

# Top Properties

We launch 2008 with an amazing selection of top properties to choose from, whether for a new home, or a home away from home – here are my picks for swell places to dwell.

BY TRACEY ELLIS WITH WILLIAM R. DUFF



## Cresting the Wave

Riding the wave of hot real estate properties, Millennium Water in Vancouver offers a world-class address built on the ideals of sustainable green living. Millennium Water brings a real neighbourhood experience at Southeast False Creek. This is home to the Olympic Village during the 2010 Olympic Games and will remain as a permanent legacy to the event. Spanning seven city blocks with 16 residential buildings, this development is designed as Canada's first LEED Gold neighbourhood with 1,100 residential units that are comprised of 733 condominiums and townhomes, 120 units of affordable housing and 250 city homes. [www.millenniumwater.com](http://www.millenniumwater.com)



## Bali Bound

Oh, to be in Bali, now that winter is here. Now you can create your own little holiday resort or build a luxury home in this island paradise. Backed by a North American company, Bali Ocean Front, with access to architects, builders and island personnel, each building product is built to client satisfaction. They can offer solutions to living here in spite of restrictions over foreign ownership of land. Bali now enjoys easy access from Vancouver International Airport via Hong Kong so you can combine great shopping with easy living. [www.balioceanfront.com](http://www.balioceanfront.com)



## Catch the Dream

Haute Alpine Chalets await in Kimberley for those who discover DreamCatcher. Having personally visited this mountain resort, I can easily predict this area is the hottest of hot spots for property development – especially with nearby Cranbrook's designation as an International Airport. Located across the street from the Trickle Creek Golf Course and steps away from the Kimberley Alpine Resort, these homes have sold out quickly in phase one, few left in phase two and phase three is now taking expressions of interest before it comes up for sale early in 2008. A master planned community of Alpine-themed chalets, the development is slated to include 50 estate cabins and 40 luxury townhomes. [www.dreamcatcherchalets.com](http://www.dreamcatcherchalets.com)

## Cruising into the Good Life

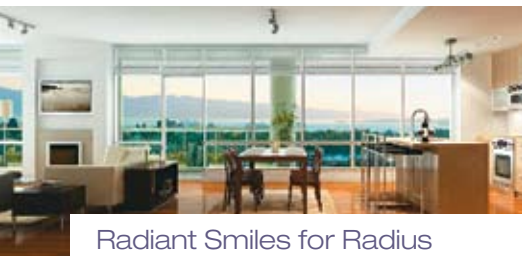
Our cover story this issue is SilkWind at West Shore, and my admiration for this development's architecture bears speaking about again as one of my picks for top properties. Victoria has really arrived on the world scene for luxury living and has been attracting some big names in architecture, along with Merrick, the architects for this amazing tower of homes located in the heart of the historic West Shore area of Victoria. [www.silkwindwestshore.ca](http://www.silkwindwestshore.ca)



## Salty Towers

I am utterly charmed by this 1913 English Tudor Manor. This world-class waterfront estate by Irish Architect William Wallace Blair is currently being offered by Leslee Farrell of Newport Realty for \$15 million. Victoria is the garden city, and this estate offers botanicals in abundance along with over 450 feet of Victoria's finest waterfront complete with sweeping views of Mount Baker, the San Juan Islands, Olympic Mountains and beyond. The golf enthusiast will appreciate the close proximity of the Victoria Golf Club – it's right across the street!

Inside, expect the finest of the fine in everything from craftsmanship from a bygone era to 10 bedrooms and 10 bathrooms to accommodate all those out-of-town guests that are sure to come visit you at your seaside sanctuary. [www.lesleefarrell.com](http://www.lesleefarrell.com)



## Radiant Smiles for Radius

Another Victoria gem has to be Radius. Located at the north edge of Victoria's city core on Blanshard and Caldeonia streets, this development offers homes designed to appeal to what makes up a community – young families, singles, professionals, university students and retirees. With such diversity of residents, this urban village represents a place to live, work, play and learn and was designed with neighbourhood in mind by award-winning Architect Paul Merrick of Merrick Architecture. It was also designed with the planet in mind and is in hot pursuit of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) designation by utilizing the latest in green principles. [www.radiusvictoria.com](http://www.radiusvictoria.com)

## Victoria Heritage Home

A rare opportunity to own the crown jewel of waterfront estates exists in Victoria. Listed for \$17.5 million by Sylvia Therrien of Newport Realty, this distinguished property spans over 700 feet of shoreline and encompasses three islets and three acres of private woodland and perennial gardens. A multi-million-dollar renovation of the 1914 mansion means 9,862 square feet of luxury living in the main home, while an additional 1,096-square-foot guest cottage offers a welcoming venue to accommodate special guests. [www.luxurywaterfront.ca](http://www.luxurywaterfront.ca)



## Hudson Revival

If you're looking for a city-living *piéd à terre*, you can't do any better than life at The Hudson in the historic Hudson's Bay building. This is living life in historic proportions in Victoria as this development by Townline Homes offers single-level flats, two-level lofts and innovative courtyard homes. The terra cotta façade and majestic Georgian architecture plays opposite to the modernist homes with stunning effect. Likewise their down-to-earth policy incorporates green principles for waste and rainwater management, building materials, indoor air quality and more. [www.hudsonliving.ca](http://www.hudsonliving.ca)



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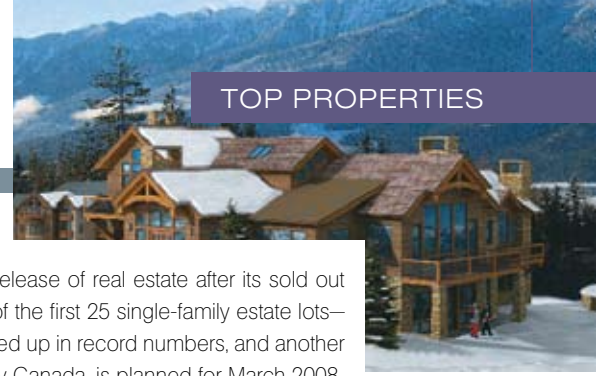
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## BC Interior

## Revelstoke Rocks!

Since the Revelstoke Mountain Resort's first release of real estate after its sold out opening of Nelsen Lodge in March 2007, 20 of the first 25 single-family estate lots—many zoned for private helipads—were snapped up in record numbers, and another major release by Sotheby's International Realty Canada, is planned for March 2008.

Upon completion the \$1-billion, four-season resort will ultimately include 21 lifts, 110 ski trails, 5,000 housing units, a pedestrian village and an 18-hole golf course. This appears to be a once-in-a-generation opportunity for avid skiers, golfers, outdoor enthusiasts and savvy homebuyers. [www.discoverrevelstoke.com](http://www.discoverrevelstoke.com)  
– William R. Duff



## Living Life in the Blue

Osoyoos offers up Indigo on the Lake in this sunny center of the action for recreational real estate. Located on Osoyoos Lake, these truly luxurious homes are designed with recreation in mind. Dozens of world-renowned wineries are close by, along with orchards and of course, watersports in the warmest lake in Canada complete with your own private beach. Inspired by nature, these homes make the most of what BC has to offer – the great outdoors and plenty of it. [www.indigoonthelake.com](http://www.indigoonthelake.com)

## Panorama Living

With Panorama touted as the next big resort destination to rival the other big boys in the province, it should come as no surprise that luxury living is in high demand here. Set to fill that demand by one lucky homeowner is the custom-built log home on Greywolf Drive. This Sotheby's listed property by sales associate Jamie MacDougall is priced at \$2,795,000 and offers 4,885 square feet of living space in a five bedroom, four bath home designed by New York Architect Lloyd Taft. Authentic Canadian living in Beautiful BC. [www.sothebysrealty.ca](http://www.sothebysrealty.ca)



## South Of The Border



## West Sound Sanctuary

The Canadian dollar is looking good and so is this island estate in the San Juan Islands. Listed for \$20 million by Kristen Zbornik, sales associate at Gudgell Properties, this West Sound – Orcas Island retreat offers low-bank shoreline with six separate tax parcels siting six houses, three cabins and numerous outbuildings over its 161 acre spread. Each house provides waterfront or water views and each home has a charming name: Pooh House, Australia House, Asia House, Wind Rush, Europe Cottage and Canada House. One-of-a-kind in my eyes. [www.gudgellproperties.com](http://www.gudgellproperties.com)

## Snowbird's Nest

If you fly south when winter comes, you might like the landing at this home in the Eagle Ridge subdivision in Scottsdale, Arizona. Red Sky offers up mountain and city views from a single-level home on a cul-de-sac in the gated community of Eagle Ridge. Outside, warm away the evening chill with the outdoor fireplace then cool off in the elegant "native" designed, infinity-edge outdoor pool. Inside enjoy the best in brands with a chef's kitchen, luxurious master bathroom and all the finest elements in home décor. Listed by Michael Mantione, sales associate Realty Executives-Scottsdale Forum.

