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New Homes for sale
in the Seattle and
Puget Sound Area

New Homes

SATURDAY

SAN JUAN PASSAGE | anacortes

Coastal homes have smarts and beauty

Ever since Sarah Susanka released her best-selling book “The Not So Big House,” a movement toward smaller, smarter homes has been growing. Well-designed and carefully crafted homes are easy to heat and maintain, and their building standards promote the use of natural, sustainable materials. The driving philosophy is that intimacy and detail are more important than mass.

Others in the architectural world also link these concepts to the New Traditionalist movement, which favors communities with walkable, human-scale streetscapes, shared open spaces and home styles that beckon neighbors to stop by.

This is the style of community that developer Gilbane Development won national acclaim for at Wickford Point on the Rhode Island coast. This is also its aim at San Juan Passage, the 23-acre coastal community just two miles from downtown Anacortes that is earning regional recognition.

At San Juan Passage, 100 homes will be nestled near four nature parks that offer water, mountain and San Juan Island views. Overlook Park, in the center of the community, includes a hillside amphitheater, with a stream of boat and ferry traffic serving as center stage.

Along the shoreline, Gilbane and the city of Anacortes are constructing a system of nature trails that meander along Guemes Channel on the bed of a vacated railway. The railway served many of the salmon canneries that dotted the landscape years ago, when Anacortes was known as the salmon-canning capital of the world.

The homes at San Juan Passage are modest in size, but rich in detail. The Tofino plan offers 1,384 square feet that feels spacious thanks to the deep front



The homes are a blend of Nantucket charm and Northwest sensibilities.

porch and the openness of the floor plan. Windows offer abundant natural light. Detailing, rather than walls, defines spaces.

“We wanted these homes to soak in this great setting and reflect a true coastal spirit,” says Douglas Kallfelz, project architect. “We achieved this by blending Nantucket charm with Northwest sensibilities.

A palette of soft coastal colors, hardwoods, columns and white woodwork defines an easy elegance. Finishing touches such as subway tiles, marble-topped counters and window seats add to the intimacy.

According to Kathleen Clarke, director of sales, “Everyone who tours San Juan Passage is captivated and wowed by the entire package. It’s not just the wonderful homes, but the entire coastal experience that makes it special.”

Clarke says people from the greater Seattle area have been particularly drawn to the site. Buyers say San Juan Passage and Anacortes are in an ideal transition spot for a permanent home or weekend getaway that’s still close to the hub of their current life. “They are particularly pleased to see introductory prices that start at just \$425,000, when purchased with \$25,000 Founder’s Circle Certificates available

View these homes

Open 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Thursdays–Sundays at 4520 Schooner Way, Anacortes

Getting there

From I-5 north, take Anacortes Exit 230. Follow Highway 20 west to Anacortes. Turn right on Commercial Avenue and continue through town to 12th Street (Oakes Avenue). Turn left and continue 2.7 miles to San Juan Passage, just before the ferry terminal.

Prices

Homes from \$425,000; water’s-edge custom lots from \$425,000

Information

360-588-6900 or www.sanjuanpassage.com

through Sept. 30,” says Clarke.

There are four model homes to tour. They range in size from 1,384 square feet with a single-car garage to 2,450 square feet with a three-car garage. All of the homes are LEED certified, a standard that assures homes are built with earth-friendly materials and construction standards that increase energy efficiency.

Homes are also landscaped to provide a wildlife habitat, earning each home a Backyard Wildlife Habitat distinction from the National Wildlife Federation.

For those who want to custom-design a home at San Juan Passage, Gilbane has set aside 15 water’s-edge lots that border Guemes Channel. Comprehensive architectural guidelines specific to San Juan Passage have been created for these lots.