

BOSTON HOMES

THE COMPLETE GUIDE

Posted by [Marilyn Jackson](#) on Aug 22, 2013

HGTV selects W Boston condo for 'urban oasis' fall sweepstakes

A fully furnished, one-bedroom luxury condominium on the 24th floor at the W Boston in Midtown is the grand prize in HGTV's 2013 Urban Oasis sweepstakes that will begin at 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 26. The drawing will end at 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18.

The package, worth more than \$1 million, includes a 2014 Acura MDX six-speed automatic with jewel eye LED headlights.



Dining area

Boston is the fourth urban location for these contests. Other sites have been in Miami, New York and Chicago.

Marketing the Residences at the W Boston has been extraordinary for the Bay State. Two years ago local interior designers were invited to create unique living spaces in several of the units on one floor.

But the HGTV sweepstakes has drawn national attention to this 28-story iconic glass and steel mixed-use building close to the Theater District that includes a stunning hotel.

Of the 123 condos, only eight remain today, according to Kevin Ahearn, president of Otis & Ahearn Real Estate, whose office has been marketing the homes.

Three are furnished models, which will be offered for sale sometime after Labor Day as either furnished or unfurnished, he said.

Jack Thomasson, house planner for HGTV, said he scouted the country for more than a year and, after talking with Sawyer Enterprises CEO Carol Sawyer Parks, developer of the W Boston Hotel and Residences, and the sales staff, he finalized his choice.

"This was the right place and the right time," he said.



Jack Thomasson of HGTV, Carol Sawyer Parks, developer of the W Hotel and Residences, and Lindsay Pumpa, the interior designer, sit in the "urban oasis."

Miami-based interior designer Lindsay Pumpa, was brought in to transform the space.

To create this distinctive, 1,000-square-foot apartment, Pumpa teamed up with John Holland of M. Holland & Sons Construction to build out the master bedroom suite.

"We moved walls and relocated the laundry," she said, "but we kept the floors." The bamboo flooring has a dark stain that complements the color scheme. New bamboo flooring was added in the bedroom, which had been carpeted.



Master bedroom Master bath

The design is striking and evident from the moment one steps into the foyer, which has an antiqued or foxed mirrored wall.

To the left is an elegant powder room with a super white granite counter, Sherwin-Williams tricorn black walls, a silver mosaic backsplash and a glass vessel sink, above which is a waterfall faucet.

Two globe lights are suspended above the vanity, and a chrome starburst chandelier provides more lighting.

The main living space is in the opposite direction and opens into a grand room that combines kitchen, dining and living with ease, capitalizing on the extraordinary views that include Boston Common, the city skyline and the Charles River.

The layout of the kitchen didn't change from the original design, but the cabinetry was replaced with contemporary Shaker-style espresso cabinets, provided by Cabinets to Go, one of the cable television show sponsors. The quartz counters contrast nicely.

The cabinet handles were found at Restoration Resources in the South End, where owner William Raymer buffed and polished them to look like new. They came from a butler's pantry in a Boston townhouse, said Pumpa. (Raymer also provided the mercury glass knobs that were used in the powder room.)



Powder room

The high-end appliances include a four-burner gas Wolf cooktop, wall oven and microwave and a Sub-Zero refrigerator paneled to match the cabinetry. There is a wine cooler as well that holds 46 bottles.

The piece de resistance, however, is a new granite center island that is situated between the kitchen and the living room. It measures nearly 8 by 5 feet. It serves not only as a workspace – a deep rectangular sink is cut into the stone – but also as a dining table for a good-sized dinner party. Above it is a magnificent contemporary chandelier, and beneath one side is storage.

And, opposite the stone slab is a stunning waist-high, smoke-free fireplace by Planika that is set into a wall accented with horizontal bands of stainless steel.

Beyond this area is the living room, which Pumpa furnished with low seating to accentuate the panoramic views in this home.



Living room

A pocket door separates the living room from the master bedroom suite, where Pumpa chose a neutral, light taupe paint called stone lion for the walls. She also covered the area behind the extra-wide upholstered headboard with alternating stripes of tricorn black, incredible white, chamois and foothills and extended these colors onto the ceiling.

The palette is from Sherwin-Williams' traditional twist collection. The stripes echo one of the city's icons – the Leonard Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial Bridge – that she could see in the distance, she said. A chartreuse leather armchair adds a pop of color to the room.

The master bath is a suite unto itself, as the walls were moved slightly to accommodate the laundry with a stacked washer/dryer and a walk-in closet. (The laundry originally was located off the foyer.) Two single pocket doors enclose the laundry space; one is mirrored.

The bath is lavish, appointed with fixtures by Kohler, another sponsor. The motion-controlled Numi sculptural toilet is an engineered bidet, with a retail price tag of just under \$6,000. A white trapezoidal vessel sink sits atop a black quartz vanity, beneath which is a mirror that seemingly enlarges the space.

The original tub was removed to make room for the shower. It is oversized and tiled in a striped pattern with tumbled Crema Marfil marble and glass mosaics that pays homage to the bedroom decoration. Multi-jet sprays and a rain showerhead create a spa-like experience in the shower, which also has digital controls to select temperature and water pressure and sound.

Within the shower is a picture window to the bedroom, which the contractor cut into the wall. A remote controlled shade can be raised to draw in light and the distant view of the Boston Common or pulled down for privacy. On the bedroom side, the shade is a print by local artist John Thompson.

Pumpa used several of Thompson's art pieces throughout the condo and also hung framed black-and-white photographs of stylized details of Boston landmarks, taken by Salem photographer Matt Kalinowski, in the bedroom.

"We were very excited about this project," said developer Parks. "We knew their (HGTV's) reputation, and this is an urban hot spot. The W branding is unique."

People can enter the giveaway twice a day at two different websites – HGTV.com and FrontDoor.com – or by snail mail at 2013 HGTV Urban Oasis Giveaway, PO Box 52591, Knoxville, TN 37950.

Its website – HGTV.com/urban-oasis – will take viewers to photos and videos of the construction project and the finished and furnished rooms and detail the rules for the sweepstakes.

Read more: [HGTV selects W Boston condo for 'urban oasis' fall sweepstakes | Boston Homes Prime Real Estate Boston MA](#) <http://wickedlocalbostonhomes.com/2013/08/boston-real-estate/hgtv-selects-w-boston-condo-for-urban-oasis-fall-sweepstakes/#ixzz2dCMrihoz>

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