



LOMBARDY'S *New Leaf*

Lombardy Estate near Pretoria is coming alive. Just ask any of the young professionals, families and leaders of industry that have already made Lombardy their home, or are about to start building their dream homes there.

From humble beginnings over six years ago, Lombardy Estate and Health Spa has successfully weathered the recession and is striving forward in the change of season, growing each day from strength to strength. And for those who made the initial investment, Lombardy's new leaf is starting to show its true colours. To quote homeowner Albert Moffat of *Moffat Creations*: 'As investors in Lombardy Estate, we have taken the leap of faith, and are currently building our stunning homestead of 900m² with an 81m² wine cellar.'

Other homeowners too are equally enthused. People like respected businessman Leo Haese, upmarket *House of Hair* salon owners Pieter and Annelies Grobler, property developer of luxury homes Danie Crous and successful importer/exporter Marius van Schalkwyk – most who have bought more than one property at Lombardy. And not just because they know a good investment when they see it, but because they all share an expectation of what estate living should be.

To live in harmony with nature, to live with style and space. To be secure, to be private and yes, to be part of a likeminded community. Most of them own other properties all over South Africa as well as internationally, and yet they choose to live here, in Lombardy. In Marius van Schalkwyk's words: 'Lombardy is so unique in its offering. The design and style is completely opposite to the norm in Pretoria. I looked all around and this really was the best offer – a place where I can see my family grow into over the next chapter of my life.'

Most agreed that at first it was the unique architecture that caught their attention. Adapted from the classic style of Frank Lloyd Wright, an

American architect that applied organic design almost a hundred years ago to what was then named the 'Cornerstone of Modernism', it is a style that reinvents the mould through the use of strong horizontal and vertical lines.

Lombardy's almost 100 hectares of indigenous landscaping is the perfect complement to a style that uses interior space liberally, drawing the outside in. Currently offering residential options in the luxury *Lombardy Lakes* homes, the *Lombardy Fountains* townhouses, and the stands, choice is another benefit when buying at Lombardy Estate. Lombardy has an offering for everyone.

For Pieter and Annelies Grobler, part of the appeal is the country-style living in the city, close to a variety of shopping centres, restaurants and schools. 'The estate boasts a calm and serene lifestyle,' says Pieter. 'The safety is fantastic and the nature and landscaping make this our country retreat.' Featuring more than 25 different varieties of indigenous trees, more than 45 varieties of indigenous shrubs, flowers and bushes, an abundant bird and wildlife right on your doorstep, it is no wonder that at any given time you can expect to find around 40 permanent gardening and maintenance staff keeping everything in good working condition on the estate.

Lombardy Lakes homes front onto a system of small lakes, and many of the stands are in close proximity to lakes too. Furthermore, extended green spaces and the positioning of the *Lombardy Lakes* homes and the stands maximise privacy between neighbours. 'I am especially happy to have 50m between my home and my nearest neighbour,' says Danie Crous. 'Plus of course the fact that I can see the lakes, hear the water and feel at peace.' Add to that luxury amenities such as a 5-Star boutique hotel and conference centre, state-of-the-art security system and a health spa that is scheduled to open in 2011 and operated by *Spas of Distinction*, and it is easy to see why this premium estate is held in such high regard by the homeowners themselves.

Of course, being a savvy businessman also means that you don't just buy because of the elevated lifestyle. As a business decision, your investment must be rock solid. Backed by an international conglomerate – The Kharafi Group, who is also the developer behind the successful Oubaai Golf Estate in Herold's Bay – the investment opportunity presented by Lombardy Estate was and still is as solid as they come. For Marius van Schalkwyk this was especially evident when he was building his home. 'From the moment I started building I have seen consistent progress on the development from the developer – a real commitment. Even during the recession, I think Lombardy was the only estate where the developer was actively upgrading and continuing to pour money into the estate.'

Lombardy Estate and Health Spa has its roots firmly imbedded in the hearts of its homeowners. It is sprouting new leaves – growing a community that is ready to flourish. If you would like to find out more about Lombardy's new leaf and the boutique homes up to 364m², townhouses up to 285m² and stands up to 1950m² still available, please phone Colette Schönborn on 082 457 5818, Donovan Lallyett on 082 940 9265, Ronél van der Linde on 082 787 9138 or email info@lombardyestate.co.za



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