

Tamarind Westside

Spice Up Your Life

by Susan M Boyce

The temperature of Abbotsford's sizzling real estate market got turned up another notch on October 27th. That was the day eager buyers who had braved the cold and wet for days were rewarded with first option to snap up the most affordable condos in Quantum Properties' newest project — Tamarind Westside.

“Having people camping out like this is a first for the Abbotsford market,” says developer Diane Delves, adding the project also set a new sales record with 130 units sold by the end of the Grand Opening Event.

The New Hot Spot

Unabashedly hip, Tamarind Westside is an enclave of 188 urban-style condos tucked away in a quiet, residential neighbourhood on the west side of Abbotsford. But clearly, this is a condominium community with attitude and a fresh outlook on life.

The presentation centre's display kitchen is a showstopper. Luxuriously dark stained cabinetry appears to float above a funky backsplash of white subway tile with unexpected, dramatic dark grouting. Stainless steel appliances and a sleek, downright sexy gooseneck faucet complete the marriage between stylish modernism and retro-urban tradition.

I'm just checking out the ample storage when I spot two young men — brothers by all appearances — examining floor plans with intensely earnest looks on their faces. “Yeah, I know I said Janet and I could only afford a one-bedroom, but look at the price on this,” one says pointing emphatically. “We could swing it, and man oh man would she be a



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happy camper with the extra space.” His grin says it all. It's not just Janet who's going to be a happy camper with this two-bedroom Tamarind Westside home.

On my way to check out the bathroom finishing specs, I pause to admire the living room fireplace. What appears at first glance to be a traditional surround is actually ecologically friendly concrete with an intriguing speckle. As attractive and unusual as it is in daylight, I'm betting it will look even better on a cool winter evening with nothing but candles and the firelight itself for illumination. Janet's going to love it.

Close to Everything You Crave

“Tamarind Westside is the only condominium project currently under construction on the west side of Abbotsford which makes it extremely appealing,” says Bev Hasenpflug, general manager of Quantum Properties. “And people are amazed when they realize just how convenient this location is to everything. You're only a couple of minutes from the Mount Lehman interchange, the new hospital is just down the road, and it's ideal for students or professors at the University College of the Fraser Valley.”

Having just made an impromptu tour of the surrounding neighbourhood, I also know schools, parks, a fitness centre, Starbucks, and a diverse array of restaurants are close at hand — many within easy walking distance. It all adds up to a great place to live with tough to beat prices.

Tamarind Westside still has a good selection of one- and two-bedroom homes available. But you'll have to hurry, because with prices starting at \$174,900, they won't last long. The presentation centre is open noon to 6:00 pm seven days a week at 30515 Cardinal Avenue in Abbotsford. For more information call 604-856-4638, or you can visit any time at www.tamarindwestside.com. **nh**