuite featuring a marble bath chiselled from a single rock, which overlooks a secluded garden through a picture window.

Spotlights illuminate lush palm trees throughout the property, accentuating that tropical resort feeling right into the evening. This is most spectacular around the gorgeous, free-flowing pool that curves into the terrace around a spa accessed by stepping stones. Water features give the pool movement and tranquil acoustics. Together with the pond that extends from the gate to the front door, the entire effect is one of a water course running under the house.



Chris Clout Design

12 Weyba Street,  
Sunshine Beach QLD 4567  
Australia  
T: +61 7 5474 8107  
[www.chriscloutdesign.com.au](http://www.chriscloutdesign.com.au)

Photography by Patrick Oberem

As with all of Chris Clout's designs, this amazing home affords its owners a relaxing retreat and enviable holiday luxury in every aspect.







# Japanese Inspired

One could not expect anything less than pure excellence in a Chris Clout design. Cleaning up at the Building Design Association Awards, The Japan House at Queensland's Castaways Beach is a testament to Chris' unmatched creativity.



From the street, the house presents itself as a collection of Asian inspired pavilions behind a front fence composed of round slat panels and stacked stone. The house has elevated Colorbond roof lines and custom made gutters shaped to capture large down pours and providing a flat edge flare to the Japanese-style roof. The driveway features embedded pebble circles to connect it to the fence line, with subtle landscape lighting adding ambience at night. Beyond the front gate, the interplay of tiered ponds, waterfall and pool, create a magical entrance to this tranquil Japanese-inspired home.

Though the home is close to the beach and enjoys the resultant breezes and surf sounds, it does not have sea views. Hence, a priority for Chris was to create a waterside atmosphere as the central feature for the home. This resulted in a courtyard style design with a suspended swimming pool at the centre. The need to move through this outdoor area to get from one section to another is no problem given the pleasant weather and affords the owners a holiday feeling at home.

Shielding the pool and the rest of the house from the street is an entertainment pavilion that doubles as a guest bedroom. Shoji sliding doors open it to the pool and the front garden allowing breezes to flow right through.

The main living pavilion of the house is dominated by a richly textured ply-panel ceiling with alternating timber battens. This, coupled with the polished timber floors, gives the whole area a richness and warmth and makes the home welcoming. A floating feature wall showcasing timber panels squared off in aluminium batons houses the television and entertainment centre.

With both sides of the living area opening up to the outdoors, this main pavilion is the hub of the home. The kitchen, with its sculptured island bench, affords uninterrupted connectivity to the rear entertaining deck – providing access to the sunny rear lawn – and poolside terrace opposite.

Wedged between the front gate and house, overlooking the pool, is a study complete with separate entrance so it works well as a home office. The main bedroom is also on this entry and upper level, with the remaining two bedrooms, a cinema and family room on the lower level.



Large sliding glass doors and louvers open this house to embrace the natural elements that make beach-side living in Australia the envy of the world. With its Shoji screens, high-gloss timber floors, marble bathrooms and Indonesian plywood ceilings, the resultant house combines contemporary Queensland living with modern interpretation of Japanese design.

Chris Clout Design

12 Weyba Street,  
Sunshine Beach QLD 4567  
Australia

T: +61 7 5474 8107  
[www.chriscloutdesign.com.au](http://www.chriscloutdesign.com.au)

Photography by Patrick Oberem





# Circular View

Given free reign over the design and appearance of the home, Chris Clout created yet another stunning masterpiece showcasing his ingenuity.



In the shape of a nautilus shell, this design is a stunning example of how to deal with expansive views, excellent solar orientation and a client willing to show a bit of faith. A truly spectacular example of Queensland coastal design.

Overlooking the Pacific Ocean, this sloping site provides breathtaking views and ideal orientation. When standing on the site during the design stage with plan in hand, Chris drew an arc denoting the line of the best views. This arc then became the basis for the curved façade of the design which frames the 180 degree views of the coastline to maximum effect.

From the entry, a sweeping marble staircase leads to the upper living level. The lower level boasts two bedrooms, bathroom, study and games room with cool marble. Bounded by curved bi-fold doors, the games room opens out to a terrace with wet-edge pool and views of the ocean. The main bathroom looks out onto a private almost, secret garden framed with an enormous picture window.

On the upper level, the stunning panorama of coastline is revealed through a single curve of bi-fold doors spanning the length of the house. This main level contains the open plan living, kitchen and dining areas along with a media room (that can also serve as a fourth bedroom with ensuite) a powder room and the master bedroom with a private terrace.

The ensuite to the master bedroom is open but tucked behind the bedhead wall, with a massive bathtub against the wall meeting the brief of views from every room. A stunning addition to the master suite is a retractable roof which slides away at the push of a button, framing the Southern Cross at night and blue skies on a fine coastal day.



Chris Clout Design

12 Weyba Street,  
Sunshine Beach QLD 4567  
Australia

T: +61 7 5474 8107

[www.chriscloutdesign.com.au](http://www.chriscloutdesign.com.au)

Photography by Patrick Oberem







# Coastal Breeze

This modern and stylish two-storey residence is home to some lucky inhabitants, who can enjoy fresh sea breezes through their open, airy home. It is hard to believe that on its modest site, so much could be accommodated.



The front of the home has a distinct sea-side feel with white walls, stone features and palm trees. After entering into a light-filled, voided entry way featuring beach theme elements such as an old long board, one is immediately struck by the view out to a small garden that protrudes into the space. Low profile lighting leads visitors towards an open plan living, kitchen and dining area. To get here one passes a music room featuring the most beautiful baby grand piano.

The kitchen is enormous with white stone bench tops and tiled splashback furnishing a contemporary and practical space. The seaside feel infiltrates the adjoining living area – including a large sandy coloured couch and blue glass top entertainment unit – that opens up through bi-folds to a patio and pool. The patio, with its timber setting, is divided seamlessly from the pool with glass balustrades that make this area feel larger than it really is.

Upstairs, a multifunction room enjoys a balcony to the street and sits above artistically utilised recycled piers from Brisbane's wharfs. The master bedroom with large ensuite and private balcony over the pool is a relaxing haven. Adjacent to this area is a void that gives height and light to the living areas downstairs.

Located just 300m from Mermaid Beach on the always sunny Gold Coast, this home shows what quality and style can be achieved on a small narrow site and modest budget.



This beach house has good breezes from the east and to the west, a distant view to the mountains.

Dignum Design

93b Hill Avenue,  
Burleigh Heads QLD 4220  
T: +61 7 5520 6308  
[www.dignumdesign.com.au](http://www.dignumdesign.com.au)

Photography provided by Dignum Design

# Kirra Beach

A tired 60's single story brick and tile house in Gold Coast's Kirra Beach was converted into a modern beach style residence by Dan Dignum of Dignum Design.

The addition of a large living area and kitchen, usable outdoor living areas and generous bedrooms formed a cute and funky building with character and style that now emphasises light and breezes.

The entire existing single level of the home was transformed to function better for its owners. Entry, bedrooms and a children's play area now occupy the ground level, with a new first floor added and entirely dedicated to living areas and decks to both the front and the rear. The front deck was set at an angle to capture northerly breezes and glimpses of the ocean and the Surfers Paradise skyline.

Large fixed glass and louvred windows provide an outlook to a park to the south, as well as capture southerly breezes. High windows to the north allow light and winter sun to infiltrate the home whilst maintaining privacy from neighbouring units. Timber floors and cabinetry feature against white walls and ceilings.

The exterior of the building comprises a mixture of rendered brickwork, flat FRC sheeting with vertical battens, corrugated Zinalume cladding and stained timber screens.





The interesting lines of the structure and mixture of materials, textures and colours make the home a unique interpretation of the casual beach style.

Dignum Design

93b Hill Avenue,  
Burleigh Heads QLD 4220  
T: +61 7 5520 6308  
[www.dignumdesign.com.au](http://www.dignumdesign.com.au)

Photography by Dan Dignum

# Palm Beach

Across sweeping water frontage along Palm Beach's gorgeous canals lies a generous, two storey beach style home that encompasses all the luxuries one would expect from such a privileged site.

The front entry bridge over a pond reflects the expanse of water on the northern side of the home. External materials are mostly white and light weight with recycled post and stone features materialising the beach side location of the home. Verandas and large overhangs protect the interior from the sun and minimise the need for cooling. Heat is reflected off a Zinalume roof, and louvred windows allow maximum air flow.

A wet edge pool follows the building and boundary lines providing water on water views from the living areas that all face out to the north and open onto wide patio/verandahs. The main living area has a two storey voided ceiling with high level windows giving a very open and expansive atmosphere. The kitchen opens out to the verandah with a bi-fold window servery adjacent to a bar with lift up windows.

The southern side of the home includes the bedrooms and an external children's play area and service yard. Filled block walls and double glazed windows isolate the media/gym areas from the remainder of the home and the neighbours.

The first floor is dedicated to the parents with the master bedroom and balcony. A breezeway with views to both sides leads across to a large ensuite and walk-in robe. Upstairs also houses the study where the clients can work at night without interruption while being able to view the living area below through a viewing window.





According to the client, Dan Dignum of Dignum Design presented a light and breezy home that makes for very comfortable living.

#### Dignum Design

93b Hill Avenue,  
Burleigh Heads QLD 4220  
T: +61 7 5520 6308  
[www.dignumdesign.com.au](http://www.dignumdesign.com.au)

Photography provided by Dignum Design







# Family Oasis

The property's waterfront location was originally the main attraction on purchase. Upon designing, the family quickly realised the potential of the site to create an idyllic, relaxed environment in which a young family could grow.



The home's design was to compliment that picturesque position and create a family oasis, with views and the outdoor lifestyle being the main focus. A flowing, open retreat with separate guest and children's areas has been achieved with outdoor areas that can be utilized in any weather or seasonal conditions.

The warmth of timber floors is felt throughout the home with special touches such as a stacked-rock feature wall over the spa in the main bedroom. The decor is accentuated by metallic feature walls throughout, which creates a modern but warm and lived-in retreat.

A huge, sparkling-white chef's quality kitchen is located in the middle of the home looking straight out over the beautiful Soldiers Point to Lemon Tree Passage. The five-metre Caesarstone island bench is the kitchen's focal point and serves as a meeting point in the open plan living style of the home.

With five bedrooms, three full bathrooms as well as a powder room and outdoor shower, the home is perfectly designed as a large family retreat which can be adapted to accommodate extended family at holiday times. The final outcome was to be a tangible showcase of Sorensen Designs' professionalism and the local trades who worked on the home's creation with only the best quality fixtures and fittings having been used.

Outside, landscaping and timber decks provide plenty of room for open-air eating overlooking the waterways. This space adds the finishing touch to a diverse home, ideally designed to respond to the lives of its inhabitants. A north-east courtyard as well as the main outdoor entertaining area are made complete by the inclusion of a fully functional outdoor kitchen. A relaxing day bed area right on the waterfront finishes off the home beautifully.



The house, together with the location provides an idyllic waterfront lifestyle, with boating, fishing and all outdoor activities close at hand, experienced in a beautiful, homely environment.

Sorensen Design

Suite 5, 10 Yacaaba Street,  
Nelson Bay NSW 2315  
Australia

T: +61 2 4984 9955

[www.sorensendesign.com.au](http://www.sorensendesign.com.au)

Photography by Ray Alley





# Beachside Wonder

Situated a short drive from Perth – on Western Australia’s Sunset Coast – is Lancelin 101, a palatial family home by Ivan Pavlovic and Associates, resting on 1100m<sup>2</sup> of exclusive beachfront overlooking the Indian Ocean.



The impressive structure, designed by Kelly Robson of Ivan Pavlovic and Associates is the company's inaugural absolute beachfront venture in building and design. Together with built-in interiors also designed by IPA, (soft furnishings by client), this 5 million dollar property sets an unrivalled standard in absolute beachfront living. Constructed over 16 months, Lancelin 101 boasts six bedrooms, six bathrooms, two lounge areas, two decked entertaining areas, a stunning kitchen, media room and heated beachfront pool... and that's just the beginning.

The front entrance is truly a path of discovery. The square, port-holed entry portico is completely disguised from the street but once inside, this hidden entrance provides a stunning vista right through to the open, skeleton-like staircase to the beach view beyond. Natural sun filters through a trio of oversized skylights into the double volume foyer offering a remarkable feeling of light and space.

The large dining area and sunken lounge enjoy uninterrupted views of the ocean through a frameless picture window, the same view enjoyed from every living space within the home. A foodie's paradise is to be found in the enormous kitchen with Caesarstone bench tops, scullery and an indoor-cum-outdoor batu timber decked barbecue area,

perfect for entertaining in any weather. The use of full height bi-fold doors to the ground floor living areas keeps guests connected to the beachfront and the setting western sun, while offering protection from the windy elements.

A second batu timber entertainment area becomes an extension of the home's interior space, as bi-fold doors retract to transform it into the pool space. The decking overhangs the waterline of the in-ground concrete heated pool, creating the illusion that it is floating over the water. With various outdoor opening options and an all-weather heated pool, this luxurious holiday house is ready to be enjoyed all year round.

Twelve people can sleep soundly in six double-sized bedrooms, all with their own generous ensuite. Three master bedrooms with large private balconies boast spectacular ocean views as far as the eye can see. The use of frameless glass panels for balcony and deck railings assist in keeping these view unobstructed.

This unique home creates a new benchmark in excellence, celebrating the skills of the innovative design and construction team at Ivan Pavlovic and Associates.



This Impressive abode showcases the design proficiency of the Ivan Pavlovic team and sets new benchmarks in luxury home design.

Ivan Pavlovic and Associates

PO Box 21,  
Darlington WA 6070  
Australia

T: +61 8 9299 6747  
[www.ivanpavlovic.com](http://www.ivanpavlovic.com)

Builder: CME Construction

Structural Engineer :

Chas Cornforth

Photography by Robert Johnson  
Photography







# Pearly Wonder

Commissioned by a professional Sydney couple, this house is a place to enjoy weekends and holidays at Pearl Beach, north of Sydney.



Situated within metres of the sand, a short walk from the rocky headland and in close proximity to the steep escarpment of Mount Ettalong, the house relates to its unique natural context. The house is orientated to face the ocean while simultaneously taking in the stunning escarpment of the adjacent mountain range to the north.

Full glazing encloses the eastern, rear façade of the house to provide unimpeded views of the ocean whilst the west or street façade is blank to provide security and anonymity from the street.

The two level house is supported by a light weight steel frame and is elevated above the sandy landscape to allow stormwater and king tides rising from the ocean to surge underneath the house without disturbing it.

This gentle elevation allows the house to be read as a pavilion in the landscape, sitting above and enjoying excellent surveillance of its surroundings.

The plan is composed of a series of steel 'pods' arranged around a central courtyard, which provides protection from harsh winds and excessive sun. Sliding doors provide access into the courtyard from all sides so that living areas can be re-configured to meet the requirements of the day or season and the needs of the users in much the same way as a traditional Japanese house.

On the ground floor, a louvred glass entry leads visitors through a series of courtyards and finally to an open plan living space, which reveals the stunning view of the Pacific Ocean horizon. This view is gradually revealed as one moves through the house and first experiences a series of more intimate spaces. On the upper level, a private retreat is provided by a master bedroom, ensuite, study and roof top courtyard.



The roof-scape consists of a series of flat and sloping roofs with generous eaves and louvred overhangs designed to provide maximum solar penetration in winter while excluding the summer sun. Likewise the placement of windows and sliding doors encourage stack cooling whereby hot air at high level is exhausted with the cool air sucked in at low level.

Lippmann Partnership

570 Crown Street,  
Surry Hills, Sydney NSW 2010  
Australia  
T +61 2 9318 0844  
[www.lippmann.com.au](http://www.lippmann.com.au)

Photography provided by Lippmann  
Partnership





# Arresting House

This ultra modern home has been architecturally designed to maximize northern light and views over the ocean.



An elegant roof motif was developed to herald the corner form of the house. This bold aesthetic expression in the form of inverted eaves is also echoed over the master ensuite. Warm yellow light illuminates the eaves from beneath, which both sets the home apart from its neighbours and creates a cosy and inviting aesthetic.

Entry and approach to the house is across the swimming pool which incorporates a water feature, and a spa at one end opposed by a playful feature wall at the other. Delicious timber decking comes together with mature Blackboys to perpetuate the beach atmosphere. Frameless glass pool fencing ensures a view out to the blue waters from the ground floor living spaces and outdoor areas.

Upstairs, an internal highlight window forms a light well artery. As well as providing architectural interest, this allows for northern light to penetrate into the deeper parts of the house. Beneath these high placed windows is the kitchen, dining area and a boldly decorated lounge which flow out to a terrace with glass balustrade for maximum enjoyment of the gorgeous views out to the beach. From here one can access the swimming pool directly via an external staircase. A smooth white fence wraps around the corner site and provides privacy to the pool and downstairs living areas.

The generous upstairs living areas enjoy a flood of natural light, which can be controlled via blinds. Bedrooms and bathroom are equally large and light filled, making sure the sunshine can be enjoyed from first thing in the morning.

A striking and bold structure incorporating spaces for every living and entertaining situation, this beach house, designed by Achitype Design Studio and built by Humphrey Builders, is both an artistic addition to the streetscape and the ultimate escape for all who visit.



This ultra modern home has been architecturally designed to maximise northern light and views over the ocean. An elegant roof motif was developed to herald the corner form of the house.

Humphrey Builders

52 Florence Street,  
Cottesloe WA 6011  
Australia

T: +61 8 9284 5444

[www.humphreybuilders.com](http://www.humphreybuilders.com)

Photography by Ron Tan

# Black Box

This project articulates the idea of a modernist approach to the peninsula's traditional concept of a beachside dwelling.









A location's characteristics and history are part of the emotive connections that form a house's sense of place and context. The impressive appearance of this beach house is an imposing statement amongst the large scale brick and tile residences in the surrounding area.

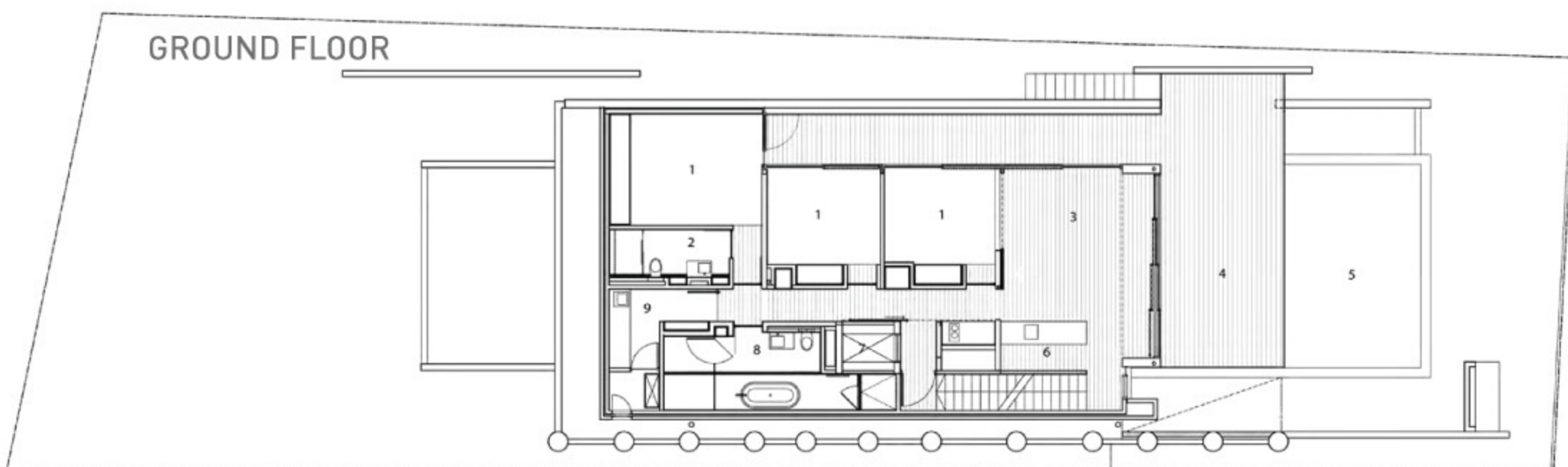
From the street, the house presents itself as a black box with 'blinkers' on either side to accommodate entry and stairs. The box provides the living space, while the protective sweep of the enveloping timber arms provides light, air circulation, ventilation and view corridors to the beach from the road, maintaining public amenity.

Upon approach to the dwelling, one is immediately drawn to the feature concrete blade wall. It defines circulation space, leads to the water views and gathers light to reflect into the house. The reflections from the hand polished and sealed wall and ceilings provide an ever changing play of light, drawing the sea and clouds onto the surfaces of the internal spaces. The concrete blade adapts to the fall of the site. It begins as a single storey height and increases to a full three storey height permitting light to penetrate all levels.

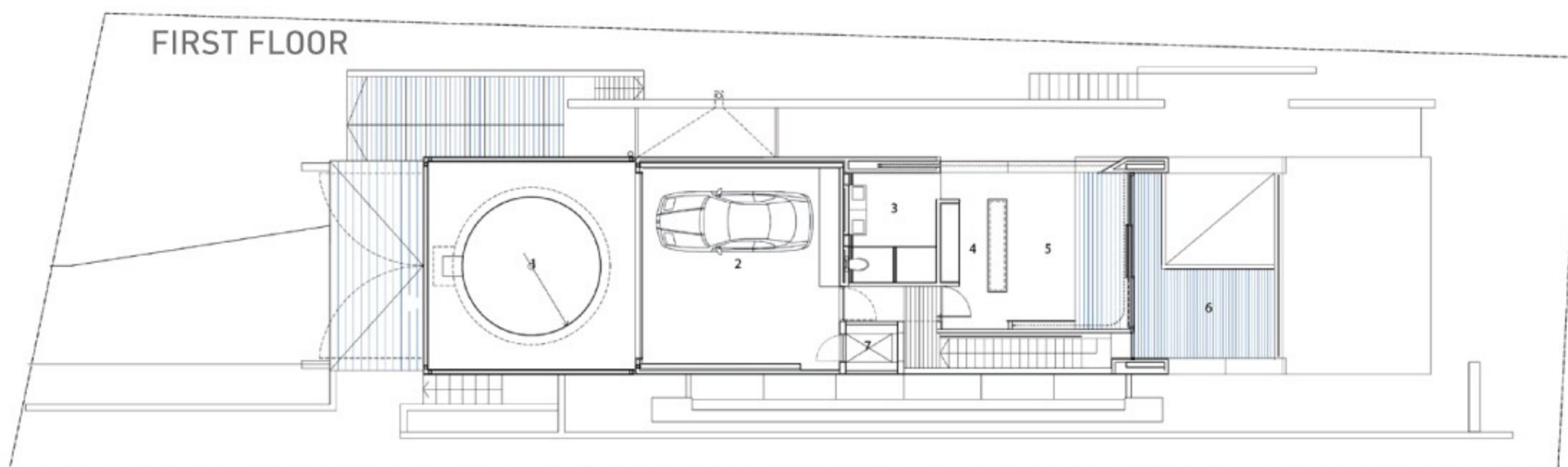
Solar gain was allowed by creating voids between the outer enveloping walls and the inner box, which forms the central core of the building. Light can penetrate from the north through the open void on one side, and from the west through the double-layered white glass roof to the opposite side.

The entry level floor comprises living, dining and kitchen areas. The southern corridor provides cross flow ventilation, stair connections, and calming natural light from above. The terrace of the main bedroom, which is on the top floor, also has a void to allow light to penetrate to the deck below.

Although the building rises three storeys, the dramatic cantilever of the top two floors allows the mass of the building to appear to hover above the ground. This in turn provides shade for the pool and entertaining area on the ground floor.



- 1 Bedroom
- 2 Ensuite
- 3 Living
- 4 Deck
- 5 Pool
- 6 Kitchenette
- 7 Lift
- 8 Bathroom
- 9 Laundry



- 1 Turntable
- 2 Garage
- 3 Ensuite
- 4 Robe
- 5 Main Bed
- 6 Balcony
- 7 Lift

Floor plans remain  
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PopovBass Architects

2 Glen Street,  
Milsons Point NSW 2061  
Australia  
T: +61 2 9955 5604  
[www.popovbass.com.au](http://www.popovbass.com.au)

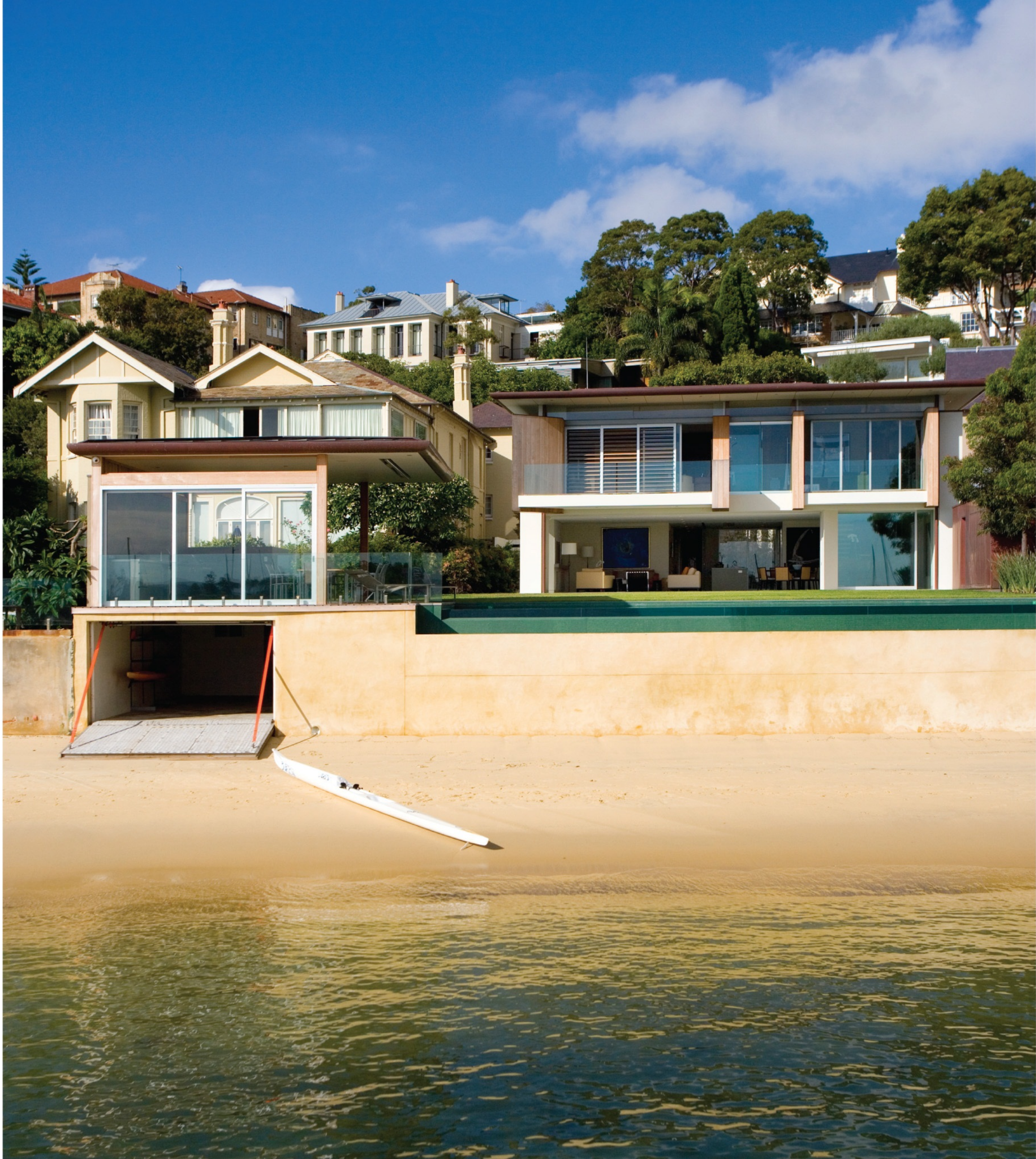
Photography by Kraig Carlstrom





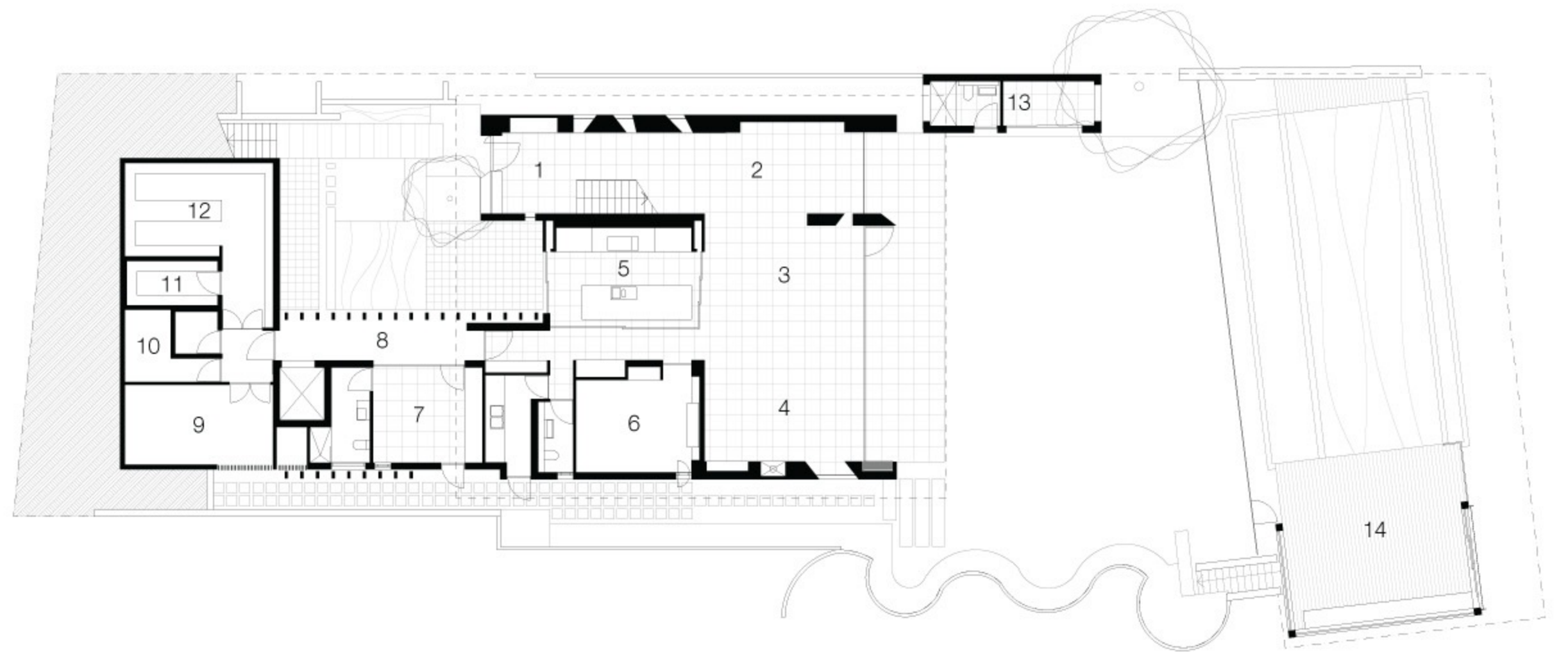
# Crown Jewel

With scrupulous attention to detail, this home presents itself as the best in contemporary beach front accommodation, while still paying homage to its maritime roots.



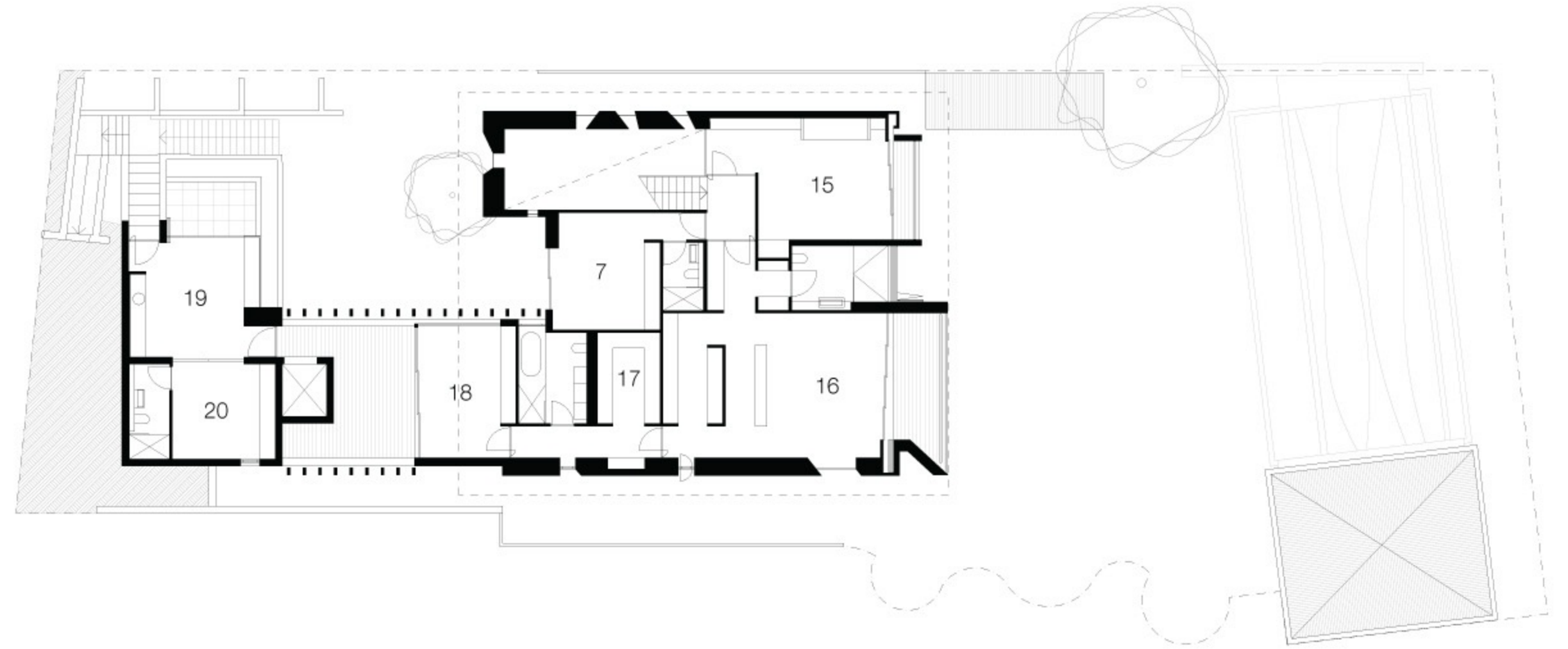
## GROUND FLOOR

- 1 Entry
- 2 Foyer
- 3 Dining
- 4 Living
- 5 Kitchen
- 6 Media
- 7 Bedroom
- 8 Colonnade
- 9 Plant
- 10 Bin Room
- 11 Cellar
- 12 Store
- 13 Gym
- 14 Pavilion



## FIRST FLOOR

- 7 Bedroom
- 15 Piano
- 16 Master Bedroom
- 17 Walk In Robe
- 18 Study
- 19 Guest Accommodation
- 20 Guest Bedroom



Floor plans remain  
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With pristine views and direct access to Sydney Harbour, this meticulously planned home is the biggest jewel on the most expensive crown. Showcasing a maritime theme, the home comprises of a series of pavilions and areas arranged as a series of clear geometric forms, positioned in a descending formation from the front of the lot right through to the harbour. They include an entry pavilion, the main house, boat pavilion, pool and finally, a gorgeous manicured lawn.

From the street to the foreshore, a nine metre drop provided PopovBass Architects with an opportunity to treat the roof as a fifth façade of the home. With raking copper planes, the roof is clearly visible from the street and projects over the building in spectacular form. From below, the thin profile of the roof appears to be floating over the home, as if delicately balanced on the perimeter highlighting glaze.

From the street, a series of stairs lead guests down to the entry of the home, where a courtyard with a tatami-mat inspired pond with bronze detailing is located at the entrance to the house. This sets the calming tone of the home and makes a statement to guests upon entry. In addition, it provides for the perfect outdoor retreat to the main house when prevailing northeast breezes from the harbour become too strong.

Entry to the home is exceptional, with an impressive double-height foyer. Even more impressive is the imposing yet graciously appointed seven metre high slot windows. In addition to their pleasing aesthetics, they allow dappled light to filter across the space. Stepping further within, an expansive, column free living area is revealed. This casual but elegant open plan living space serves as a foreground to the panoramic view of the harbour beyond. Outdoor and indoor boundaries of the home are blurred with glass doors sliding away to be concealed within walls.

Some of the less noticeable details include strategically placed timber accents applied to the courtyard colonnade, the entry door, the boathouse, joinery, bathrooms and external walls. This enhances the tactile maritime experience that is fundamental to the setting of the home.



One of the key features of the home is the timber blades on the second level. They effectively direct views from specific rooms to different parts of the harbour, creating variance and interest as guests flow from room to room.

PopovBass Architects

2 Glen Street,  
Milsons Point NSW 2061  
Australia  
T: +61 2 9955 5604  
[www.popovbass.com.au](http://www.popovbass.com.au)

Photography by Kraig Carlstrom

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