

## BISMARCK HOUSE, BONDI

Decades and a design leap from its 1930s origins, this contemporary home in Sydney now doubles as a chic holiday house.

The cactus garden at the heart of Bismarck House may bring to mind the Mid-century Modern pads of Palm Springs but owner William Dangar makes it clear there's nothing Modernist about his Bondi Airbnb ([bismarckhouse.com.au](http://bismarckhouse.com.au); [airbnb.com.au](http://airbnb.com.au)).

"There's certainly an arid thread woven through the house but we never wanted to pigeonhole its design," says Dangar, founder and director of landscape design firm Dangar Barin Smith. "Our brief to the architect was to create something eclectic."

Andrew Burges Architects in Sydney transformed what was a humble 1930s semi-detached house into a two-storey, four-bedroom retreat, complete with "recycled whitewashed bricks, concrete

slabs, which we basically left untreated, and lots of oak," says Dangar.

Even the home's furnishings have a relaxed international vibe. A Tuareg woven leather and reed rug from Morocco is the living room centrepiece, "Lightwood" chairs from Japanese brand Maruni sit around the kitchen table and vintage lamps from France and Denmark create a tranquil mood in the bedrooms.

"We've gone for a curation of styles from different parts of the world," says Dangar, who's happiest with the house's layout. "It's quite nice to be standing in the kitchen or sitting in the living room and to look at the Bismarck palm outside, after which the house was named." ●





