

Art deco homes appeal to many



Originally associated with luxury and glamour, art deco architecture continues to hold a special place in the hearts of many, evoking a sense of nostalgia and exuberance.

From its beginnings in France in the 1920s, art deco became a style of mass appeal across the Western world and Queensland was no different.

And many remain attracted to its simple, modern lines, graceful style and decorative interest.



An "Artis" balcony. Photo: Supplied

If you're a fan of art deco, and you have a spare few million tucked away, you won't want to miss [this stunning Noosa home](#), designed by architect Ruben Uriarte.

The art deco penthouse, "Artis", is set over 347 square metres in a private complex of only two apartments, and includes a rooftop terrace and amazing wet-edge pool.

There are beautiful features, unique to the movement throughout, but it's the access to multiple views that makes this home truly special.



The McWhirters building in the Fortitude Valley in Brisbane. Photo: Harrison Saragossi

The dining area features glass sliding doors opening to a balcony with views of Noosa and the ocean. There is also a glass sliding door off the living area section of the open plan space which leads on to another large balcony overlooking Noosa Hill and the National Park. A spiral staircase leads to the private rooftop terrace and pool.

Three of the four bedrooms offer private balconies with stunning Laguna Bay views.

Artis is one of several art deco homes popping up around the state, with the classic style growing in both popularity and awareness, according to Iona Cominos, author of the Queensland Deco Project blog.



The Empire Theatre in Toowoomba. Photo: Supplied

“I do think there is growing awareness of our art deco heritage and the importance of protecting it,” Cominos said.

“When you think of Queensland what immediately comes to mind is the tin and timber aesthetic of the ‘Queenslander’ house, but I think people are interested in all different aspects of our architectural heritage.”

In most major towns throughout Queensland there are examples of art deco architecture – whether that be in public and commercial buildings or residential homes.

“There are some areas where it is more concentrated – for example, the timing of cyclones in Mackay and Innisfail led to the rebuilding of these town centres predominantly in the art deco style,” Cominos said.

“In terms of residential homes, if you wander through the Valley, New Farm and West End in Brisbane, you will come across quite a number of art deco apartment buildings that sprang up along tram routes. There are several examples around Ascot and Clayfield as well.”

Cominos said some of the most striking examples include the Empire Theatre in Toowoomba, McWhirters in Fortitude Valley, the Johnstone Shire Hall in Innisfail and the Southport Town Hall.

“For apartments, Coronet Court in New Farm is a building many people know and love, and Hampton Court on Sandgate Road in Clayfield has a prominent art deco entrance.”

As well as the pure art deco homes through the state, there are plenty of other houses that have been clearly influenced by the style.

“Chateau Nous in Ascot is heritage listed as an example of the ‘functionalist’ strand of art deco,” Cominos said.

“I’m sure many people will be familiar with examples in their own suburbs and communities where art deco has had at least some small influence – it’s amazing what you find once you start keeping an eye out.”

To inspect Artis contact Nicolette from Unique Estates on 0411 144 877 or Tony from Unique Estates on 0417 601 511