



CROWNING MOMENT

The desert dwellings of Paradise Valley's new Crown Canyon community are defying all expectations.

By Claire Hatcher

Tucked away among the tranquility of Phoenix Mountain Preserve resides Crown Canyon (crowncanyon.com), a brand-new Paradise Valley gated community featuring homes priced from \$9 million, which broke ground in February. Created by Frank Lloyd Wright-trained architect Vernon D. Swaback (swaback.com) and spearheaded by premier Paradise Valley homebuilder BedBrock Developers (bedbrock.com), this desert jewel is seated on a transcendent terrain bearing an otherworldly aura. As soon as visitors pass through the gates of Crown Canyon, they're met with a picturesque display of "dramatic rock outcroppings, ocotillo-lined ridges, generous stands of ancient saguaros and the embrace of the surrounding peaks," shares Rich Brock, owner of BedBrock Developers and developer of Crown Canyon, whose own home will soon break ground on the property. Each of the 12 homesites was strategically designed to harmonize with the environment's natural beauty in a style Crown Canyon owner Kevin Groman proudly labels "Sonoran contemporary." This is showcased through elements such



as retractable glass walls teamed with cantilevered decks to take advantage of the great outdoors and stunning views. While each of the dwellings rests on 2 to 5 acres of land, the stretching surroundings of the preserve make the homesites seem far more expansive.

Perhaps one of the most impressive architectural feats of Crown Canyon is the intimate privacy and security the community provides in spite of its proximity to downtown Phoenix. "It is all at once intimate and grand, a pristine desert canyon that feels light-years away from the rest of the world, yet located minutes away from a thriving metropolis," says Brock. The allure of the canyon, coupled

A look at the entry, driveway and primary suite in the Jade residence, priced at \$9,988,000



From top: Mountain views serve as the backdrop of the Jade residence's living room; an evening look at the Jade residence's sparkling pool area.

with its private setting in the heart of the city, draws in celebrities, professional athletes and CEOs. Its Jade homesite—Crown Canyon's first constructed residence that was designed by C.P. Drewett of Drewett Works (drewettworks.com) with interior design by Mara Green of Mara Interior Design (marainteriordesign.com)—has already secured a platinum award at the Best in American Living Awards, a faithful testament to the prestige of the properties.

When Lloyd Wright's youngest apprentice, Swaback, initially envisioned the community, he said, "Crown Canyon will be an architectural symphony, with each home adding to the canyon's natural beauty." Equipped with an orchestra of architects, designers and planners, as well as an audience of eager homeowners, the symphony is now playing its first glorious notes as Crown Canyon takes flight. ■