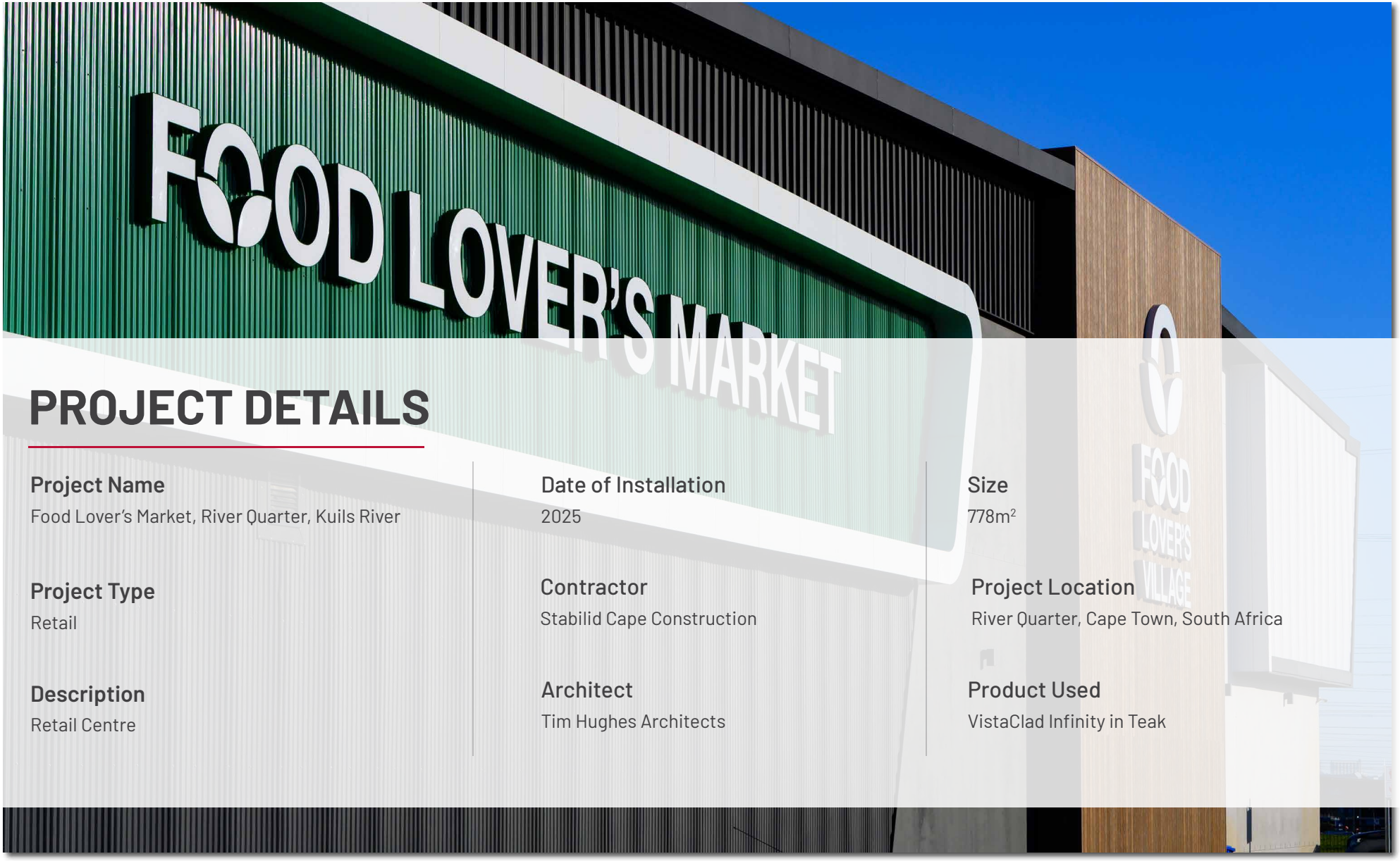


No. 41

Food Lover's Market, River Quarter - VistaClad Cladding

Cape Town, South Africa, 2025



PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name
Food Lover's Market, River Quarter, Kuils River

Project Type
Retail

Description
Retail Centre

Date of Installation
2025

Contractor
Stabilid Cape Construction

Architect
Tim Hughes Architects

Size
778m^2

Project Location
River Quarter, Cape Town, South Africa

Product Used
VistaClad Infinity in Teak

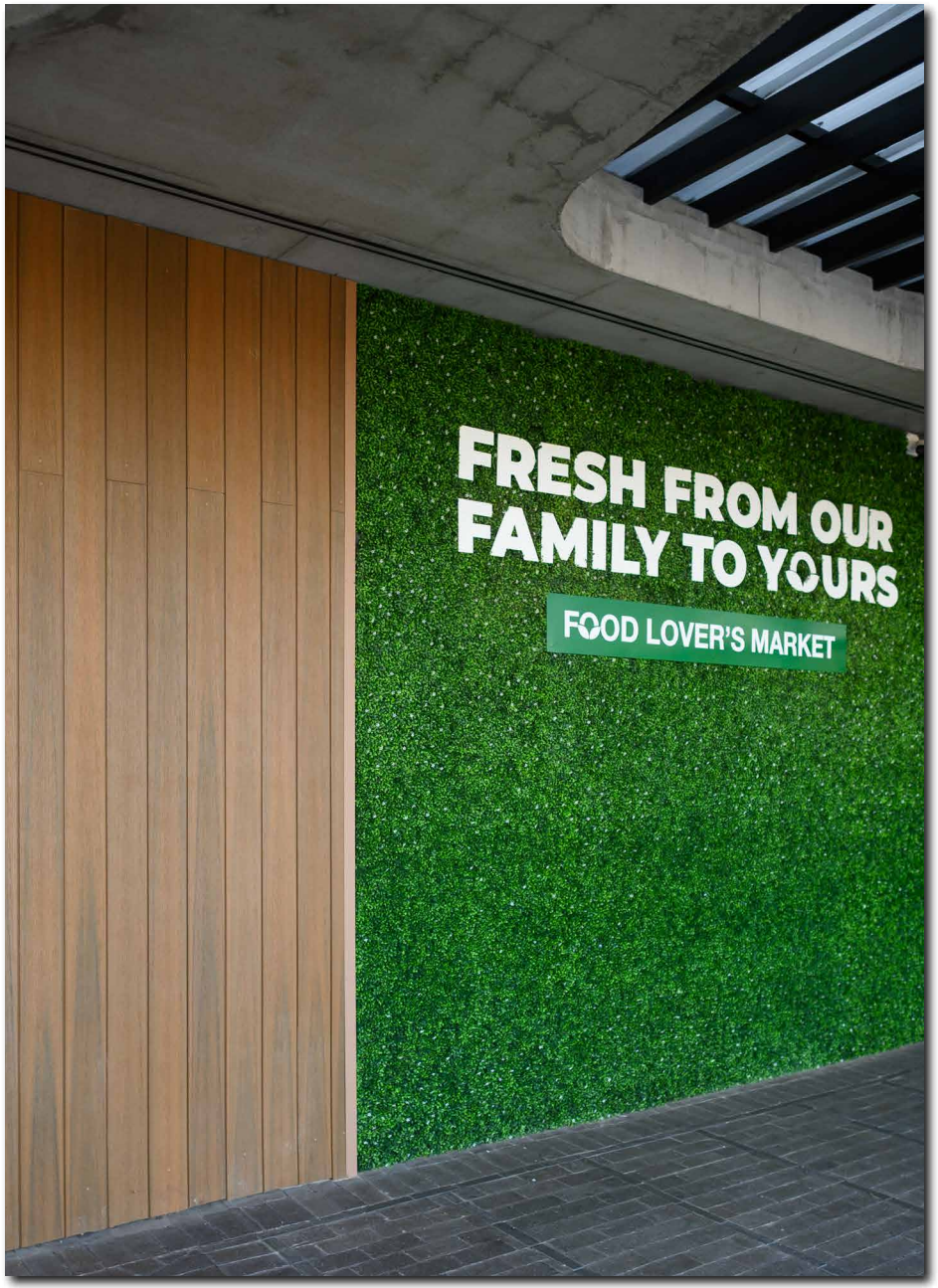


FOOD LOVER'S MARKET RIVER QUARTER, CAPE TOWN

"Recreating the ambience of a real fresh marketplace in a modern theatre-of-food setting", was the vision of Food Lover's Market founding brothers Mike and Brian Coppin. From humble beginnings as Fruit & Veg City in 1993, to the largest privately-owned family retailer with over 90 stores across Southern Africa and a footprint on 8 continents, Food Lover's Market's premium immersive shopping experience has transformed their reputation from tenant store to anchor retailer.

What began as a neighbourhood fruit and vegetable store has grown into a comprehensive fresh-food retail destination, with Food Lover's Market now offering everything from gourmet butchery, bakery and seafood sections to groceries, health and wellness products, and more. Together with several sister brands including Seattle Coffee Company, Vetsmart and FreshStop, amongst others, Food Lover's Market (FLM) villages have become major attractions to patrons across neighbourhoods countrywide.

Every new store honours the company's organic roots while creating a warm, welcoming and functional facility that enhances the shopping experience.



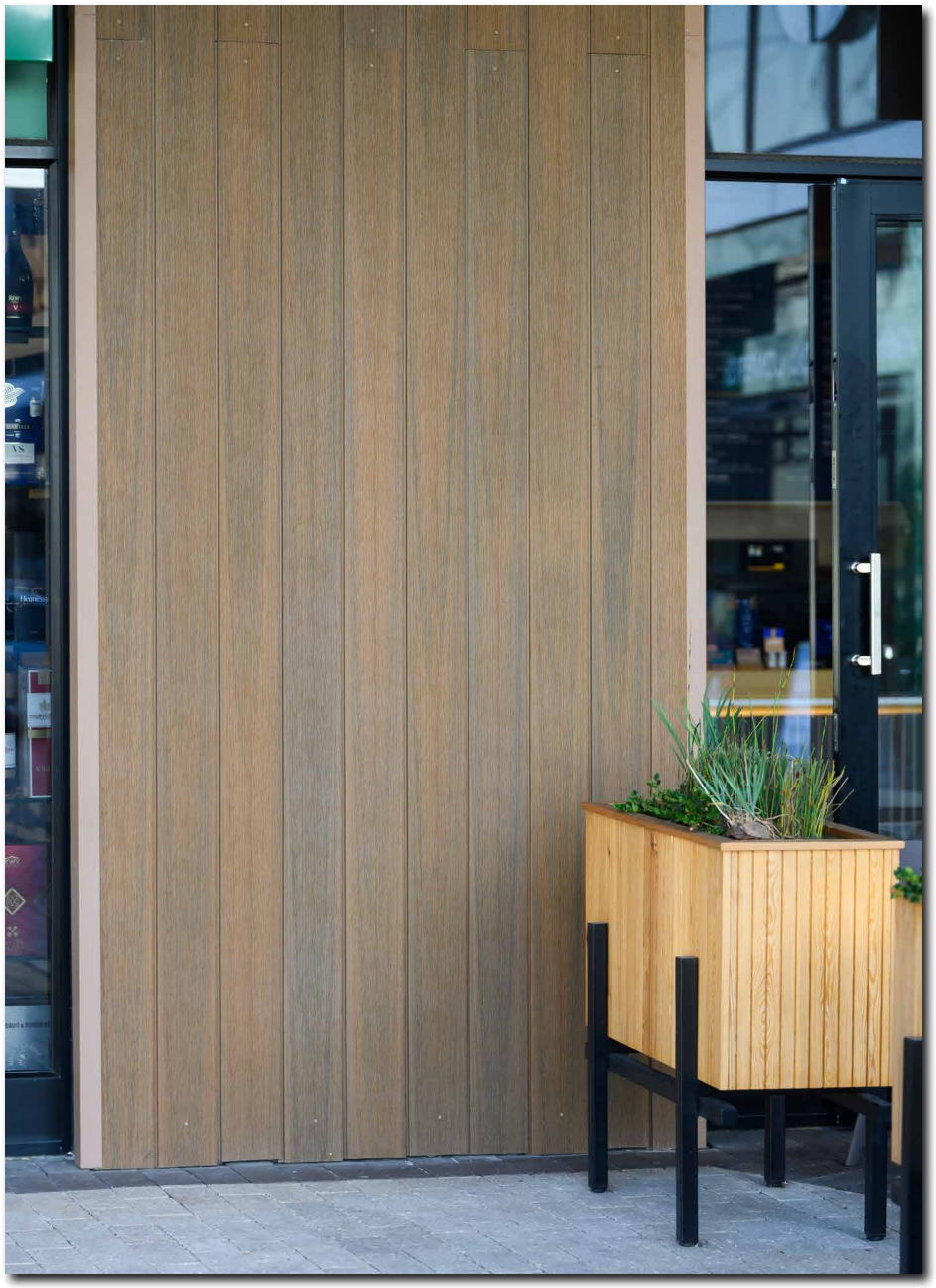
GROWING WITH THE BUSINESS

The company's first standalone flagship store in Bothasig, Cape Town was designed with a fresh farmyard feel. Lead architect Tim Hughes incorporated lots of natural wood facades and greenery in a barn-style construct, reflecting their roots in fresh produce, while providing an authentic, organic appeal to soften the hard, steel shopping centre structures.

The concept proved so popular it was formally adopted as the "architectural language" for future FLM stores and complexes.

The latest salute to their "Earth Lovers" core values of sustainability and earthy grounded goodness was unveiled at the upmarket River Quarter in Cape Town in November 2025.

Affectionately called the Food Lovers Village, the newest rendition had to enhance the River Quarter environment in line with the emerging corporate identity and store layout – featuring wood-look facades and timber tones and textures – while addressing the real concerns of the sustainability, cost, durability and maintenance required for natural wood, as experienced at the Bothasig site.



INFINITELY BETTER

Tim Hughes's solution was to specify Eva-Last's eco-friendly bamboo composite cladding system, VistaClad Infinity in the Teak colour for the shopfront facades and signage.

An engineered, eco-friendly cladding comprising recycled plastic combined with renewable bamboo fibres, Infinity's streaked two-tone colour technology perfectly replicates the brushed texture and tones of natural timber. This gave Mr Hughes the desired wood-look finish with the peace of mind of added protection of a polymer capping for guaranteed moisture-, UV-, fade- and insect-resistance.

The durable interlocking profiles simply clipped onto the hidden top-hat fixing strips fastened to the wall, creating a striking vertical wood-look feature wall that made the Food Lovers Market signage "pop".

Hidden clip-strips expertly guide each tongue-and-groove composite board into place for improved load distribution, while allowing for adequate drainage and ventilation. Aluminium trim and flashing adaptors were fitted over corners, joins and edges for a neat, final finish. Not only does this encourage water run-off and prevent water ingress, it also ensures a safe and secure system guaranteed to retain its appearance over time.



KEY INFLUENCER QUOTE

"We've been so impressed with the performance and appearance of the VistaClad system at Food Lovers Market River Quarter in Cape Town, that we are using it for two new centres in Johannesburg," commented Tim Hughes, lead architect for Food Lovers Market. "The project team made plenty of designs and recommendations to create the desired appearance while achieving our objectives for a cost-effective, durable and low maintenance material solution."



SUMMARY

Food Lovers Market River Quarter in Cape Town raised the bar with a decorative and durable wood-look façade and shopfront using VistaClad Infinity in the Teak colour from Eva-Last. The convenient eco-friendly cladding system adds a soft, authentic timber aesthetic for lasting flavour, colour and freshness.



ABOUT US

Eva-Last is a globally reputable brand that utilises a solution driven business model to create innovative, sustainable building materials and systems that add value to customers' lives. At the heart of Eva-Last is a team of highly capable, creative specialists united by a passion to promote environmental consciousness through eco-friendly building products and operations. By embracing low environmental impact manufacturing and cutting-edge composite technology, Eva-Last is revolutionising how building can be done. We design and deliver beautiful, long-lasting green alternatives that make our customers' lives easier, healthier, and just plain better.



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