

# Bushland beauty

Exuding natural charm, this extensive garden perfectly complements the surrounding bushland



**SET AMONG THE TREETOPS, THIS QUINTESSENTIAL**

Australian garden is a stunning showpiece for Space Landscape Designs, one of Sydney's leading landscape and swimming pool design companies. Designing for such a vast property with a steep slope posed a variety of challenges. The key to resolving these challenges was to be ever-mindful of the scale of the garden and the unique purpose of each of its areas. Once each area was designated a use, it was then a matter of dealing with the slope of the site and introducing various level changes to create useable living spaces.

The owners of this impressive property wanted the new swimming pool to form the centrepiece of the design and make a bold statement. The tile selection made by Space Landscape Designs — a mix of glistening blue, silver and black Bisazza glass mosaic tiles — creates a sense of movement and a shimmering effect that imitates the foliage of the surrounding bushland, reflected on the surface of the water. The use of light-grey, large-format paving for the pool surrounds and coping adds further contrast to the deep, intense colours of the pool's interior.

Once the pool was constructed, the next task was to determine how the surrounding level changes would be managed. The decision was made to create two separate main areas with a wide staircase serving as the transition point between them. The creation of the stairs allowed for the construction of large garden beds. Each garden bed was built of sandstone and provides ample room for interesting planting and a generous area for a timber daybed bench.

The random stacked sandstone walls are the predominant feature of the garden, bringing a natural element into the garden in a sophisticated





way. The curved walls are a spectacular sight and were masterfully constructed by Asset Landscapes. The main curved wall on the upper level acts as a backdrop for the intimate fire pit seating area. This space comes into its own at dusk when the golden glow of the fire, along with the subtle lighting, gently illuminates the area. Thanks to Space Landscape Designs' well-considered layout, the entire garden can be viewed from this vantage point.

The sandstone walling also links the lower level of the pool area with the rest of the garden. This level features the use of another natural hard landscaping element — wide-board, hardwood timber decking. An extremely tranquil space, the lower level features an elevated timber walkway that takes you right into the heart of the bushland that wraps around the property.

Considering the size of the property, planting was kept to a minimum. The intent was to create a modern design around the pool and house using exotic plantings, with a shift towards native plantings around the outer perimeter where the garden blends into the bush surrounds. To ensure nothing is detracted from the bushland view, grasses (*Lomandra* 'Tanika') were planted en masse with specimen plantings of grass trees, tuckeroo trees and cherry blossoms used as feature plantings. Subtle ground cover plants complete the picture.



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**Project details**

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