

Simon Harvey's BeauGroup announce stage one of \$250m Gateway Marina at Burnett Heads

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An artist's impression of the Gateway Marina project in Burnett Heads, near Bundaberg.

Sydney businessman Simon Harvey is gearing up to embark on one of his most significant projects yet, announcing the stage one launch of a \$250m luxury marina precinct at Burnett Heads near Queensland's Bundaberg.

The Gateway Marina project will be the first and major high-quality mixed-use marina and residential development in little-known Burnett Heads and is set to transform the coastal town into a tourism, lifestyle, and leisure destination.

If it proceeds, the project will be backed by Mr Harvey's development company, BeauGroup, which has been redeploying capital into The Gateway via the sale of several high-profile assets in the US, Australia and New Zealand.

BeauGroup most recently sold its shopping centre, Capri on Via Roma, home to one of Harris Farm's most deluxe flagship shopping outlets, for more than \$60m to Malaysian multinational Mulpha.



The Gateway Marina project will be the first and major high-quality mixed-use marina and residential development in little-known Burnett Heads. In 2020, Mr Harvey also sold his stake in the \$NZ500m proposed redevelopment and expansion of the Porters Ski Field, near Christchurch in New Zealand, which he proposed in conjunction with Russian and Israeli investors in 2007. However, in an interview with *The Weekend Australian*, he would not reveal how much he pocketed from the project.

The first stage of the Gateway Marina involves 46 north-facing waterfront residences in two blocks, Musgrave and Elliot, each featuring open plan living and dining spaces, a large master bedroom with dual walk-in wardrobes and generous balconies maximising views to the marina and ocean.

Prices start from \$795,000 for a three-bedroom apartment and around 40 purchasers will have the option to buy one of the 318 marina berths on offer. The rest of the marina berths will be leased, with the pricing yet to be set.

"We have timed our entrance to the market to meet a rapidly diminishing supply of marina berths, which are extremely difficult to secure across Australia's entire eastern seaboard," Mr Harvey said.

“Opportunities to deliver a marina along the eastern coastline are exceptionally rare, so we have invested a substantial amount of consideration into designing a mixed-use precinct that will do this remarkable location justice.”



The marina is set to transform the coastal town into a tourism, lifestyle, and leisure destination.

He claims the Gateway Marina project offers residents all the amenity of a serene waterfront address, without the unruly tropical weather conditions harbours further north are subjected to.

“Safety for vessels in our marina berth is paramount. During the 2013 cyclone, all vessels were directed into this exact harbour for safety, so mariners can relax knowing that their vessels will be safe,” he claimed.

“Gateway Marina berth’s will be affordable, accessible and convenient while offering a superior location and a safe harbour.”

The apartments will comprise two, three and four bedrooms as well as two opulent penthouses and ground-floor garden apartments with private plunge pools. The penthouses will be priced at around the \$3m mark but this is still to be determined.

Positioned at the mouth of the Burnett River, on the shore of Burnett Heads, Boat Harbour is 4½ hours north of Brisbane, and a short drive from Bundaberg CBD.



The marina's apartments will comprise two, three and four bedrooms as well as two opulent penthouses and ground-floor garden apartments with private plunge pools.

Around 40 short-stay accommodation dwellings have also been approved, along with shops, restaurants, bars, and cafes. Dredging is underway with the entire construction program anticipated to take up to five years.

"We are seeing a lot of people wanting to buy into the Sunshine Coast, and a little bit further north," Mr Harvey said.

"We are seeing more and more interstate buyers, from Melbourne and Sydney. We are feeling really confident."

But Mr Harvey said he needed a certain level of pre-sale commitment to the apartments before he could secure bank funding to proceed. So far, he had funded the project, including the ongoing harbour dredging, himself.

He hoped to start the apartment construction by the second quarter of next year, adding that, if the first stage of apartments sold well, he had another 48 apartments in the next building available to release straight away.