100 Top Houses from Down Under

Edited by Robyn Beaver
The 100 projects featured in the following pages represent some of the finest examples of contemporary residences from Australian and New Zealand architects and designers. The projects include award-winners, luxury residences, simple beach shacks, inner-city apartments, rural retreats and suburban family homes, reflecting the way we live, or aspire to live, in the 21st century. That the projects vary so widely is indicative of the enormous variety and originality in the talent and design direction of architects from ‘Down Under’.

Although the projects are diverse in size, location, use, ambiance, budget and taste, some common themes are evident: a desire to blend with the surrounding landscape; the incorporation of sustainable features; a structural program that divides the home into ‘pavilions’, each with a specific use; the inclusion of indoor/outdoor rooms; the incorporation of water; and inventive responses to challenging environments.

The shared characteristics and themes identified throughout this collection of houses might group them into a loosely defined ‘Down Under’ aesthetic, but each house stands alone as testament to the skills of an individual architect. As you flip through the following pages, you will agree that the architects and designers of Australia and New Zealand have much to be proud of.

Cover Image: The Panorama
Architect: Paul Uhlmann Architects
Photography: Aperture Photography
Down Under

100 Top Houses from
100 Top Houses from Down Under

scan: The Stainless Steel Cat
INTRODUCTION

The 100 projects featured in the following pages represent some of the finest examples of contemporary residences from Australian and New Zealand architects and designers. The projects include award winners, luxury residences, simple beach shacks, inner-city apartments, rural retreats and suburban family homes, reflecting the way we live, or aspire to live, in the 21st century. Yet the projects vary so widely as to be indicative of the enormous variety and originality in the talent and design direction of architects from 'Down Under'.

Although the projects are diverse in size, location, use, ambitions, budget and style, one common theme is evident. A desire to blend with the surrounding landscape, whether it be a significant heritage streetscape in the inner city, a protected coastal dunescape, or perhaps indigenous bushland, is the aim of many projects. Strikingly contemporary additions and renovations have been thoughtfully inserted behind traditional or heritage facades that give no hint of the often expensive reworkings they conceal. In rural areas, houses are partially 'incorporated' into the earth, so that the building appears as part of the landscape, reducing its visual impact.

The introduction of sustainable features is another underlying theme that links these residences. Environmental stewardship is important to the architects of Australia and New Zealand and they are keen to exploit the ever-increasing range of sustainable features and products. Houses are orientated to achieve cross ventilation by cooling breezes, often completely obviating the need for mechanical air-conditioning. Natural ventilation is incorporated wherever possible, as are photovoltaic panels and rainwater collection systems. Environmental sensitivity is achieved by the use of natural materials that blend with the landscape, complementing the informal nature of many of these houses. Exposed structural elements add rawness and visual stimulation in keeping with often rugged locations. Simple, durable, easy to maintain and versatile materials such as recycled timber, concrete, steel, rammed earth, Colorbond, aluminium and glass predominate, whether to counter the destructive effects of a harsh coastal environment, or to complement a suburban setting.

In terms of structure, a principal theme is the separation of houses into pavilions, each pavilion being assigned a specific use. Often, the house is a collection of discrete buildings, with links providing access from one building to another. Notions of privacy for adults, the separation of living, eating and sleeping zones, specially designed areas for children, or for contemplation or recreation, are important factors in the design of contemporary houses. The separation between private and public spaces is often defined and identified by the use of specific materials and finishes, both internally and externally.

The indoor/outdoor room is another influential feature. The 'Down Under' climate, while extending from tropical to alpine, is well suited to outdoor living, and the design of contemporary houses reflects and facilitates the outdoor lifestyle. Interiors spill seamlessly onto outdoor living areas through sliding or folding glass doors or entire sliding walls, extending interiors by blurring the distinction between indoors and out. The internal courtyard brings the outdoors in, despite the weather. The continuity of building materials and finishes adds to the seamless nature of indoor/outdoor rooms.

Water is integral to the outdoor lifestyle, whether embodied in the soothing trickling of a sculptural water feature, or the joyous cacophony of children at play in an infinity-edge swimming pool. The Asian aesthetic is also a major influence, whether overt, in the use of Japanese screens or the incorporation of Islamic tiles, or more subtly in the simplicity, lack of clutter, and emphasis on tranquility that is evident in so many of these projects.

As expected with a collection of 'Down Under' houses, the locations are spectacular, as are the designers' responses to some challenging environments. Interior windows are placed to capture and frame ocean views; seemingly impossible obstacles are overcome to perch houses high on an inaccessible cliffside, some houses are accessible only by boat, increasing the anticipation and high theatre of the occasion.

The shared characteristics and themes identified throughout the collection of houses might group them into a loosely defined 'Down Under' aesthetic, but each house stands alone as testament to the skills of an individual designer. As you flip through the following pages, you will agree that the architects of Australia and New Zealand have much to be proud of. This book has been a delight to compile, and we hope to follow it soon with a further collection of stunning houses from 'Down Under'.

Robyn Beaver, Editor
The Regency Publishing Group
CONTENTS

2 16 Livingstone Parade
   Colin Scholink
13 Anya House
   Leon Legato
14 Angela House
   Forme Michael Architects
20 Apartment 31
   Coast Hicks Pty Ltd
21 Apartment 302
   Coast Hicks Pty Ltd
24 Art Collector’s Residence
   Carriagetta Architects
28 Arthur Street House
   Nicholas Coss Architects
32 Avoca House
   Connor + Seaman Architects
36 Birch House
   Kevin Hogan Architects Pty Ltd
40 Black Grove House
   Connor + Seaman Architects
44 Buninyong Church Conversion
   Multiplicity in association with Leigh Osmon
48 Kangaroo Hill Gallery
   Tecmar Architects
50 Broadbeach Apartment
   Pod Interior Design
52 Bold’s Beach Residence
   Pod Interior Design
54 Bungan Beach House
   D'Arcy Brown Architects
58 Cheeta Penthouse
   moo-interactive
60 CIQ
   Gannons Complex
64 City Beach House
   Cox Architecture
66 Crane-Marchini House
   Bligh Voller Nossal
70 Concrete Residence
   Innerspace Architects
74 Casuarina House
   Rafael Verderosa Design
78 Courtyard House
   Liz Cantley Architects
80 The Cozy Shed
   Ria Architects
84 Coronavirus Street House
   Shannons Lawson Architects
88 Combattia Park Residence
   Studio 9 Architects
90 Dalmeny House
   DDB Architecture
94 Dry Hills House
   Architectural Genealogy
98 East Melbourne Residence
   Innerspace Architects
102 Island Bay House
   Oram Padovese Architects
106 Fishin House
   Erik Jones-Frome Pty Ltd Architects
110 Folding House
   Stephen Jakob Architects
114 Fairfield/Undine House
   Origo Architecture
118 Port Denison House
   Hufnagel + Ingham Architects
122 Point Cown House
   Proctor Lane Architects Pty Ltd
125 Fawkes House
   Zions Architecture
128 Gold Coast Penthouse
   Space Cadets Architecture Studios
130 Heckler House
   Neve & Midleton Architects
134 Judges Residence
   Blyth Gordon Design
138 Henry House
   GHD Architecture
140 House of Chairing
   Merrick Fyle Architecture and Interiors
144 House for 1 & A
   Bligh Voller Field
148 House for S & P
   Bligh Voller Field
152 House in Riddings
   Jackson Clements Rudloe Architects
156 Hulke House II
   John Woolley Architect
158 James-Robertson House
   Division Brown Architecture
162 Kipling Beach House
   Brzin + Slator Architects
164 Kelly Residence
   John Millington & Associates
186 Stump House
   LINEATE architecture + interior design
170 Kew House
   Jackson Clements Rudloe Architects
174 Little House
   Hulke Architects Ltd
178 Learner House
   GHD Architects Pty Ltd
L also Residences
Rayen Godsell Design

Lilyfield House
Peter Turner and Ellen Wooding with Turner Conraire Green

Mel House
Cotton Architects, interiors by Desconcor

Millenium Front Apartment
Stone Harding Pty Ltd

Mills Residence
John Mainwaring & Associates

MOSI House
Jackson Clements Burrows Architects

Mt Moth Residence
Tommy Fender Model Architects

Nelson House
Burrows + Burrows Architects

North Cottinara Residence
Wright Building Architects

Ocean House
Yardney Architects

Paddington House
J4l Architects Pty Ltd

Pala Beach House
Workshop 1 Pty Ltd

The Panorama
Paul Uhlmann Architects

The Paradise
Paul Uhlmann Architects

Pararama House
Pararama Architects

Pakapaka House
Pararama Architects

Park Clarendon House
Andrew Linter Architects

Pararama Residences
Kaye + Grima Architects

Flicker House
Kerem Ahlaoui Green Architects

Gums Park Residence
Cullen Fung

Rayden Street House
Cly & Manto Architects

Rooched Earth House
Stephen Jenson Architects

Red Rock Lane House
Shipard & Root Architects

Rovera House
Joel Lane Architects

Retreat House
John Kostell Kent Architects

Richardson House
Wayne Lear Architects

Riverwood Residence
Kerem Ahlaoui Green Architects

Rose Spring Apartments
Coviland North Pty Ltd

Rover House
Finn & Middelton Architects

Gold House
Design King Company

Station House
Hendel + Habersh Aitchitects

Sorrento
Ellen Ingle Architects

Strawberry House
Intermedia Architects

Stilwell Park Residences
Cullen Fung Architects

Small Street Residence
Kaye Hayes Architects Pty Ltd

South Paddington Residences
Cullen Fung

Spring Street Apartment
Fern Architects Furniture

Spy House
Tunarch Block Architects

Strawberry House
WAP Architects

Taverners House
Morgan Dickson Architecture ( Architect); Architect Homes (interiors)

Two-Tree House
Maddison Architects

Two Residences
David Hicks Pty Ltd

Two Houses
Space Cubed Architecture Studio

Union House
New development architects (Designer and Builder)

Wanaka Residences
HOFER WILSON

Weiss Street Residences
Hamee + Associates Architects

Witney
Irving Jark Architects

Wynterly Residences
Cullen Fung

Yaleighe Beach House
Craig Stone Architects

Architect contact details