

# Forest Sky Pier Coffs Harbour, NSW



The Forest Sky Pier at Sealy Lookout is Coffs Harbour's first eco-certified tourist attraction and receives over 100,000 visitors each year.

The Forest Sky Pier is a spectacular architectural feature providing panoramic views over the Coffs Coast and Hinterland. Cantilevered off the edge of Sealy Lookout in Orara East State Forest, the Forest Sky Pier projects almost 22 metres out over rainforest, 15 metres above the forest canopy.

Hyne Timber was involved early on in the design process and worked closely with engineer John Tozer to offer specific advice on the most durable building materials and connection design for the bushfire prone area. Hyne Timber's Beam 21 (manufactured from Spotted Gum) is the only BAL-29 glue laminated timber (GLT) product available in the Australian market. Both the timber and gluing process safeguard against ember attack and burning debris ignited by wind borne embers and radiant heat up to and including 29 kW/m<sup>2</sup>.





## Timber & Steel

The project is a showcase of how steel and timber can be used in combination to bring dramatic presence to a site while meeting challenging structural and safety requirements. The platform projects a total of 21.6m from the promenade edge and the twin, tall steel columns provide a visual gateway to the viewing area at the end. The platform gives views along the entire coast from Coffs Harbour in the east down to Nambucca Heads in the south.

Large section GLT beams (485x85mm) made from SE Queensland hardwood are supported by an innovative stainless steel cable structure. The decking is turpentine, the handrails grey gum.

The combination of charcoal coloured steel, natural timber, and stainless steel cables provides a striking example of how these elements can be integrated into a single structure.

## Awards & Recognition

**Gold Award – Best New Development 2012**  
North Coast Tourism Awards

**Gold Award – Excellence in Tourism 2011**  
Hunter and Central Coast Tourism Awards

**Bronze Award – Excellence in Tourism 2013**  
North Coast Tourism Awards

“ The number of visitors to the area has been steadily increasing by around 15% each year and is showing no sign of slowing.

Justin Black – Strategic Projects and Programs Leader,  
Forestry Corporation of NSW

Hyne Timber offers Beam 21 in a range of ready-made and custom sizes. The Forest Sky Pier platform was custom built. The prefabricated structure lifted into place on-site.

## Project Team

Architect Steve Gorrell

Engineer John Tozer

Builder Robert Shone Constructions Pty Ltd

Client Forests NSW

