

# Hotel condos a sign Toronto has come of age



**CONDO TRENDS**  
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Torontonians will remember the 55th-floor condominium residence at Menke's Four Seasons Hotel, which last year sold for a record \$28-million, the most expensive condo in Canadian history.

Whether it's dining at Trump's elegant STOCK restaurant, languishing at the Miraj Hammam Spa atop the Shangri-La residences, or chilling in your own private library at the Ritz Carleton, Toronto is now home to several five-star, skyscraper hotel residences that cater to the needs of the global jet-set seeking a pied-à-

terre. Common in cities like Hong Kong and New York, five-star hotel condos are a sign that a city has come of age. In the past few years, Toronto has become host to such international players as One King West, Trump International and the Ritz Carleton.

There's an old French proverb that says it is impossible to overdo luxury, so here's an inside look at luxury at its finest: the lavishly-appointed 51st floor model suite at Living Shangri-La Toronto.

A joint undertaking between Vancouver's Westbank Corporation and the Peterson Group, the 66-storey, 873,000-square-foot tower will become one of the ten tallest buildings in Toronto. Westbank's marketing manager Mi-

chael Braun feels that Toronto has a strong future for the hotel condo market.

"I think all the developments help each other because they raise the profile of Toronto."

All the suites afford the luxury of space that one rarely encounters today in high-density urban living. The centrepiece of the model suite is the Italian-designed kitchen centre

featuring a Miele 36" stainless steel, five-burner gas cooktop. European kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities are made by Boffi from Italy, offered in three different colour schemes.

From the motorized window shades to the Miele built-in stainless steel coffee maker, every convenience has been thought out.

It's the details that make

the space unique: a walk-in Poliform closet, built-in LCD TV in the master ensuite, and a Sub-zero wine storage unit.

Residents share the fifth-floor amenities with hotel guests, like the world-famous Miraj Hammam spa, operated by Caudalie of Paris.

It's where Marrakesh meets Bordeaux, offering a range of specialized body, water and massage therapies based on

the ancient philosophies and rituals of China and the Himalayas.

The hotel runs the 2,500-square-foot health club facility featuring top-of-the-line TechnoGym equipment and a 20-metre lap pool. Residents have access to a 43-seat movie theatre, a boardroom and the impressive Queen's Park Ballroom on the third floor.



The balcony furniture at the Shangri-La Toronto model suite.

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