

# LUXE COASTAL

*shaped your design?* We had the advantage of knowing our clients over many years and had seen their tastes and needs change over time. They have a love of Scandinavian furniture, plus they had artworks and furniture from their previous, more traditional home. Our challenge was to marry sometimes disparate styles in creating a unique home that reflected their past as well as the future. In the main living area we introduced them to the Vipp kitchen brand – something they embraced with great enthusiasm. The long Vipp island bench is a strong, simple element – opposite the freestanding fireplace on a concrete plinth. These strong, dark statements hold the space together. *How could you describe the home and what are some of your favourite elements?* I think it truly reflects the owners who were greatly influential in the outcome. There is a 'kick off the shoes' moment as you enter the house and a relaxed ambience with some quirky, individual elements such as the monkey table in the media lounge that reflects off the Admore monkey fabric in an understated way. Or on the landing where a 'CH12 Easy' chair sits with the owner's mother's watercolours above. I love the juxtaposition of the 'Circle' armchair and the 'Man 3' classic bronze floor lamp from their previous home. Or the

'Flag Halyard' chair with the padded leather ottoman, again from another era and another home. *How does the project respond to the landscape?* You enter through almost untouched bush at the front of the house. There is a direct sightline to the beach, which is always on the beach, so we responded by acknowledging the bush and beach in our approach to colours and materials. There is a transition room in the centre of the ground level that has dark-blue walls, creating a sanctuary effect from the strong light and sometimes harsh weather of the beach. The rooms on the beach side are bright and embrace the landscape, with some relief in the use of charcoal tones and muted shades, which also reflect the myriad colours of the coastline – sand, kelp, sea, rocks and vegetation. The rooms on the bush side are a little darker and more intimate. *Were the owners happy with the execution?* The owners were happy and enjoyed the whole process, from the choice of builder and landscaper to every last person who contributed to the success of the project. It was a joyous affair, celebrated by a wonderful 'gratitude' lunch given by our clients at the end. They have used this home more than they had ever expected as it's been a wonderful refuge in recent times.

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This page: Softly separating the living area from the open-plan kitchen and dining without disrupting sightlines, the 'Star' tray table from HK Ltd displays an assortment of treasures, including books by Isak Dinesen, Hunt Ogden, in front of the generous 'Net' sofa, also from HK Ltd. To the left of the fireplace is an artwork by Jenny Sogers. 'Flag Halyard' chair from Cult and 'Ogor' lamp from HK Ltd. To the right is the 'Heimstetter' 'Trombi' above a 'Figuero' 'Vard' leather armchair from Fure Interiors.

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This page: Clockwise from left: Away from the brilliant light and sometimes blustery winds of the beach, the media lounge exudes moody quietude with walls of Foster's Plaster 'Rock Blue' and a glass-topped Barcelona 'Monkey' table from Living Edge. A 'V.P.' After the Fire by Adriaan de Groot hangs above the sofa and cushions by Hana + Kari. 'Pond' coffee tables from Fand with a bowl by Ruth Lankin. Armchair by Jenny Sogers. A Gervasoni rocking chair from Anibou with custom cushion is joined by a flock of the client's own sculptures against a wall in Foster's Plaster Coraway. Black and white 'Lull' stool by HK Ltd sits on one side of the sofa, while the top is flanked by Elizabeth Cummings hangs on the other. Carl Hansen's 'Ben' 'CH20' stool sits, chairs from Cult surround a 'Trom' table from The Woodroom under Fritz Hansen 'Coraway' pendant lights, also from Cult.



These pages: Clockwise from left: Accessed via unspilt bush, the home opens to sightlines that extend to the beach. Timber handle from Designer Doorware assisted to match the door. Four Days on the Ceiling artwork by Kevin King above an 'O' console in oak from The Woodroom with objects on top and a 'Fascina' 'Trombi' light by Luca Nicetto from Sparc. A 'Net' sofa runs the length of the corridor beside the central courtyard – one of the home's two outdoor 'rooms'. Giant Dome table below. 'Coraway' by Jenny Sogers hangs in the Vipp kitchen island module from Cult. Light Spices 'Coraway' 'Sparc' stools from Cult and bench in honed limestone from Sparc. 'Ogor' lamp from HK Ltd. To the right is the 'Heimstetter' 'Trombi' table from The Woodroom. The 'Trombi' table is flanked by Elizabeth Cummings hangs on the other. Carl Hansen's 'Ben' 'CH20' stool sits, chairs from Cult surround a 'Trom' table from The Woodroom under Fritz Hansen 'Coraway' pendant lights, also from Cult.

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Layering smart, contemporary elements with a seemingly effortless mix of soulful and eclectic treasures, totally absorbing artworks and soft appointments that radiate warmth, this project exhibits all the trademarks of its interior designer, Meryl Hare. But this is Meryl in holiday mode – and a sense of barefoot innocence washes over every space. With unspilt bush on one side, pristine sand on the other, and a life's collection of art and keepsakes in between, the family home away from home is primed for relaxation. *What was the brief?* We had worked with this client on a number of homes over many years and established trust as well as a lovely friendship. They had recently downsized from their family home and moved to a smaller city house and then purchased this as their holiday house. Their brief was to update the tired interior, design two outdoor 'rooms' and create a relaxed home for family, friends and their dogs! They had a surplus of furniture and artworks from

their original home and asked us to curate this collection where we thought it would be appropriate. *What were the challenges of the site and how did you resolve them?* The site was relatively easy in terms of access and our resolution of the unique qualities was the 'beach to beach' approach. There were challenges in creating the outdoor spaces – one on the beach side and one in the central courtyard. Because of the prevailing winds on the beach side, the terrace was enlarged and a new structure was built with a retractable cover robust enough to withstand the weather. The same structure was constructed in the courtyard terrace. *Are there any considerations when designing a home in a coastal setting?* The weather and the corroding properties of the salt air. We created the courtyard terrace as an outdoor area protected from the coastal winds and the sometimes harsh sunlight and noise from the beach. The beach is wonderful, but you sometimes need to retreat from it and find calm and soothing spaces. *What were some of the ideas and influences that*

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