

A New Leaf

With an environmentally conscious design and exquisite finishes both inside and out, the Upper East Side's newest luxury condominium is not just resting on its laurels

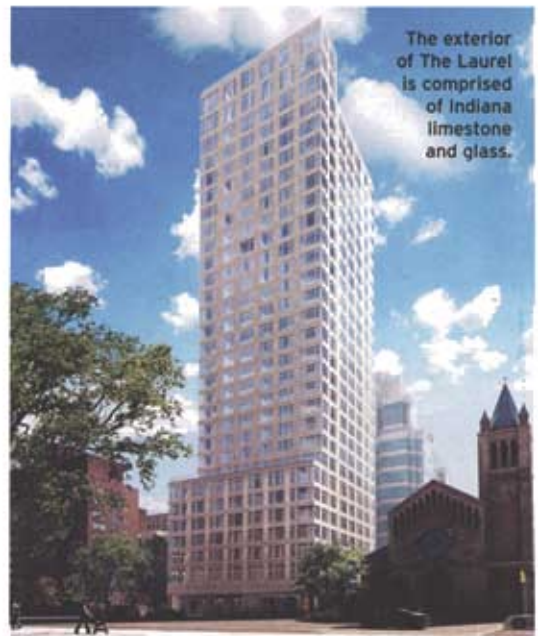
Going Green

The Laurel is one of Manhattan's first buildings to earn LEED certification under the U.S. Green Building Council standards.

In Greek mythology, the god Apollo wore a crown of laurel in honor of his first love and designated the coronet to be worn by victorious generals upon their return to the capitol. With this in mind, wreaths of laurel have since rested on the foreheads of triumphant Olympians, epic poets, visionary scientists and Roman emperors. Today, a luxury condominium that shares its name with the storied evergreen graces the Upper East Side. And with its eco-friendly design and the city's first on-site triathlon training center, The Laurel is one of the few buildings in Manhattan worthy of such an intriguing name.

The Laurel, located at 400 East 67th Street, just steps away from St. Catherine's Park and the East River Esplanade, is a 31-story residential tower that seamlessly weaves forward-thinking design with innovative lifestyle amenities. The building was erected by award-winning architects Costas Kondylis and Brian Callahan in conjunction with Alexico Group, the developers responsible for the Grand Beekman and 165 Charles Street. Harkening back to its evergreen eponym, The Laurel incorporates a variety of green elements in its construction materials, as well as in the building's many energy-saving systems, making it one of Manhattan's first buildings to earn LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification under the U.S. Green Building Council standards. "Alexico has embraced the eco-friendly attitude of the 21st century," says Louise Sunshine, development director of Alexico Group. "Everyone from Al Gore to future residents at The Laurel is eager to adapt to an eco-friendly lifestyle."

With its Indiana limestone-clad exterior and expansive glass windows, The Laurel is an emblem of both high design and uptown sophistication. The 129 well-proportioned residences range in size from studios to six bedrooms, each with oversized windows to allow maximum light and ceiling heights ranging from nine to 12 feet. The units contain luxurious natural materials like solid white oak flooring and include amenities such as ultra-quiet, four-pipe fan coil systems with year-round climate control, Bosch large-capacity washers and dryers, and high-performance windows.



The exterior of The Laurel is comprised of Indiana limestone and glass.

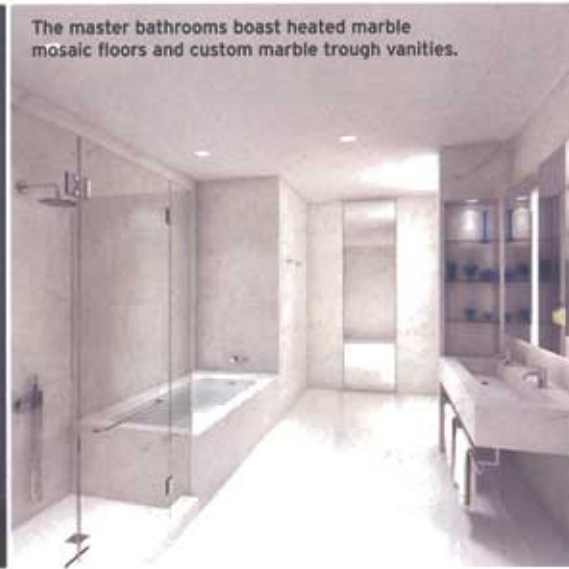
A full-time concierge, a 24-hour doorman, on-site parking and an on-site resident building manager add to the total package.

In addition, one of The Laurel's most impressive features is the Trophy Club, a bi-level fitness and triathlon training center. "The Trophy Club pairs the most advanced equipment with the most sensual finishes to make fitness an integrated and satisfying part of your everyday life," Sunshine says. The triathlon training center features highly specialized equipment for an invigorating three-pronged regimen, including two custom-designed resistance pools, Woodway treadmills, CycleOps Pro indoor cycles and SCIFIT Ergometers. Designed by John Sitaras, one of New York's premier physical trainers, the fitness center includes a 50-foot infinity lap pool with a glass mosaic tile interior and Botticino marble deck, poolside cabanas, custom-designed Atlantis strength equipment and Cybex cardiovascular machines.

Once residents complete their workouts, a private, two-story recreational space awaits. Those of all ages can unwind at The Laurel Club, which includes a



The fully equipped kitchens at The Laurel include honed white marble countertops.



The master bathrooms boast heated marble mosaic floors and custom marble trough vanities.



Zebrawood vanities with Boffi polished sinks adorn the powder rooms.

“Character is built into The Laurel’s foundation, from the Indiana limestone façade to the world-class triathlon facility.” —Louise Sunshine

theater-style screening room, an arcade, a toddler’s craft clubhouse, a game room, and a double-height lounge with a plasma TV and state-of-the-art sound system. The Laurel Club also provides entertaining space, with a fully equipped catering kitchen, as well as an elegant dining room that converts to a conference room furnished with advanced audiovisual technology.

While The Laurel’s vast array of services and facilities lays the foundation for its appeal, each lavish residence also ups the ante. The appliance-rich kitchens are outfitted with honed white marble countertops and Poggenpohl high-gloss white lacquer cabinets. The long list of state-of-the-art appliances includes stainless steel refrigerators and two-zone wine coolers by Sub-Zero; stainless steel convection and steam ovens, and gas and induction cook tops by Gaggenau; as well as vented range hoods and dishwashers with integrated white lacquer doors. The well-appointed master baths offer floor-to-ceiling white marble slab walls, heated honed white marble mosaic floors and custom marble trough vanities. In addition to these exquisite finishes, each master bath features a “magic mirror” with an integrated LCD screen, a Zuma collection tub, a Voia Thermostatic Spa shower set, a Duravit water closet and a full-height flush linen closet.

Though the expected occupancy date is not until fall 2008, prospective buyers can peruse the customizable residence finder on The



The fitness center features a 50-foot infinity lap pool and poolside cabanas.

Laurel’s website (www.laurelcondominium.com). The residence finder allows users to search for the ideal home based on several criteria, including number of bedrooms, square feet, ceiling height, kitchen type and extra amenities. Online users can enlarge and compare floor plans side by side.

“Character is built into the Laurel’s foundation,” Sunshine says, “from the Indiana limestone façade to the world-class triathlon facility.” With its environmentally conscious design and amenity-laden public spaces, The Laurel sets a new standard for luxury that perfectly fits its elegant Upper East Side neighborhood. Once completed, in the same way the ancient wreath signified the greatness of its wearers, a residence at The Laurel will connote the discerning taste and refinement of its owners. ♦

Chic Sensibility

The Laurel seamlessly integrates modern design with thoughtful entertaining and fitness amenities for residents of all ages.