

# COASTAL *retreat*

INFLUENCED BY ITS ENVIRONMENT,  
THIS SYDNEY BATHROOM DRAWS UPON  
NATURE TO BUILD A SANCTUARY

Words LAURA BARRY Photography ESS CREATIVE

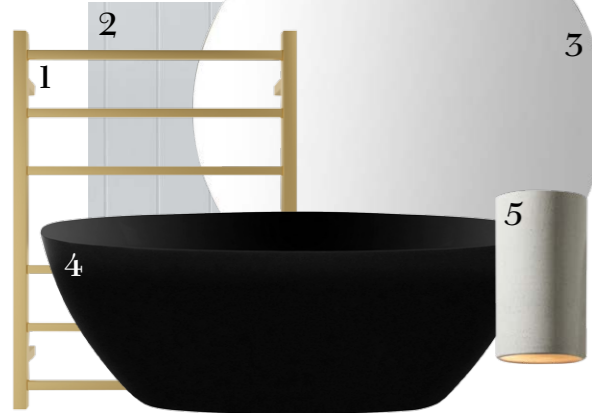
This enviable bathroom is part of a second-storey addition to a property in the eastern Sydney suburb of Bronte, and was created by Alison Felstead, interior designer and owner of Naibu Design, in 2021. “The client’s brief was for a bathroom with a timeless aesthetic that took advantage of its location,” says Alison.

“By day, they wanted it to feel light and airy, but practical, as it’s the family bathroom and required lots of storage. They also wanted it to be a calming, yet sophisticated, space for the adults to retreat to.”

Alison chose a neutral colour scheme using Porter’s Paints Popcorn, and integrated texture through materials. Hardie Groove VJ sheet panels from James Hardie contrast with the Beaumont Tiles grey tiles and a black Pietra Bianca ‘Ryese’ freestanding stone bathtub from Cass Brothers. Brushed gold Mizu fittings from Reece and oak cabinetry from Ikea were selected to soften the overall look.

“Louvred windows were chosen to maximise natural light but offer ventilation and control airflow,” adds Alison. “The skylight was also important, to maximise the light and draw attention to the raked ceiling. It allows you to look up to the sky while in the bath, too.”

## GET THE LOOK



1. Linsol ‘Spirit’ heated towel rail in Brushed Brass, \$469, Harvey Norman.
2. Hardie Groove fibre cement lining (270cm x 120cm x 0.75cm), \$154, Bunnings.
3. Issy ‘Z1 Ballerina’ mirror, \$1200/90cm, Reece.
4. Poseidon ‘Stella’ freestanding acrylic bathtub in Matte Black, \$1980/1700mm, Acqua Bathrooms.
5. Anchor ‘Earth Light’ indoor wall light in Speckled White Satin, from \$930, Hub Furniture.

### Open and shut

THE CLIENTS WANTED TO INTEGRATE THE LEAFY COASTAL VIEWS INTO THE BATHROOM. THAT FEATURE WAS FACILITATED THROUGH SIGNATURE LOUVRE WINDOWS FROM BRADNAM’S WINDOWS AS WELL AS A GLASS SKYLIGHT FROM NATURAL LIGHTING PRODUCTS.

### Geometry lesson

“A COMBINATION OF CIRCLES AND CURVES WERE USED TO CONTRAST THE HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL LINES,” SAYS ALISON OF THE ROUNDED BATH, BASIN, TAPWARE AND MIRROR, WHICH ALL SIT NICELY AGAINST THE LINES OF THE PANELS AND TILES.

### Vanity fair

AN IKEA ‘GODMORGON’ WASHSTAND WITH DRAWERS IN A WHITE STAINED-OAK EFFECT HAS BEEN PAIRED WITH AN IKEA ‘USKEN’ COUNTERTOP IN WHITE QUARTZ FOR THE VANITY, WHICH HAS A ‘CONTURA’ INSET BASIN FROM CAROMA.

### Rock solid

THE CENTRAL PIECE OF THIS BATHROOM IS THE DRAMATIC PIETRA BIANCA ‘RYESE’ 1600MM COMPOSITE STONE TUB, WHICH DRAWS YOUR EYE UPON ENTERING THE SPACE. “IT ADDS A REAL SENSE OF LUXURY,” SAYS ALISON. THE TOWEL RAIL IS FROM REECE.

### Design tip

“This style of bathroom doesn’t have to blow your budget,” says Alison. “You can spend on your hero piece, such as the bath, then save on other items such as cabinetry or tiles.”

### Source book

Interior design: Alison Felstead, Naibu Design, 0406 619 982, [naibudesign.com.au](http://naibudesign.com.au), @naibudesign\_



ACTUAL PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION