



SERENE BALANCE

Photography Chris Allan Photography | Location Simbithi Eco Estate

HOME
FEATURE # 1

With smooth clean lines and stylishly spacious, this Simbithi home blends perfectly with its natural surrounds.

Meeting your life partner after living in a new town for 3 months sounds a bit like a fairy tale - not so for Simbithi residents Johané and Leunis van Rooyen.

"I fell in love with Ballito after coming down from Pretoria to do a work presentation in Umhlanga. It was the middle of winter but absolutely glorious here on the coast", says Johané, originally from Vryheid in Northern KwaZulu Natal. She transferred to Ballito four years ago and met

Leunis who has been living on the coast for the last ten years. The couple met through a mutual friend who convinced them to go on a blind date. The rest, as they say, is history.

With safety and security top of mind, the couple set out, determined to buy and build a home within an estate on the North Coast. After a leisurely drive through Simbithi Eco Estate, the big open spaces, simple yet elegant architecture and lifestyle orientated facilities, clinched the deal for both Johané and Leunis.

Buying an extremely steep site was not ideal but with Leunis's previous renovating experience and the fact that he was fast friends with local architect, Llewellyn Cronje from CA Architects, the couple resolutely set about the undertaking of building their dream home. "We both jotted down a list of each of our separate wants and needs to discuss with our architect. I can't stress enough how important it is to have a great fit with your architect. Even though Leunis and Llewellyn are friends, and I thought I may not get everything I wanted, Llewellyn was more than fair", laughed Johané.

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Easy on the eye, magnificent views to be enjoyed both day and night, combined with the perfect location make this recently completed Simbithi Eco Estate home one to remember.

It also goes to show that having a hands on approach to building your dream home can reap big rewards. Undeterred by the steep site, these owners managed to create a clean, simple and functional home.

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The split entrance to the home gracefully guides you either to the ground floor with the living area, kitchen and dining area and cinema or upstairs to the four spacious bedrooms.

The breathtaking views fill the visual space and are maximised with stacking glass doors leading out onto the patio and exterior bar, braai and entertainment area.

A light, airy feel was achieved with the use of a soft neutral palette of earthy browns and splashes of nature inspired greens, ensuring that the master bedroom is an oasis of quiet and calm. With the help of Danelle from Graphic Gurus, Johané was inspired to express her creative side with the decor of the home. The re-purposing of existing furniture ensured that heirloom pieces were incorporated into the home without looking dated or old fashioned.



The couple employed project manager Benno Terbalanche who, in turn subcontracted out the necessary construction work. Johané was tasked with the administration side of the build, but she did get to flex her creative muscles with the furnishings of the home with the help of Danelle from Graphic Gurus. Leunis managed the structural side, often visiting the site twice a day - his hands on approach and overseeing the project played a big role in the build being completed in a record eight and a half months. "We moved in on the 15th December 2015 and our family arrived from out of town for Christmas - it all worked out perfectly", says Leunis.

The couple wanted a home that would accommodate their desire to grow their family. With four generously proportioned, en-suite bedrooms within the home, the couple also added a self-contained flatlet above the four car garage.

Each room in the home has a spectacular view thanks to the use of floor to ceiling windows and sliding or folding/stacking doors. The elevated site also brought unexpected sea views once the home was built.

The informal open plan style of the downstairs area creates a space that is fresh and visually appealing. The use of a muted palette with a great deal of natural wood and white surfaces adds to the relaxed ambience.

Indigenous planting fills the exterior space, emphasising a complementary and contemporary finish to the home. 10,000 litre capacity Jojo tanks have been installed to harvest rainwater from three of the home's roofs to provide drinkable water and solar panels are fitted to supply power to the geysers and to heat the swimming pool.



The relaxed open concept kitchen is furnished with a Pro Quartz topped island with quirky hanging pendant lights purchased from the Light Company



The home was designed for entertaining as the owners are very social. Outside areas were designed to flow inside and vice versa, allowing the feeling of extra space and continuity.



Quirky spaces with personal touches and furnished with fun.



“ Add your own distinctive stamp on your home. Adding a bit of your personality makes the property feel like a home.”



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