



BAY HAUS

PHOTOGRAPHY ATELIER PHOTOGRAPHY / **WORDS** NICHOLA DAVIES
INTERIOR DESIGN + STYLING TIM NEVE

Interior stylist Tim Neve has created perhaps Nelson Bay's most enviable boutique accommodation option—a two-storey, three-bedroom oasis.



KITCHEN “The space for the kitchen is petite, but feels streamlined thanks to the clever inclusion of integrated appliances—the fridge and dishwasher literally disappear,” explains Tim. Casearstone benchtops in ‘Fresh Concrete’; cabinetry in Laminex ‘White Textile’; pendant lights from Beacon Lighting; tap from Highgrove Bathrooms.

If you had have been a fly on the wall when Tim Neve spied the Bay Haus property for the first time, you would have heard an audible gasp. It’s a cliché, but in some instances it really is love at first sight.

“At my first inspection, the initial question from the real estate agent was, ‘was I a developer?’” says Tim.

“I was horrified that someone would even consider knocking down such a beauty to make way for a new construction.”

Tim describes the house as having so much personality; its A-frame exterior being “a classic beach shack style that replicated the new wave of architecture in the 1950s”.

On a modest budget and limited timeframe, Tim had to get hands-on himself, attacking jobs like demolishing walls and “removing the dated kitchen” straight away.

“I have been known to rip out a kitchen myself within the first hour after a property settlement!” says Tim.

To give it a fresh and breezy feel, Tim wanted to open up the living area and removing two walls did so easily.



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“Texture is key when staying neutral to ensure things don’t become simply flat and beige.”

“I still remember the first day I hit the sledgehammer through the wall and could see the shore of nearby Bagnalls Beach appear before me, and knew instantly I had made the right decision,” says Tim.

In creating the look and feel of the space, it was essential for Tim to steer clear of nautical clichés. He opted instead for neutrals to give it a relaxed feel, combined with forward-thinking furniture and accessories to elevate the space to a level that would rival a boutique hotel.

“To achieve this, I opted for a warm, neutral wall colour (Dulux ‘Natural White’),” says Tim. “It’s probably the furthest you can push white before it starts to look cream. In the beautiful open-plan living area upstairs the natural light literally bounces off the walls—it’s really heavenly.”

“For the décor, I wanted to continue the warm, neutral theme but pushing it into nude, earthy tones. It was really hard to find pieces that achieved this without becoming girly and pink.

“I opted for natural leathers and tactile linens that adhered to the muted side. Texture is key when staying neutral to ensure things don’t become simply flat and beige.”

Steering clear of Scandi furniture pieces, which Tim says we have seen time and again in beach houses, Tim hunted for furniture and décor pieces that were robust and sculptural—simple curved shapes in solid forms. >





SHOP THE LOOK "Whenever I post an image of one of my interiors on Instagram, the first question is always 'where is that from?' So it made sense with Bay Haus to share every item from the home, so you can easily 'steal the style' for yourself," says Tim. "I've included the furniture and homewares as a curated collection on my online store (store.timneve.com) and recently integrated Instagram shopping so you can shop straight from my feed."

< One of Bay Haus' standout spaces, and one of Tim's favourites, is the bathroom, which plays beautifully with terrazzo, feature tiling, brass fittings and curved shapes in the mirror and apricot cement basin.

Another of Tim's favourite aspects is Central Coast artist Bonnie Gray's artwork 'Truly See'—"in fact you could say it inspired the colour palette for the whole home," says Tim.

"I'm also particularly proud of the day bed under the staircase I constructed myself, quickly and cost-effectively. It adds a wonderful nook to read or recline in, as well as practically doubling with storage underneath."

We don't know for sure, but we can only assume those who stay at Bay Haus give an audible gasp when they see it too. And, if admirers of Bay Haus want to bring a little piece of it home, they can shop the look on Tim's website.



[bayhaus.com.au](https://www.bayhaus.com.au) @thebayhaus

COLOUR PALETTE



BATHROOM "The bathroom is a favourite space of mine," says Tim. "The terrazzo tile from Newcastle Tile Co really pulls together the entire scheme with fragments of the terracotta colour in it." Terracotta tiles from Earp Bros; basin from Nood Co; tapware from ABI; vase and mirror from Tim Neve's online store; door handles from Lo & Co.



Style TO STEAL

Get Tim's style with a boho palette of white, timber and blush hues.



PENDANT LIGHT Beacon Lighting 'Aiden' pendant light in natural wood (large) \$469 beaconlighting.com.au / **THROW** Aura Home vintage linen fringe throw in clay \$149 store.timneve.com / **MIRROR** Middle of Nowhere brass arch mirror \$473 store.timneve.com / **SHOWER HEAD AND ARM** ABI 'Eden' gooseneck shower arm in brushed brass \$149.90 and 'Dana' round shower head in brushed brass \$209.90 abiinteriors.com.au / **BASIN** Nood Co. 'Bowl' basin in peach \$720 noodco.com.au / **LEAF** Natural dried sun palm \$20 rawsunshinecoast.com.au / **ART** Middle of Nowhere screenprint on linen artwork 2 \$360 store.timneve.com / **CUSHION** Leather pillow in caramel \$219 store.timneve.com / **LAMP** Sculptural white lamp \$275 store.timneve.com / **COFFEE TABLE** GlobeWest terrazzo coffee table (small) \$1,145 store.timneve.com / **BEDSIDE TABLE** Rattan bedside table \$499 store.timneve.com / **BEDHEAD** Half moon linen slipcover bedhead (queen size) \$1,300 store.timneve.com