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PHOTOS: DREW KELLY



Modern Mountain Magic

The Palisades at Squaw, a new development in Lake Tahoe's Squaw Valley, has been designed for the modern mountain enthusiast. We caught up with developer Gem Arthur and interior designer Tineke Triggs to learn more about this beautiful new project.

Tell us about The Palisades at Squaw. What is this new project all about?

Gem Arthur: The Palisades at Squaw is a new development of 30 modern town homes and 33 unique home sites, located just two miles from Squaw Valley. The concept for the Palisades came to us after years of spending time in Tahoe ourselves and realizing there was an unmet need for more well-designed vacation homes near Squaw Valley—homes that cater to affluent, but younger mountain enthusiasts.

These homes really appeal to young families with kids who don't necessarily want the burden of a large 4,000+-square-foot cabin in Tahoe. They're spending their days outdoors enjoying the mountains and they want something a little more efficient in their Tahoe retreat. They still want beautiful and luxurious homes they can enjoy with family and friends, but they want those homes to be low maintenance and easy to access without having to worry about anything besides enjoying the great outdoors.

At what point did Tineke's firm Artistic Designs For Living join this project?

Arthur: We brought in Tineke and her team early on to help us conceptualize the designs, and Tineke was incredible to work with right out of the gate. She

really helped us prioritize which aspects of the interiors a homeowner would appreciate most. She also came up with different furniture packages to fully furnish the homes all the way down to the bed linens, if desired. This type of turnkey solution has been amazingly well received. Who has time to pick out individual towels for the guest bathroom when we can do that work for you?

Tell us a bit more about the overall aesthetic of the town homes.

Tineke Triggs: The idea was to create a California casual look with a clean, more contemporary aesthetic. We wanted plenty of textural elements to create a modern mountain feel, but nothing too dark and heavy. So many Tahoe cabins are dark and woody and our designs are a much more contemporary take on Tahoe living. With that in mind, we kept everything light and bright with designs that complement rather than compete with the natural surroundings. The interior details are high end, but with a more relaxed and contemporary style of elegance.

What are some of your favorite design highlights for the project?

Triggs: I really love the kitchen design we created—all the elements blend

seamlessly to create the modern mountain feel we wanted. We chose countertops with a slight textural veining, but in a natural quartz material that is easy to clean and practically indestructible. I especially love the prism-textured tiles we used for the backsplash. They remind me of snowdrifts on the mountain and they add so much depth to the entire space.

The artwork for this project is also unique. We brought in a lot of up-and-coming artists with one-of-a-kind pieces to give each room a distinctive feel. And, I always love to punctuate my designs with beautiful lighting as the special jewels in the room.

Tell us more about the furniture packages for The Palisades at Squaw.

Triggs: We created three different furnishing packages to provide a range of options for homeowners to choose from. We have a starting package that is truly a turnkey solution and includes everything you see in the model home except for the art and accessories. Our second package allows more flexibility in selecting different color palettes and swapping out furniture pieces. The third option is for a fully customized design that allows the homeowner to do whatever they wish using our design talents.

Explain the new semi-custom home sites.

Arthur: We've just finished our designs for the semi-custom homes that are located on slightly bigger lots with more customization options. These homes are going to drop some jaws when they come to market, as they offer an amazing use of both indoor and outdoor space for the entire year. We also have a few select lots that will be available for people to build an entirely custom home.

Triggs: Besides having greater customization options, one nice perk is being able to work with a design and build team that's already in place and doing great work. California is booming with development and sometimes it's hard to find quality professionals to work on your project. The Palisades at Squaw puts an amazing team at your fingertips and that's invaluable to today's time-crunched homebuyer.

Favorite aspects of this project?

Triggs: The team has been great to work with. We all have a tremendous appreciation for the Tahoe area and feel passionate about keeping it protected for future generations. It's been wonderful to be part of a team that shares core values and then see this terrific project come to life. www.palisadesatsquaw.net



THE FOUR SEASONS LANAI REELS IN ADVENTURE

From the ancient Polynesians, who first settled on the islands centuries ago, to 'Papa' Hemingway, who spent his honeymoon reeling them in amid the teeming waters of Honolulu, Hawaii has long been a slice of fishing heaven.

Indeed, only last year, a 1,073-pound blue marlin was brought aboard in the Aloha State after a struggle that lasted some 60 minutes. Meanwhile, the delicious indigenous raw fish dish served in poke bowls has become an international culinary sensation of late.

Now, world-class anglers and weekend warriors alike can indulge in their love of fishing on the **Lanai V**, a 45-foot high-speed fishing boat available to guests at the **Four Seasons Resort Lanai**. (Silicon Valley icon Larry Ellison, who knows a thing or two about all things nautical having won the 33rd America's Cup, has spent roughly half a billion dollars in recent years revamping the upscale resort at Manele Bay.)

Visitors can set sail on exciting ocean experiences in this high-speed luxury boat, which is outfitted with all of the most modern amenities such as top-rated Cobalt 2 vide computers. Leisurely fishing excursions lasting four hours take in the stunning Lanai coastline, complete with its towering cliffs and abundant marine creatures. The wide variety of species available to catch include barracuda, marlin, mahi mahi, ono, kawakawa (ahi), elua, and papio.

The Lanai V has a whole host of amenities for intrepid anglers. There are comfortable chairs with which to land the Big One, and carbon fiber outriggers. Once back on land, anyone wishing to keep their catch can indulge in a fresh Hawaiian seafood dinner prepared by the resort chef.

For those who prefer other aquatic sports, or passengers simply wishing to relax on the open ocean in air conditioned comfort with forward day beds and seating, the Four Seasons' fleet can indulge their every whim. Daily snorkel trips, whale watching tours, and sunset sails are all tourist favorites. Scuba excursions can also be arranged, enabling divers to explore an underwater paradise featuring coral grottoes, lava caves, and tropical marine life. www.fourseasons.com/lanai



Luxury's New Address

The **WALDORF ASTORIA BEVERLY HILLS** was designed in the Streamline Moderne style with interiors by Pierre-Yves Rochon—known for his revamp of the Four Seasons Hotel George V, among other projects. The lobby is sleek with Italian marble, orchids, and charcoal-and-pigment drawings by artist Olexander Wlasenko and that pay homage to classic Hollywood actresses.

At 12 stories high, the hotel's 170 rooms and suites have spacious private terraces with views of the surrounding area that come as a revelation to those who have only experienced L.A.'s Westside from street level.

Room amenities include Diptyque toiletries and buttons to push to make the curtains draw themselves back in dramatic fashion to let the morning light fill the room before you order room service from the bedside tablet.

Menus are overseen by Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten. In addition to the ground floor's eponymous Jean-Georges Beverly Hills restaurant, which serves French-American cuisine, the lobby lounge dishes up treats like Dungeness crab crostini and black truffle pizza.

The La Prairie Spa, which features a saltwater lap pool, offers "Spa Happy Hour" Mondays through Thursdays that includes a 60-minute treatment, valet parking, tea, and a La Prairie sample.

Potted citrus trees, lavender, and fox-glove grow on the rooftop, which serves as the hotel's social hub, encompassing a bar, swimming pool, and an *al fresco* dining area. The atmosphere is *la dolce vita*, Southern California style. On our recent visit one warm afternoon, Australian pop singer Sia was crooning "Little Black Sandals" over the outdoor sound system as a pool attendant passed around a tray of miniature icy mango *paletas*.

—FREDRICK HAMBER