

NO BORDER PASS REQUIRED FOR VIRTUAL TOUR OF AWARD-WINNING GOLD COAST ARCHITECTURE

Border blues may be preventing a visit to Queensland's Gold Coast for some, but this weekend (17 and 18 October), Gold Coast Open House 2020 invites all Australians to embark on a virtual tour of the City as the annual event is 'Doing things differently'.

For the past five years, the architecture and design festival has opened the doors of cutting-edge architect-designed buildings, places and infrastructure, heritage gems and private residences to the public. This year, it's all online with a series of armchair tours to be enjoyed from the comfort of home. Highlights include:

- A virtual tour of Houses Magazine's House of the Year 2020 located at Miami on the Gold Coast. Following a seven-minute film about the house, architect Matt Eagle from ME conducts a live Q&A session – perfect for the renovator or anyone with an interest in beachside architecture. Gather a group of friends and stream to your big screen in the comfort of your living room!
- An hour-long guided virtual tour takes you behind the scenes at the Gold Coast's Desalination Plant with a host from Queensland's SEQ Water. Advanced technology called reverse osmosis removes salt from seawater to produce drinking water that meets the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. The plant can supply up to 133 ML/day – enough water for about 300,000 houses.
- A series of 9 videos about some of the Gold Coast's most inspiring architecture, architects and recent projects, including Gold Coast Airport Hotel, Jewel and a historical review of Surfers Paradise buildings.
- A series of 11 short films offering Griffith University and Bond University architecture student perspectives.
- Four short films by four Gold Coast 'emerging architects' which were made possible thanks to the inaugural 'Emerging Artists Bursary'.
- Six short films by Griffith University School of Film students, including the Pink Hotel at Coolangatta, Gold Coast Aquatic Centre and Aitkenhead building at Somerset College.
- A photo gallery of 10 Australian Institute of Architects regional award-winners.

The virtual tours of the Desalination Plant and the Cantala Avenue home require pre-registration. Head to www.goldcoastopenhouse.com.au for details. The full program launches on the website at 7am on Saturday 17 October.

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