



Sandstone features prominently at Emirates Eco Resort

Category:
AUSTRALIAN STONE
Best Commercial
Project

Project:
Emirates Eco Resort, Wolgan
Valley, NSW

Architecture:
Turner & Associates

Construction:
Hansen Yuncken

Landscape Architect:
Context Landscape Design

Stone Supplied:
Mangrove Mountain Buff
sandstone in various sizes.

Supplied, processed & installed by:
Sarkis Bros, NSW

The Emirates Eco Resort, Wolgan Valley occupies a mere 2 per cent of a 4000 acre site which is located close to the Blue Mountains in New South Wales. This remarkable resort constructed by Hansen Yuncken presented the developers with a variety of challenges.

Ultimately, the \$125 million award-winning development ticks every box. Described as “a wildlife and conservation reserve with resort and spa facilities,” construction of the resort’s 40 luxury guest villas and six treatment room spas only took place after Federal and State governments allowed Integral Energy to run mains power to the site at a cost of \$3.2 million. The site’s power is boosted by the presence of significant solar power reserves.

Fibre optic cabling at a cost of \$1.5 million brought telephonic services to the new resort. Potable water was in short supply until plans were put in place to harvest rainwater from the rooves of dwellings to provide a 100 per

cent closed loop for water, supplemented by a 60 megalitre dam.

Wherever possible Australian materials were employed to complete construction. Masses of native timber and over 10,000 square metres of Mangrove Mountain Sandstone feature prominently in all parts of the development. In many instances stone was pre-cut off-site by suppliers and installers Sarkis Bros. This saved time, power and resources at a busy project where more than 300 skilled tradesmen toiled on a daily basis in difficult conditions.

Sandstone features around fireplaces and pool surrounds, retaining walls, stairs and numerous feature floors and walls, including the attractive central lodge which was inspired by a local homestead.

Sales Manager Charlie Sarkis said, “We worked tirelessly on this iconic project for 16 months. The rewards are there for all to see.”