

# ‘LA DOLCE VITA’ DOWNTOWN IN SOLTERRA’S TWO TOWERS

## SYMPHONY PLACE

Sophisticated highrises include features designed to set this development apart, from beautiful exterior elements to bathroom showers with a ‘real wow factor.’

When the Solterra Group of Companies was in the early conceptual stages of its two-tower Symphony Place, company principals were determined to distinguish the development in two fundamental ways. Not only did they wish to create an architectural landmark, they were mindful of including small yet important touches that would set it apart from other projects in the area.

Solterra’s commitment to these two ideals is now taking shape in Vita, the first tower in Symphony Place that will begin construction at Smithe and Seymour streets this fall. “When planning Symphony Place, we realized that we would be competing with a lot of great projects in Vancouver, so Solterra decided to focus on the tiny little details that create la dolce vita – the sweet life,” explains Chris Norton, vice-president of sales and marketing at Maverick Real Estate. “This commitment has translated into a number of features that will distinguish this project from others.”

Billed as being at “the gateway to Vancouver’s cultural district” due to its prime location, Vita is a 28-storey, 146-unit tower offering homes ranging from 503 square feet for a one-bedroom condominium and up to 1,820 square feet for a penthouse. “The whole concept was to create a sophisticated building in an area that really links the downtown core with Yaletown and other areas,” says Norton. “Everything around it will be within walking distance.”

Vita will feature boutiques and restaurants at ground level, micro-office space within the podium and a large, fully equipped amenity area on the fifth floor. When both towers of Symphony Place are completed, they will be joined by a porte cochère that will extend from the entrance to shelter those getting in and out of vehicles. “Solterra wanted to create the feeling that you are pulling into a high-end hotel when you arrive at Symphony Place,” explains Norton.

Another distinctive feature of Vita is Cadenza. Literally translated, a cadenza is an elaborate, ornamental melodic flourish interpolated into an aria or other vocal piece. Solterra chose this term to describe the 36-metre wall of coloured glass along the building’s Seymour Street side, intended to catch the light as you drive or walk past.



The “sweet life” continues inside, with each home featuring moving art-glass walls by local artist Joel Berman. The walls serve as beautiful partitions between the primary bedroom and main room in the smaller suites, and between the secondary bedrooms in the larger suites. Kitchens have a distinctly European flavour, with Fischer Paykel dish-drawer dishwashers, Liebherr built-in refrigerators and freezers that are cleverly concealed behind white oak cabinetry, as well as AG gas ranges and farmhouse-style stainless steel sinks. Vita bathrooms will be the first in Vancouver to feature Kohler shower tiles, says Norton. These tiles contain tiny holes to enable bathers to be surrounded by water instead of using a traditional showerhead. “Those tiles have a real wow factor,” says Norton.

Solterra has just released 60 per cent of the homes, priced from \$299,000 to \$2.2 million. For more information, visit the presentation centre at Richards and Smithe streets, open daily except Fridays from noon to 8 p.m., phone 604-676-8828 or visit [www.thesweetlife.ca](http://www.thesweetlife.ca). □



Construction starts this fall on Vita, the first tower of Symphony Place, at Richards and Smithe.