

Natural inspiration

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Simple colour palettes, an abundance of curves, tactile engagement and a seamless integration of indoor and outdoor spaces have been key to shaping the luxurious interior spaces that now define the extraordinary guest experience at Freycinet's Coastal Pavilions.

Continuing the collaborative approach to the Freycinet project, tourism entrepreneur and Project Manager Brett Torossi engaged the leading architecture and design firm Liminal Studio (along with their interior design and furniture/product design arms Liminal Spaces and Liminal Objects) to conceptualise, develop and deliver the architecture and interior design vision for Freycinet's Coastal Pavilions. All the key aspects of the interiors, including the furniture, have been Tasmanian designed and manufactured, creating a coherent sense of immersion and an intersection between design and place.

The key interior pieces were designed by Liminal Objects including the 'Pebble' sofa suite, bedheads and coffee tables, which all respond to the surrounding landscape in unique ways.

'The variety of greys, oranges and blues that guided our choice of fabrics were a result of us responding to the coastal textures found in the nearby granite rocks, rich coloured lichen and deep blue ocean,' explains Peta Heffernan, Director, Liminal Studio.

One of the most remarkable pieces in each of the Pavilion lounge rooms

is the bespoke Tasmanian coffee table. The design concept for the very special coffee table in the Honeymoon Pavilion comes with an extraordinary story and a unique celebration of human connection. Liminal worked with pakana Aboriginal elder Vicki West in developing the basket form of the coffee table, which is named *muylatina* meaning 'coming together'. This collaboration stems from their desire to bring together 40,000 years of pakana culture with 21st century technology to create a collection that encourages people to gather and share – whether it be food, stories or each other's company. Vicki began each basket with nine strands of the dodder vine, symbolising the nine Aboriginal nations of Tasmania and it's with the repetition of this process that the basket took its final form. The vessel is firmly rooted in the uniqueness of the pakana people and their place, and the table is reminiscent of a humble tray used to gather, serve and share nourishment.

Constructed by Vos Construction & Joinery out of nanotechnological material made of paper and next-generation acrylic resins, this table is an outcome of a highly engineered product, extensively researched, tested and manufactured with precision and minimal material wastage.

Solid Tasmanian oak, plywood and blackwood joinery have also been used to completely enwrap each room of the Pavilions, providing consistency and warmth to both indoor and outdoor spaces.



'The plywood, with the Tasmanian oak *delegatensis* veneer, is the only plywood to be produced in Tasmania and it hasn't been used as a featured finish before. It's predominantly used as structural ply and therefore usually hidden,' explains Peta.

Showcasing humble and natural materials in such an innovative way informs the curation of an entirely unique atmosphere and encourages guests to embrace the spaces in a completely tactile, sensuous way.

Floor-to-ceiling curved windows overlook expansive bush and coastal views in the lounge, bringing the outdoors in and emphasising the experience of immersion in nature. With the complete absence of right angles and emphasis on curved forms, the builders' skills were put to the test on this project. Liminal worked closely with Cordwell Lane to resolve details and ensure the design intent was retained. Joinery was used sparingly, and where exposed, as with the vanity unit and living room unit, it has been made a feature while being integrated holistically into the design.

IN TASMANIA TODAY



The design of the Coastal Pavilions reflects the surrounding landscape – from the colours to the 'Pebble' sofas (main picture) and the curved forms of the glass exteriors. Photos by Dianna Snape and design by Liminal Studio.

'We worked closely with Mint Joinery, who fabricated the carefully crafted pieces,' Peta says. 'The specialty Tasmanian timber, blackwood, was chosen for the joinery for its warmth, depth of colour and beautiful grain.'

The interplay of the living room and bedroom wing form an embrace reminiscent of the nearby bays, protecting the generous deck and offering privacy to the luscious outdoor bath. The bespoke 'Pebble' sofas, whose forms are influenced by local coastal rocks and rounded pebbles are a unique addition to the Pavilions. The sofas are composed of a chaise longue, a single seater and an ottoman, which are designed to work in multiple configurations depending on the mood of the guest. Liminal developed and designed these extraordinary lounges, engaging a local Tasmanian manufacturer to create each piece by hand.

'Whether the guests feel like lying down and gazing out at the water views, cuddling with a loved one while reading, or sitting up playing cards, they can create any

'We have drawn inspiration from this unique setting to influence the architecture and interiors of the Coastal Pavilions.'
Peta Heffernan – Director, Liminal Studio.

configuration they wish. The sofas also feature concealed 'feet', so the floors remain unscratched as guests move them around,' explains Peta.

So as to not detract from the stunning views the Pavilions boast, the interior design allows all distracting 'clutter' to be hidden away. In the kitchen, condiments, refreshments, and accessories are strategically hidden behind carefully designed cupboard doors that appear to be part of the walls. The doors are fabricated out of the same timber cladding so as not to interrupt the organic forms.

Out on the deck is the 'hammock' balustrade, a groundbreaking new creation that protects guests' safety as well as offering expansive views.

'Recognising that typical balustrades often disrupt the view when seated, Liminal devised a unique solution that provided a novel opportunity for relaxing and enjoying the incredible setting,' says Peta.

These netted 'hammock' balustrades are a world first, gently extending from the decking and allowing guests to lie back and be literally cradled by the architecture as they relax and take in the natural surrounds. This irresistibly playful addition is guaranteed to bring out the inner child in every guest – a highlight that adds to the already overwhelming sense of wonder and world-class design standards these extraordinary Pavilions offer.