

## DRIVER

An eye for fashion, style and travel with Lisa Danielle Smith and Jamie Green

## DESPATCHES

South Africa is fast becoming a tourism favourite

## SPACE

Style is all in the detail, says interior designer Kate Sacks



# MB

THE MERCEDES-BENZ  
GOLD COAST MAGAZINE

# GCC

SUMMER 2019

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# TEAM

## EDITED AND PRODUCED BY

Zakazukha

7/99 West Burleigh Road  
Burleigh Heads QLD 4220  
(07) 5607 0899

129 Prince St  
Grafton NSW 2460  
0423 403 449  
www.zakazukha.com

## WRITERS

Nick Nichols, Bruce Nelson, Rebel Wylie,  
Sam Stolz, Daniel Ridgeway, Brad Kennedy,  
Holly Louise

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Jamie Green, Sherilea Gaspar, Seascap  
Restaurant and Bar, Ridgeway Group, Rausch  
International, City of Gold Coast, Jessie Prince,  
Andy Macpherson, Vissla

## DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Carolyn Ryan, Belinda Foord

## SUBJECTS

Lisa Danielle and Jamie Green, Kate Sacks,  
Seascap, Rausch International, Vissla, YCL  
Jewels, Brad Kennedy

## DEALERSHIP

Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast  
11 Scottsdale Drive  
Robina QLD 4226  
(07) 5558 6555  
www.mbgoldcoast.com.au

*Dealer Principal* Robin Mainali

*Marketing Manager* Jodie Mariner

## ADVERTISING

For all advertising enquiries contact:

Drew Myers  
0429 987 113

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# WELCOME

## Summer 2019



**W**elcome to the Summer edition of MBGC. As the weather warms up and the days get longer, this time of year really is a reminder why we call the Gold Coast home. With almost 60 kilometres of beautiful beaches stretching from the southern end at Rainbow Bay to South Stradbroke Island in the north, they make for a fantastic destination in their own right or an enjoyable day's drive to explore – in your Mercedes-Benz of course.

In this season's edition we take a drive with social media entrepreneurs Lisa Danielle Smith and Jamie Green, who on the surface live one long holiday, however like most small businesses have to work seven days a week to reap the rewards. Our photoshoot and story features the all new Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 on the beach at Lennox Head.

In our regular restaurant review we visit Seascape Restaurant and Bar, a popular beachside venue, and take a look at their unique new rooftop bar in the heart of Surfers Paradise with one of the best views in town. From the signature chowder, with salmon, mussels, prawns and squid, to the seasonal oyster offering in four delicious styles, the restaurant menu is extensive as it is tempting.

If travel is on your mind then our feature by journalist Rebel Wylie on the wonders of South Africa will get you thinking about what to pack. Her story tells us why it's becoming a tourism favourite and shows us there's more to the country than lions and elephants, even though wildlife conservation plays an important part of the experience.

In Concept we talk with Gold Coast based Nick Price, who along with his Australian co-director Michelle Lewis, heads up Rausch International, a custom-made outdoor furniture company that supplies most of the leading hotels in the world from the Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in the south of France, Venetian in Las Vegas to Burj Al Arab in Dubai, and onboard nearly every one of the Royal Caribbean cruise ships. Nick regularly visits clients across 45 countries with a travel schedule that would be the envy of any dedicated travel blogger – perhaps he should compare notes with Lisa and Jamie.

Interior designer Kate Sacks talks us through her projects and style philosophy, all infused with a simplicity that aims to create a timeless, enduring aesthetic that will transcend trends. Responsible for interiors at luxury accommodation The Bower Hotel and Byron Beach Abodes, as well as commercial fitouts for the Southern Cross Jets hangar at Essendon Airport in Melbourne and a custom designed motor yacht, she says there's a lot to get excited about designing interiors.

Creators and Innovators Vissla, another Gold Coast-grown surf brand speak with us about their forward-thinking business philosophy, and we talk with Fabienne Costa about how her heart lead the way on a business journey that has taken her company YCL Jewels to the world.

Our Catchment story takes a look at the once sleepy seaside suburb of Burleigh Heads – that now hosts some of the hottest dining and entertainment options on the Gold Coast. From high street shopping to award-winning restaurants and everything in between, Burleigh has successfully positioned itself as the place to be this summer.

We round out this edition with our regular contributors: a delicious vanilla-bean panna cotta recipe from Daniel Ridgeway; golf tips to get your game on par with Brad Kennedy; and staying healthy in the silly season with health and fitness guru Holly Louise.

If there's anything you'd like to see in future editions, please feel free to contact our editorial team, and of course if there's a Mercedes-Benz that catches your eye in our catalogue then make sure to get in touch.

Robin Mainali  
Dealer Principal  
Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast

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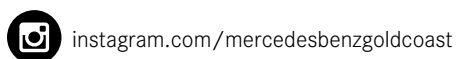
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# THE ART OF CREATIVE ADVENTURE

WORDS Nick Nichols PHOTOS Jamie Green



An eye for fashion, style and travel is the formula to a never-ending journey for Byron Bay couple Lisa Danielle Smith and Jamie Green.





It was an afternoon photo shoot like any other for Lisa Danielle Smith and Jamie Green, although this time it felt more like slipping into a comfy chair as they settled into the job on familiar territory.

The Instagram couple were on the beach near Byron Bay looking to capture the essence of the location, no different to the many exotic destinations they have visited in recent years.

They may now have a full-time career that outwardly reflects all the trappings of a full-time holiday, but it's all because their personal style has helped them cultivate a significant social media following.

Lisa and Jamie love what they do, yet they see it for what it is, a small business that they have to work on seven days a week.

Some days, the husband-and-wife team can be found in a far-flung corner of the world creating stunning images that convey their creative eye for fashion, lifestyle and travel.

On this day, the Byron Bay locals were revelling in the experience of working at home as they

eased the new Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 onto the beach for the first time.

Lisa was taken by the 'chic elegance' of the GLC 300. However, the comfortable size, plush interior and state-of-the-art MBUX Voice Control system took a back seat to one superlative from Lisa – sexy.

This was motivation enough for Jamie to perfectly capture in the fading afternoon light a seductive scene featuring Lisa and her muse. The photos build on the couple's portfolio of work that is filled with a level of detail and texture that galvanizes with a single glance the allure of a place and time.

The former Gold Coast locals have been living and working in Byron Bay for the past five years, making the move from Melbourne after seeking a sea change from their corporate roles.

Jamie worked in brand-building for an advertising agency and Lisa as a fashion buyer for boutique clothing retailer Kookai.

Their decision to move to Byron Bay was made easier when Lisa found a job as wholesale

manager at her dream company, Spell & The Gypsy Collective, the iconic locally-based bohemian fashion house.

As they settled into life in Byron, Jamie's knack for blending Lisa's fashion style with the natural beauty of the area set in place an organic transition to the rewarding world of creative Instagram blogging.

"Back then we used to take scenic drives around the region and take photos just for fun," says Jamie. "We just loved it, we were passionate about what we were doing and we did it without thinking what it could be worth to us one day."

The couple's pictorial adventures coincided with the growth of the Instagram platform globally. Their journey shifted up a gear when Lisa gained 2,000 followers overnight after one of Jamie's photos of her was reposted by The Australian newspaper's Instagram account.

"We weren't sure what this meant at the time but before we knew it Lisa had 100,000 followers," says Jamie.



“ Social media is essentially a modern form of word-of-mouth engagement where people can follow your journey and allows you to build relationships and trust ”



Today, Lisa has more than 261,000 Instagram followers that, along with Jamie’s photographic work, gives the couple enough scale to make a comfortable living as creatives.

“Social media is essentially a modern form of word-of-mouth engagement where people can follow your journey and allows you to build relationships and trust,” says Jamie.

“We see it as a global network of people employing a collective energy to inspire others. It’s surprising how many people we meet around the world doing similar work. We come across so many people with shared experiences.”

Instagram blogging has taken the couple across five continents, with some countries visited by desire and others dictated by work commitments.

“They’re mostly places that have always been at the top of our bucket list and we genuinely visit them for the experience,” says Lisa, who still works with Spell as a consultant.

“You certainly get a taste for the freedom this job offers, but at the same time I still love going into the Spell office, seeing all the girls and working with the team.

“There’s something about working with a company that’s amazing, but having the freedom to do both is really cool.”

The couple are honest enough to admit that staying creative is one of the challenges they face each day with their work.

“Sometimes you can have the most amazing ideas and sometime you’ve got nothing,” says Lisa.

For Jamie it’s about keeping the work relevant, even if 100 other people have taken a similar shot.

As for working together seven days a week, Jamie and Lisa have some basic advice.

“Your partner should technically be your best friend, so it’s not a problem for us,” says Lisa.

“Because we are so used to spending time together it’s actually strange when we’re apart. Of course, we do have disagreements at times, but often it’s over creative issues.”

Considering the artistic energy to be found at Byron Bay, that goes with the territory, they say.

“We love living here because there’s a really big creative industry with people doing some awesome things,” says Lisa.

“We’ll always be based here and we’ll always travel, but we also want to spend more time at home in the future.

“Travel can be exhausting and staying home more is really about wanting to be closer to this wonderful community.”

Lisa Danielle Smith @lisadanielle\_  
 Jamie Green @oh.so.mellow



# EMBRACING THE WILDS OF SOUTH AFRICA

WORDS Rebel Wylie PHOTOS Sherilea Gaspar

Almost 30 years since the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa, the emerging 'rainbow nation' is becoming a tourism favourite, and that's a plus for wildlife conservation.





**J**ourneying across the globe to visit South Africa might not be at the top of the typical Australian family holiday bucket list, but for those who make the trek, the rewards are plentiful.

South Africa boasts an enviable climate, spectacular coastlines, lush rainforests, snow-capped mountains and of course, the deep-rooted culture and iconic wildlife that draw visitors from all over the globe.

Add to this the vibrant cities, friendly locals and mouth-watering food and wine and it becomes apparent that making a journey to South Africa is well worth it for those adventurous at heart.

However, there's a particular type of holiday-maker for whom South Africa is a must-see destination, the conservation travellers, and Australian families are fast joining their ranks.

#### **A CONSERVATION DESTINATION**

From entomologists recording every detail of the microscopic creatures who dwell in the fynbos shrubland of the Western Cape, the conservationists giving their all in the fight against canned hunting and poaching to the tireless efforts of those working to protect the birdlife of the country's coastlines, the conservation efforts in South Africa are plentiful.

Visitors are welcomed to not only take a chance at catching a glimpse of beautiful creatures of all sizes up close and personal, but to learn about what can be done globally to ensure that the fragile eco-system is not damaged by humans to the point where doing something about it will be too late.

## FOR CONSERVATION TRAVELLERS, PROGRESSIVE TOURISM IS A MUST

In a beautiful location above Walker Bay, a short distance from Hermanus on the Garden Route, with sweeping views over the bay and out to sea, you'll find Grootbos Private Nature Reserve – a majestic 2500 hectares of botanical and wildlife treasures and a true coiner of the phrase 'progressive tourism'.

In a nutshell, progressive tourism is a conscious effort to ensure that every action we take benefits someone else or has a positive impact on the environment. And for the team at Grootbos, this message is relayed in every aspect of the reserve.

Much of the organic food eaten by guests at Grootbos is grown in the Grootbos Foundation's on-site farm or sourced from suppliers within a 100-kilometre radius whenever possible, which may explain why it is so delicious.

Even the still and sparkling water provided in the accommodation comes straight from an aquifer on the reserve. Kids – and grown-ups – will love the ice-cream made with fynbos honey from the foundation's 220 hives.

And speaking of bees, guests can take an educational tour with the resident entomologists on site to learn about South Africa's tiniest creatures that reside in the fynbos bushland – and just how big an impact their existence makes on the entire eco-system.

It's the kind of holiday experience that makes a trek to South Africa so unique and so worth the effort.

## IMMERSED IN SOUTH AFRICA'S CULTURE

Despite its breathtaking natural beauty, diverse cultures and rich history, South Africa has undergone many acute social challenges. Millions of its citizens still live in extreme poverty and face daily struggles to survive, let alone flourish. And that is never more obvious than on a trip into one of South Africa's townships.

Despite the hardships, a welcoming joy is contagious when tourists stop by to visit.

Khayelitsha township is one of the largest in the Cape area, and a drive through its makeshift rambling streets might have one imagining a place of despair and little hope. However, those fears are quickly laid to rest with a visit to the Isibane centre within the township itself.

Isibane se Afrika literally means 'the light of Africa', a motto that the traditional African and gospel choir that calls the Isibane centre home lives closely by. Using the choir as an instrument for change and a force for good, Isibane se Afrika gives the youth of Khayelitsha the opportunity to be part of something fun, positive and empowering.

Sharing their unique style of traditional African music and dance with guests, the talented members of the Isibane choir create the kind of joyful memories that become ingrained in one's soul. Through their music and dance, a sense of the beauty and history of South Africa almost seeps into your pores, and for children visiting, a sense of what life is really like for those living in South Africa's townships is a lesson that leaves a huge imprint.

## SOUTH AFRICA'S GAME RESERVES OFFER MORE THAN SAFARIS

One might be forgiven for assuming that the wildlife we've come to associate with African safaris will be there for our grandchildren and their children to see for themselves, but the harsh reality is quite different.

Take the rhino for example. International market for their horns sees the gentle and passive beasts targeted in the name of greed rendering poachers the biggest threat to the sustainability of the species. In our lifetime, the northern white rhino, which has only two females left, will become extinct, and the southern white rhino, which is now classed as near-threatened, may vanish in as little as 10 years. It's shameful.

Fortunately, there are those on the ground in South Africa doing all they can to ensure that the iconic creatures of their homeland are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Located within a two-hour drive of Cape Town, Aquila Private Game Reserve not only offers a 'big five' safari experience with vast mountains and landscape views, but a lesson in conservation that will stay with guests for a lifetime.

Originally established as a sanctuary for animals that can never be released into the wild again and a temporary home for those that need care before being released into the wild, this 10,000-hectare wonderland fiercely protects its inhabitants and works tirelessly to ensure their future.

Canned hunting is a trophy-style hunt where animals that have been bred and raised for the sole purpose of one day being hunted, are corralled in a confined area, which increases the hunter's chance of making a kill and obtaining their trophy.

The Aquila Animal Rescue and Conservation Centre (ARC) not only rescues these creatures, but ensures that they can safely live out the remainder of their days in the most natural way possible.

ARC is also home to a newly created education centre which houses information on the Eco Synergy systems that are used to run the facilities at Aquila, as well as information on the plight of the rhino, making it a popular accommodation choice for conservation travellers from all over the world, including Australian families. If you're wondering whether or not safaris and children go together, the answer is unequivocally yes.





**THERE'S MORE TO SOUTH AFRICA THAN LIONS AND ELEPHANTS**

Given the glorious coastlines of South Africa, the seabird population is as varied as it is spectacular.

Penguins and cormorant species including the endangered bank cormorant and Cape cormorant, as well as various species of terns, can be found in the region. They are joined by pelagic birds, such as albatrosses, gannets and petrels – plus oystercatchers, gulls and pelicans among other coastal birds.

However, like the animals of the savanna, South Africa's seabird population is also under threat.


Organisations such as SANCCOB (Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds) in Cape Town on the Western Cape and Port Elizabeth on the Eastern Cape, have a primary objective to reverse the decline of seabird populations through the rescue, rehabilitation and release of ill, injured, abandoned and oiled seabirds – particularly endangered species like the African penguin.

**THE BEST TIME TO IMMERSE YOURSELF IN A SOUTH AFRICAN CONSERVATION HOLIDAY**

For mild and pleasant weather, the best time to visit South Africa is from May to October, when the days are warm and you can throw on a layer or two in the evening. That's also a great time to catch a safari adventure, being the dry season when animals congregate around waterholes and rivers.

But ask anyone on the ground, and the resounding answer is that you can visit South Africa at any time of the year and have an incredible time.



Rebel Wylie is a Northern NSW journalist with a focus on creating lifestyle, travel and news content in the parenting and family space.  
 @rebelwoutapause

# A TEMPTING FEAST FOR THE EYES

WORDS Nick Nicols PHOTOS Seascape Restaurant and Bar

Seascape Restaurant and Bar is taking its popular beachside venue to a new level with a unique dining experience in the heart of Surfers Paradise.



If a glorious view is the only reason to go head out for a meal, then Seascape Restaurant and Bar wins hands down.

But there's more to this gem which for many years now has become the go-to nosherly in the heart of Surfers Paradise for holidaymakers and locals alike.

Seascape is a multi-layered dining destination, nestled across three levels in the Soul complex overlooking the Surfers Paradise beachfront.

Level one of Soul Boardwalk is home to the chic Seascape Bistro and Bar, where the order of the day is casual dining and having a relaxing drink to unwind from a day in the sun and surf.

Level two is where guests head for the fine-dining experience that Seascape Restaurant knows so well.

But this summer, Seascape takes it all to a new level with its latest offering, The Rooftop, a virtual oasis where guests can enjoy some of the best views of the Surfers Paradise shoreline while leaving the heady activity of the day behind them.

The Rooftop, positioned on level three of the Soul Boardwalk, is set to become the Gold Coast's favourite destination to chill this summer, or a unique venue to host an exclusive corporate or social function. The Rooftop is open between November and April each year from 5.30pm on Friday and Saturday.

"It's been designed to be a totally laid back and stress-free zone, a place for a quiet drink where you can enjoy our great tapas menu or a cocktail with friends," says Seascape's head chef Matthew Le Beau.

Matthew, formerly the head chef at Public and sous chef at Ecco Bistro in Brisbane, has been driving the culinary offering at Seascape since the end of 2017.

"Shared food plates are one of my specialties, and we'll be changing it regularly in the Bistro to keep it fresh and exciting for guests," he says.

Matthew is no stranger to the Gold Coast, having fond memories of visiting Surfers Paradise when he was growing up in Brunswick Heads. Since making the sea change from Brisbane with his family, he's been working hard

to add his own personal flair to the Seascape dining experience.

"The view is definitely hard to beat, but most guests come to Seascape for the seafood, and we're really particular about how we prepare it for them," says Matthew.

"Consistency is the key, but the first rule of seafood is to always treat it with respect. Our entire menu is quite extensive. It's been designed to showcase seafood and we do it well."

From the signature chowder, with salmon, mussels, prawns and squid, to the seasonal oyster offering in four delicious styles, the restaurant menu is extensive as it is tempting.

There are also six different fresh fish choices, including red emperor from North Queensland, wild-caught barramundi, swordfish and tuna.

"We source as much seafood as we can locally, but it's always about getting the best seafood available and that might be Cloudy Bay clams or mussels from Coffin Bay," says Matthew.



Shared food plates are one of my specialties, and we'll be changing it regularly in the Bistro to keep it fresh and exciting for guests



The restaurant menu is not limited to seafood, with inclusions such as Cape Byron chargrilled beef tenderloin, free-range chicken breast and chargrilled kangaroo loin.

Taking is easy at Seascope Bistro, the seafood offering is equally tempting. There's a choice of hot and cold seafood platters, as well as favourites such as shellfish tagliatelle pasta, tempura prawns, seafood chowder and fish tacos.

Other Bistro favourites include Cape Grim sirloin, veal schnitzel and slow-roasted lamb shoulder, along with several vegetarian options such as mixed mushroom and spinach risotto.

"The Bistro is really popular," says Matthew.

"The view is great from both the inside and outside areas. People often go for a swim in the morning, come up for lunch and have a few drinks or come in the afternoon for a glass of champagne. It's that cool casual feel that keeps them coming back."

Matthew says the secret to creating a great vibe at Seascope starts with a friendly work culture.

"We've got people from all over the world working across all areas of the restaurant. It's Surfers Paradise, and everyone is here to have fun, so it's important to create a work environment where everyone is happy and positive. That is ultimately reflected in the food and service we offer."




Seascope Restaurant and Bar opens seven days a week for lunch and dinner.


Level 1: The Bistro & The Bar

Level 2: The Restaurant

4 The Esplanade, Surfers Paradise Soul Boardwalk

Telephone: 5527 6655

 @SeascopeGC

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## MERCEDES-BENZ GOLD COAST MELBOURNE CUP

This year's Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast Melbourne Cup was a special occasion on a number of levels thanks to a new location, a fabulous guest list and fashionable event partners.

Over 200 of our Gold Standard VIP Members made their way to the top floor of The Penthouse at the iconic The Island in Surfers Paradise where they were greeted by welcome cocktails and an oversized grazing table to whet their appetites.

Pacific Fair Shopping Centre and luxury Italian brand Bvlgari brought the style and sophistication with a range of fantastic prizes and a display of glamorous gemstone jewellery, luxury watches, perfumes and leather goods.

And while not everyone had a win on the horses, the best dressed man and woman took home the Pacific Fair Fashions on the Field honours including a luxury spending spree at Pacific Fair with a private shopping experience in David Jones and Bvlgari's private suites.

Even the lucky door prize of a pair of Bvlgari sunglasses from the spring/summer 2020 range was on point and in vogue.

Thank you to everyone who attended to make this annual event one of the hottest on the coast's social calendar.

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## PACIFIC FAIR EXPERIENCE IN MERCEDES-BENZ STYLE

The ultimate shopping experience at Pacific Fair has shifted into top gear as Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast helps you arrive in style to the home of Queensland's largest collection of luxury brands.

In an Australian first, Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast has partnered with the centre to launch a premium car service where you can be chauffeur driven from your home or hotel and spend the day wandering through the lush, tropical landscape of the Gold Coast's unmissable shopping and dining destination.

The service extends as far afield as Brisbane and northern NSW and adds a new dimension to luxury shopping on the Gold Coast with your own personal driver at the wheel of a brand-new Mercedes-Benz GLE 300 d.

Now in its fourth generation, the GLE 300 d is the epitome of luxury SUV comfort and style. The seven-seat format also offers plenty of space to satisfy even the most avid shopper.

With luxury brands such as Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Prada and Tiffany & Co, and global mega brands H&M, Sephora, UNIQLO and Zara, you will find everything you are looking for in one place at Pacific Fair.

The Pacific Fair premium car service bolsters the impressive suite of five-star services already on offer at the centre. This includes hands-free experience, where you can shop all day without lifting a finger, complimentary hotel shopping delivery, valet parking, exclusive styling services, an in-centre taxi service, hotel shopping shuttle bus and a state-of-the-art visitor's lounge which welcomes all guests to the centre.

The Pacific Fair premium car service is a first-to-market service for Australian shopping centres and has arrived just in time for fashion lovers to immerse themselves in the new season fashion trends on display from the multitude of international and Australian designers featured at Pacific Fair.



# MBGC STYLE

## SUMMER COLLECTION



1

1. MERCEDES-AMG GT R CHILD'S UMBRELLA Black/green. Canopy made from polyester, handle made from sponge rubber. Wrist loop. Mercedes-AMG GT R "beast of the green hell" motif print. **B6 695 5025**

2. AMG MEN'S HYBRID JACKET Black/green. Outer material – 100% nylon. Hood, collar, sleeves and side inserts in the front and back section made from 100% polyester with fleece and anti-pilling polyester. wadding: PrimaLoft®. Slim fit. Black AMG 3D logo print on sleeve, green neck band with black AMG logo. Sizes: S-XXL. **B6 695 8744-8748**

2



3



3. MERCEDES-AMG GT R CAP. In selenite grey with black, green and solar beam yellow contrasts. Outer material 100% nylon. Lining 100% cotton. Black 3D GT R logo embroidered on back. AMG logo embossed on metal clasp. Adjustable fit. **B6 695 3207**

4. RIDE-ON BOBBY-AMG GT Plastic. Lights front and back. Whisper wheels. Age 18 months+. *Solar beam* (pictured), with LED lights **B6 696 2000**  
*Silver-coloured* **B6 696 1999**

4



5



5. ELECTRIC VEHICLE, MERCEDES-AMG. Maximum speed approx. 4-5 km/h. Age 3+, EU and universal mains plug. Mercedes-AMG GT S. *Solarbeam* (pictured) with LED and sound. **B6 696 3811**  
Mercedes-AMG GT. *White* **B6 696 38**

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Km 30,031. Five-door and five-seat Coupe in Designo - Diamond White Metallic over red and black nappa interior. Stock number L13023.

Features Include

- Electric Front Seats with 3x Memory Positions
  - Glass Sunroof
  - COMAND Navigation
  - 360 Degree Camera
  - LED Headlight System
  - Blind Spot Assistance
- Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



\$100,000 - AND OVER

2015 Mercedes-AMG GLE 63

\$109,900 .00 Drive Away



Km L13047. Five-door and five-seat wagon in Diamond White Metallic over black nappa Leather leather. Stock number L13047.

Features Include

- Glass Sunroof
  - 360 Degree Surround Camera
  - Electric Front Seats
  - Comand Navigation
  - Cruise Control
- Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2019 Mercedes-Benz GLC 250

\$84,900.00 Drive Away



Km 2,035. Five-door and five-seat wagon Obsidian Black Metallic over black leather interior. Stock number L13041.

Features Include

- AMG Sports Package
  - Vision Package
  - Glass Sunroof
  - LED Lighting System
  - Heads-Up Display
  - 360 Degree Surround Camera
- Many more features to list.

\$50,000 - \$100,000

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2016 Mercedes-AMG A 45

\$59,900.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 51,785. Five-door and five-seat Hatchback in Mountain Grey Metallic over red cut Leather Interior. Stock number L 13073.

Features Include

- Glass Sunroof
- LED Headlamps
- Reverse Camera
- COMAND Navigation with Voice Activation
- Electric Front Seats with Memory and Heating functions
- Blind Spot Assistance
- Distronic Active Cruise Control

Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2013 Mercedes-Benz ML 350

\$59,900.00 Drive Away



Km 69,387. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Iridium Silver Metallic with black leather interior. Stock number L13071.

Features Include

- Electric sunroof
  - Keyless entry and start
  - Automatic tailgate
  - Airmatic air suspension
  - Reverse camera
  - COMAND navigation with voice activation
  - Electric front seats with memory positions and heating
  - Blind spot assistance
- Many more features to list.

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2014 Mercedes-Benz ML 350

\$59,900.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 38,760. Four-door and five-seat wagon in Tenorite Grey with black leather interior. Stock number L13052.

Features Include

- AMG sports package
- Seat configuration
- COMAND navigation with voice activation
- Electric memory front seats
- DISTRONIC cruise control
- Glass sunroof
- vKeyless entry and start

Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2016 Mercedes-Benz C 250

\$54,900.00 Drive Away



Km 26,979. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Obsidian Black Metallic over black leather Interior. Stock number L13060.

Features Include

- AMG sports package
- Unique AMG Body Styling
- Vision Package
- Glass sunroof
- LED Headlamps
- Heads-up Display
- Surround Sound System

Many more features to list.

\$50,000 - \$100,000

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2015 Mercedes-Benz CLS 250

\$54,900.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 79,269. Uvniqne CLS 250 Coupe, finished in Obsidian Black Metallic over black leather interior, Stock number L13042.

#### Features Include

- AMG Sports Package
- Unique AMG Body Styling Elements
- Heated and Ventilated Front Seats
- Electric Front Seats with Memory Positions

- Glass Sunroof
- Reverse Camera

Many more features to list.

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2016 Mercedes-Benz C 250

\$49,900.00 Drive Away



Km 45,753. Four-door and five-seat sedan in finished in Palladium Silver Metallic over black leather interior. Stock number L13004.

Features Include

- Vision Package
  - Glass Sunroof
  - LED Headlamps
  - Heads-Up Display
  - Reverse Camera
  - COMAND Navigation
  - Surround Sound System
  - Electric Front Seats
- Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2011 Mercedes-Benz E 350

\$44,900.00 Drive Away



Km 44,549. E350 Cabriolet, finished in Obsidian Black Metallic Paint over black leather Interior. Stock number L13077.

Features Include

- COMAND Navigation with Voice Activation
  - Harman/Kardon Surround Sound System
  - Cruise Control
  - Reverse Camera
  - Electric Folding Soft-top roof
  - Keyless Entry and Start
- Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2014 Mercedes-Benz C 200

**\$41,888.00** Drive Away



Km 68,263. Four-door and five-seat sedan in finished in Obsidian Black Metallic over black artico interior. Stock number L 13035.

Features Include

- Vision Package
  - Glass Sunroof
  - LED Headlamps
  - Heads-Up Display
  - Reverse Camera
  - AMG Sports Package
  - AMG Sports Body Styling
  - AMG Alloy Wheels
- Many more features to list

\$15,000 - \$50,000

Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2010 Mercedes-Benz E 350

\$39,990.00 Drive Away



Km 65,679. E350 Cabriolet, finished in Diamond White Metallic over natural beige leather interior, Stock number L13012.

Features Include

- AMG Body Styling
  - AMG Alloy Wheels
  - AMG steering wheel
  - COMAND Navigation
  - Surround Sound System
  - Cruise Control
- Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000

Mercedes-Benz Certified  
Pre-owned vehicles



2014 Mercedes-Benz C 180

\$29,900.00 Drive Away



Km 44,169. Three-door coupe in Polar White over black artico Interior. Stock number L13063.

Features Include

- Semi-Electric Front Seats
  - Cruise Control
  - 7G-Tronic PLUS 7-Speed Automatic
  - Navigation
- Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



Mercedes-Benz **Certified**  
Pre-owned vehicles



2012 Mercedes-Benz C 250

**\$27,880.00** Drive Away



Km 102,140. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Palladium Silver Metallic over crystal grey leather interior, Stock number L 13017.

Features Include

- Vision Package
  - Glass Sunroof
  - Bi-Xenon Headlamps
  - Surround Sound System
  - Seat Comfort Package
  - Memory Front Seats with Heating
- Many more features to list.

**\$15,000 - \$50,000**



## Gold Coast's only Mercedes-Benz authorised autobody repairer.



Unfortunately, accidents happen. Fortunately, we're here to help. We will repair your vehicle the right way, with Mercedes-Benz Genuine Parts and Accessories, using approved equipment and with the level of expertise your vehicle deserves. Whether it's a minor scratch or a major collision, ensure your vehicle is always repaired by a Mercedes-Benz Authorised Autobody Repairer.

Centrally located to the M1, servicing from as far north as the Sunshine Coast to the Northern Rivers. Please drop by for a quotation, no appointment necessary or contact us to arrange for one of our estimators to visit your home or business address for an onsite estimate. You have the right to choose your repairer, choose the best.

**HH** HARVEY PRESTIGE



Daniel Ridgeway, Ridgeway Group

#### INGREDIENTS

##### Panna cotta

600ml thickened cream  
100ml Greek yoghurt  
4 gelatine leaves (titanium strength)  
150g caster sugar  
1 vanilla pod

##### Strawberry jelly

250ml strawberry puree  
1 gelatine leaf (titanium strength)  
50g sugar

##### Rose granita

150ml strawberry puree  
100ml water  
10ml rose water

##### Garnish

6 mint leaves (finely shredded)  
3 basil leaves (finely shredded)  
Edible flowers

## VANILLA-BEAN PANNA COTTA WITH BERRIES

*Panna cotta is Italian for 'cooked cream'.*

*This dish is our signature dessert at Little Truffle and you will find a version of it at some of our other venues and on our catering menus. This dish is a great palate cleanser after a large family meal, and because you can make it in advance, it is by far my favourite chilled dessert.*

Preparation time: 45 minutes | Serves: 6

#### METHOD

##### Panna cotta

1. Place cream, sugar and seeds of the vanilla pod into a small pot on a low/medium stove. Bring up to a simmer.
2. Soak gelatine leaves in cold water until they are soft then whisk into the cream. Take the cream off the stove to cool.
3. Once cream is cooled down a little, whisk in the yoghurt.
4. Pour mix evenly between six glasses. I prefer using cognac glasses as shown in photo. Place in refrigerator to set for approximately 2 - 3 hours or until fully set.

##### Strawberry jelly

1. Heat sugar and puree in a saucepan on a low heat until the sugar is dissolved.
2. Soak gelatine leaf in cold water until it is soft then whisk into puree.
3. Pour evenly over the set cream and return to fridge.

##### Rose granita

1. Combine puree, water and rose water and place into freezer.
2. Once frozen scrape with a fork to make ice shavings.

#### TO SERVE

1. Spoon granita into glasses on top of the panna cotta, and sprinkle mint, basil and edible flowers on top.

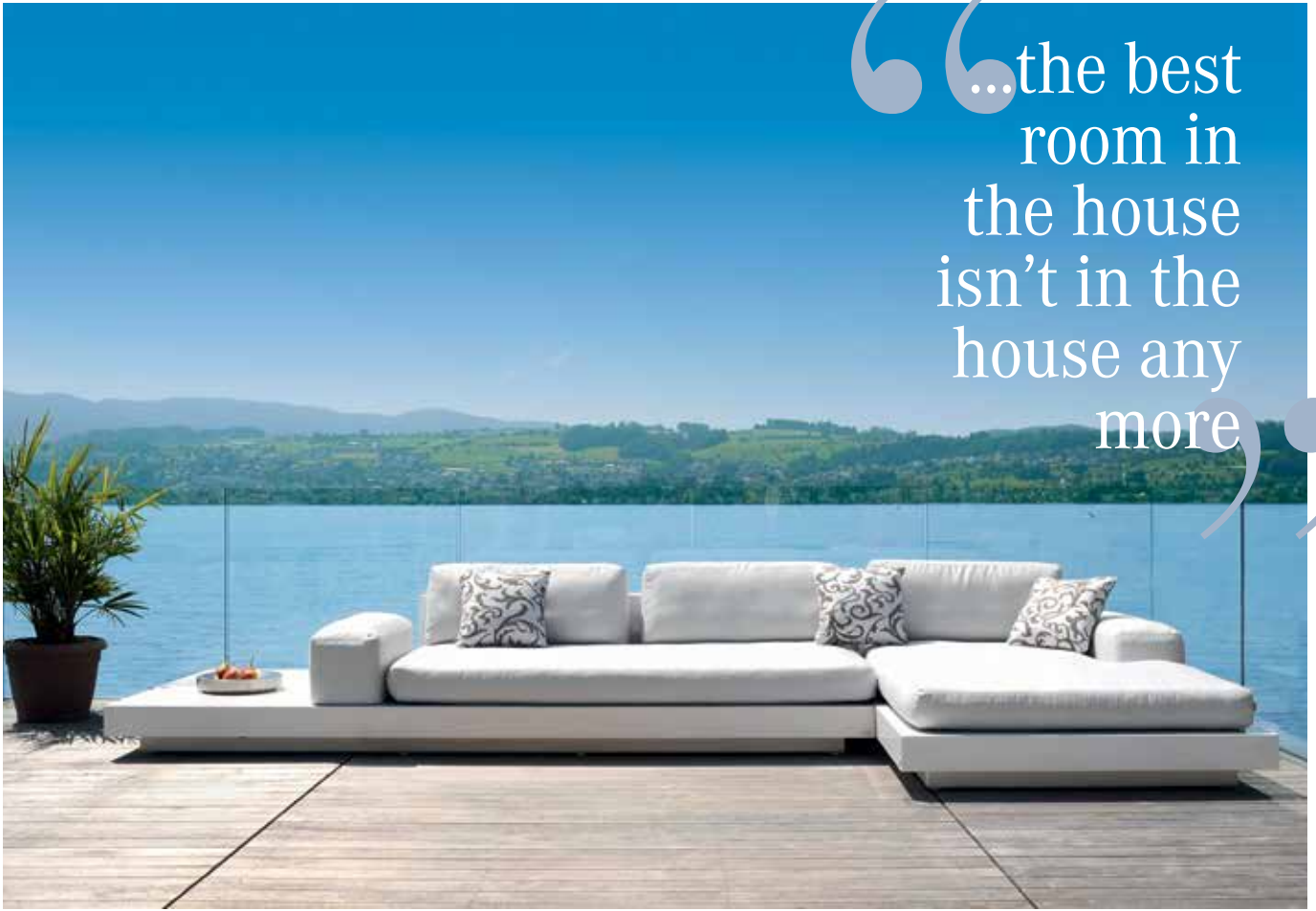
# COMFORT IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

WORDS Nick Nichols PHOTOS Rausch International

There's been a revolution in outdoor furniture design and Rausch International has been quietly leading the way in some of the world's most exotic locations.



“...the best room in the house isn't in the house any more”



**T**he rattan furniture settings adorning the guest rooms of the Riviera Hotel in Beirut appeared as new as the day they were first installed more than 40 years ago.

Nick Price instantly recognised the furniture that was perched against the stunning backdrop of the Mediterranean Sea and he was chuffed to see the finely crafted work of Rausch had weathered the decades so well.

“That furniture definitely didn’t look 40 years old,” says Nick Price, the director of international markets at Rausch International.

Nick regularly visits clients across 45 countries with a travel schedule that would be the envy of a dedicated travel blogger. He had landed in Lebanon that day to visit the Riviera Hotel, a long-time company client.

Nick is rarely surprised at the longevity of Rausch’s craftsmanship, although he admits this was a definite highlight.

Rausch is well known in the hotel and hospitality industry for the quality of its luxury outdoor furniture.

The German company has been manufacturing high-end furniture for more than 80 years across three generations of the Rausch family.

Its longevity in the industry is founded in an artisan approach featuring innovative and durable materials, combined with a focus on German engineering. This includes synthetic rattan and fine weaves for furniture fibres that can weather temperature extremes of plus or minus 70 degrees.

Rausch International now supplies most of the leading hotels in the world from the Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in the south of France, Venetian in Las Vegas to Burj Al Arab in Dubai to name a few.

“We’re also onboard nearly every one of the Royal Caribbean cruise ships, and there’s no environment more hostile than the ocean,” says Nick.

While Rausch has been operating in Australia for more than two decades, it is probably more widely recognised by retail consumers in Europe and the US where it has become the go-to brand for the rich and famous looking for custom-made outdoor furniture.



Nick, who is based on the Gold Coast, has been a key player in promoting the brand globally and is now involved in the ownership of the business with his Australian co-director Michelle Lewis.

“A lot has changed in the industry, but the love of the outdoors hasn’t,” says Nick.

From the icy winters of Norway to the burning sands of Dubai, Nick travels the world and has developed a keen sense of what entices people to take their indoor world outside.

“The perception is really evolving because outdoor furniture was for a long time regarded as your outdoor barbecue setting – the round table and four benches,” he says.

“There’s been an evolution over the years but I’d say over the past five years there’s been an incredible evolution because the best room in the house isn’t in the house any more.

“The comfort of outdoor furniture is increasingly becoming more focused on replicating an indoor feel. That’s what our clients want from their outdoor furniture.

“The fabric we use for cushions and covers is manufactured by US company Sunbrella which is a market leader in outdoor fabrics. It has the look and feel of indoor materials and retains its integrity for many years.

“But this is not about just placing a comfortable, durable cushion on a hard, wooden seat because some of our products even have sprung bases for the cushion.

“The design has to be durable to stand the test of time but this is what we do to create a new level of comfort in an outdoor environment.

“Stylish furniture can also include LED colour waves that can pulsate and change with the music on your iPhone. That’s the level of change we’ve seen in the industry.”

Rausch employs three designers, two in Germany and one in Australia, among its global workforce of 500.

“The quality starts with the frame which is engineered to a point where it could easily have come out of a Mercedes-Benz factory, but it continues with a constant evolution in design and in the raw materials we use,” says Nick.

“Whereas glass tops on tables were once popular, now ceramic tops are the way to go because they’re almost indestructible.”

Rausch’s manufacturing base is located at Cebu in the Philippines where it employs a core workforce of local artisans.

“The Cebuano people are generally regarded as the finest weavers in the world, and it can take two people three days to weave some items of furniture,” says Nick.

“We’ve had that factory in Cebu for 43 years now overseen by a team of German and Swiss managers.

“We take quite a hands-on approach to manufacturing across the board. With our new

fibreglass collection, which has been available for a few years now, every piece is hand made.”

After so many years in the industry, Nick has discovered the one constant among people and cultures throughout the world is their love for engaging with the great outdoors, no matter what the obstacles may be.

He recalls the success of a four-day exhibition in Norway, where a local retailer was taken by the style and quality of a 10-seat dining setting he had on display.

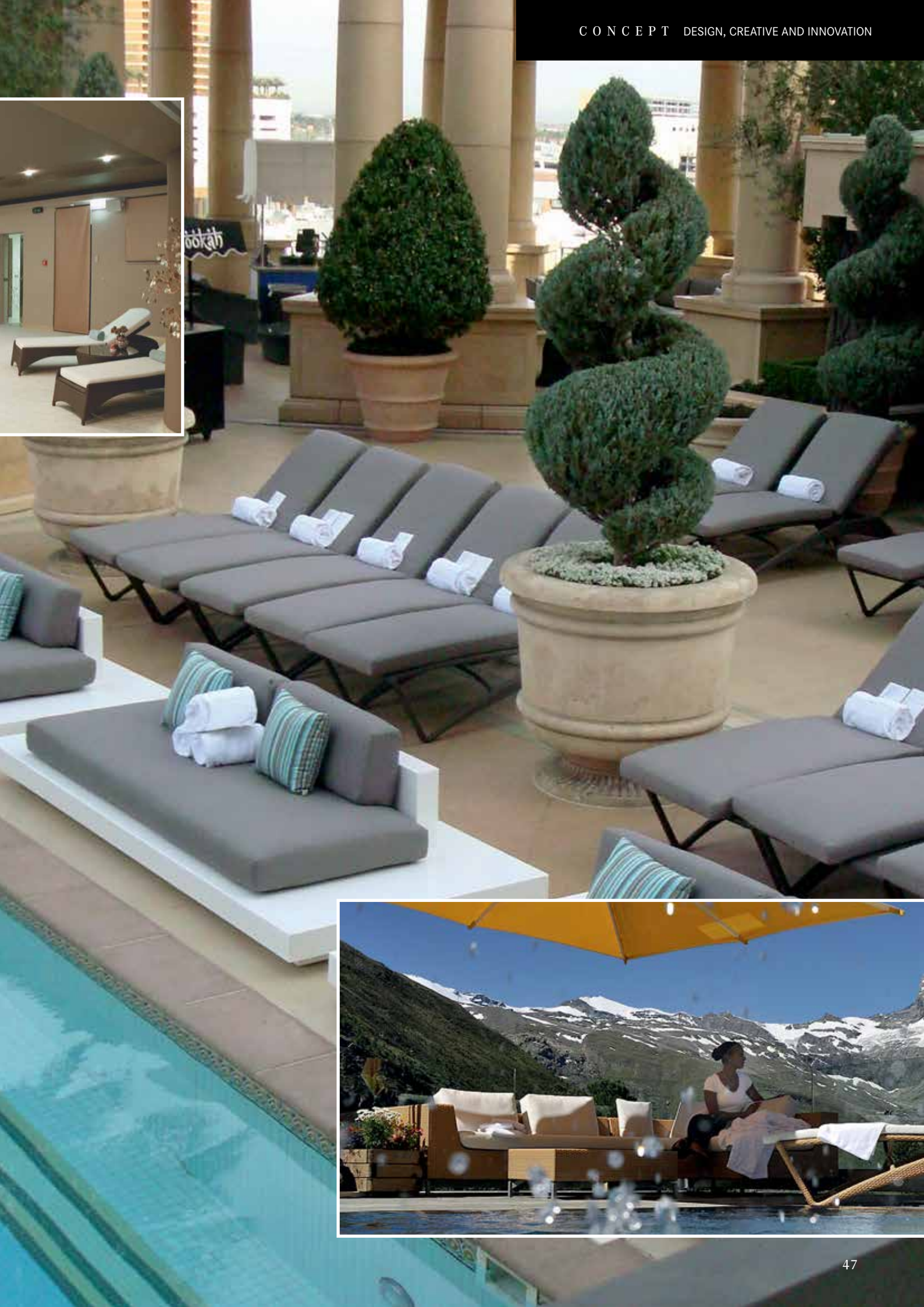
“I got a phone call after the first night asking me how many of these would fit in a 40ft container,” says Nick.

“We worked out we could fit 63 settings to a single container and by the time the exhibition finished he ordered four containers of this setting.

“Some might ask which four days of the year Norwegians get to spend outdoors but you have to remember that, if they only have four days, they want to be outdoors on those days and they want to enjoy it.

“We’re so lucky in Australia, of course, but whether you are in Russia or the Middle East, you’ll find people will always want relax in comfort outside whenever the occasion arises.”

Rausch International  
[www.rausch-international.com](http://www.rausch-international.com)



# MAKING WAVES

WORDS Sam Stolz PHOTOS Various

Sheltered by the majestic headland of its 27-hectare national park, Burleigh Heads is the Gold Coast's premier destination for sun, surf and sand. Located just ten minutes drive from the dealership in Robina, this is where the locals come to play.

**Burleigh's** laidback beachside charm has in recent years been infused with a vibrant mix of retail and dining offerings, and the village has emerged as one of the Gold Coast's most happening hotspots.

Stunning Burleigh headland attracts a swarm of locals and tourists alike who are drawn to its natural beauty, protected beaches, bush-walking and jogging trails and charming picnic spots.

Burleigh Heads is also home to one of the world's most recognised surf breaks, where keen surfers and bodyboarders flock year-round in search of some of the best waves.

Burleigh's central location on the Gold Coast makes it a breeze to access, with numerous parking spots available beachside and in the thriving James St retail and dining precinct.

A visit to Burleigh Heads on a sunny day is a must-do on the GC, so we hopped in a Mercedes-Benz and took a tour of this iconic local spot.

## PLACES TO EAT AND DRINK

### **Burleigh Pavilion**

Originally built in 1987, the newly upgraded Burleigh Pavilion is the crowning jewel of Burleigh's beachfront, quickly becoming the number one venue to have a drink or a bite to eat, all the while taking in some seriously beautiful sunsets.

The top-floor establishment is split between three sections: The Tropic, a full-service 235 seater restaurant helmed by renowned chef Guillaume Zika; The Pavilion, offering a relaxed, bistro-style setting with gourmet pizzas and burgers, and The Beach Bar, a sun-drenched open-rooftop space where you can step right off the beach for a few drinks.

### **Rick Shores**

Located downstairs from Burleigh Pavilion is Rick Shores, a modern Asian-fusion restaurant, serving up a tantalising selection of dishes certain to whet your appetite.

The beachside venue has become synonymous with its Moreton Bay bug roll – Queensland's famous seafood delicacy, topped with sriracha mayonnaise and crispy gem lettuce, wrapped in a delectable brioche bun.

Pull up a stool at this much-loved Burleigh staple for a sumptuous menu offering with pristine ocean views to match.

### **The Fish House**

For seafood lovers, The Fish House is a must-visit on Burleigh's Goodwin Terrace for the freshest local catch and an exquisite wine selection in an elegant, refined setting.

Perfect for a romantic date or special occasion, The Fish House is one of the Gold Coast's most awarded restaurants, with consecutive chef hat awards since 2012 including Australia's

wine list of the year awards (2015) and the Diners' Choice Award (2017).

Boasting an impressive menu of sustainably sourced seafood and local produce, The Fish House is one of Burleigh's best restaurants representing the burgeoning Gold Coast dining scene.

### **Nook Espresso**

For the perfect caffeine fix on-the-go, Nook Espresso has you covered. Located outside Burleigh Pavilion, the hole-in-the-wall coffee shop is a popular meeting spot for early morning joggers, walkers and surfers.

Opening at 6am for the early birds, we recommend grabbing a takeaway or smoothie and taking a leisurely morning stroll around the headland.

### **Justin Lane**

There's a good reason this iconic Burleigh institution is still a huge hit with the locals – Justin Lane offers some of the best pizza and pasta on the Gold Coast and is a great spot to meet up for a drink and socialise with friends.

The rooftop bar is jumping all weekend and still draws in a strong crowd with its live DJ sets and gourmet Italian eats.

The venue has recently undergone an extensive renovation, expanding its rooftop bar for further capacity, as this fan favourite shows no signs of slowing down.





towering eucalypts, pandanus groves, and a wide array of wildlife dominating the scenery.

Burleigh Heads National Park is wheelchair accessible and offers a variety of walking trails from beginner to intermediate.

**Burleigh Brewing Company**

Burleigh Brewing Co kickstarted the craft brewing scene on the Gold Coast and has racked up several awards for its unique range of boutique beers. A great spot for a tipple and some awesome live music.

**PROPERTY**

Burleigh Beach is protected by Burleigh Headland and offers one of the best recreational beaches on the Gold Coast.

The headland provides spectacular ocean views south to Coolangatta and north to Surfers Paradise. On the southern side of the headland, Tallebudgera Creek is protected from the prevailing summer northerlies, and offers pristine swimming conditions.

A mature stand of over 150 Norfolk Island Pines – originally planted in 1934 by the Justins family after whom Burleigh’s Justins Park is named – forms a backdrop to the beach and are often teeming with colourful lorikeets.

On Burleigh headland, locally known as “The Point”, barbecues and cricket matches are extremely popular, and spectators can thrill to the sight of surfers taking on the famous ‘Burleigh barrels’.



**James St Deli**

For a local slice of European flavour, Burleigh’s James St. Deli showcases an array of artisan cured meats, cheeses and condiments of every description – bound to ensure you won’t be leaving empty-handed.

**Sean Scott Boutique**

Photographer Sean Scott has created some of Australia’s most stunning images, adorning the walls of homes all over the country.

His boutique in central Burleigh Heads stocks a range of his unique prints and the latest in designer streetwear for men and women.

**Maison & Maison Homewares**

With a touch of boho chic for the modern home interior, Maison & Maison on James Street offers a range of furniture, handcrafted rugs, jewellery and accessories. A shopping experience that shouldn’t be missed.



**PLACES TO SHOP**

**Grace Loves Lace**

Bridal boutique Grace Loves Lace set out to shake up the industry since launching in 2010 and has quickly gained a devout cult following from celebrities and brides-to-be.

The beautiful handmade gowns, complete with modern bohemian stylings, have been seen in the pages of Vogue and Harper’s Bazaar.

**WHAT TO DO**

**Village Markets**

Burleigh’s incredibly popular Village Markets is one of Queensland’s best boutique and lifestyle markets.

The Village Markets are held every first and third Sunday of the month at Burleigh Heads State School from 8:30am – 1pm.

**Burleigh Headland walk**

Within Burleigh Headland’s sprawling 27 hectare national park, there is no shortage of natural abundance here – with rainforest,

**BURLEIGH HEADS DEMOGRAPHICS**

Population: 10,077

Private dwellings: 5,251

Median age: 41

Families: 2,468

Median household income: \$1,386

Median house price: \$815,000

Median apartment price: \$569,000



“Design informs every part of our lives from how a door handle feels in your hand to how the level of natural light in a space can affect your mood”



# CLASSIC STYLE IS ALL IN THE DETAIL

WORDS Nick Nichols

PHOTOS Jessie Prince, Andy Macpherson

Beautiful design has always been a part of Kate Sacks' life and she is happy to see more people these days getting excited about it as well.

**S**mall details can make a big difference to your living space and for interior designer Kate Sacks, that's driven the love she has for her profession.

"I became an interior designer because I was interested in how people live and engage with each other within built space," says Kate.

"I was fascinated by how a well-designed space, and often the least obvious details, can affect how someone feels, behaves or works."

Design has always played a role in Kate's life.

"My father is an architect so I'd grown up on construction sites while he had site meetings on weekends," says the Byron Bay local. "I enjoyed seeing the bones of a building and how it all came together."

There was a time when she tried a different path, completing a commerce degree at Melbourne University, before realising she needed to satisfy her craving for creativity. That led her to study interior design at RMIT.

Kate established Kate Sacks Design in 2001 after the birth of her second son.

"I started my interior design business so I could have more flexibility working from home," says Kate.

"In 2004, my family moved to Byron Bay for one year, and 15 years later we're still here. It's a hard place to leave and I've been lucky to work on some amazing projects with great builders, tradespeople and clients.

"I still work from home but spend a lot of time on construction sites and on the road."

Kate's style can be found at The Bower Hotel in Byron Bay where she worked with an existing shell of an old school motel and, in collaboration with the owners, the architect John Burgess, and builder Greg Lyon, transformed it into a bespoke suite accommodation experience unique to Byron Bay.

The 'drive up to your door' convenience still remains, evoking memories of holidays past, but the finishes, fixtures, décor and soft furnishings of the suites have added a layer of luxury and eclectic elegance.



Kate's style is also evident in the luxury accommodation of Byron Beach Abodes with which she has a long-standing relationship. She infuses each Abode with its own personality through the use of custom-made furniture, vintage finds and locally sourced products, which creates a sense of place and a home away from home.

Kate's commercial skills extend to the pilot and staff office and lounge spaces at the Southern Cross Jets hangar at Essendon Airport in Melbourne. However, her main body of work can be found in private residential projects.

"Recently I worked on the fit-out of a custom-designed motor yacht which I really enjoyed," says Kate. "The level of detail required and importance of materiality in a marine environment was next level."

Kate's style is infused with a simplicity that aims to create a timeless, enduring aesthetic that will transcend trends.

"Materiality, layering and a neutral palette are constants, however I always incorporate elements of my clients' life into their space," she says.

"Their story needs to be evident in their home, and this is often achieved by adding interest with special pieces and artwork they've collected over the years."

Kate says there's a lot to get excited about designing interiors, and it helps that more people are recognising good design and that it is becoming more accessible.

"Design informs every part of our lives from how a door handle feels in your hand to how the level of natural light in a space can affect your mood," she says.

"As an interior designer I get to know quite intimate details about how my clients live and use their space and I enjoy being able to tailor their interior design solutions to their way of life. Every job is so different and that keeps me excited."

The challenges are equally stimulating.

"Keeping up with all the new 3D, virtual reality design software technology is exciting and overwhelming at the same time," she says, although she admits to preferring a freehand sketch on yellow trace at times.

Kate is conscious of the limitations of technology in the industry, and more importantly how it puts constraints on creativity.

"With the now constant stream of international design imagery, the cut-and-paste mentality concerns me," she says.


"What works really well in one space may not translate to another, so each new space needs to be considered as a fresh canvas, not just replicating an online image.

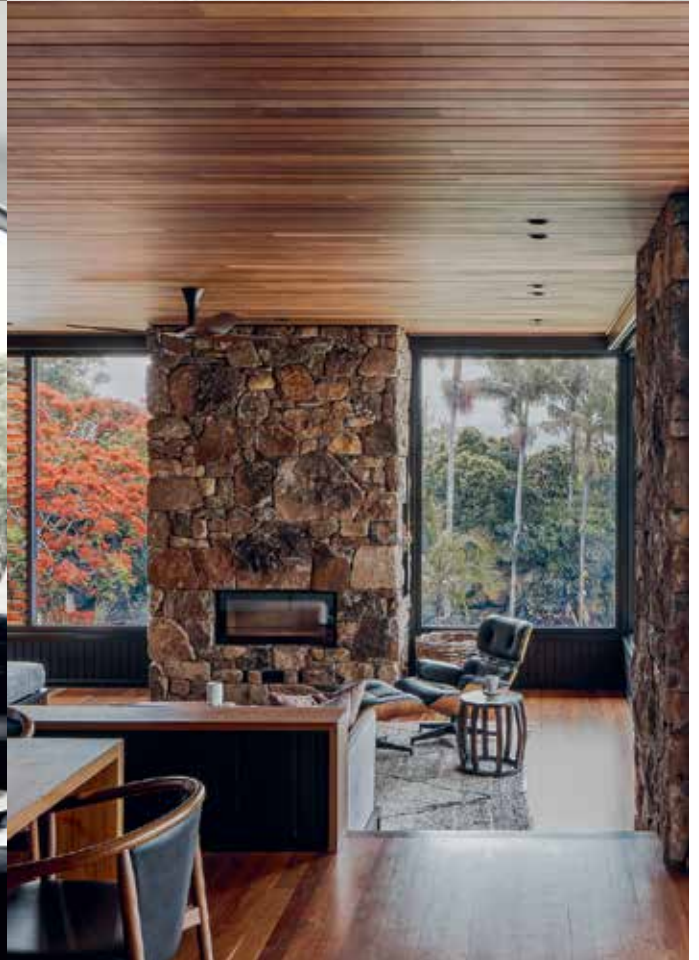
"Pinterest and Instagram are useful tools for inspiration but need to be reworked in a unique way that suits the location and job at hand."

For the record, Kate has always had an eye for style. Her first car was a 1968 Mercedes-Benz 250 and she didn't have to infuse any of her personality into that interior.

"I loved it," she says. "It was like driving around in a lounge room, with the smoothest suspension and classic, beautiful interior detailing."

Kate Sacks Design

 @katesacksdesign





# PUTT TO PERFORM

WORDS Brad Kennedy

Hopefully you've had some success with my chipping drills from last issue. This issue moves onto the number one asset in your golf bag – the putter.

**P**utts are approximately 40 per cent of your golf score, but it's the least practised.

Think about your last round of golf. How many putts did you have relative to your score? How did you rate your putting last time you got out on the course? Poor? So, why aren't you spending more time practising your putting?

Putting is often neglected because putting practice doesn't get the adrenaline going like smashing out driver after driver on the range. If you want to drop shots off your score and lower your handicap, then get yourself onto the putting green regularly.

My best tournament results are also my best putting weeks. It's no coincidence at the professional level – great putting is the key to success.

When you're on the home stretch on Sunday afternoon, the pressure on your putting is intense. A missed or made putt could mean the difference between raising the trophy or not. My own practice is made up of 75 per cent short game and 25 per cent driving range.

Putting is an artform and has two main areas that need to be mastered – technique and green awareness (this is your ability to read a green, then hit every putt with good speed and distance control). The world's best putters are masters in both these areas.

First, let's look at technique. It is very important when putting, that you take the stance that makes you the most comfortable. This allows you to feel more confident over the ball. Your ideal putting stance and stroke is going to be

individual to you. This point is crucial, as it allows you to putt at your best.

If you place a tee in the practice green two feet from you and your putt can hit that tee, then you have the natural ability to become a great putter. The best putters in the world have their own personal, natural stroke and this is what helps them perform. The same putting stroke can be repeated confidently and continually under pressure.

Next, is green awareness. Green awareness includes determining the green's break and speed together with your distance control. All three are necessary skills to make more putts. If your putt has any element of break and you're unable to read it properly (due to lack of knowledge), your chance of holing the putt is drastically decreased.

How to read the green is the difficult to master yet the most rewarding. If there is any element of break, it's important to correctly identify this as the ball will travel from high to low with gravity following the contour of the green. If you can see the green flows right to left, then the ball will travel right to left, but how much it moves is where your skill and knowledge is tested.

There are three main keys when reading greens. Learn to identify these, as they will apply to the line of all putts:

1. Start line – a small target about 1-2 feet in front of the ball in which to hit your putt on its intended line.
2. Apex point – the highest point of the putt before the green's contour will begin to break toward the hole.

3. Entry point – the point in which the ball will enter to maximise the size of the hole.

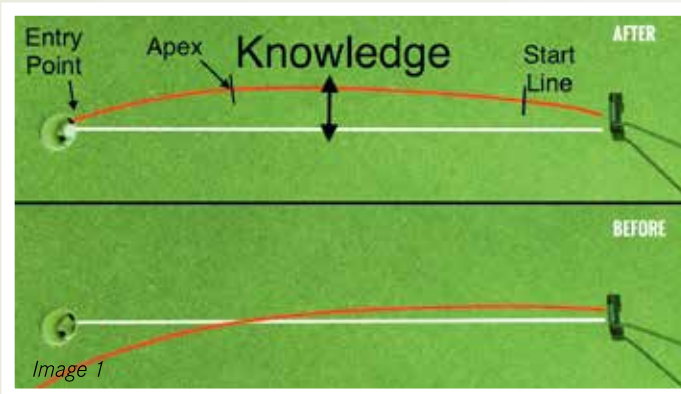
The entry point will not always be directly a straight point towards the middle of the hole. Break will change this point. *See image 1.*

The best putters in the world can identify these points and visualise the path in which the ball will travel, then match it with the technical ability to execute the putt correctly.

## **Drill: Ladder drill for speed and distance control, 5-10mins (no hole required)**

Most rounds you will have ten plus putts over five metres so this drill is designed to simulate what you will experience on the course. From this distance, it's less than 18 per cent chance to make it, so the aim is to get it close enough to make sure you two putt during your round.

1. Place a tee in the green, then pace out five metres and put another tee in the green. Then walk one more metre and place another tee in the ground or lay a club down parallel to the tees.
2. Using three balls, putt the first ball to just past the tee.
3. Putt the second ball so it stops just past the first ball.
4. Putt the third ball and try and get it past the second ball without going over the end
5. If you achieve these three in order, move the start back from five-six metres and repeat.



- With each successful three ball series, move the start back another metre. Try to get back to starting at ten metres.
- At any stage if you leave a putt short of the previous ball or hit the club at the end, then re-start.

Challenge yourself to see how far you can get. You will be amazed at how great your distance control can become. This drill also helps your stroke acceleration through the ball, another skill great putters have. See image 2.

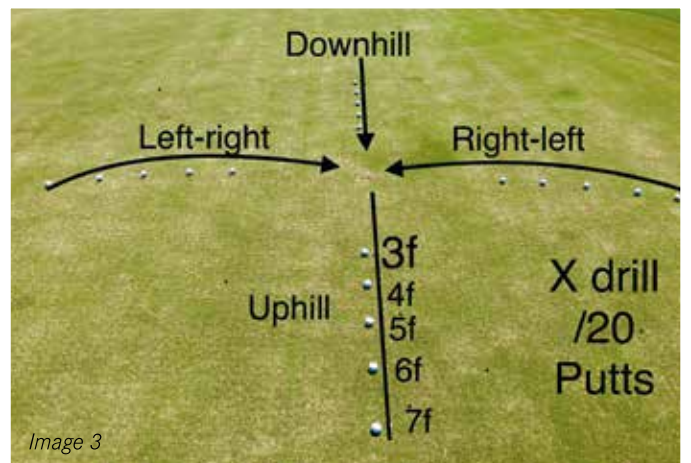
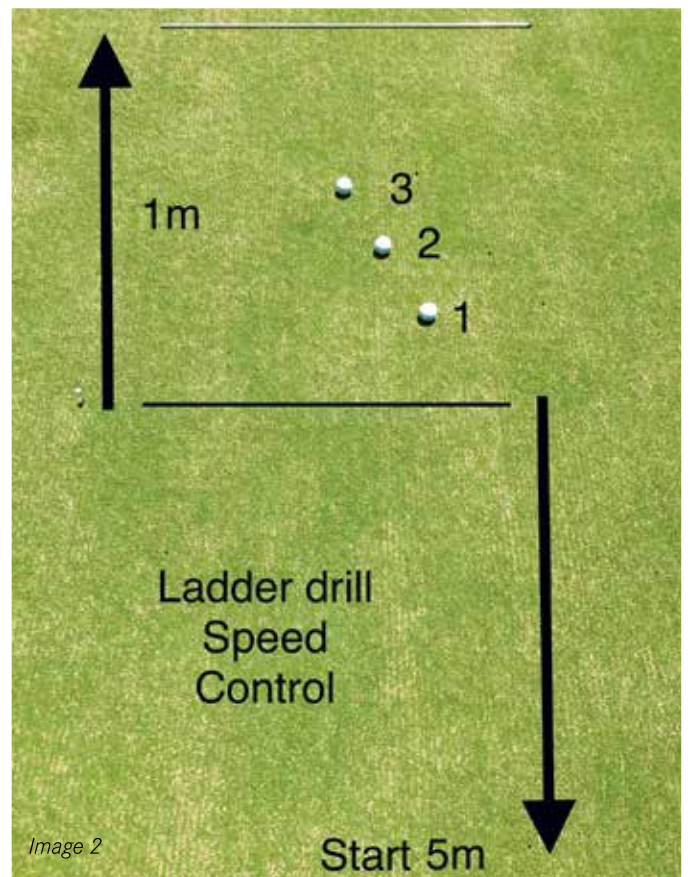
#### Drill: X drill. This works on start line, apex and entry point

The X drill challenges all your putting skills – uphill, downhill, right to left and left to right. See image 3.

- Create an X around the practice hole so that you have 2x2 opposite putts (uphill versus downhill and right to left versus left to right)
- Look at each of the four different putts to the hole. Identify the keys areas of start line, apex and entry point.
- Pick any putt to start, place tees at 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 feet. Start at three feet and putt. If you make it, continue back to four feet, etc. until you finish the 7-foot putt. If you miss a putt at any stage, then stay at that distance until you make it. Count how many putts to finish e.g. eight attempts to putt from all five spots.
- Keep track of your score, then move to the opposite side and repeat the drill at 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 feet.
- Count the total putts you needed to complete that side.
- Finish the other two sides repeating the same process and keep score.
- When you have finished the X drill, you will have four scores. Totalling them will give you a combined score for the 20 putts to complete the drill. You will see which area needs the most improvement. Normally the left to right side is harder for a right-handed golfer.

The X drill is a what's known as a performance drill. When done correctly, it should simulate everything you experience on the golf course, such as anxiety, fear, outcome, pressure. The more you practice in this pressure environment, the more you will learn to deal with these variables. This provides you with the tools to perform at your best.

I'm passionate about putting. It's this skill that has allowed me to be consistently on tour for the last 25 years.

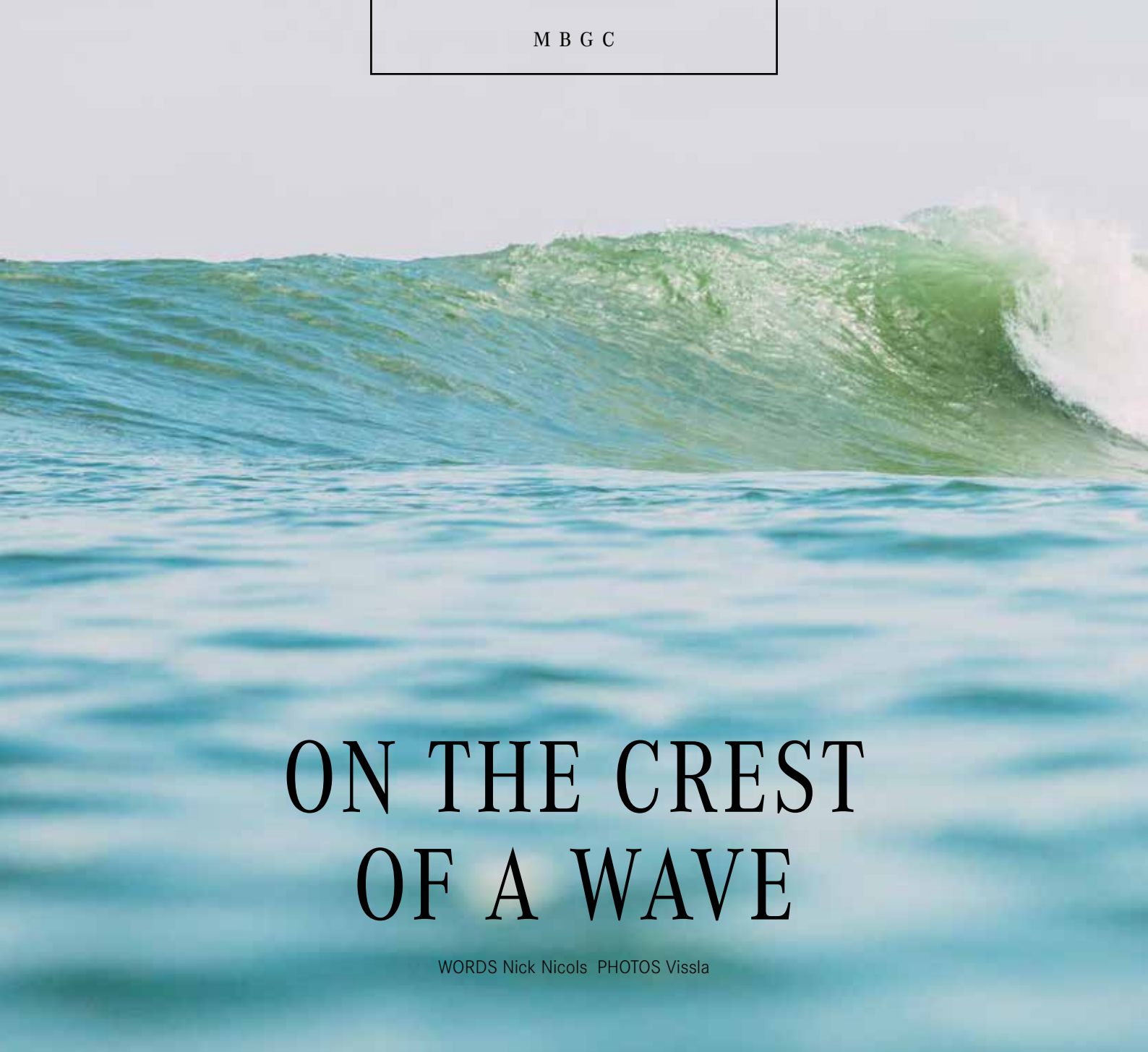


I'm also confident about the impact putting has on your score that I am setting you a challenge – practice your putting for the next month using the above drills. This will directly improve your scores for the month.

Spend at least three 20 minute sessions per week. Just before you play, warm up by hitting some golf balls on the range but any quality practice time you do is to be only putting. You will be surprised at the result.

For more tips and to access my putting aid, visit [www.project1putt.com.au](http://www.project1putt.com.au). Enter code MBGC at the checkout for a 10% discount (valid until 29 February 2020).

Friday 27 January 2020, at Sanctuary Cove Golf and Country Club I will be giving a putting demonstration open to all MBGC customers. To register, email [events@mbgoldcoast.com.au](mailto:events@mbgoldcoast.com.au). See you there!



# ON THE CREST OF A WAVE

WORDS Nick Nicols PHOTOS Vissla

Gold Coast-based surf brand Vissla has been quietly making waves with the surfing set globally, and it's not afraid to make some noise about the environment either.





**A**ustralian-born companies Billabong, Rip Curl and Quiksilver have long held the mantle as icons of surf culture.

Their roots stretch back decades to a time when surfing was all about hitting the road with a board hanging out the back of the ute or panel van, and then spending the weekend scoping out the coastal breaks.

Not much has changed there, except that surfing these days is less subculture and more mainstream.

The essence of surfing culture remains the same although now, more than ever, the trend

towards sustainability is driving a new era in the industry.

These days the essence of a surfing brand is just as immersed in ethical production as it is in the latest gear or board shape, and that's been a strong point for emerging Gold Coast-based surfwear company Vissla.

It's a business with a global reach, founded in 2013 by Paul Naude, Derek O'Neil and John Mossop who are respectively based in the US, Europe and Australia and operate under the Stokehouse banner. In that time, Vissla has

become one of the largest privately-owned surfwear groups in Australia.

Vissla isn't a brand to take a softly, softly approach with its message and it has been highly active in creating clever video campaigns to promote the brand and its ideals.

The latest campaign appeared to be taking the sustainability mantra to a new level with the launch of the Rising Seas wetsuit to its surfwear collection. The Vissla creatives had their tongues-in-cheeks when mapping out the campaign, although the message was sombre and thought-provoking.

Vissla and the Surfrider Foundation latched onto an apocalyptic theme for the faux campaign. Set against a dark and foreboding backdrop, the video opens with US pro surfer Cam Richards donning the wetsuit and a protective mask complete with a respirator to tackle the waves in his goofy-foot style.

The Rising Seas wetsuit was billed as a 'bio-defence system to face the emerging ecological crises'.

"It's one of those campaigns that creates the conversations we have to have," says John Mossop, who controls Vissla's Australasian operations from its Burleigh Heads headquarters.

"The future of the natural environment is at the forefront of every one of us who loves surfing and loves being out there on the water. The concept for this campaign was to give us all a bit of a reality check about where we are heading."

The collaboration with Surfrider Foundation is among many that Vissla has undertaken since signing up in 2015 to become a Surf Industry Coastal defender, which is a coalition of industry brands working towards ensuring our waters remain clean and our beaches are healthy for future generations.

It's not that Vissla wants to ram home some environmental crusade, but it's typical of a brand that was born to be different. The name itself has puzzled many.

"The SS stands for seven seas and, if you look closely at the stylised letters of the name, you'll notice the L is the number seven upside down. Each of the other letters, such as the V which is actually a calliper used in the shaping of a surfboard, also have meaning to us and keep us focused on our brand values," says John.

"When we established Vissla we wanted to take a different approach to the products we brought to the market and to the way we engaged with the surfing community at large.

"We're obviously commercially driven but we're also a company that wants to drive meaningful change in the way the industry operates.

Vissla is renowned for the quality of its wetsuits, described in some quarters as fitting like seaweed on a sushi roll. However, it's also



being noticed for its use of recyclables in the manufacture of many of its clothing lines.

In 2017, Vissla introduced upcycled coconut boardshorts, putting to good use the mountain of husks from some of the 20 billion coconuts consumed globally, along with the countless billions of plastic bottles discarded each year. The result is a boardshort that blends Cocomat yarn with recycled Repreve polyester to create durable, stretchable and odour-resistant surfwear.

"A lot of what we do is driven by what surfers look for in their gear," says John.

"That starts with choosing sustainable options across the fashion lines as much as possible, but first and foremost it has to be functional.

"We're seeing this happening so much more across the board with so many innovators in the industry seeking ways to keep surfing culture true to its core principles including its intimate connection with the natural environment.

There's fun in the animated 'protect and surf' campaign which highlights how the surfing industry globally, from shapers to scientists, are looking at ways to enhance sustainability.

Retro is also in Vissla's DNA, harking back to simpler days of a surfing subculture that has since opened up to a broader demographic.

Vissla is parent company to D'Blanc eyewear and the women's brand Amuse Society, but more recently it introduced a new brand, Sisstrevolution, with a new focus on women's surfing gear. The seven seas are again embedded in the name.

"Some of the most exciting progression in surfing is happening on the women's side of the space and we are keen to recognise that and give this new generation a brand it can call its own," says John.

"Whereas Amuse Society is more for women and girls who love the beach life, Sisstr is more about girls who really love surfing.


"The brand obviously is leveraging off our existing infrastructure to create product that is sustainable, and especially with our wetsuits which have really made an impact in the industry."


The strategy is embedded in the roots of the founders of the brand. They all love surfing and still get out there every chance they can.

Vissla

Telephone: 5606 7375

Email: [info@visslaau.com](mailto:info@visslaau.com)

 @ visslasurf

 @ visslasurf

[www.vissla.com](http://www.vissla.com)

# STAYING HEALTHY IN THE 'SILLY SEASON'



WORDS Holly Louise – The Fit Pharmacist

It can feel like a huge challenge to stay healthy over the festive period, and while it's really important to allow yourself time to relax and enjoy yourself, you don't need to completely undo all of your hard work either.

Here are some simple tips to help you reach January feeling your best self.

## PLAN AHEAD

If you aren't sure what you will be eating, then it is best to save a good portion of each macronutrient for later. If you are wanting to go all-out, there are a few strategies to help you save up some extra calories:

1. Reduce your calorie intake earlier in the day by drinking protein shakes or eating small servings of lean protein with low calorie salads or vegetables. This will help keep you feeling full and allow you to save more carbs and fat macros for any meals out.
2. Utilise fasting for a period of the day. This can decrease the window of eating, allowing more calories to be saved.
3. Add in an extra training session or some cardio on the day of, or day after your event. Don't make this a habit though, as it can lead to an unhealthy relationship with food.

## GUESSTIMATE

If you can choose what you will eat, choose something that is easy to track. Break it down into a basic ingredients list or search for something similar using the MyFitnessPal database. Remember, it is always better to track something than to track nothing at all. Also, it is better to overestimate the serving size than to underestimate from a calorie perspective. This gets easier with time and the more experience you have measuring portions at home, the more accurate you will become at estimating the portions when eating food that you haven't prepared and weighed.

## CUT CALORIES WHERE POSSIBLE

Be conscious of the calories you are consuming, and find ways you can make your choice a little less calorie dense. Think about leaner protein sources, less calorie dense carbs, and reducing fat where possible.

Another way to reduce the caloric total of your meal is to avoid or limit sauces and dressings.

## SET AN ALCOHOL BUDGET

Drinking is a big part of the festive season, but a few alcoholic beverages can affect your daily calorie count. Alcohol is classified as a carbohydrate and is seven calories per gram, so be aware of how quickly they can add up.

Try and stick to a limit and alternate your alcoholic drinks with water and drink slowly.

## STAY HYDRATED

Thirst can easily be mistaken for hunger so make sure you are constantly sipping on water throughout the day, especially before and during Christmas parties. Making an effort to drink more water on days after you have eaten high carb or high sodium foods will also help to minimise fluid retention.

## KEEP MOVING

Try to keep up with your normal training routine as much as possible throughout this period. If you don't have access to a gym, then mix it up with some body weight circuits or cardio to get your heart rate up and burn calories. Get friends and family involved to keep you accountable and motivated.

## STAY FLEXIBLE

If you're diligent about what you eat, there's no reason not to enjoy yourself at parties or events. Going over your macros occasionally or not tracking a few meals isn't going to make you gain a whole heap of weight. As with everything, moderation is the key and if you follow the 80/20 rule, you will be fine. Life is too short to miss out on fun, festivities and memories with loved ones.

# THE ETHICS OF A CLASSIC DESIGN

WORDS Nick Nichols PHOTOS Brooke Davies, Charlotte O'Sullivan

Fabienne Costa lets her heart lead the way on a business journey that has taken YCL Jewels to the world.



**F**abienne Costa founded YCL Jewels on the principle of creating simple designs to suit the modern woman, but with a classic bent that stands the test of time.

As the business continues to grow, it's evident that there's so much more to her passion for wearable art.

YCL Jewels has evolved into a business that is equally focused on ethical values as it is on clever design.

Fabienne, the CEO and creative director of YCL Jewels, had no preconceptions about the industry when she jumped into it 14 years ago.

"I had absolutely no experience in design and no money, so as a fearless 21-year-old who thought she could do anything, I just threw myself into the deep end," she says.

Fabienne was just two subjects away from completing a Bachelor of Nursing and becoming a registered nurse. She already had four years of professional nursing under her belt at the time.

"I was working in a high-paying, secure job as a nurse and I quit all of that to follow my heart and start a brand," she says.

Fabienne's love of jewellery design was ignited when her mum enrolled her into a one-hour beading course after school.

"I learned the fundamentals of how to make earrings and a necklace and how to thread beads onto wire, so it was really basic stuff. My passion for design stemmed from that.

"It wasn't until I went to a market in Brisbane where I saw a local designer selling her

jewellery that it clicked. I knew I could create my own line of jewellery and that I would love doing it."

YCL Jewels now produces jewellery in artisan factories around the world, supported by a loyal community of customers who have closely followed Fabienne's journey through social media.

YCL's expansion has primarily occurred in the e-commerce space, beginning with Fabienne's first Shopify e-store. It expanded further when Fabienne joined The Iconic platform a few years ago.

The key challenges these days as the business grows is to retain the integrity of the brand's artisan roots. Fabienne's customers wouldn't expect anything less.

"I have travelled to various countries multiple times to meet with all of our craftsmen, our factories, and our production managers who we have really close relationships with," she says.

"In Hong Kong, where we have our main factory, it is a family-run business with a female-led team. The cutting, the polishing and the moulding is all done by hand.

"Having those relationships is really important to me and I like sharing those stories to let our community know where the pieces are made."

YCL's minimalist designs resonate with a youthful demographic.

"I would describe our jewellery as really feminine, modern and timeless," says Fabienne.

"You won't come to YCL if you want a pair of earrings just for a Saturday night that are really bold to go with a particular outfit.

"I think women purchase our jewellery because our pieces are easy to wear every day, and they can really transform. They can wear a piece to work during the day and it can really elevate a look at night as well."

The brand has two very distinct target audiences.

"One is our younger demographic that we started off with when I was 21 years old. She's likely to be 18 to 24 who likes to have pieces

that are on trend but also are really timeless and modern.

"Our largest demographic now is 24 to 34. Those women shop more mindfully. They are much more curated and conscious of the way they spend and where they spend their money.

"It's about responsible craftsmanship and not about purchasing a new piece every week. These pieces are meant to be worn for a lifetime.

"I feel like we really connect quite strongly with our community and we have a really loyal and devoted following because of our ethos and the way we operate."

Fabienne admits she had to learn early on to trust her team to faithfully drive her vision.

"That's one of the hardest things about running a business, especially when it is led by your heart," she says.

"Even though I am part of every single decision and every single touch point of our brand it's hard.

"It's been a part of my learning curve as a business owner to let go of things and entrust to my beautiful team certain parts that I had control over."

That said, Fabienne still manages to handcraft some pieces from time to time in the Gold Coast studio.

"There are a few designs that I do have my hand on and it's not something that I want to stop any time soon."

Fabienne is conscious of the loyal community she has created through YCL Jewels, which is why she often responds personally to customers on Instagram and through emails.

"We have really big connections with our customers, and that's really important because at the end of the day our community and our customers are at the forefront of everything we do."

YCL Jewels

 @ycljewels

[www.ycljewels.com](http://www.ycljewels.com)



A glimpse into Mercedes-Benz marketing of yesteryear, an era of long copy, masterful commercial artistry and press advertising with panache. Curated by the team at *MBGC*.

The Mercedes-Benz W186 model 300, the Maybach of its day and rival to the Rolls Royce Silver Cloud, was the largest, most prestigious and expensive car for the company when produced.

Built in several models from 1951 to 1962, the four-door luxury tourer was launched at the first Frankfurt International Motor Show and showcased futuristic technology such as a glass partition, VHF mobile telephone, and dictation machine.

Due to its size and status it soon became the favourite for representative purposes in politics and business with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, President Theodor Heuss, Finance minister Ludwig Erhard and Social Democratic Party leader Kurt Schumacher among the first dignitaries to be chauffeured in the 300.

Technically, as well as conceptually, its roots go back to the 260 model of 1940, which did not go into mass production due to the war.

Its first version delivered 115 hp and reached a maximum speed of 160 kph. The framework and chassis basically followed the concept of the 170 S and 220 models but were adjusted to the higher weight and remarkable driving performance of the 300.

The most important technological advancement was an electrically activated torsion-bar suspension. Under extreme loads (the upper limit was 365 kg at first) it acted as a levelling device for the rear wheels.

Apart from the saloon, which was available with optional sun-roof, there also was a five or six seat Convertible D available in December 1958 which could be fitted with a sliding roof and/or an partition wall. The substantial price difference of DM 8,500 ensured exclusivity and a low number of units produced (around AUD\$450,00 today).

Even more exclusive were four individual cars built in 1960 on the basis of the 300 D. Three of them, Pullman limousine and two Pullman landaulets were built on an elongated chassis with a 3600 mm wheelbase and with a higher roof. One of the two landaulets were fitted with a single armchair in the rear as an extra feature for Pope John XXIII. The second landalet and the Pullman limousine remained in the factory as representation cars to be rented out to the government or wealthy clients for special events.

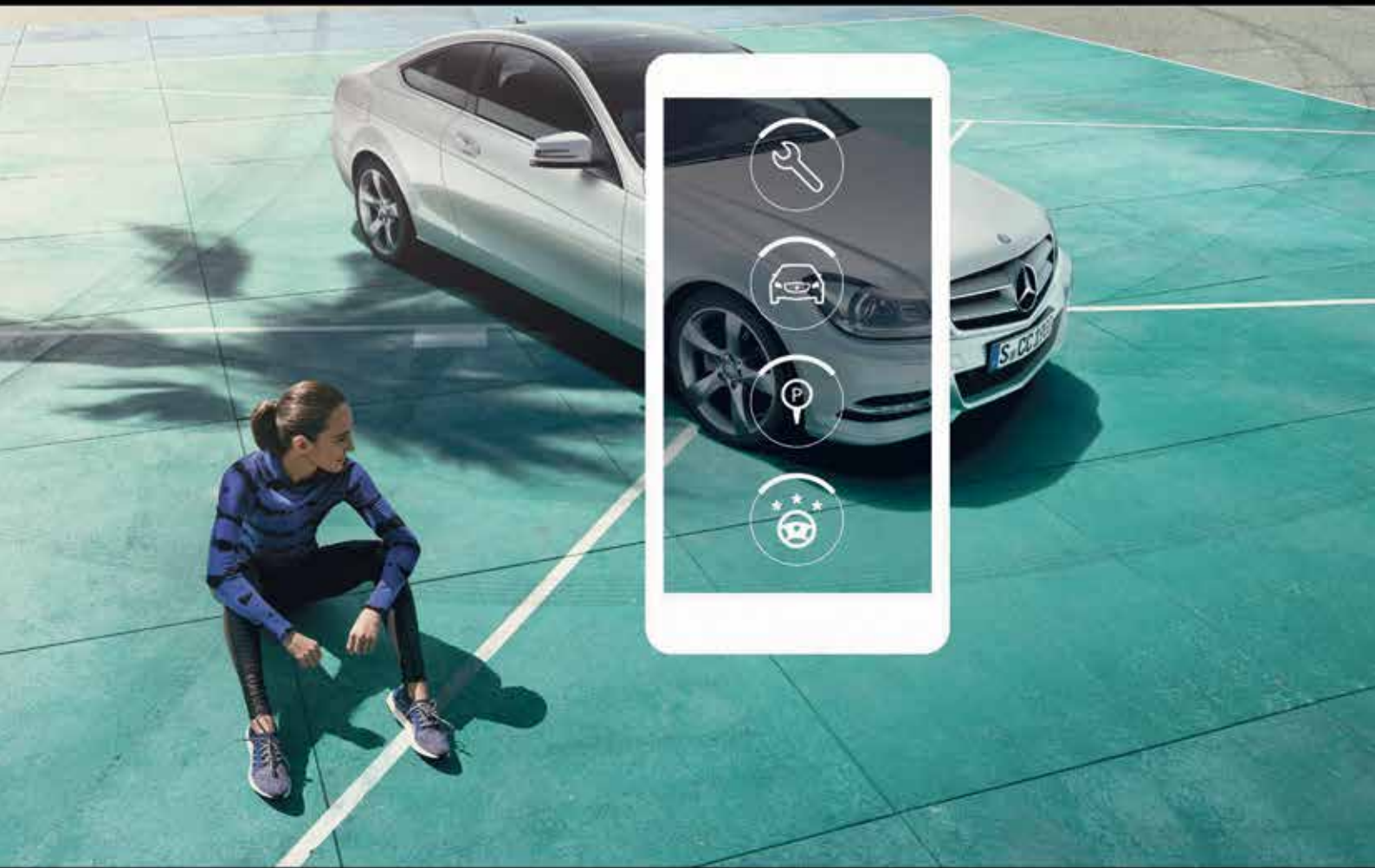
The fourth car, a completely new bodied two-door estate wagon, unfit for representation purposes and kept from the public, was used as a powerful measuring car in the test department for many years.

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