

The brief called for a family holiday house where family could be together but not on top of one another. The wide, north-facing block some 5 minutes walk from Balnarring Beach on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula offered the perfect opportunity to build such a house. The single level U-shaped building steps up towards the rear of the block following the gentle slope of the land. An integrated landscape solution helps to create a series of indoor and outdoor spaces. The front wing provides a sleeping zone away from the main living areas. A family room here can be opened to the central courtyard and also to a fully secured front yard defined by a curved, vertical batten fence which arcs back to the house, connecting to a curved wall leading visitors to the front door. A glazed corridor links entry and family wing to the rear living areas with a free-standing spine wall concealing a smaller private courtyard addressed only by the master bedroom and study. The main living area flows directly onto the central space via fully retractable bifold doors. Black painted cement sheet panel and raw hardwood timber cladding used externally merge inside the house in places contrasting against the clean white interior plaster shell. Full height glazing and slot windows frame the landscape and further allow the outdoor spaces to flow through the house. Text by Simon Couchman Architects

Simon Couchman Architects is a Melbourne-based architectural practice with a strong emphasis on unique, challenging and functional design. They offer a highly personalized service that allows clients to understand the process and follow the progress of their projects from early sketch design ideas through to construction. Simon Couchman Architects was established in 2006 by Simon Couchman after a number of years working for leading architectural firms both in Australia and Overseas. Simon has experience in a range of project types including Institutional/Educational, commercial, single/multi-residential and campus design.





















- 1 LIVING ROOM
- 2 DINING ROOM
- 3 KITCHEN
- 4 LAUNDRY
- 5 POWDER ROOM
- 6 MASTER BEDROOM 7 ENSUITE BATHROOM
- 8 LAWN AREA
- 9 STUDY ROOM 10 GARAGE
- TO GRANIGE
- 11 ENTRANCE
- 12 FAMILY ROOM
- 13 KIDS ROOM 14 2ND BEDROOM
- 15 FAMILY BATHROOM
- ......
- 17 OUTDOOR DINING AREA
- 18 OUTDOOR SHOWER
- 19 CLOTHESLINE
- 20 WATER TANK



