




Small wonder

Hidden away on a remote island off the North Queensland coast, this tiny studio is an innovative adaptation of a beach escape.

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AIR SUPPLY

A pitched roof and ceiling fans work hard to keep air flowing so the tiny structure stays cool in the heat.

Designed by Renato D'Ettoire Architects, this one bedroom, one bathroom beach house is contained within just 100 square metres and blends harmoniously with its natural environment.

Responding to its remote island location, the open-air studio eagerly embraces its surroundings through the clever use of low-maintenance materials like concrete, stone, glass and hardwood timbers and local granite hand-picked from the basalt quarry in Bowen, Queensland. →



IN THE FOLD

The native hardwood shutters create an instant island vibe, but they're practical, too, used for both cooling and cyclone protection.

ISLAND IDYLL
There's no need for artwork with a view like this. Sliding glass doors welcome the island into the studio.





“The crisp white interior walls and concrete slab floor offer cool respite from the heat outside while nodding to the bleached white sands beyond”





The region's intense heat, torrential rains and humidity are regulated with minimal effort through the home's flexible and intelligent design. Inspired by the elements of light, air and water, it transforms to suit the extremes of the tropics.

Retractable timber shutters made from native hardwood can be opened or closed to manage heat and humidity, while the sliding glass doors offer protection against wind and rain. The steep pitch of the ceiling lantern facilitates circulation of the steamy North Queensland air, while ceiling fans negate the need for air-conditioning.

The crisp white interior walls and concrete slab floor offer cool respite from the heat outside and a

refreshing minimal style, while nodding to the bleached white sands of the beach beyond.

When not in residence, the homeowners can completely close down the entire structure with a simple flick of the retractable timber shutters, barricading it against the cyclone season. The timber itself is designed to weather and age, blending beautifully over time with the soft palette of the island's native bushland.

With the kind of eco-responsive indoor/outdoor design that epitomises tropical living, this little beach house is in perfect harmony with its coastal environment. Offering comfort for a barefoot tropical lifestyle, this is island life, done differently. **Oh**