

Builder sets benchmark higher

A local firm has outdone itself with this complex. **John Videnieks** reports.

In a venture confirming Humphrey Builders & Designers in a construction category which is complementary to their norm of high-quality residential homes, the company has produced a gem. Sitting high on a rise above the iconic North Cottlesloe beach precinct is their soaring development, the Dune.

The Dune is a two-apartment complex in a three-level design. Apartment two on the top level is the focus here. Apartment one replicates it.

In typical Cottlesloe style, a shower stands ready in the undercroft of the building, discreetly behind a metallic screen of curved waves, waiting to rinse off salt and sand.

This pragmatic entry area to the shared lift includes a multi-vehicle underground garage and manicured gardens.

The landing at the exit of the commercial-standard lift is an entry hall, with a parquetry floor of European oak in herring-bone design. A step into the passageway provides ocean views.

The open-plan dining, sitting room and kitchen design tends to concentrate attention on the view through floor-to-ceiling glass sliding doors.

The oak floors give way to silver travertine on the balcony, emphasising the quality of the finish. A glass and stainless-steel balustrade is matched at one end by built-in barbecue facilities with a separate sink and a fridge. Vertical louvres set at 30 degrees are at the other end.

The kitchen features a bench in a cube of mirrored glass and CaesarStone, contrasted by walnut veneer cabinetry, including a fascia to integrate the dishwasher. Up-market appliances include a steamer, induction cooktop and wok. A scullery extends from the first.

This is a huge apartment, including a study, guest bedrooms and main suite which would be the envy of any custom-built home.

The passage from the open-plan front of the unit involves a step down which is complemented by a wave effect in the ceiling design. An anteroom with a fireplace is the precursor to the main suite.

A cavity wall sliding door opens to a bedroom with a recessed ceiling, those ocean views and an ensuite of black marble.



The big kitchen is a modern masterpiece, as is the scullery next door.



The quality of the finish is a mark of the standards set by the builder. The complex was three years in the making and the attention to detail speaks to that.

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