



VOCAL LIVING

AUSTRALIA

EXTRAORDINARY AUSTRALIAN
kitchens & bathrooms

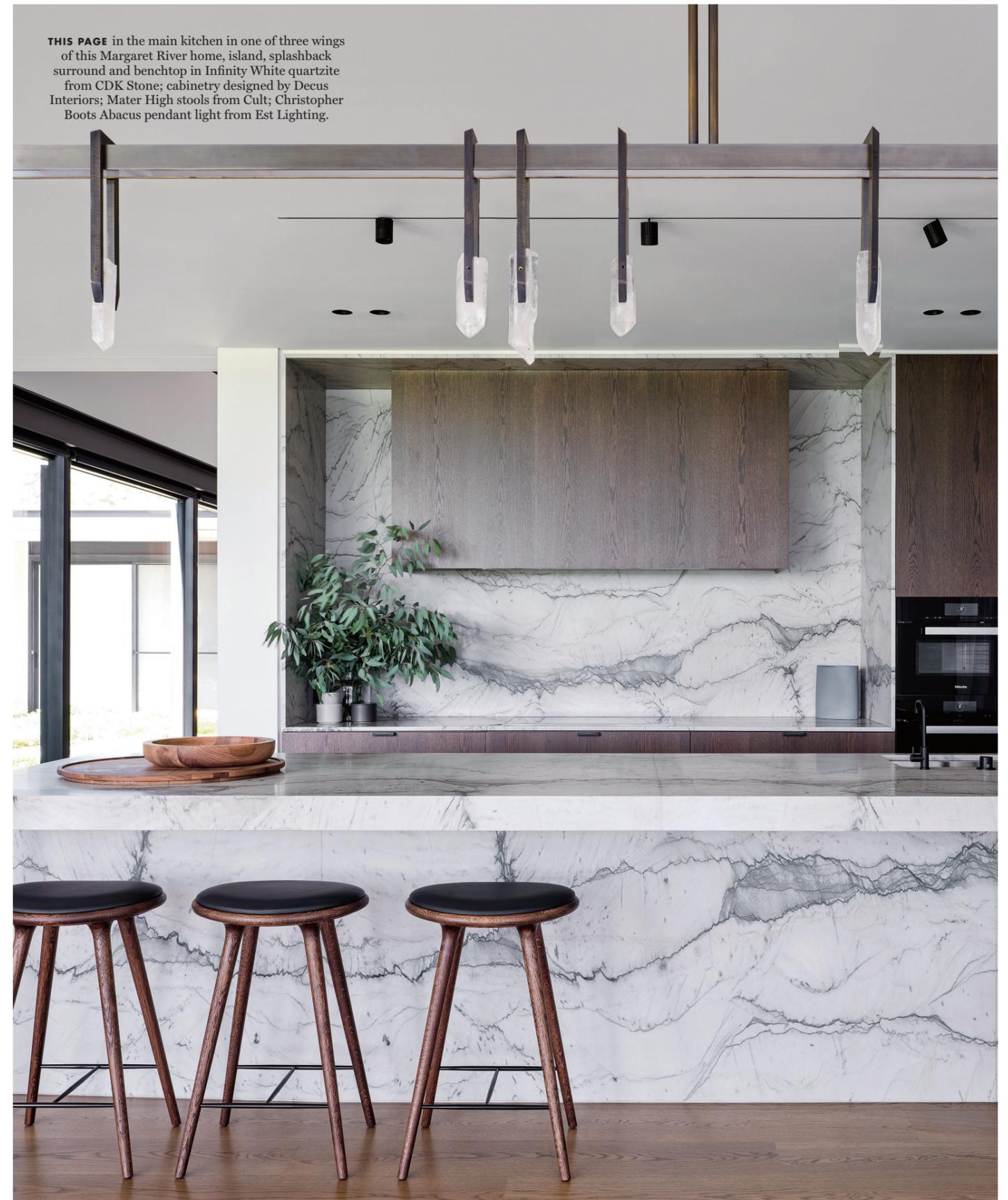
A FEAST OF
INNOVATION
AND DESIGN

RULE OF THIRDS

In a new build in the awe-inspiring surrounds of Western Australia's Margaret River, three generations seek refuge in a refined retreat.

BY JAKE MILLAR PHOTOGRAPHED BY DAVE WHEELER

THIS PAGE in the main kitchen in one of three wings of this Margaret River home, island, splashback surround and benchtop in Infinity White quartzite from CDK Stone; cabinetry designed by Decus Interiors; Mater High stools from Cult; Christopher Boots Abacus pendant light from Est Lighting.





“It was an interesting brief, in that we had three projects under the same banner and they’re very contemporary and quite clean, but they’re all aesthetically quite different”

ALEXANDRA DONOHOE CHURCH

THESE PAGES in another view of the main living area with the kitchen and dining area, Space Copenhagen Gleda low chair from Benchmark; Nest side table by Adam Goodrum for Nau from Cult. In the dining area, Poltrona Frau Ginger Ale chairs from Mobilia.

MENTION MARGARET RIVER AND THE WEST

Australian landscape comes to mind; its varied hues; the clear sky and glistening water; the sense of space and solitude; and the fact that you're three hours from Perth but feel like you're a million miles from anywhere at all.

SO PERHAPS IT is little surprise that the region has long become a magnet for those looking to get away from it all. People like the owners of the sprawling House on the Bay, designed by Sydney-based Decus Interiors. "We were contacted by the clients who explained that they had purchased a site by the beach on Margaret River and they were building a house that was essentially three houses in one," explains Alexandra Donohoe Church, founder of Decus Interiors.

The idea was to create a home practical enough for their primary clients — a couple looking to eventually relocate to Margaret River — while being spacious enough to accommodate the couple's two adult daughters and their own families when they stay.

"It was an interesting brief in that we had three projects under the same banner and they're very contemporary and quite clean and modern, but at the same time they're all aesthetically quite different," says Donohoe Church. "So we were able to have a bit of fun in each of the spaces in a different way — a little more sophisticated in the primary residence, and more colourful and playful in the other residences."

The property comprises six bedrooms and seven bathrooms, as well as three kitchens, living areas and laundries, allowing the three families to live under one roof without being in each other's pockets.

Constructed by Perth-based building company Zorzi, the new build gave Donohoe Church and her team a fresh canvas. The airy dwelling makes the most of the area's natural elements, but also manages to achieve a contemporary design without feeling stark. Think custom joinery, understated stone surfaces, dining tables and chairs from Cult's Nau collection, with large-scale windows that frame the landscape and ocean. These restrained design choices are offset by eclectic tiling and lighting, such as the pendant that Donohoe Church found in Italy. "I saw it in Milan and I somehow managed to get it into their primary bathroom," she says. "And that's probably my favourite piece in the whole house."

The home took around three-and-a-half years to complete. But it was a project that was complicated by Covid — and WA's border restrictions. Eventually a team made it into the state on their fourth attempt.

The result is a triumph of form and function. A space that can cater for as many as nine people with all their contrasting tastes and needs, while still feeling harmonious. In other words, a home that invites you to sit back, and know that the hardest decision you'll have to make that morning is whether it is a beach day or a winery day. The answer, of course, is that it is probably both. [decus.com.au](https://www.decus.com.au)

As featured in the January/February 2022 edition of Vogue Living.



THIS PAGE in the younger daughter's dining area, custom benchtop in Bianco Typhoon granite from CDK Stone; cabinetry designed by Decus Interiors; Cove handles from Studio Henry Wilson; City Stik mixer from Brodware; Molloy dining table and chairs by Adam Goodrum for Nau from Cult; Tri-Cone pendant lights from Allied Maker; curtains from Simple Studio; engineered oak flooring from Tongue n Groove.

STYLE AGENDA

The VL edit

A curated hit list inspired by the practical yet polished hubs of this home.



FROM TOP LEFT Tri Cone pendant light, \$1980, from Allied Maker; alliedmaker.com FS Objects large standing bowl in Moss, \$170, from In Bed; inbedstore.com Infinity white quartzite, POA, from CDK Stone; cdkstone.com.au Gentle oil for hair and body, \$245, from Chanel; chanel.com/au Fferrone Bessho carafe, \$305, from Space Furniture; spacefurniture.com 15cm Dolce Stil Novo warming drawer with copper trim, \$1890, from Smeg; smeg.com.au



COMPILED BY SANDY BAO

THESE PAGES in the main ensuite, vanity and mirror designed by Decus Interiors; tapware from Vola; Casa Charcoal Brick wall tiles from Onsite Supply and Design; Blue Moon granite floor tiles from Granite & Marble Works; Viabizzuno Sempre Mia pendant light from VBO Australia.



THIS PAGE in the main powder room, vanity sink in Silver stone from Granite & Marble Works; Brodware Yokato tapware from Sea of White; Casa handmade tiles in Agate from Onsite Supply and Design. **OPPOSITE PAGE** in the staircase landing, Pacha lounge chair by Pierre Paulin for Gubi from Cult; Ferm Living Insert side table from Designstuff; Viabizzuno Royal Parete wall light by David Chipperfield from VBO Australia.