

BEACHSIDE HAVEN

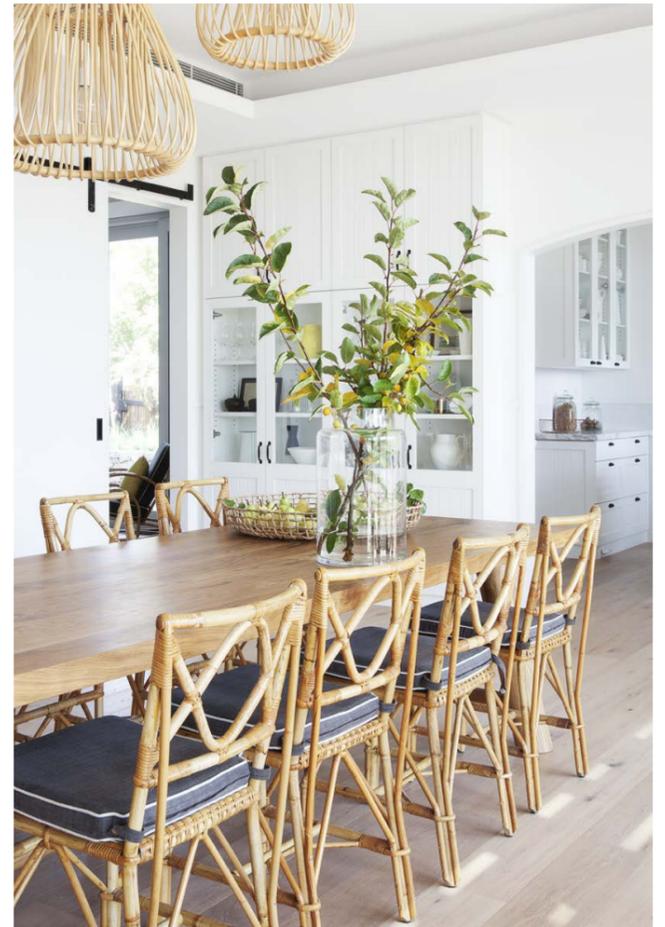
THIS HOLIDAY HOME'S KITCHEN FUSES CLASSIC LINES WITH A CONTEMPORARY APPROACH

WORDS ANNA McCOOE STYLING WENDY BANNISTER
PHOTOGRAPHY SHANIA SHEGEDYN

ISLAND "[Interior architect] Anne-Marie really nailed the proportions," says homeowner Jo of the kitchen in her Victorian home by the coast. "The central bench is big enough for cooking, but not so big you can't get past it." The island bench (above) is an entertainer's dream and provides a central area for prep and plating up for large numbers of people. "It's also great for when extra hands are assisting, without getting in the way of one another," says Anne-Marie.

There is so much nostalgia in Jo and Jack's holiday home on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. There are references to Jo's childhood home in the same area and nods to the nearby holiday house where Jack spent time growing up. When it came to the renovation, the couple enlisted the help of interior architect Anne-Marie Rush to create a look that would reference everything Jo

and Jack associated with happy family beach life. In the kitchen, this materialised as solid timber joinery, marble benchtops, glass-fronted display cabinets and the use of a seriously cool collection of 1950s and '60s hand-me-downs from Jack's parents' beach house. "This kitchen is a relaxed place to be," says Jo. To date, it has comfortably catered for the couple, their three children Patrick, 20, Lizzie, 17, and Rose, 14, and their kids' friends – plus it helped to dish up an Easter Sunday lunch for 20 guests. In the grand scheme of the home, the kitchen sits in its own dedicated corner and opens out to the dining area and living zone, before flowing to the outdoors. At the sink, whoever is on washing-up duty can look out across the lawn to the ocean. It's a social space, but it's not a thoroughfare – which Jo loves. There's also plenty of space either side of the bench for multiple cooks, but there's no seating. "If you're in this kitchen you're here to help out," she explains. And who wouldn't want to get their hands dirty in this stunning environment?



"MULTIPLE PEOPLE CAN WORK IN THE KITCHEN. THERE'S **EASY ACCESS** TO THE SINK AND EVERYONE CAN BE INVOLVED" ~ JO, HOMEOWNER

LAYOUT "This kitchen is driven by functionality," says the home's owner Jo, who loves that there's a connection to the dining and living spaces (left & above). "When I'm in the kitchen, I can still be a part of everything going on, but there's no traffic," she adds.

LIGHTING Hovering above the dining table, the Bonacina 1889 'Orbita' pendant lights (left) were originally purchased from De De Ce for Jo and Jack's home in Melbourne, but looked even more stunning in partnership with the cane chairs, so they were relocated. "The different sizes, shapes and heights make an interesting centrepiece for the dining table," says interior architect Anne-Marie of the aesthetic.

FURNISHINGS The '60s cane chairs were inherited from Jack's mother and spent their first chapter in the family's beloved Mornington Peninsula holiday house (left & above). For their next chapter, the cane was restored and new seat cushions were made up with Mokum James Dunlop Ottimo fabric in Espresso with colour Linen for the piping. The farmhouse refectory table from Mark Tuckey is three metres long. "Big enough to accommodate all of the cane chairs and ideal for all the entertaining that is enjoyed," says Anne-Marie. >



SPOTLIGHT ON
**STATEMENT
PENDANTS**

Jo found the large copper pendants, which provide a lovely warm glow in the white kitchen (left), at *Homings Instincts*. (For a similar look try Dunlin's 'Stanley' hammered copper pendant.) "They remind me of the copper pots and pans that were used in grand old house kitchens," says interior architect Anne-Marie of the updated classic touch. "They also highlight the island bench and signify the importance of this room within the house."

APPLIANCES "It would be fair to say that the oven came first, the kitchen second," says interior architect Anne-Marie, who was more than happy to work with item No. 1 on Jo's wish list – the Bertazzoni Professional Series 6 burner freestanding double oven (below). Wanting to create a surrounding space worthy of the knock-out appliance, Anne-Marie devised an arched recess. "Arches were part of the design language of the old Victorian house, and the existing Victorian cottage," she says. Around the oven, the arch conceals a Qasair Thermidor exhaust fan, a cutting-edge update on the Victorian-era kitchen chimneys.

SURFACE Jo is a serious cook and couldn't go past Calacatta marble from CDK Stone for the benches (above). "I love the marble," she says. "It's so easy to work pastry on marble." The slabs were selected especially for their obvious grainy characteristics.



CABINETS Filled with inherited and collected crockery and glassware, the full-height cabinets (above & right) put family nostalgia on show. "The partial glass display allows interesting items to be seen and appreciated in safety, and the more mundane utilitarian items can be hidden away behind the solid doors," says Anne-Marie. Handles in an electro matt black finish from Bellevue Imports are a modern take on heritage hardware.



"I LOVE THIS KITCHEN. IT'S **DIFFERENT** FROM MY KITCHEN IN MELBOURNE. THIS IS MORE OF A COOK'S KITCHEN" ~ JO, HOMEOWNER



*BUDGET BREAKDOWN DOES NOT INCLUDE BUILDING OR INSTALLATION COSTS. PLAN NOT TO SCALE. ARTWORK (OPPOSITE)/ARTIST UNKNOWN

DESIGNER TIP

Factory-sprayed joinery may look schmick, but a hand-painted timber kitchen such as Jo and Jack's will absorb all the knocks of a carefree holiday home – with the unpolished look creating a cosy, lived-in feeling. Interior architect Anne-Marie had this one made from Australian hardwood and finished by hand in Dulux Vivid White. "It's an enduring and easily retouchable finish," she says.

LAYOUT

BUDGET & SOURCE BOOK

Appliances	\$19,000
Cabinetry	\$16,500
Fittings	\$1,500
Splashback	\$500
Stone	\$9,500

TOTAL \$47,000*

INTERIOR ARCHITECT: Anne-Marie Rush,
0438 534 305. Stockists, page 186