

LAIDBACK LUXURY With more tiers than a wedding cake, this elevated five-storey home celebrates a spectacular water view dotted with boats and lush bushland surrounds. The six-bedroom abode has everything owners Angela, Angus and their four children could dream of, including a gym, pool and cabana, jetty, a mastersuite level and a formal entertaining floor. Originally beige, the walls throughout the home (including this staircase, left), sparkle anew in Dulux Vintage Linen, bringing contrast to the home's travertine-tiled floors. Interior designer Jodie Carter used the Eucalyptus in a hollow trunk from Watertiger and Uniqwa 'Lilli' pendant to add rustic charm. Tucked into a custom made banquette, an Ethnicraft 'Torsion' table creates "the perfect little breakfast nook in the family living area," says Angela. >



It wasn't the interior of the house that first attracted owners Angela and Angus to this waterfront property on Sydney's North Shore, but its stunning location and incredible view, both promising a more laidback lifestyle to contrast their busy working life. "From the pool down it was absolutely beautiful," remarks Angela. "A serene garden leads to a barbecue area and then a tiny boat shed. Angus loves being on the water: boating, fishing and kayaking. Sydney Harbour is spectacular – the trees, water and boats are the ultimate backyard." Inside, the floorplans over five levels were vast, starting with the garage, kids' bedrooms, mastersuite, formal entertaining, family living and finally, at the bottom, a "pool cabana" and rumpus room with its own entrance. However, the decor didn't reflect its magnificence. "There were no huge structural changes required, however, the interior wasn't a style we loved and was in need of an update throughout," says Angela. "We wanted to make this house our home."

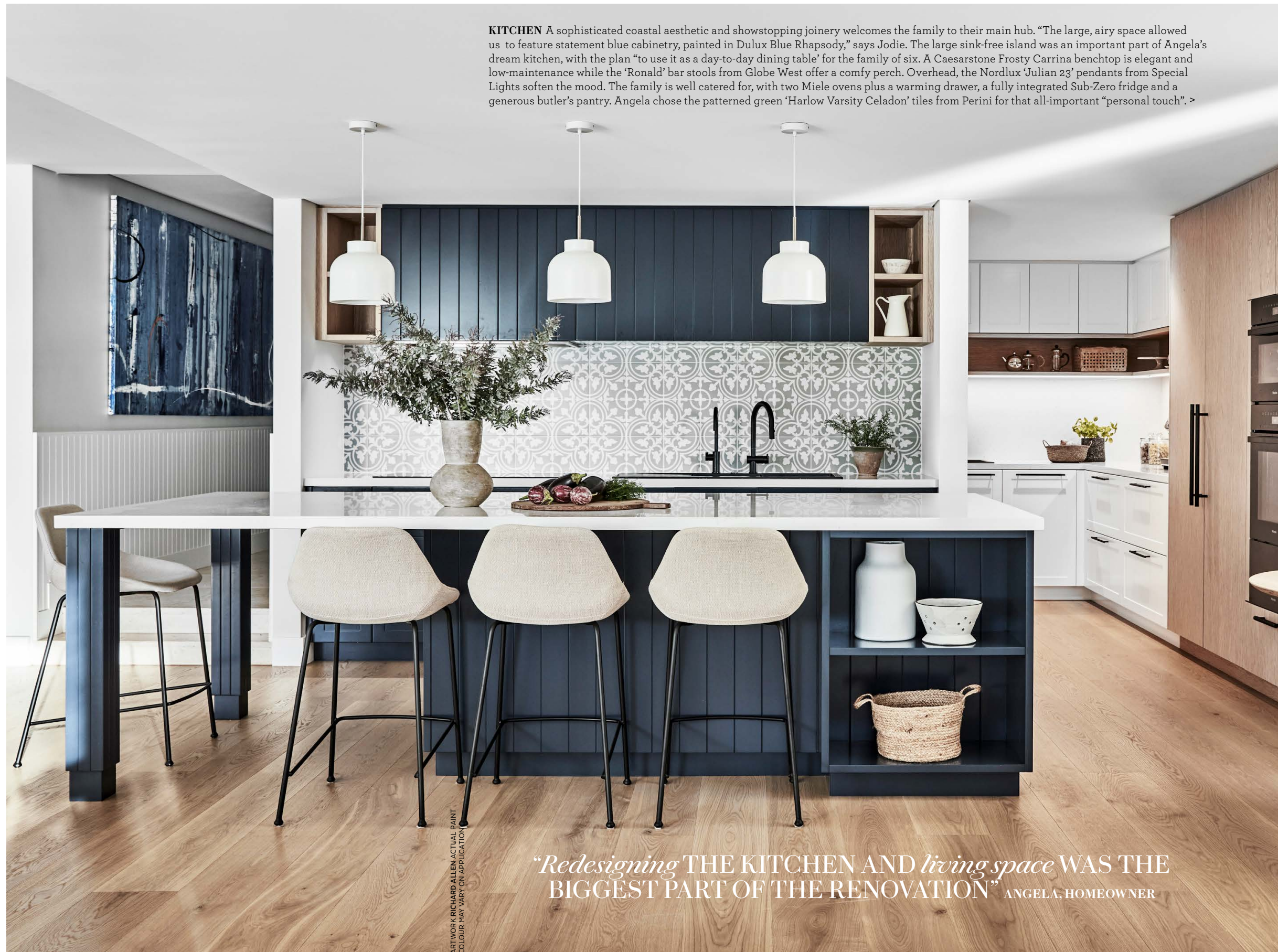
After renovating a couple of houses and living a few suburbs away for 20 years, it was time for the couple and their children to move closer to work and schools to strike a better balance between business and pleasure. "Being able to get home and have a swim or paddle, as opposed to sitting in traffic, was a big part of buying the house," adds Angela.

The renovation involved a complete interior overhaul – from custom cabinetry to curtains – and included a new kitchen and butler's pantry, two new laundries and new bathrooms. To bring their vision to life, the couple enlisted interior designer Jodie Carter. "Jodie was incredible," remarks Angela. "Her experience and attention to detail were appreciated by everyone working on the house." Jodie 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 complements bespoke cabinetry. "I would refer to the entertaining level as 'The Ballroom', it was so big and empty with little purpose," says Angela. "From this level you can look down to the kitchen, so I wanted the spaces to connect and have a similar look and feel." The family level changed the most, with existing travertine floors replaced with timber boards to allow for a more functional kitchen, a breakfast nook and new lounge and dining areas. "The original kitchen was understated and didn't work for us," says Angela. "The fridge was in the butler's pantry and the sink was where the breakfast nook is now. We knew we could make this space work better."

"We're enjoying all the different areas and the amazing work that's been done by our builder, joiner and Jodie," continues Angela. "We use the entertaining area a lot, but there's nothing too fancy with regards to dinner parties. Angus is the 'meat man' so he'll often slow cook a 'roast' or barbecue. And when our close friends come over, everyone brings a plate." With their children inviting friends over too, their home is both a hive of activity and a luxurious sanctuary... not to mention nature's paradise where less time in the car means more time in a kayak.

KITCHEN A sophisticated coastal aesthetic and showstopping joinery welcomes the family to their main hub. "The large, airy space allowed us to feature statement blue cabinetry, painted in Dulux Blue Rhapsody," says Jodie. The large sink-free island was an important part of Angela's dream kitchen, with the plan "to use it as a day-to-day dining table" for the family of six. A Caesarstone Frosty Carrina benchtop is elegant and low-maintenance while the 'Ronald' bar stools from Globe West offer a comfy perch. Overhead, the Nordlux 'Julian 23' pendants from Special Lights soften the mood. The family is well catered for, with two Miele ovens plus a warming drawer, a fully integrated Sub-Zero fridge and a generous butler's pantry. Angela chose the patterned green 'Harlow Varsity Celadon' tiles from Perini for that all-important "personal touch". >



"Redesigning THE KITCHEN AND living space WAS THE BIGGEST PART OF THE RENOVATION" ANGELA, HOMEOWNER

ARTWORK RICHARD ALLEN ACTUAL PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

WE LOVE...
banquette seats

Enjoying a design moment, banquettes are great for adding additional sitting space and personality. They also create a seamless look if they're integrated into your joinery. Here, a plain bench cushion in Zepel 'Casual' fabric in Spring has been paired with patterned scatter cushions from Walter G and Saardé. Visit zepelfabrics.com.

FAMILY LIVING Between the kitchen and dining areas, an inviting family lounge works all year round, courtesy of bi-fold doors to the deck and a gas fire edged in sandstone. Painted in Dulux Snowy Mountains, the shaker cabinetry and V-groove panelling (seen throughout the home) are a match made in coastal interior heaven. Providing relaxation for the entire family, a comfy Globe West armchair enhances the water-hued theme and a custom Molmic sofa is plumped by a huddle of scatter cushions from Her Shed and L&M Home. Uniting these elements are the Bayliss 'Coast' rug in Dunes and Hooker Furniture 'Surfrider' coffee table from Global Imports. >



ARTWORK: UNKNOWN ARTISTS

“Contrasting DARKER
CABINETS IN THE BAR
evoke A MORE formal feel”

JODIE CARTER, INTERIOR DESIGNER



FORMAL LIVING After dinner, it's time to sink into soft, oversized 'Singita' armchairs from Uniqwa in the adjoining lounge (below), where the diaphanous drapes offer an extra layer of luxe. "I'll often find the kids sitting here, too – it's a relaxing place to read, do homework or have quiet chats," says Angela. The blue Bayliss rug ties in with another Bayliss rug in the dining area (page 51), while the 'Ronald' armchairs complete the look. **FORMAL BAR** "The formal entrance is on this entertaining level, but there are lots of steps so we usually enter the house through the garage," says Angela. "This space [opposite] was important to Angus – he loves his wine and entertaining – so we wanted it to feel a little more masculine, the joinery's dark wood veneer giving it a 'cigar lounge' vibe. He and The Wood Room designed the custom table very precisely, making sure the Uniqwa stools fitted under it without knocking your legs," explains Angela. Completing the dream team in the space are a Miele integrated dishwasher, Zip HydroTap and three Sub-Zero wine fridges built into custom cabinets made by Gigsaw Joinery. >



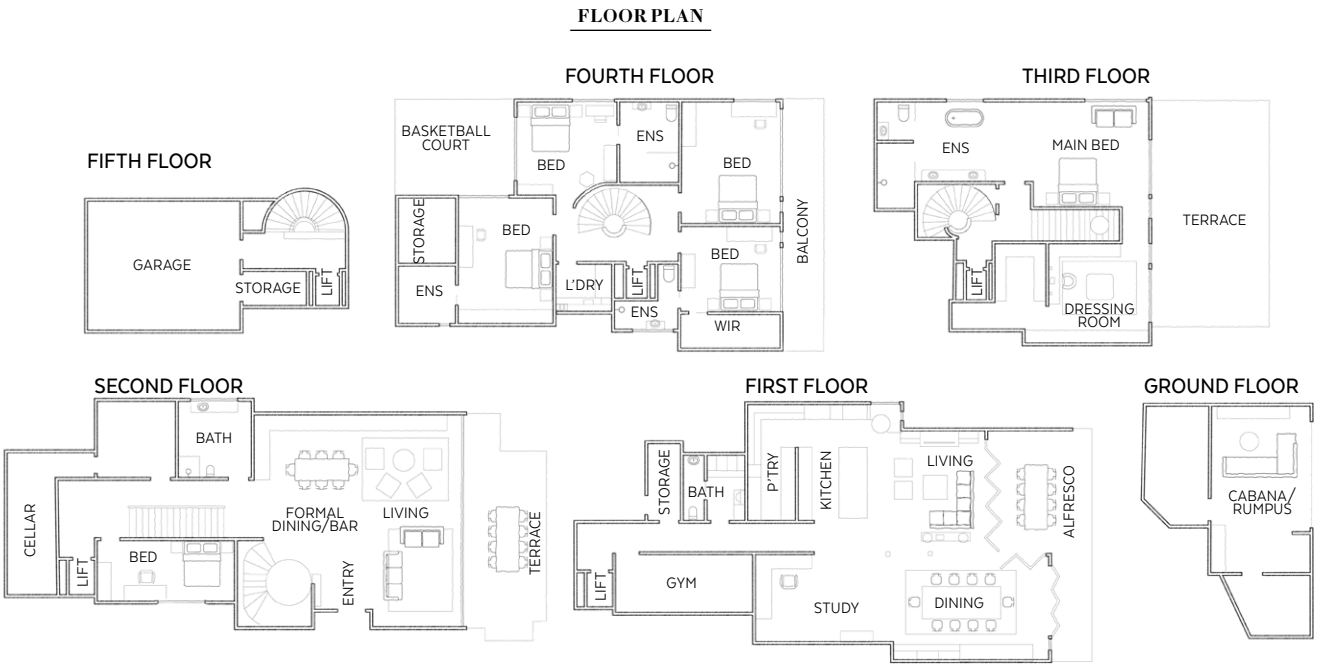
ARTWORK MARGOT SPALDING

MAIN BEDROOM The main bedroom (below) is luxurious and laidback all at once. “It’s so peaceful and we’re really happy with how this worked out,” says Angela, whose starting point was the V-groove panel ‘bedhead’, home to a cherished candle holder from her daughter. A Pottery Barn bedspread enhances the crisp white backdrop while the Arteriors ‘Ari’ bedside lamp from Boyd Blue and a Saardé velvet bolster introduce calm hues of blue. Jodie upgraded the original fireplace with sandstone cladding (Gosford Quarries) and a mantle using reclaimed timber from the old jetty “to give the room character and warmth.” She also designed the curtains, made from Zepel’s ‘Navarra’ fabric and contrasting linen border to add a distinctive twist.

GIRLS’ BATHROOM (opposite) “We continued the coastal theme in the girls’ bathroom and thought the soft green and terrazzo floor worked well,” says Jodie. “The larger format terrazzo tiles have less grout and are easier to clean.” Di Lorenzo ‘Bar Mosaic’ tiles and the V-groove on the custom vanity in Dulux Spanish Olive make delightful companions and the arched mirror cabinets and Hollywood-style lights evoke a glamorous feel. >



LIGHTS (OPPOSITE) LA LOUNGE ACTUAL PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



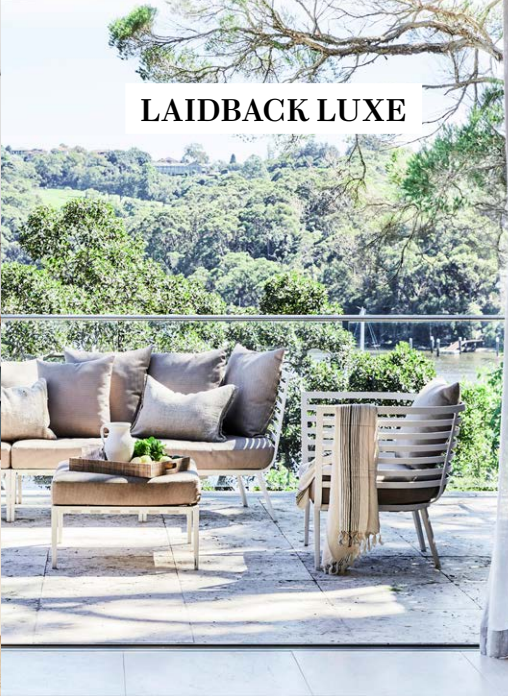
Source book

Interior design: Jodie Carter Design, (02) 4063 0285, jodicarterdesign.com.au.

Builder: Hamish Roughley, HR Constructions, 0438 256 154, hrconstructions.com.au.

Joinery: John Gigliotti, Gigsaw Joinery, 0414 545 506, @gigsaw_joinery

OUTDOORS Alfresco eating is an all-season affair, thanks to the covered verandah and Bromic heaters for cooler evenings. “The table and chairs are from Globe West,” remarks Jodie. “We chose the low back chairs because they are so comfortable and don’t obstruct the view when enjoying a long leisurely dinner.” ‘Mauritius’ outdoor dining table and ‘Maui’ outdoor armchairs, both Globe West.



INSIDE STORY
Angela & Angus’ home

Who lives here?
Business owners Angela and Angus, their four children and their two dogs.

Favourite place to have a tea?
Angela: “I would have to say snuggled in one of the ‘double’ armchairs by the fireplace in the formal lounge.”

Any decor surprises?
“The Uniqwa pendants over the dining table went in before the table and I was like ‘Holey Moley, they are so huge!’, but they bring personality as well as texture to this space and throw a lovely warm yellow in the evening.”

A favourite everyday detail?
“I love the large timber pocket doors on my kitchen pantry. I can leave them open without them getting in the way and close them up when I want the kitchen to look neat.”



1. Jodie designed the space-saving study, made by Gigsaw Joinery.
2. Alfresco zone on the entertaining level.
3. The comfy ‘Singita’ armchairs are paired with a Uniqwa ‘Clifton Beach’ coffee table in the ‘entertaining’ lounge.
4. Few & Far ‘Ourea’ lamp and a timber Watertiger bowl create a contrast with V-groove in Dulux Kimberley Tree.
5. Uniqwa ‘Malawi’ tub bar chairs sit around a custom bar table by The Wood Room. Timber veneer, Elton Group.
6. Custom mirror vanity in Dulux Pool Bar and a James Said wall sconce add soft vibes in the main bedroom.
7. Hooker Furniture bedside tables from Globe Imports were a “big ticket” item.

