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# *Abroad minded*

Won over by the charms of Tasmania's Marion Bay, a Danish family decided to put down roots and create an extra-special home away from home.

STORY AMANDA DUCKER ♦ STYLING CHARLOTTE BELL ♦ PHOTOGRAPHY NICK WATT





When it comes to making a powerful first impression, few houses compare with the Tasmanian holiday home commissioned by Peter and Christina

Treschow. When the Danish couple flew across the world to see the dramatic timber-wrapped dwelling for the first time, they wanted to eke every bit of excitement from their visit. That meant willing themselves to stay away after they landed in Hobart.

"We decided to sleep in a hotel that night because it was already night time and we wanted our first sight of the house to be in daylight," says Peter. "The feeling we had coming over the rise the next morning was just fantastic – the house was even better and more interesting than we had hoped for."

It's a response shared by many first-timers to the house, from paying guests to the judging panel of the 2011 National Institute of Architects Awards, which awarded it a coveted National Commendation for Residential Architecture.

For local architect Mike Verdouw of 1+2 Architecture, it was important to give the split-level home a real >

The intriguing first view of the house is of a macrocarpa pine-clad wall that appears to rise out of the hillside. The 'sheep chute' walkway leading to the entrance is another distinctive feature of the design.



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'THE HOUSE IS EVEN BETTER AND  
MORE INTERESTING THAN WE HAD  
HOPED FOR.' PETER



The home's utilitarian look was inspired by nearby agricultural buildings. **OPPOSITE** Perforated plasterboard on the ceiling acts as a sound dampener in the open-plan kitchen/dining/living space. The Bente Rübner dining table was imported from Denmark. It is topped with eco-certified linoleum, which also absorbs sound. La Palma Lem bar stools, ECC Lighting+ Furniture, ErgoFocus suspended fireplace, Oblica, Roul Henningsen Artichoke pendant light, Cult, Eames side chairs, Living Edge, Tasmanian oak flooring (throughout). For Where to Buy, see page 188. >



Store

Store

Bed

Bed

Bath

Bed

Courtyard

Dining

Living

Kitchen

Family

Store

Bath

Laundry

Foyer

Entrance

Deck





**'IT WAS EXCITING TO DISCOVER HOW ONE ROOM COULD COPE WITH ALL THESE DIFFERENT FUNCTIONS.'** PETER

◀ presence on its open hillside site on the Tasman Peninsula, about an hour's drive east of Hobart. "It's not a big house so we had to find a way to stop it looking like a pimple on a hill," says Mike. "The big wall had to be over-scaled to cement its place in the vast landscape." Old farm sheds heavily influenced the look of the exterior. "The macrocarpa pine cladding will weather to the same silver-grey of the sheds that are prevalent in the local area," he says.

Peter and Christina have owned the 60ha site since 1991 but had stayed with friends or rented houses on their many business trips to the southern isle over the years. Finally, the urge to create their own local haven to share with their children, Caroline, 16, and Frederik, 13, and friends became too strong to ignore. "We feel that Australia and especially Tasmania is our second home," says Christina.

The three-bedroom home is entered via a 'sheep chute' walkway leading to a glass-enclosed foyer that separates the communal zones from the bedrooms. Walls of glass along the east and north aspects of the home frame spectacular vistas. "Every place to walk, sit or sleep is designed to have fantastic views of the landscape," says Christina.

The open-plan area is a fabulous family space. "It was exciting to discover how one room could cope with all these different functions," says Peter. "It is built with such good sound-absorbing materials that cooking, conversation and TV can all be happening at once but we don't disturb each other."

This ultra-modern house is in stark contrast to the family's main residence, a grand 14th-century farmhouse about an hour from Copenhagen, and has given them latitude to indulge their love of contemporary Danish design. "It was a natural choice," says Peter. "Danish furniture is practical and at the same time beautiful to look at."

Guided by this philosophy, the family has created a home away from home that delivers beautiful simplicity at its best. ▶

1+2 Architecture, Hobart, Tasmania; (03) 6234 8122 or [www.1plus2architecture.com](http://www.1plus2architecture.com). If you'd like to rent this home, direct inquiries to [marionbayhouse.com.au](http://marionbayhouse.com.au).



*Dilly Bag*, an artwork by Barbara Mundraby 'Bungan', is a colourful focal point at the end of the bedroom corridor. The artist is represented by Ngarru Gallery.

**OPPOSITE TOP** The cabinetry in the kitchen doubles as a dividing wall, with the family room behind.

**BENCHTOPS IN CAESARSTONE ICE SNOW. OPPOSITE BOTTOM** A sleek built-in desk and bookcase give the family room the versatility to be used as a workspace when needed. Louis Poulsen AJ table lamp, Cult. Eames chair, Living Edge. For Where to Buy, see page 188.

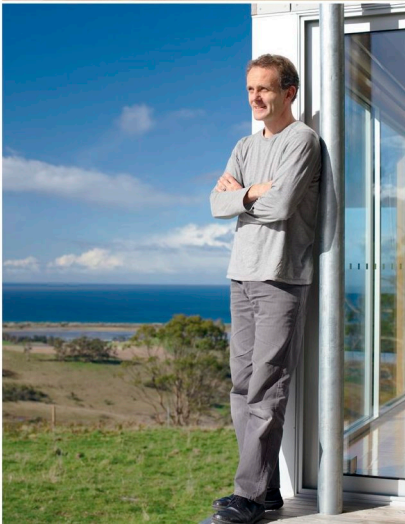






'EVERY PLACE TO WALK, SIT OR SLEEP IS DESIGNED TO HAVE FANTASTIC VIEWS OF THE LANDSCAPE.' CHRISTINA

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE All the bedrooms are situated along the north side of the home to make the most of natural light and views. Bed, Featherston Interiors. Cushions, Country Road (knitted) and Ruby's Room. Louis Poulsen AJ wall lamps, Cult. The bath (this image) is set into a glass 'box' that protrudes from the structure. White Stone Hox basin and Kaldewei Vaio Rectangle bath, Reece. Architect Mike Verdouw of 1+2 Architecture. For Where to Buy, see page 188. **F&G**





# A look we love

Clean-lined simplicity and a high regard for the view is the key to this aesthetic, where nature and Scandinavian design rules.



Fuss-free materials, flashes of colour and the unmistakable form of mid-century design classics are hallmarks of Danish design, a crisp yet warm aesthetic that's right at home on the Tasmanian coast. A restrained material palette of natural timbers, moulded plastic and powder-coated steel stays matt. Every object is a thing of beauty in its own right; very little is superfluous or purely decorative. The windows are left unadorned, the floor bare, and there is an absence of fussy architectural details. Textured natural fabrics and the showpiece floating fireplace deliver all the warmth in this sleek and practical holiday home, where furnishings play second fiddle to the view.

1 Helena enamelled-metal pendant light, \$169, Beacon Lighting. 2 Herringbone lambswool throw (1.4x2m) in Moss Green, \$155, Elk Accessories. 3 Stockholm powder-coated steel floor lamp, \$199, Ikea. 4 Stelton iL plastic and glass vacuum jug, \$150, Wedding List Co. 5 Hay About A Chair oak chair with plastic seat, \$468, Cult. 6 Australian House & Garden bamboo basket, \$65, Myer. 7 Large potted succulent in stoneware pot, \$84, Say it with Succulents.

For Where to Buy, see page 188.

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