

9

the slow lane

Moving closer to work was *a complete game-changer* for this busy family, who now *come home* to their own *waterfront sanctuary*

IT WAS ALL ABOUT the location when owners Angela and Angus first spied this waterfront property on Sydney's North Shore, and they immediately envisioned a more laidback lifestyle to contrast their busy working lives. With views encompassing a quiet harbour dotted with boats and bushland surrounds, the elevated five-storey home was perfectly positioned for swimming, boating, fishing and kayaking. The sprawling layout included a garage, kids' bedrooms, main bedroom suite, formal entertaining, family living, a pool cabana and rumpus room, however, the decor didn't reflect its magnificence. "The interior style wasn't to our taste and it was in need of an update overall," says Angela. "We wanted to make this house our home." To bring their vision to life, the couple enlisted interior designer Jodie Carter, who says, "Angela didn't envisage a 'typical' grand home, she wanted to inject individuality into the design and draw on the water and natural surrounds, bringing in soft greens, blues and timber tones to create an 'Australian coastal' vibe that is luxurious but feels immediately warm and welcoming." Original beige wainscoting gave way to bright V-groove panels, and new furniture was chosen to complement the bespoke cabinetry. The first-floor family level changed the most, with existing travertine floors replaced with timber boards for a more functional kitchen, breakfast nook and new lounge and dining areas. But it's the unique details throughout that make this home look and feel special. "We're enjoying all the different areas and the amazing work that's been done," says Angela. "We use the entertaining areas a lot."

Words Stephanie Hope Styling Kayla Gex Photography Maree Homer



Original text: Sue Wheeler

Entertaining is a breeze on this second-floor terrace, which flows from the formal bar and entertaining space. "There's nothing too fancy with regards to dinner parties," says homeowner Angela. "When we have our close friends here, everyone brings a dish." See *Cosy Living* for similar outdoor furniture. >

On the entertaining level, an inviting lounge area features four oversized 'Singita' armchairs from Uniqua as well as custom bench seating either side of the fireplace by Gigsaw Joinery. A blue Bayliss rug brings colour and warmth to the existing travertine floors. Artwork by Jessica Spalding from Jimmy Possum. >





Angela loves to snuggle in one of the Uniqua 'Singita' armchairs with a coffee. A 'Clifton Beach' coffee table, also from Uniqua, and sheer curtains add to the generous luxury of the space. The adjoining formal bar area (opposite) is Angus's favourite, featuring a table by The Wood Room, 'Malawi' tub bar chairs from Uniqua and three Sub-Zero wine fridges. >

"The original kitchen was understated and not a workable 'triangle'," says Angela. In its place, she and Jodie designed a hardworking space with a large sink-free island at its centre, which acts as a casual dining table for the family of six. Statement blue cabinetry is painted Dulux Blue Rhapsody with a splashback in patterned 'Harlow Varsity Celadon' tiles from Perini. 'Ronald' bar stools from GlobeWest are a comfy perch, and three Nordlux 'Julian 23' pendants from Special Lights illuminate the space. Artwork in hallway by unknown artist. >





Shaker-style cabinetry in the butler's pantry is painted Dulux Snowy White and offset by pale oak shelving and brass 'Kintore' and 'Linear' pulls from Lo&Co. In the breakfast nook (opposite), a well-placed window frames the majestic harbour views. The Ethnecraft 'Torsion' table is a family favourite. "My girls love eating here before school, and the dog usually joins them," says Angela. >

Like the rest of the home, the main bedroom feels luxurious and laidback all at once

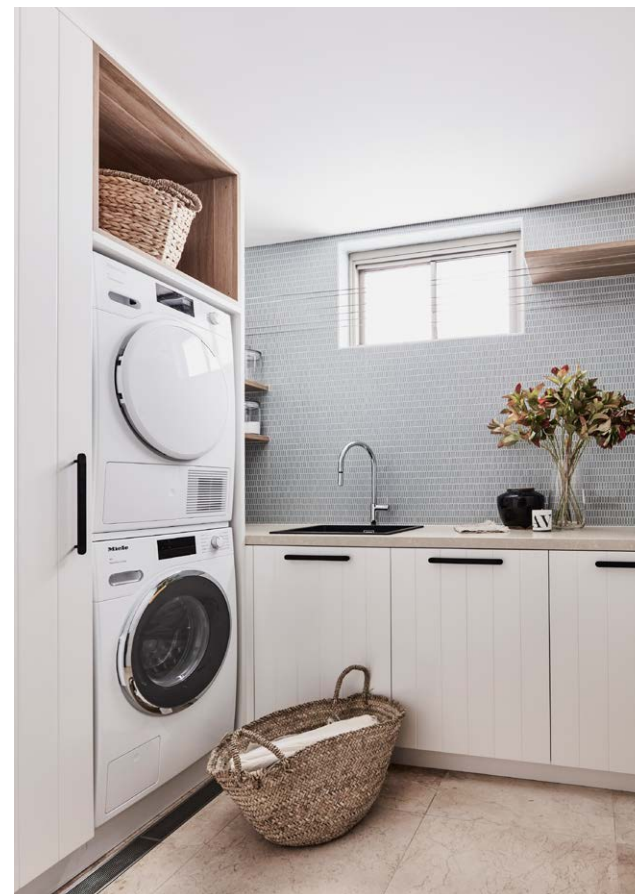


In the main bedroom, the original fireplace was upgraded with sandstone cladding from Gosford Quarries and a reclaimed timber mantle, which was salvaged from the old jetty. It adds a layer of character and warmth to the bedroom, which continues in the Pottery Barn quilted bedspread and two-toned curtains made using Zepel 'Navarra' fabric. A 'Harper' chair from Jordan is perfectly positioned to take in those harbour views. >

A bedhead made from V-groove panelling was the starting point for the bedroom, with a ledge to display a cherished candlebolder gifted from Angela's daughter. Hooker Furniture nightstands from Globe Imports are the perfect foil for Boyd Blue 'Ari' table lamps.



*Interior design: Jodie Carter Design, jodiecarterdesign.com.au.
Builder: Hamish Roughley, HR Constructions, breconstructions.com.au*



1

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3

9

the finer details

POWDER ROOM (top left)

A Nood Co shelf-mount basin in Copan Blue and concrete wall sconces from Beacon Lighting make a moody statement.

GIRLS' BATHROOM (top right)

Large-format, sea foam-hued terrazzo floor and wall tiles and a vanity painted Dulux Spanish Olive continue the coastal theme.

LAUNDRY (right)

Even the laundry feels luxe with a Smartstone benchtop in Dolce Vita Crema and Di Lorenzo Tiles 'Mini Picket' splashback tiles in Ocean.

COLOUR PALETTE Get the look with Dulux paint in Pool Bar ① and Blue Rhapsody ②, and Bar Mosaics in Sage Gloss ③ from Di Lorenzo Tiles.