

Stand strong in the eye of the storm

November 3, 2007

By Lindsay O'Reilly

There are few things more powerful than watching an ocean storm roll in, its untiring waves pounding the land in an ancient dance of surf and spray.

This is the backdrop at the Wyndansea Resort, a new five-star hotel condominium on the rugged Long Beach coast south of Tofino and Pacific Rim National Park on Vancouver Island.

Marketing director BJ Turner calls the site "hard to match anywhere on the globe."

"It's 370 acres, with 5.6 kilometres of coastline," he says.

Long popular for storm watching, now residents will experience the action close-up, with the hotel stretching across a surge channel.

Purchasers can take advantage of the rental program — without any work or worry.

Owners simply leave their keys with the concierge and the hotel takes care of everything while they're away.

"This truly is a year-round resort destination — anyone who goes there knows it can be tough to find accommodation," Turner says.

"Interestingly, a lot of the owners who want to buy say, 'During the summer we're going to rent it out and during the winter we're going to go there, because that's where we love to relax, read a book, have the fireplace on and watch storms roll in.' "

The area is one of Canada's most popular spots for surfing as well — especially in fall and winter when swells are highest.

In warmer weather, residents will have access to the new Jack Nicklaus Golf Club of Canada, with 18 holes on picturesque greens.

About half offer views of the Pacific Ocean, while the others overlook a peaceful inlet.

"So it will feel like two different courses," Turner says.

Other attractions include a deepwater marina for yachts and seaplanes, world-class fishing, hiking and



— Courtesy Marine Drive Properties

mountain biking trails, national parks and frequent viewings of humpback and orca whales.

Residents can spend afternoons searching the beach for seashells or head out onto the water itself.

"We've got some of the best kayaking in North America," Turner says.

"There is a collection of about 100 islands nearby in the Broken Island Group and people can go from island to island in their kayaks."

On-site amenities include a restaurant, wine bistro and a full-service spa.

There is also an indoor-outdoor saltwater pool and a hot tub for relaxing soaks.

Wyndansea is planned to be environmentally responsible with a goal to reach LEED Gold standards — a prestigious environmental certification — through such innovations as green roofs, geothermal heating and solar power.

"It's an absolutely world-class, master planned property," Turner says.

•••••

FAST FACTS

PROPERTY: Wyndansea Resort hotel-condominium

AREA: West coast of Vancouver Island

DEVELOPER: Marine Drive Properties

PRICE: Starting at less than \$500,000

COMPLETION DATE: Summer 2010

CONTACT INFO: Call 1-888-898-8568

WEBSITE: www.wyndansea.com.