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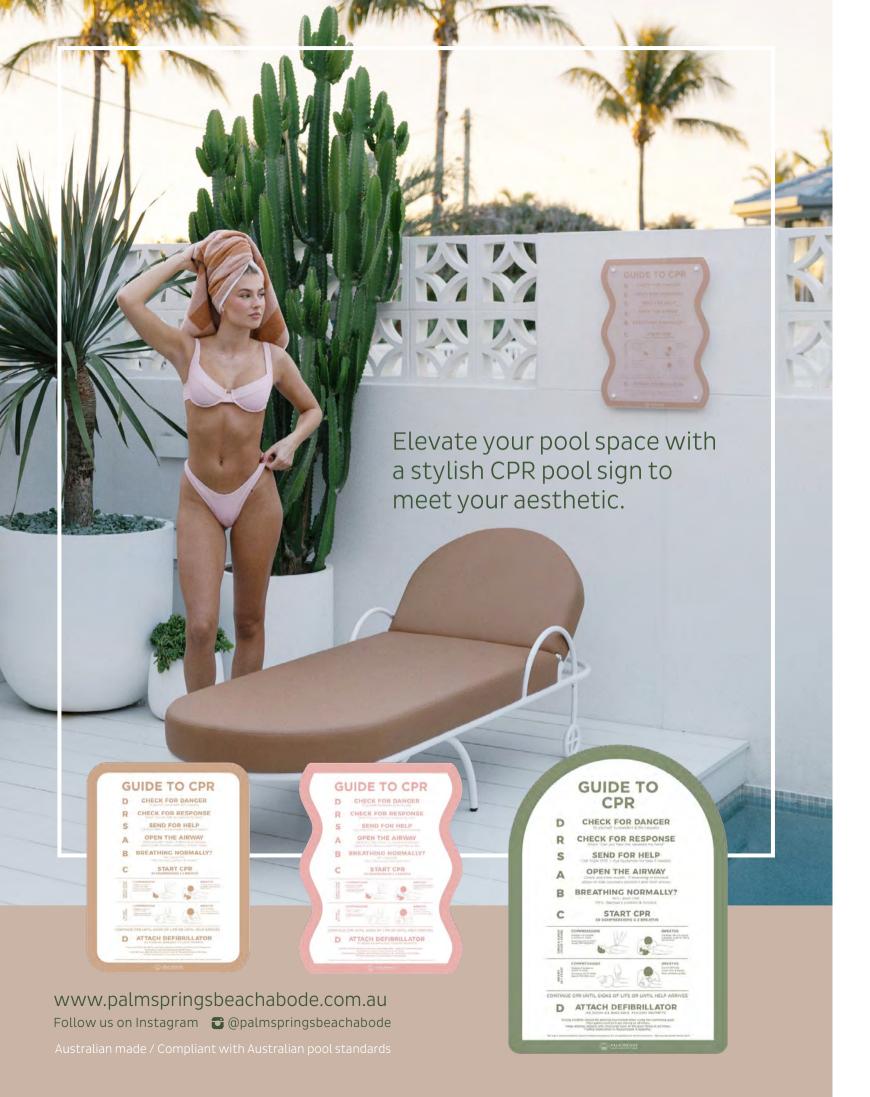
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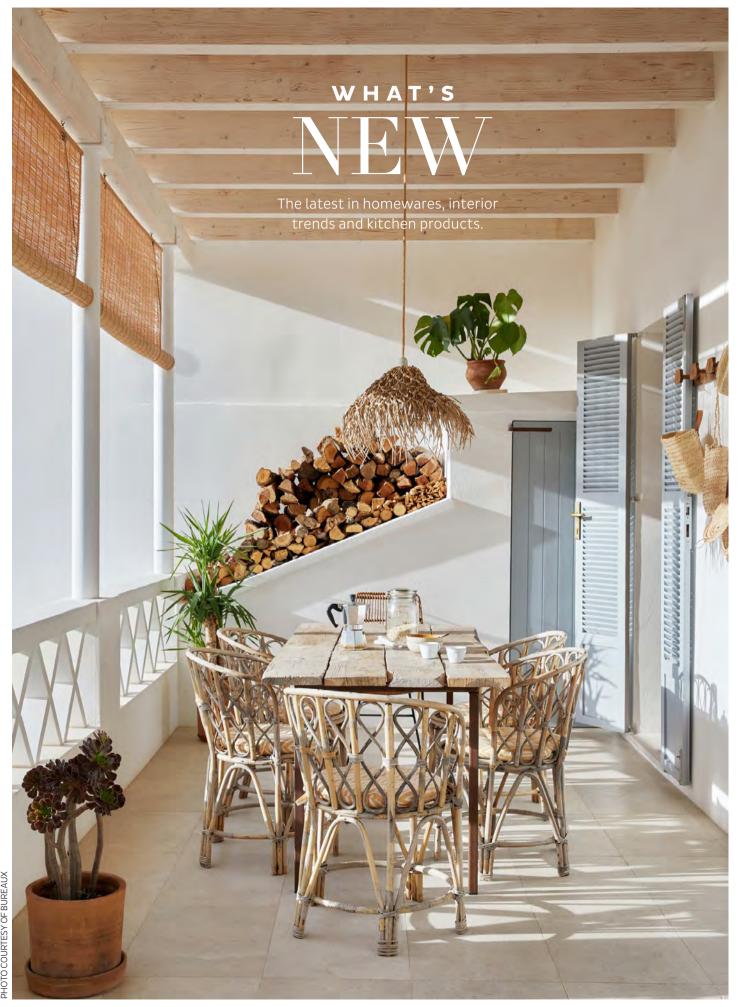
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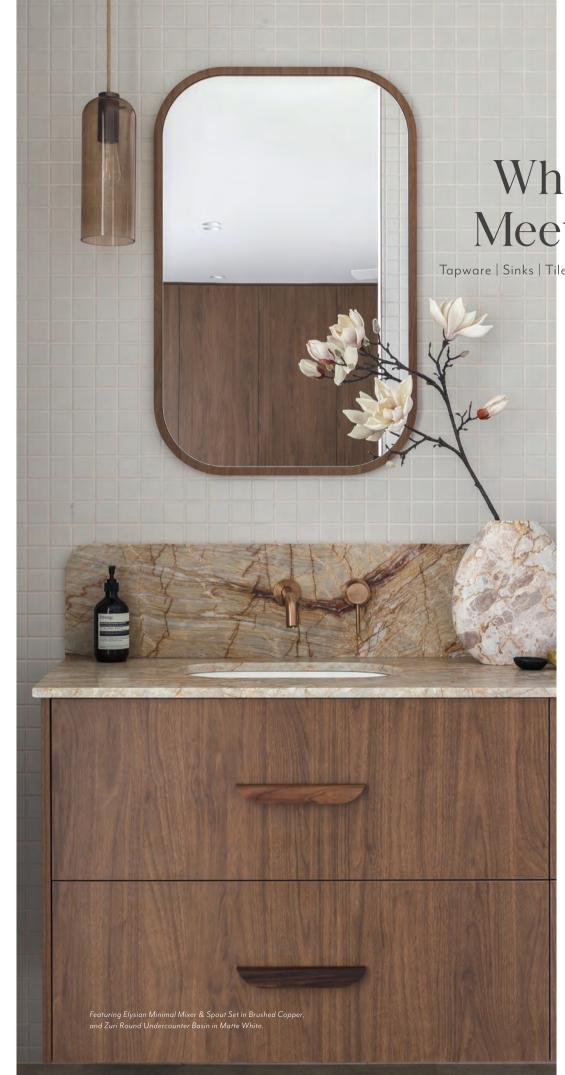


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10 **adore** home





Where Design Meets Function

Tapware | Sinks | Tiles | Showers | Hardware | Accessories







Bold stone like Viola marble is set to be the hottest trend in kitchens this year. Interior designer Mariam Abdelkarim of Inventory Interior designed the stunning kitchen pictured above, featuring Viola marble as the star of the show.

The recent ban on engineered stone means there is a strong movement towards natural alternatives. "The shift towards natural stone isn't only due to the ban," Mariam adds. "It's also driven by evolving design trends that prioritise materials with organic textures, timeless beauty, and a connection to nature."

"Viola marble is bold and captivating, with deep veining and rich colour tones that instantly draw the eye. What I love most about using natural stone like Viola is its unique character; each slab is one-of-akind, showcasing dramatic veining that engineered materials cannot replicate," says Mariam.

"Timber was chosen to complement and enhance the dramatic tones in the Viola marble. Its warm earthy hues draw out the deeper colours in the stone veining, creating balance and depth. Pairing Viola with all-white cabinetry wouldn't have had the same effect—it's the timber that grounds the design and highlights the marble's natural beauty."

New Age Veneers Navurban 'Tablelands' Worldstone 'Viola Marble' Lo & Co 'Isla' Pull XI \$79





The popularity of white kitchens isn't slowing down any time soon, but the trick to getting it right is to introduce texture to keep it from falling flat. Interior designer Georgie Fried of Alchemists ID designed this kitchen for a client who wanted a fresh, neutral and calming palette for their house.

"We used lots of textures and finishes to bring the white elements alive." says Georgie. "The kitchen included American oak crown-cut veneer doors with a 'Vivid White' 2Pac finish over it - we used the oak so that the grain showed through and wasn't just a flat door panel. We paired it with whitewashed American white oak shelving and Venetian plaster on the rangehood. The beautiful stone from CDK is Onde Rosa marble; this brought the whole kitchen alive and gave it the warmth that it needed."

White battens on the island add another element of tactility. "We curved the base of the island on both ends so that it continued with the rounded theme and didn't cut off sharply once it got to the column

Oversized pendant lights from MCM House were the perfect finishing touch for this kitchen.



CURVES

dining nook above, says curves are trending right now. "We're seeing more curves through joinery design, particularly because they help integrate the kitchen into open-plan living spaces, making the joinery feel like furniture," says Olivia. "Soft curves create a connection between the kitchen and dining areas, elevating the overall design. This adds a refined touch, making the kitchen feel like a natural progression of the living space, rather than a separate area."





Regardless of the shade, timber cabinetry (real or melamine) will continue to dominate kitchen trends this year. Homeowners are wanting to inject warm natural tones into their homes, making timber a popular option.

Interior designer Tameka Moffat chose New Age Veneers 'Balmoral' for the cabinetry in this kitchen at The View in Gerringong (pictured this page). "This is an Airbnb in a picturesque seaside town with breathtaking water views, so we carefully selected materials and finishes that not only withstand the coastal environment but also complement the surrounding natural beauty," says Tameka.



In 2024, we saw the rise in popularity of Taj Mahal quartzite, and we don't see it ending in 2025. This beautiful neutral stone with soft veining and beige tones is a perfect accompaniment to timber cabinetry.

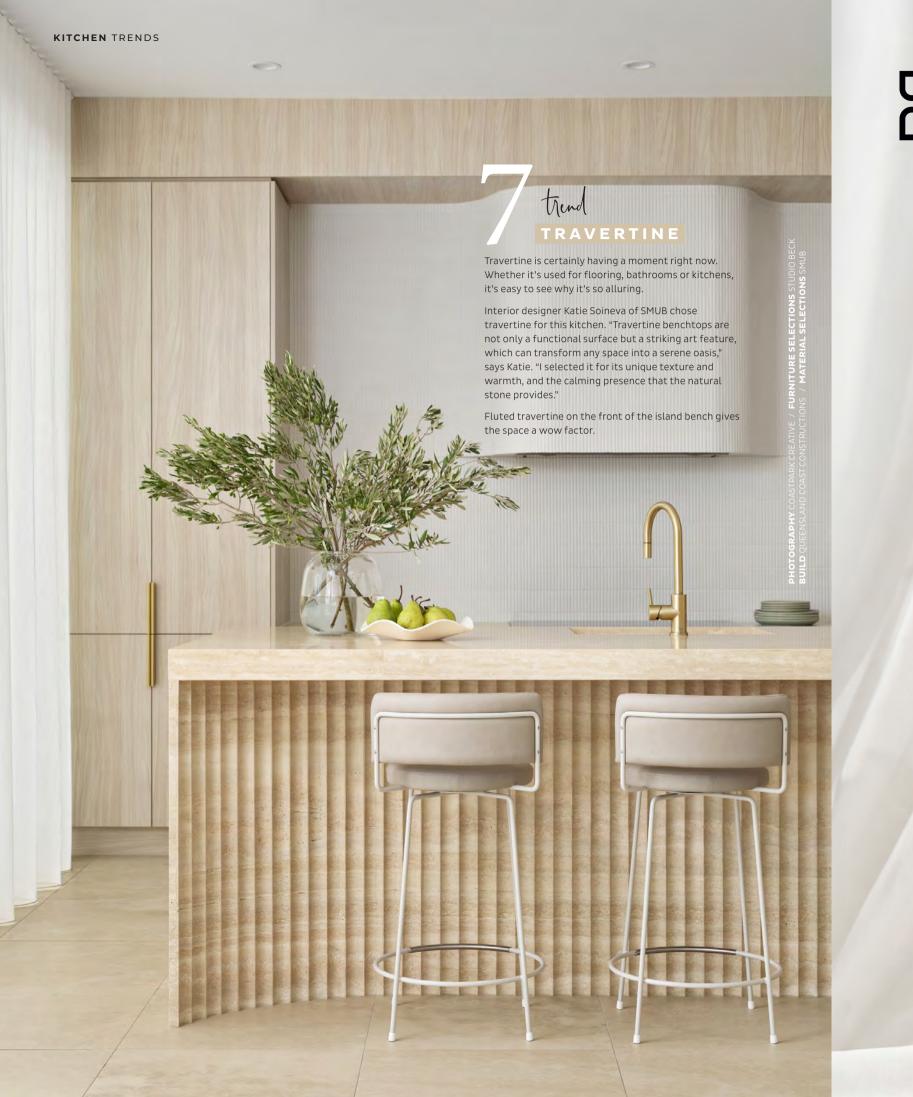
Interior designer Tameka Moffat selected Taj Mahal quartzite for the kitchen pictured on this page. "We selected it for its exceptional durability, making it an ideal choice for kitchen spaces. As a quartzite, it not only offers remarkable strength bu also adds timeless elegance to the design," she explains.

The curved rangehood is wrapped in the same stone, creating a

JAMES LANE

JAMESLANE.COM.AU





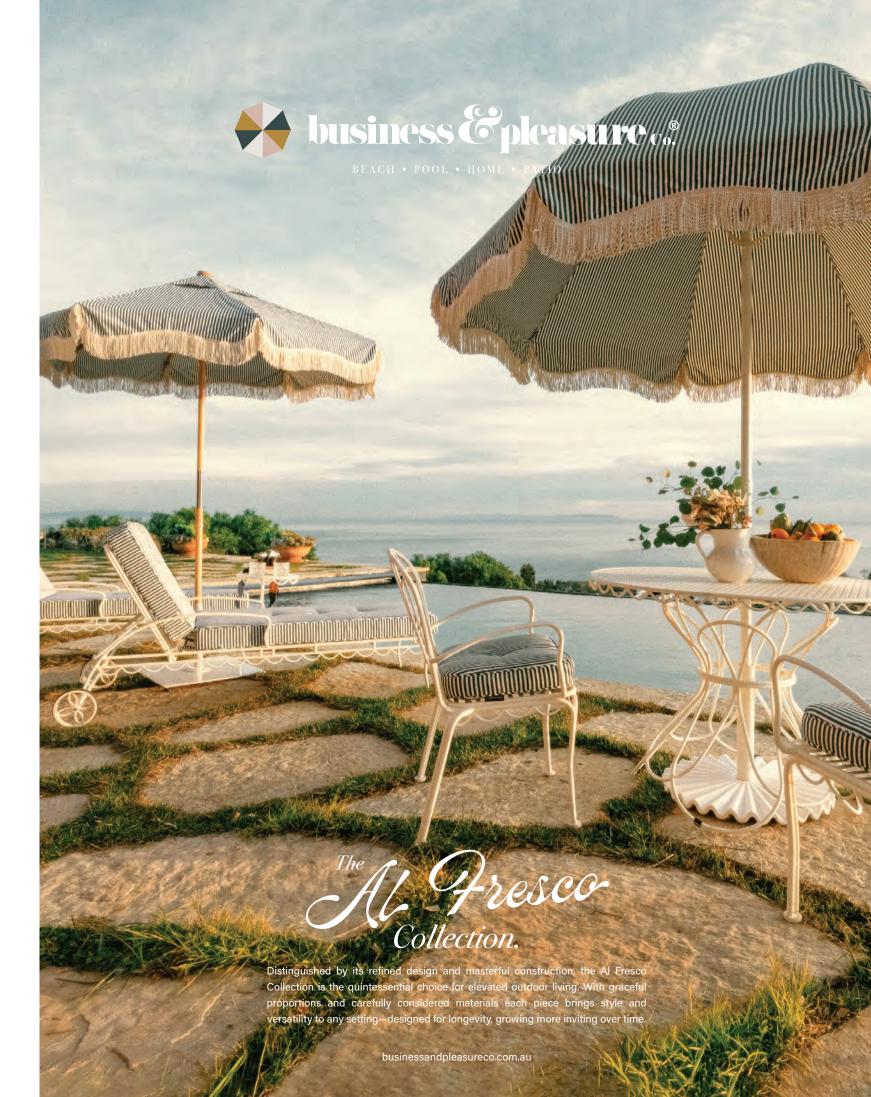


Flow with elegance





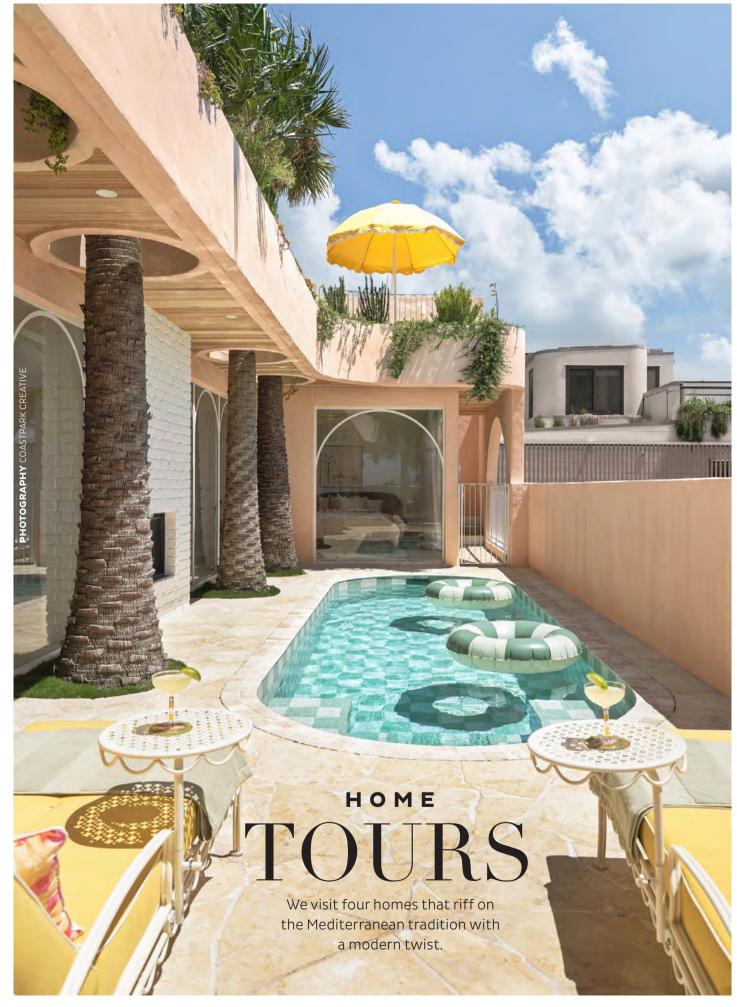














Sarah and Aza Waters' latest project on the Gold Coast is a huge family home that's packed with outrageously fun and beautiful features.

PHOTOGRAPHY COASTPARK CREATIVE / WORDS CASEY HUTTON





flamboyant three-storey, five-bedroom family villa that's geared for good times. There's a gym, sauna and skate ramp on the ground floor. Two storeys up, a balcony pool is lined with giant palm trees growing through the eaves to the rooftop bar above.

When the couple tells the story of this project, it's clear that their main focus was their children. "Our vision was to design somewhere that they would want to hang around forever, have their friends over, and just enjoy it as much as we do," Sarah explains.

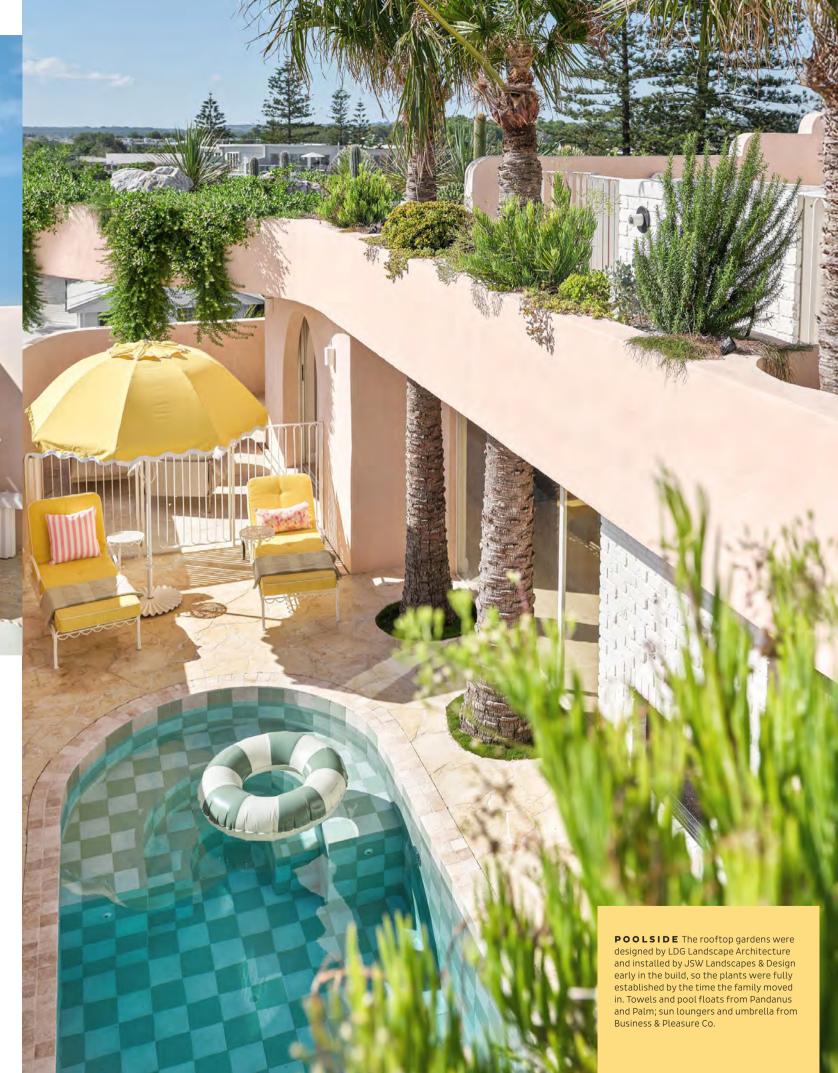
They bought the property off-market in August 2021. Although they'd previously renovated their family home and a set of holiday villas, both in the Gold Coast neighbourhood of Bilinga, this time they opted to demolish the house – it was riddled with asbestos and ultimately unsuitable for renovation.

They collaborated with architect Paul Toulson, "an amazing person who made all our dreams a reality, better than we could have imagined". The design prioritised privacy without compromising on natural and separately.

The home's Mediterranean flavour – from its warm colour palette to its intricate ceiling moulding and Venetian rendered walls – reflects the couple's daydreams of European travel with their children. Their mood boards were dominated by European hotels, such as Hotel Miramalfi and Masseria Moroseta in Italy, combined with closer-to-home influences including Raes on Wategos and Brisbane's Calile Hotel. "But let's not kid ourselves," says Aza. "Walking around cobblestone streets was not on the wish lists of our 12-year-old, nine-year-old and six-year-old! So we incorporated it into our designs instead."

The build kicked off in February 2023 and took 18 months. "We decided to do owner-builder for the first time," says Aza. "We wanted to have more freedom, and we like to design on the fly." Alongside him was Scotty Benstead, their longtime friend and building supervisor, heading up a team of tradespeople "who became like family to us".

was painted in a cement paint from Murobond in a custom colour created specifically for Pasadena Palms. "Every wall was hand brushed by our amazing painter Nathan Beck," says





KIDS' DINING Arches feature throughout Pasadena Palmas, including on the children's level. Oversized archways allow sea breezes to flow through and cool the home. Table and chairs from P&R Styling.

< "Aza took on a lot himself," Sarah points out, "from project managing to laying all the tiles and there were a lot of tiles!"

It was an ambitious build, with engineering challenges that began almost immediately. After the property's soil was discovered to be white sand and shale rock rather than the clay they'd predicted, they had to redesign their footings to concrete piers. "It was a difficult and costly start but it was so crucial to get it right," explains Aza.

The third-storey pool area also demanded clever engineering, and incorporating the enormous Livistona palms was, he says, "one of the craziest stories of the build". "When we realised the radius of each hole in the rooftop was 900mm and the root balls of the palms were 1200mm, the maths simply said they needed to be in before the formwork steel-and-concrete roof. How they survived being installed at that stage of the build is incredible."





HOME TOUR





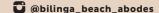


GIRLS' BATHROOM Mirror from McMullin; pendant light and custom basins from Form Ceramics; vanity by Mosh Joinery; floor tiles from Tile Trends.

The first floor of the home is dedicated to the kids and any lucky guests. It includes four bedrooms, a lounge, kitchenette, two powder rooms, two bathrooms and a large laundry. The 3.8-metre ceilings on this level draw the eye upwards to marvellous ornamental cornices. "We fell in love with them so much that we even have them in the garage – the garage door opens sideways for uninterrupted ceiling views," says Sarah.

The helical staircase they built at their previous renovation is replicated here on a larger scale using poured concrete, connecting the children's floor with the main living hub above.

The emphasis on bespoke artisanal products and applications is perhaps what ties the home most strongly to its Mediterranean muses. Despite the project's size and scale, the work of human hands is evidenced around every corner – from the Venetian rendered walls, plaster cornices and custom joinery inside, to the painstakingly hand-brushed cement paint on the external walls. Custom ceramic basins in the bathrooms were made locally, and scores of bespoke wall lights and pendants illuminate the home in the evenings.

























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When first-time builders Emily and Jamie Macdonald bought a prime block of land at Broadbeach Waters in 2022, they knew it was their chance to build a dream home for their young family.

They also knew it was important to assemble the right people to deliver on their vision. Their team included Ben Wade from Vanguard Building Design and builder Jackson Emblem from Queensland Coast Constructions. Beck Smith from Studio Beck advised on furniture, while Katie Soineva of SMUB handled material selections and specifications.

"Creating a resort oasis was the ultimate design goal for this home," says Katie, for whom the waterfront location offered an exciting opportunity to showcase the home from both the street side and the rear, which opens out to the canal.

"The street presence of Villa Pearl instantly captures your attention," says Emily. "Four dwarf palms beside the gate house give it that tropical, Mediterranean feel."

At the home's entrance – beneath an arched window and greenery draped from an elevated garden bed - a 6-metre-high void creates a real moment. "From upstairs, the void overlooks the Broadbeach high-rises. It's so stunning at night when all the buildings are lit up," says Emily.

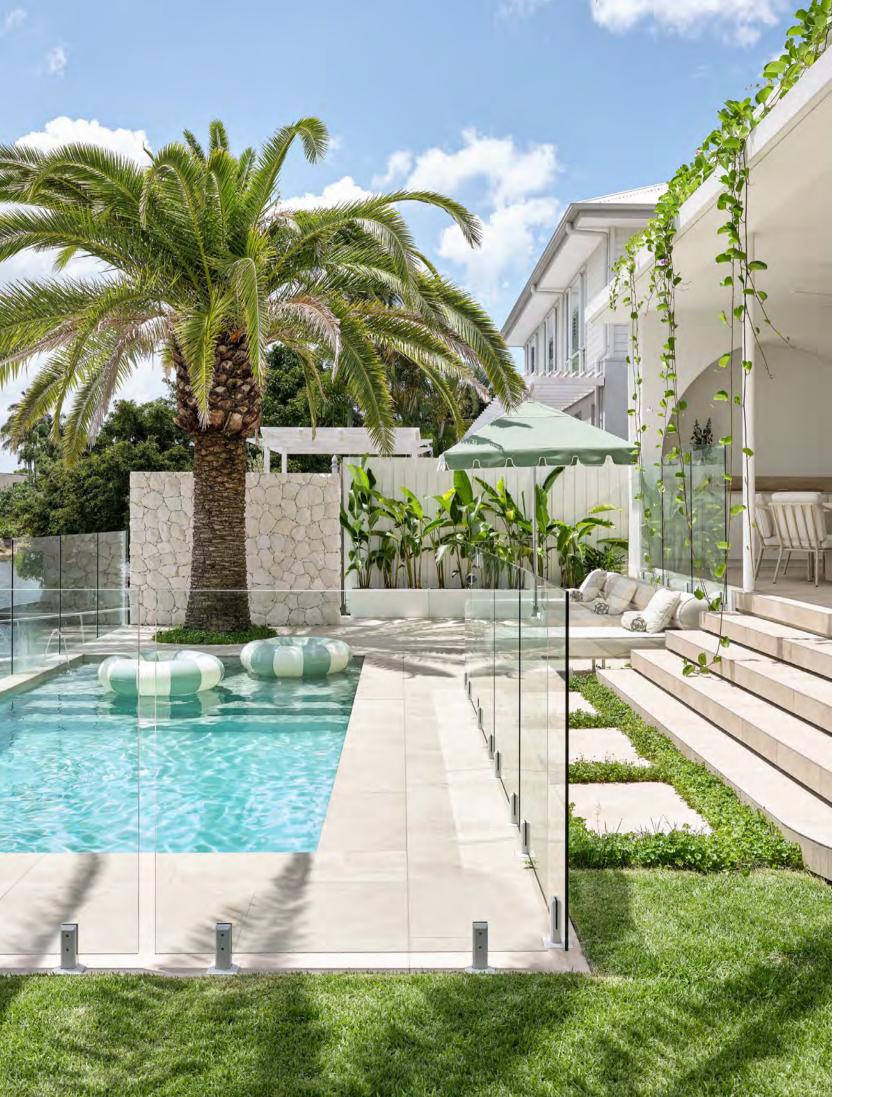
Katie chose to use a uniform floor tile from the front door through the living space to the alfresco area and pool coping. "My design focus is to enter a home and know that every room marries to the next," she explains. "This achieves a seamless flow and a true sense of home."

A grand staircase is visible from the entryway, its soft curves repeated elsewhere, including the kitchen's distinctive tiled rangehood and the lounge fireplace, which features floor-to-ceiling oversized curves in microcement. In the kitchen, a stone island bench is wrapped in inverted travertine flutes. "The travertine is just amazing to look at - a work of art," says Emily.

Maximising water views was a key priority. The floorplan allocated an expansive 18 metres of width for the kitchen, living and dining zone, with 3-metre ceilings that flood the lower floor with natural light. A generous glass sliding door opens the space onto the outdoor entertaining area and pool overlooking the waterway.

BACKYARD "We planted two Canary Island palm trees by the pool to offer shade from the afternoon sun," says Emily. Sun loungers from MCM House; umbrella from Basil Bangs; pool floats from Petites Pommes.







HOME TOUR

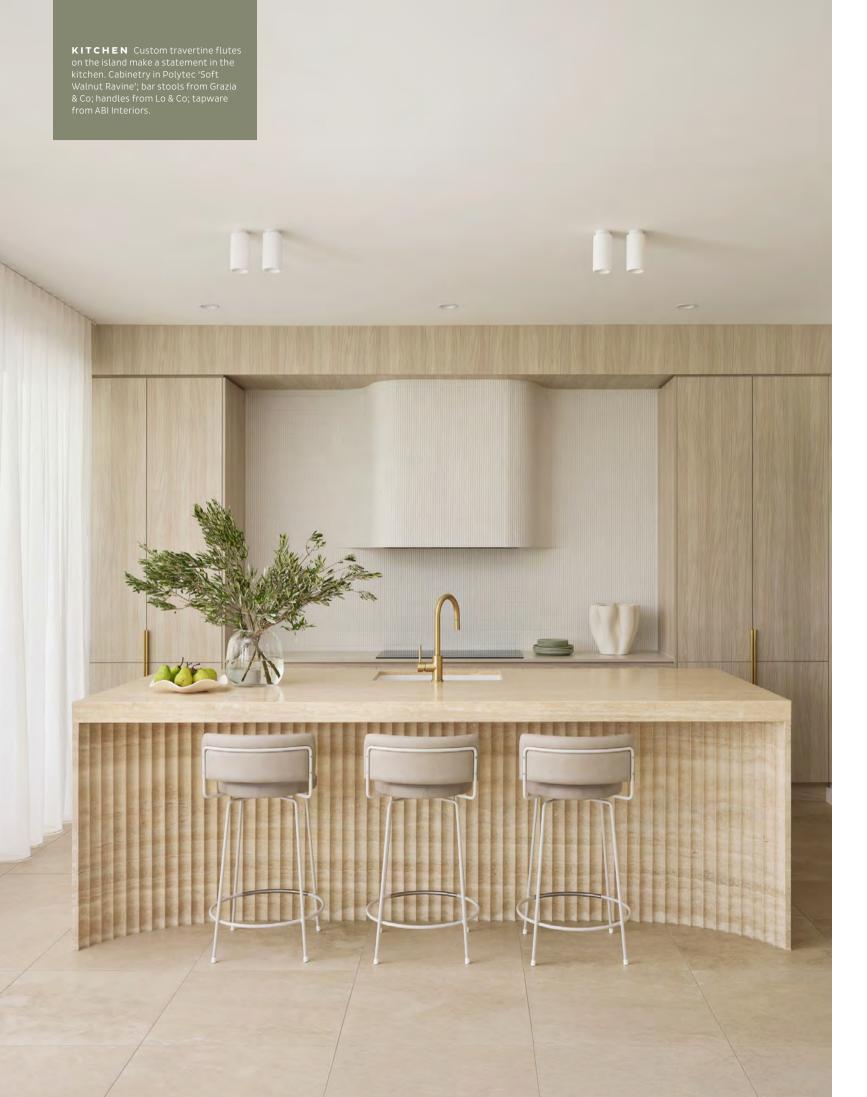














HOME TOUR









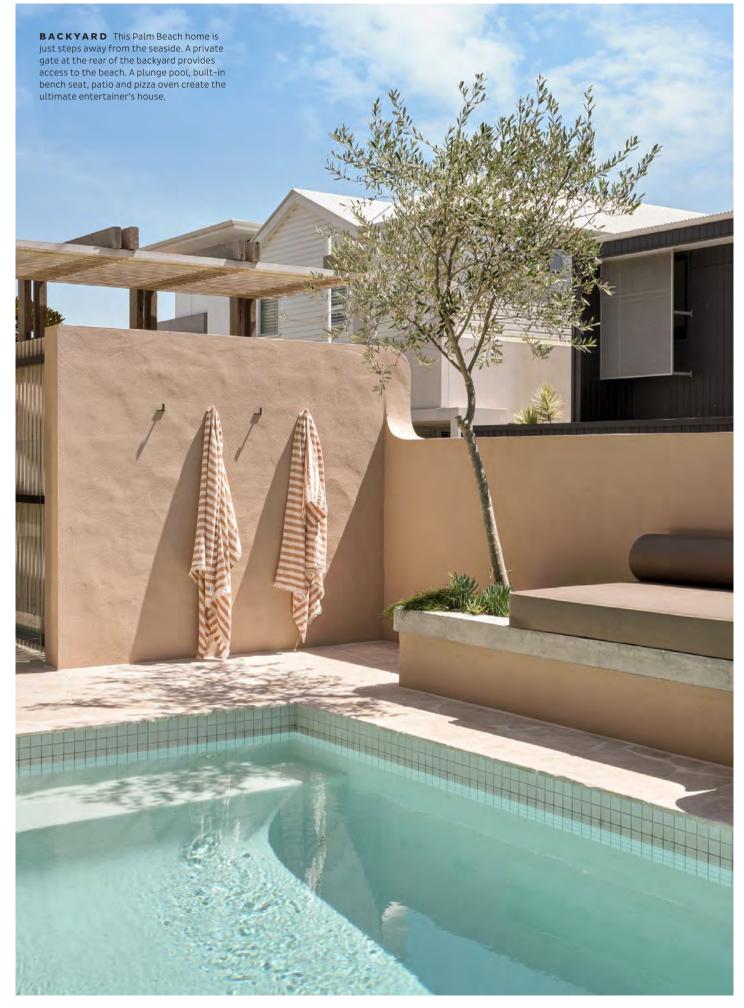




ARMCHAIR GUBI 'Pacha' lounge chair \$3,999 bodhiliving.com.au / POOL FLOAT 'Calile' pool float (120cm) \$93 petites-pommes.com / UMBRELLA Basil Bangs 'Caspar' keyhole valance umbrella (2m) in sage/white \$1,699 basilbangs.com / **TOWELS** Baina 'Classic' bathing set of towels in sage \$489 shopbaina.com / **VASE** 'Boheme' vase in ivory \$440 thefoundry.house / TILES 'Byron' travertine look tile in ivory matte \$70/m² tilecloud.com.au / LAMP 'Nelly' table light in Low Mist \$620 jardan.com.au / SUN LOUNGER 'Rowe' outdoor sun lounge \$2,195 mcmhouse.com / **CUSHION** 'Poppy' long rectangle cushion in Pond \$285 jardan.com.au / **SIDE TABLE** 'The Pantai' side table \$449.95 blacksaltco.com









Ten years ago, Marissa Bowden and her husband Rick purchased a rundown shack – its purple paint peeling with age – on their dream street at Palm Beach on the Gold Coast. For seven years, they raised their two daughters (now aged 13 and 11) in the purple house, running down to the beach for morning swims and surfs, and spending many afternoons with family, friends and neighbours.

Marissa, who owns multipurpose creative space Sun House Studio, explains that there came a time when the shack needed work, but it wasn't in any state to renovate. Marissa and Rick engaged local firm Studio Workshop Architects to design a new home in its place.

Because the family had already lived there for years, they had a thorough understanding of how they liked to use the space and the lifestyle that they wanted to create for themselves. It included plentiful natural sunlight, high ceilings, green space and a sense of calm.

"I really love a calming colour palette, and one of my briefs to the architects when designing the home was 'no white please'," says Marissa. "I wanted earthy tones, walnut timbers, concrete, natural stone, thoughtfully selected furnishings and concrete – for the ease of seaside living with a family."

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STAIRCASE "My husband Rick has his own structural steel company, so it was great to be able to have him heavily involved in the build, doing all of the structural steel in the home, as well as our internal balustrade," says Marissa.

< "I also love a home to feel like a home, not a showroom, so I didn't want any stark white, and I wanted to personally select furniture that felt meaningful, supported local businesses where possible, or had a story to tell. I love that our concrete is imperfect; I also love the contrast of the concrete with the softness of the render, curtains and warm timbers."

The Bowdens created a custom colour with their renderer for the interior and exterior of the home, making it a standout feature that pairs wonderfully with the raw natural selections chosen, including travertine, Venetian render, walnut cabinetry, and brushed concrete flooring.

The imperfectly perfect character of the home made crazy paving a natural choice for its external areas. A 40-year-old olive tree and an outdoor pizza oven also play beautifully into the home's Mediterranean feel.

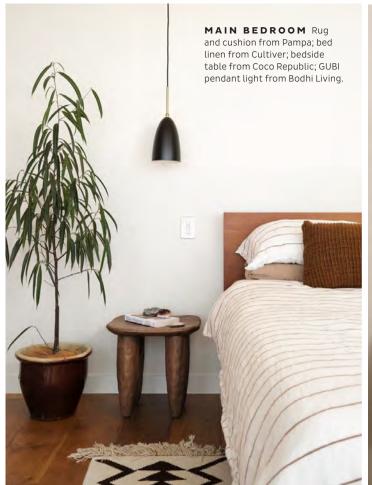
While Courtyard House has many special elements, of particular significance are the living-room shelving and the arbours outside, created from salvaged and restored timber from the much-loved original beach house. "We wanted to keep the legacy of the old shack," observes Marissa, whose girlfriends also gifted the family a painting of their former home by Gabrielle Diamantis.

While the old shack has a nostalgic pull for the family, their new house affords them their dream lifestyle - where they can watch the sunrise from upstairs in the morning, walk straight off the beach into an outdoor shower, swap surfboards for bikes and go for an afternoon cruise, stroll down the lane to local restaurants, or entertain family and friends by the pool.

@_courtyard_house_







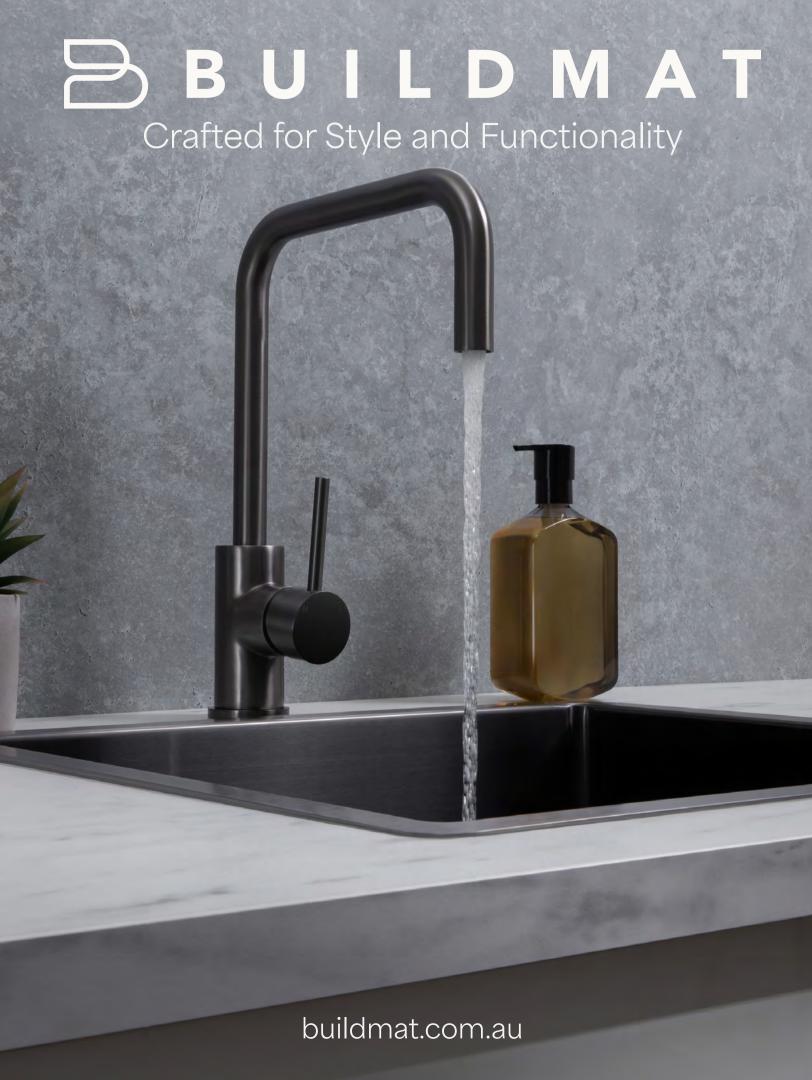








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DINING A custom-made bench seat curves around the bay windows overlooking the balcony garden, creating a cosy space to sit and eat. Dining table from Lounge Lovers; chairs from Rachel Donath; pendant light from Beacon Lighting.

LIVING Armchair from Eureka Furniture; coffee table from Temple & Webster; Viola marble side table from Fleur Studios; sofa from Kolbi; orb light from About Space Lighting.

Interior designer Ishoa Scozzafava of Rose Co. By Design had already decided on a concept before she even laid eyes on this Caloundra apartment. On the hunt for a property that they could revamp and sell, Ishoa and her husband Mauro (the team behind Creare Projects) made offers on a few apartments that fell through. For each one, Ishoa completed full designs and 3D renders to get an idea of costs.

"We wanted to deliver something different from what is out there in the Caloundra unit market – a luxurious, inviting apartment with modern retro touches," she explains.

By the time they viewed this first-floor apartment in Caloundra's CBD, Ishoa had a fully-fledged design direction with material selections that she could adapt to the space. The unit was an exciting prospect, she says. "It was very old and rundown – perfect for a renovation – and it had a private mature garden. There was natural light in all the rooms, which you don't often get in units"

The couple began by stripping the dreary interior, and Ishoa project managed all the trades during the reno.

While it's light and bright, the apartment simultaneously feels enclosed and private,

thanks to its elevated position, surrounding greenery, and walled balconies. Ishoa's design capitalised on this, re-envisioning it as a luxurious retreat from the beach-holiday scene outside.

Ishoa and Mauro made minimal adjustments to the floor plan, leaving all the plumbing in place to reduce costs. "The main bathroom saw the biggest change, as its walls were at very odd angles," says Ishoa. "We knocked them down and softened the space with new curved walls."

Carefully unified design elements were key to the success of the renovation. Curves are repeated in custom cabinetry in the kitchen, bathrooms, bedrooms and living area, reducing the harshness of the previously angular spaces. Clever storage features in all the rooms, reducing visual clutter, and integrated appliances in the kitchen give it a streamlined finish.

A Mediterranean-inspired palette of creamy neutrals and clay-coloured accents is set against natural plastered walls. Mood lighting (beautiful sconces by SØKTAS play a starring role) and organic shapes in furniture and artworks create a restful ambience.

In the kitchen, the island bench is held up by a white-tiled column, which neatly repeats the

form of an existing pillar between the kitchen and dining area. The choice of an open-sided island has lightened the space, giving it an airy feel that departs from the dated pokiness of the original U-shaped kitchen. The square white tiles are another repeated motif; used on multiple surfaces in the home, they provide a retro geometric counterpoint to the design's curved lines

The apartment's punchiest feature is arguably the Sicilia Verde marble from Franca Design, which dominates the kitchen, reappears in the bathrooms, and is even featured in the dining nook's bench seat. "I love the marble," says Ishoa, explaining that it formed the basis of her earthy colour choices for the rest of the home.

The apartment is named Sabbia, meaning 'sand' in Italian – a nod not only to its European inspiration and its colour scheme, but also to the beautiful beach outside. Reflecting on the renovation, Ishoa says that their aim was to create a nourishing beachside haven. "We wanted the apartment to feel like a warm hug when you walk in."

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HOME TOUR











Ishoa's tips on choosing key interior elements.

RENDER

"I love the texture and movement that can be created with render," Ishoa says. "Rockcote Otsumigaki is a versatile clay-and-lime mixed plaster; you can easily buff out imperfections if you mark it."

SCONCE LIGHTING

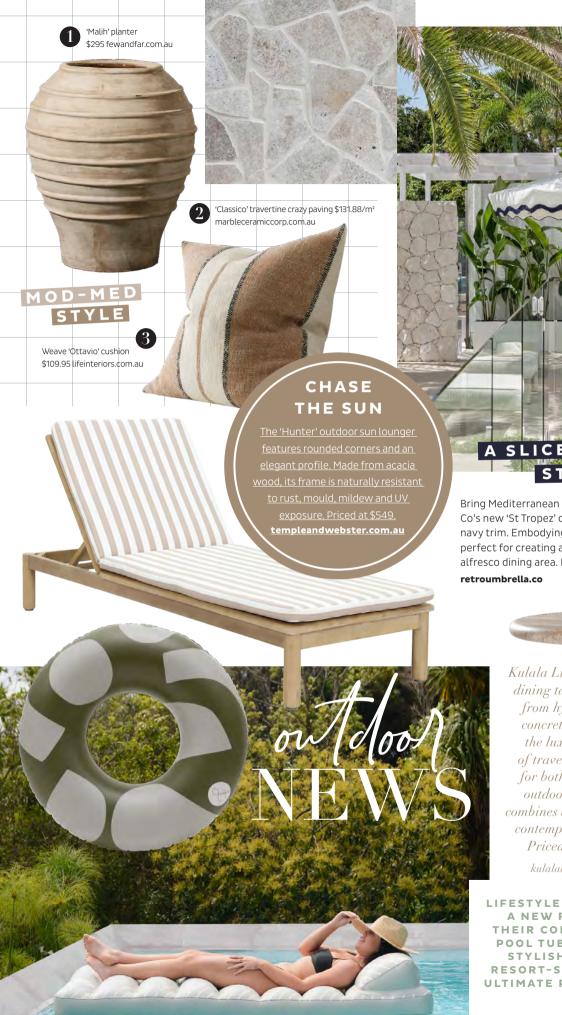
"Wall sconces elevate spaces. Make sure your plasterer knows that you are installing wall lights in a particular location, as sconces can pick up imperfections," Ishoa points out. "I really enjoyed using the hand-blown SØKTAS sconces in the primary bedroom and main bathroom. The way they illuminate the wall through the glass is spectacular."

NATURAL STONE

"Choose your natural stone early on when you're selecting finishes," Ishoa advises. "It's a luxury item for a renovation, so pick one that you love. Use some of the hues in the stone for the space – even if it's soft furnishings like cushions or throws – and it will always look like it's made for that location. Chef's kiss!"







Bring Mediterranean sophistication home with Retro Umbrella Co's new 'St Tropez' double-tier umbrella in classic white with navy trim. Embodying the elegance of the French Riviera, it's perfect for creating a resort-style ambience in your backyard or alfresco dining area. Priced at \$1,299.

> Kulala Living's 'Jabari' dining table is crafted from hydro-dipped concrete to emulate the luxurious look of travertine. Perfect for both indoor and outdoor settings, it combines durability with contemporary design. Priced at \$1,995.

> > kulalaliving.com.au

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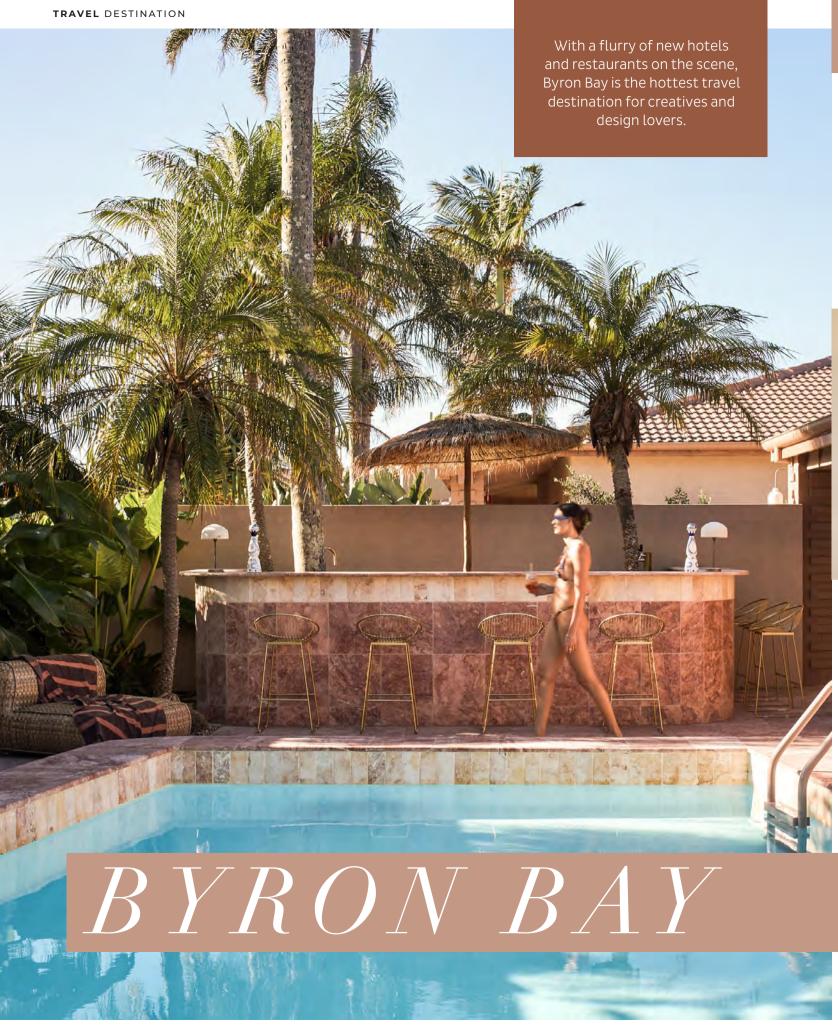
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SWELL HOTEL

Swell Hotel is a bohemian oasis in the centre of Byron Bay. The adults-only boutique hotel focuses on community, wellness and sustainability to encourage relaxation. Communal spaces are geared towards socialising; the alfresco and indoor lounge areas are perfect for gathering with a few friends or finding common ground with likeminded travellers.

The hotel's 16 rooms are decorated in rich earthy hues with plush materials. Choose from '70s-inspired rooms overlooking the pool or tropical gardens. Or, for a more secluded experience, hideaway rooms are tucked away from the hotel's main amenities. A glamorous twobedroom suite is also on offer, with a private entrance, luxe living room, and its own garden with outdoor

Guests can enjoy complimentary daily yoga in the tipi, relax in the infrared sauna and ice bath, and take a dip in the Ozone magnesium pool. Book some extra pampering at the on-site wellness treatment room, which offers full-body massages and LED light therapy.

swellhotel.com 📅 @swellbyronbay









energy, Tigmi Trading offers enticing wares from across the globe. Founder and creative director Danielle McEwan's lifelong love of culture and discerning eye for art and design was cultivated over years of travelling for her career in the music industry. For Tigmi, she ventures around the world in search of one-off rugs, objects and art, hand-selecting each item. Danielle's only criteria when sourcing each piece is that it is made with love and inspires connection adding an invisible but palpable layer of beauty and soul to the home.

tigmitrading.com @tigmitrading

BASQ HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHY OLI AYO





LIGHT YEARS

Located in the Jonson Lane precinct, the reimagined Light Years restaurant oozes sophisticated coastal cool with natural textures and clay-coloured hues, thanks to interior architects Studio Plenty and designer Sarah Ellison.

Perch at the terrazzo bar for a drink (or two) or settle into one of the striped banquettes for a lengthy feast of modern Asian cuisine accompanied by punchy cocktails and good wine. Must-try dishes include the kingfish ceviche (pictured left), hot & tingly BBQ lamb ribs (pictured above) and pork belly bao buns.

lightyearsasiandiner.com.au

alightyearsasiandiner





stay

BASQ HOUSE

into a quiet laneway in the heart of Byron Bay.

the hotel's gorgeous logo-embossed pool, which is surrounded by sun-drenched daybeds

basqhouse.com.au @basqhouse













An exclusive estate nestled in the Coopers Shoot area, Sun Ranch is 15 minutes from Byron Bay and two minutes from the town of Bangalow. Set on 55 acres, it offers curated interiors that blend '70s California ranch-style nostalgia with Spanish influences.

Guests have the option to book The Rambler Longhouse - a five-bedroom luxury guest house - or one of six two-bedroom barns.

Unique gathering spaces dotted across the property include a 25-metre hillside pool; an outdoor dining space with Argentinian BBQ, alfresco kitchen and fire pit; a woodfired floating sauna; and even a whiskey













HOTEL MARVELL

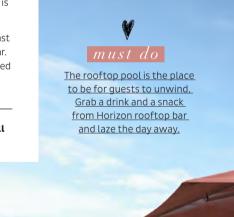
Experience Byron Bay's first five-star luxury hotel. The architecturally designed Hotel Marvell offers 16 rooms, six suites, and two two-bedroom rooms – all with sumptuous linens and premium amenities, including electric blackout blinds and a mini bar boasting the finest selection of locally sourced products.

Admire panoramic views of Byron Bay from the hotel's heated rooftop pool while you laze the day away in a poolside cabana or lounger. The best spot in town for afternoon drinks has to be Hotel Marvell's Mediterranean-inspired rooftop bar, Horizon, which is open to the public from noon until 10pm.

Guests can enjoy a complimentary a la carte breakfast at the hotel's onsite restaurant, Byron Bay Oyster Bar. Our tip: grab a table in the pedestrian laneway, flanked by tropical plants and cosy bench-style seating.

hotelmarvell.com.au 🖸 @hotelmarvell









BYRON BAY OYSTER BAR

Located on the ground floor of Hotel Marvell, Byron Bay Oyster Bar offers the very best oysters and seafood from across Australia and New Zealand.

The restaurant plates up simple meals, with an emphasis on the quality of its produce. It takes the freshness of its oysters very seriously - boasting a huge land-based oyster tank that purifies and holds up to 500 dozen oysters at a time.

Don't miss Oyster Hour from Tuesday through to Saturday for \$3 oysters between 5pm and 6pm.

byronbayoysterbar.com.au

@byronbayoysterbar



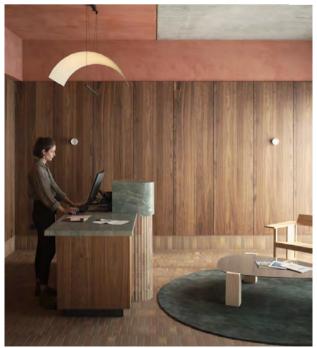
MORE TO EAT

BANG BANG serves up delicious Asian fusion cuisine, with classics like braised beef massaman, red duck curry, and pad Thai – plus inventive dishes including BBQ cauliflower and hot pineapple pie. Can't decide? Try their Bang-Quet!

bangbangbyronbay.com

NO BONES offers a vegan menu with the freshest local produce and an Australian drinks menu. Try their famous konjac calamari strips (made from plants of course)!

nobones.co







UMBRELLA Business and Pleasure Co. 'The Amalfi' umbrella in Rivie Black \$299 businessandpleasureco.com.au / BRONZER INIKA organic baked mineral bronzer \$75 inikaorganic.com SUNGLASSES Luv Lou 'The Poppy' sunglasses in Tortoiseshell \$160 luvlou.com.au / NECKLACE eb&ive 'Heritage' necklace - 'The Compass' \$34.95 ebandive.com.au / SWIMWEAR Baiia 'Tanami' reversible wrapsuit \$299 baiia.com.au / TOWEL Business and Pleasure Co. 'The Beach' towel in Monaco Black Stripe \$99 businessandpleasureco.com.au / COSMETICS CASE Bon Maxie 'Handy Handle' case \$54 bonmaxie.com.au / HAT eb&ive 'Halcyon' hat in natural \$49.95 ebandive.com.au / SUITCASE July 'Carry On' in toffee \$375 july.com/au SANDALS Siren 'April' flatform sandals in natural weave & tan \$169.95 sirenshoes.com.au / PERFUME Vanessa Megan 'August' 100% natural perfume (10ml) \$29.95 vanessamegan.com DRESS Auguste 'Tania' midi dress \$249 au.augustethelabel.com



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