

# THE LOCAL PROJECT



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# REDEFINING BEACHSIDE LIVING — AZURA ASPENDALE BY LOWE LIVING

Embracing a rare absolute beachfront location, Azura Aspendale gives Victoria a  
new premium coastal address.

Words by Jackson Hides • Developed by Lowe Living • Build by Lowe Create • Architecture by Chamberlain Architects  
Interior Architecture by GOLDEN • Landscape Architecture by Jack Merlo • Renders by Gavin Scott





Material selection is both respectful to and mindful of the coastal surrounds, with lush native plantings and feature foliage to maximise privacy.

Prior to the Azura Aspendale project, Lowe Living had already established an enviable reputation for their careful consideration of every aspect of their projects. Responsible for the end-to-end development of luxury medium-density residential apartments and townhomes, Lowe Living are industry-leading property developers, who expertly construct their own projects. They are driven by a client-first approach, striving to redefine expectations, experiences and outcomes on every project they deliver.

For the Azura Aspendale project, Lowe Living sought to redefine coastal living and the architectural possibilities available to such geography by collaborating closely with Chamberlain Architects and GOLDEN throughout the detailed design process. The development consists of eight townhomes and 19 apartments, 10 of which are beach-facing homes, appropriately titled The Beachfront Collection. Situated at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, the design allows for privacy and security but also cultivates a sense of community thanks in large part to its enviable direct beach access.

Beachfront apartments remain a relative rarity in Melbourne, and the success of Azura Aspendale certainly attests to this. Within the first week of the development going on sale, some 35 percent of the properties had sold, with the majority of the remaining homes selling shortly after. This incredible sales result reinforces the overwhelming demand for quality beachside living in an otherwise competitive market and further

emphasises Lowe Living's quality reputation. It is a result that all those involved are extremely proud of, with Lowe Living Founder and Managing Director Tim Lowe admitting, "we were thrilled with the overwhelming positive response to this project and the speed in which the homes sold. Beachfront sites of this calibre are extremely rare. We were aware of the amazing opportunity we had in front of us and worked closely with the architects and interior architects to create a development that truly did the site justice."

This scarcity makes Melbourne something of an Australian anomaly, particularly when compared to other cities such as the Gold Coast and Sydney, where the lifestyle advantages of walking straight off your front porch and onto the sand regularly elevate the profile of properties and buildings. This drove the ambition and commitment of Lowe Living to see this development come to fruition.

After selecting the unique site, chosen specifically to offer something special to the owner-occupier market, Lowe Living engaged industry leading architecture firm Chamberlain Architects to help bring their vision of redefined beachside living to life. The material palette draws inspiration from examples of tropical modernism in Brazil and parts of Asia. From here, Chamberlain Architects set about designing the project as a place to retreat each day. "We create our residential architecture to support people's daily habits, looking for ways to support these within our design," explains Director Glen Chamberlain.









Breathtaking in beauty, spectacular in scale and uncompromised in quality, Azura Aspendale focuses on bringing moments of joy and delight to daily living.



The residences place a great deal of emphasis on blurring the boundaries between indoors and outdoors, with interiors enjoying vast amounts of natural light and floor-to-ceiling windows.

The buildings feature a complementary blend of materials and textures. Masonry red brick is combined with the off-form concrete and dark metal cladding used in the façade. The lush landscaping that surrounds the exterior is given a quiet emphasis, as ironbark timber decking and bluestone pavers provide a subtle and timeless neutrality with which to contrast.

The uninterrupted bay views that each residence in The Beachfront Collection enjoys are cohesively linked to the beach via a series of balconies and walkways, whilst courtyards and terraces throughout the entire development promote air circulation from the sea breeze. To reinforce the sense of calm and relaxation, a great deal of emphasis needed to be placed on the entranceways to the residences throughout.

Creating a sense of address and arrival, landscape architect Jack Merlo relied heavily on lush native plantings, with feature foliage and greenery cohesively linking the communal walkways with the building's exterior. The gardens also help contribute to the feeling of privacy and security, and thoughtful consideration of the coastal location is evident throughout the landscape design.

Like the rest of the project, the interiors were conceptualised on the back of a strong collaborative process between Lowe Living and GOLDEN. The location again played a significant role in framing the vision and the creative direction chosen. Alicia McKimm, director of GOLDEN, ex-

plains, “the interior design of Azura is inspired by its location. Demonstrating a sophistication to the aesthetic with an unbuttoned sensibility and association to the tranquillity of the beach. The ‘house-like’ dwellings drove our design ethos, with the function of spaces feeling less apartment and more home-style.”

Light tones of timber and grey serve as a further nod to coastal surrounds, as a deliberately chosen colour palette helps to facilitate a pared-back interior aesthetic. The end result is a series of considered living spaces that respect their broader environment but also add to the discourse around what beachside architecture is capable of.

Full-height windows and sliding doors not only promote natural light but maximise the buildings’ beachfront exposure. These vast open internal spaces naturally encourage open floorplans, so consideration was afforded with regards to energy efficiency and practicality. And durable engineered timber floorboards and double-glazing to windows ensure that no sacrifice is made to quality of living, no matter the time of year.

By establishing a design that encourages year-round entertaining through seamless transitions between indoor and outdoor living, Azura Aspendale presents a sanctuary in style befitting its elite location. Refreshingly contemporary yet also timeless and classic, Lowe Living have planned a unique project that possesses a subtle sophistication rarely afforded to coastal homes.