

CASE STUDY

FOUR MILE
BEACH HOUSE





BACKGROUND

Port Douglas, on the lush coast of tropical far north Queensland, has long been a favourite holiday destination for both domestic and international travellers. The Four Mile Beach House project is about seclusion - a private resort and elevated living platform with views of the Coral Sea beneath the tropical beach rainforest canopy.

One of the most striking features of the project is its enormous, angular pool. Charles Wright Architects commissioned Rocks On to develop a swimming pool tile that replicated the appearance of the colours of Tahitian waters for the project.

CHALLENGE

There were a number of challenges in the brief; the first of which was the sheer size of the pool. Roughly 240 m² of pool tiles were required in order to perfectly create the desired look. Moreover, the tiles required a finish that accurately recreated the striking aqua colour and shimmer of tropical sea.

A bespoke solution was required - standard glass mosaic pool tiles were not suitable because of their commonality. The solution also needed to be cost-effective, and produced in a size and format that could be curved through the bottom of the pool.

Finally, the solution needed to be functional and sustainable. It needed to be pool safe and resistant to acids to ensure durability and long life span, and easy to install.

SOLUTION

John Berry developed a bespoke glazed porcelain tile for the project. The 48x48mm tile was fabricated onto 306x306mm sheets to provide the necessary flexibility to cover the pool's curved bottom. The tiles were fabricated in two colours, light blue and light green, which - combined with the glazed porcelain finish - replicate the enticing, shimmering appearance of tropical seas.

The non-porous porcelain glaze has excellent resistance to acids, ensuring long lifespan, even submerged in chlorinated water for years. The tile sheets are incredibly easy to install, and provided a cost-effective solution, even for a bespoke product with a short-run production.

By working closely with the architect to understand the client's need, we were able to provide the perfect solution for the project.

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