

DOWNTOWN FREEHOLD SEMI-DETACHED

The Terraces: hot homes in a cool neighbourhood

BY BRENDA BURKE

When a builder commits to the creation of stylish, semi-detached homes in the middle of a desirable neighbourhood, it's a popular site. Such is the case for Hyde Park Homes in its construction of The Terraces at Niagara.

Situated in a Toronto residential pocket on Niagara Street, in the King Street West area, the three-storey, three-bedroom units are near trendy bars, restaurants, boutique shopping and nightlife.

The wide sidewalks in this area make it a destination of style with a mix of mainstream outlets and independent shops. Browse through Silver Snail Comic Shop and World Art & Décor before grabbing a bite to eat at Shanghai Cowgirl or Gypsy Co-op.

Home to various lofts and townhouses, the area is exploding with eateries including A Toad in the Hole and clubs such as Roxy Blue. Ten years ago the region was barren land. Today it's flourishing.

Since the area lacks available land for development, Brad Lamb of Brad J. Lamb Realty, exclusive broker of the development, says the homes are in great demand. Understandably, existing nearby homes are increasing in value. The Terraces are attracting 30- to 50-year-old professional couples, some of whom are starting families and seeking alternatives to condos and older homes.

"There's nothing like it around here. It's funky and one of the most eclectic neighbourhoods downtown," says Mr. Lamb. Three of the four 1,800-square-foot units are available with occupancy dates set for early 2004.

The exterior façade features tumbled antique Ontario brick and stuccoed bay windows. A 500-square-foot roof deck including a garden terrace maximizes outdoor



At a glance

Site: The Terraces at Niagara

Location: Toronto

Developer: Hyde Park Homes

Price: \$489,900

Square footage: 1,800

Sales centre: Mitchell Avenue and Niagara Street. By appointment only.

Contact: 416-368-5262;

www.hydeparkhomes.com

living space and offers a panoramic view of downtown. Indoor parking and two additional decks complete the four-storey structure. A classy front is nicely landscaped with numerous windows and an inviting entrance.

Each \$489,900 dwelling is well equipped with stainless-steel appliances, upgraded interior finishes and hardwood floors in the dining room, living room and kitchen. In addition there are 10-foot main-floor ceilings, plaster cornice mouldings, marble bathrooms and a limestone-tiled entry. Completing the package are granite or marble kitchen counters, an extra-wide breakfast bar and air conditioning.