

June, 2009

THE ROBB REPORT

EXPERIENCE LUXURY – Chicago

Furthering the trend, The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Chicago, promises to set a new standard for luxury home ownership in the heart of Chicago's famed "Magnificent Mile." The new landmark building with its Parisian-style architecture will not only transform the skyline of Michigan Avenue's toniest district, but it will inject an elite level of service into what promises to become one of the city's most desirable addresses.

"We decided to make this an intimate building with only 88 units," says Bruce Schultz, the developer. "That allows our clients to enjoy a premium of space. There are only four residences in the lower floors, and that changes to two residences as you move up to the penthouse."

Schultz and his partner, Jon Rodgers, have a long, distinguished track record of developing landmark properties like the Daniel Burnham Center, and they were determined to create a one-of-a-kind building here as well. Architect Lucien Lagrange designed the building using influences from his native France, while retaining an elegant, traditional style. The original façade will be used at the base of the tower to ensure that its character remains consistent with the neighborhood.

The Residences feature 10-foot-high ceilings (with penthouses enjoying a height of 12 feet), floor-to-ceiling windows for abundant light, a choice of wide-plank wood flooring, meticulous detailing in the crown moldings and door casings, private terraces and dozens of other carefully thought-out features. But life in The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Chicago extends well beyond the physical attributes of the luxury apartments. "Our residents also gain the unique benefits of living the Ritz-Carlton lifestyle," says Rodgers. "It's like having an exclusive private residence along with the world-class amenities that make the Ritz-Carlton the most respected name in luxury hotels. We are truly unique in Chicago."

The 12,000-sq.ft. Landmark Club and Spa exemplifies the elite level of service within the building. The private club for residents and their guests features a meticulously detailed Grand Salon and bar, screening room, billiard room, and private wine storage, "It is a synthesis of modern luxury with classically inspired proportions and styling of the 1930's," says Darcy Bonner, interior designer.

"Our competition might have a doorman and concierge," says Schultz. "But we employ a full staff, including porters, housekeepers, parking valets, security and a gourmet chef. We deliver the Ritz-Carlton experience. From the moment our valet greets you to the time you depart, we make sure you're pampered."