

Boutique condo entices snowbirds home for summer

BY JOSH SKAPIN, CALGARY HERALD JUNE 24, 2015



Ian and Sydney Richmond at The Gates.
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It didn't take long for retirees Ian and Sydney Richmond to realize they found the one.

The couple wanted a maintenance-free home so they can head to Mexico during the colder months and not have to worry about upkeep. They also had their hearts set on a condo with three bedrooms in an amenity-stocked community.

The Gates at Quarry Park covered every base.

"We took one look at the plan, and within 15 minutes we had bought the place," says Sydney. She and Ian take possession this July.

Now 50 per cent sold out, The Gates is a boutique 32-unit condo project by Remington Development Corp. The company is also the land developer behind Quarry Park, a mixed-use community accessed off Glenmore Trail on Calgary's southeast side.

“We’re snow birds so we decided that we really didn’t need the big house and the hassles when we’re not here,” says Sydney. The Richmonds drive from Calgary to Mexico each year.

They couple found The Gates while visiting friends at their home in nearby Champagne, which is Remington’s first development in Quarry Park.

“We really liked the finish of their apartment,” Sydney adds. “It was laid out in such a nice way. So we went down the road and looked at what the Gates had to offer.”

Condos at the Gates come in seven floor plans. This includes 770-square-foot, one-bedroom condos starting at \$325,000. There are also condos with two bedrooms and two bathrooms, ranging from 1,020 to 1,100 square feet, that start at \$390,000, and three bedroom units starting from \$435,000.

The Richmonds picked a three-bedroom, with room for relatives to stay while giving them space for a home office.

“This was just ideal,” Sydney says.

Condos at the Gates come with impressive standard features, over-sized windows and airy nine-foot ceilings, says Julie Seidel, Remington’s residential sales manager.

“Our buyer feedback has been strongly focused on the efficient floorplans with plenty of extra storage, the quality of finishings and the great value they get for the price, and also the low-density boutique feel of the project,” says Seidel. “Buyers want to spend more of their time doing the activities they love and travelling the world rather than constant yardwork and maintenance.”

An example of what’s available at The Gates is now on display. The project opened a furnished two-bed room corner show suite.

“It has been one of our most popular plans because of the efficient use of space, ample storage and an abundance of natural light,” Seidel says.

“The Gates is really at the heart of Quarry Park and emulates everything Remington stands for,” says Seidel. “Quality product inside and out, unique French-inspired architecture, thoughtfully planned layouts and high-end finishes, and a prime location where buyers want to live.”

Location was part of what brought the Richmonds in. It’s a walkable distance to a wide range of shops and services at Quarry Market. “It has all the things that you need,” Sydney says, adding she was pleased to hear a recreation centre is also set to open in the community.

A 100,000-square-foot Remington YMCA, featuring pools, library, fitness centre, running track, gymnasium, and multi-purpose rooms opens next year.

“Quarry Park is an incredible community and continues to get better year after year,” says Seidel. “The ‘live, work, play’ philosophy had really attracted residents that want to have it all at their doorstep.”

The Quarry Park Child Development Center is also slated to open in late 2016, says Seidel.

“There are families, snow birds like us, there are seniors, young people, people starting out their life together — the whole gamut,” says Sydney of Quarry Park. “It’s the way it should be.”

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

PROJECT: The Gates at Quarry Park.

BUILDER/DEVELOPER: Remington Development Corp.

AREA: Quarry Park is a mixed-use community in southeast Calgary.

PRICE: Condos at the Gates start at \$325,000.

HOURS: The sales centre is open noon to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and noon to 5 p.m. on weekends.

INFORMATION: remingtoncorp.com/residential/

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