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Las Campanas New Mexico

RANCH LIFESTYLE AND LUXURIOUS LIVING
AMID THE ROLLING FOOTHILLS OF
THE SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS



By Kathleen Fritsche

When Midwesterners Joyce and Jerry Wulf moved to Santa Fe, the City Different enticed them with its mild climate, timeless beauty, and rich culture. “The views, nice clear air, and wonderful weather attracted us,” Jerry says. “And it was something different from what we were used to—different from the lush greenness of Wisconsin; [laughs] you get tired of all the lawn mowing.” The couple initially bought a house right in town. “It was a nice location,” Jerry says, “but it was noisy, and Joyce wanted to find a place where we could have horses and still be close to Santa Fe.”

Joyce began looking for something that would accommodate horses and found Las Campanas by word of its developing equestrian center. Less than 10 scenic miles northwest of Santa Fe, Las Campanas is one of the area’s best-kept secrets. The master-planned community sits on more than 4,700 rolling acres dotted with pinyon and juniper trees—all surrounded by gorgeous views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains to the east and the Jemez Mountains to the west.

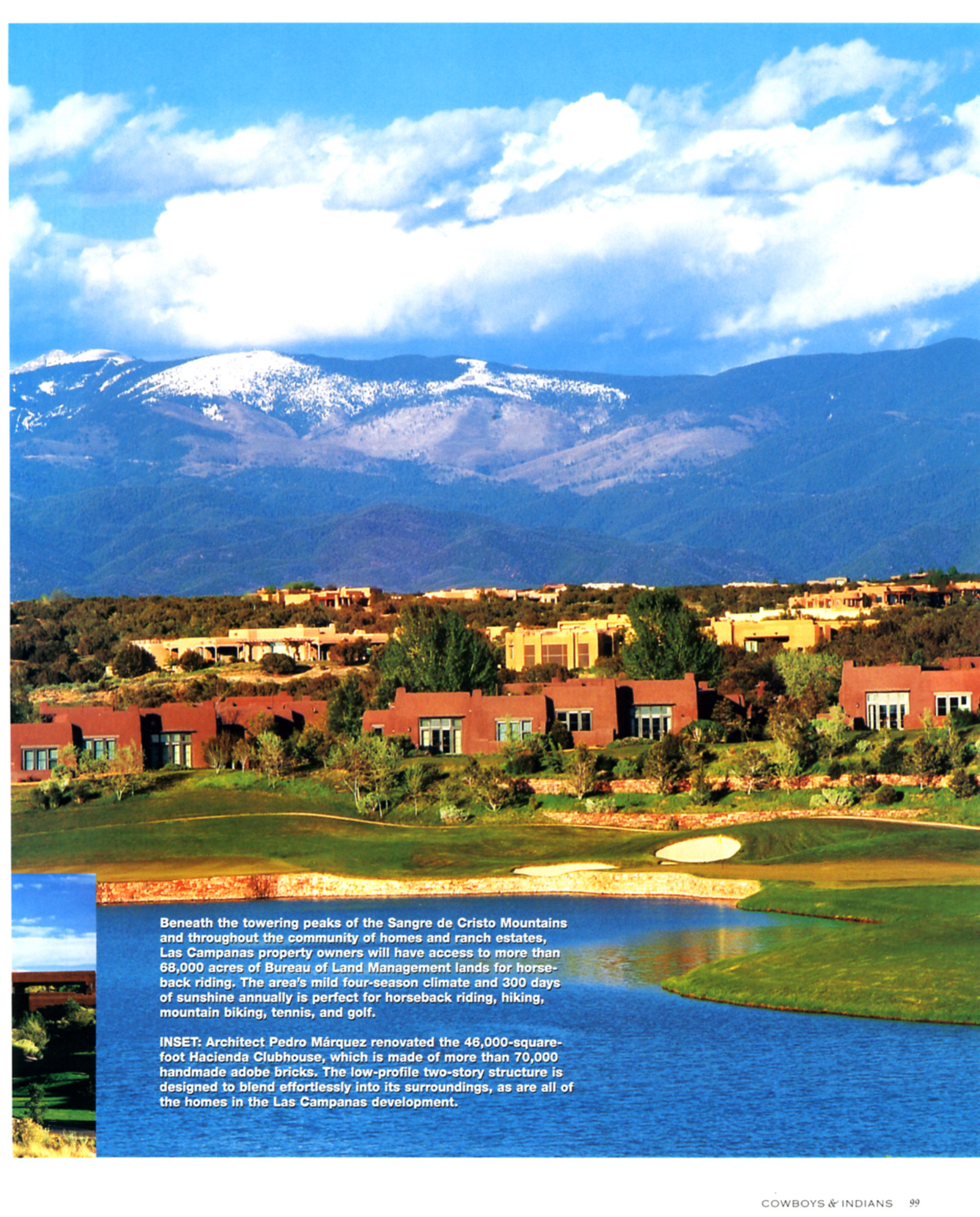
“When we started looking at Las Campanas, we found that the equestrian center was part of the package,” Joyce says. “It was the catalyst that brought us here,” Jerry adds.

Las Campanas’ world-class equestrian center includes a large

*principal photography by Daniel Nadelbach
principal styling by Gilda Meyer-Niehof*



RANCH CLUBHOUSE PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY THE LYLE ANDERSON COMPANY



Beneath the towering peaks of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and throughout the community of homes and ranch estates, Las Campanas property owners will have access to more than 68,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management lands for horseback riding. The area's mild four-season climate and 300 days of sunshine annually is perfect for horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking, tennis, and golf.

INSET: Architect Pedro Márquez renovated the 46,000-square-foot Hacienda Clubhouse, which is made of more than 70,000 handmade adobe bricks. The low-profile two-story structure is designed to blend effortlessly into its surroundings, as are all of the homes in the Las Campanas development.



Márquez designed Joyce and Jerry Wulf's adobe hacienda with a generous-sized courtyard and grand portals throughout, including one at the back of the property [inset], which offers stunning views of the Jemez Mountains.



Joyce enjoys the freedom of feeding the couple's horses on their home site in the Ranch Estates. The Ranch Estates is one of the communities within Las Campanas that offers home sites large enough to accommodate a small barn and turnout area.

indoor riding arena, outdoor arena, reining pen, regulation-size dressage court, and a boarding and training barn with more than 90 stalls. It also offers full-service care and training to members and has a full-service show barn that travels on the Southwestern circuit. With opportunities for stabling, training, and riding, the equestrian center lies at the heart of the community.

"The safety, care, and comfort of the horses kept at the facility are of utmost importance," says Caroline Invicta Stevenson, director of equestrian at Las Campanas. Members can board their horses at the center, or those whose Ranch Estates or Estancias home sites are large enough can have a small barn on their own property.

"We boarded our horses at the equestrian center before we built our home here [at Ranch Estates]," Jerry says. Many members of Las Campanas have permanent residences out of state, but with the high quality of care, most choose to leave their horses at the professionally staffed



The world-class equestrian center provides professionally staffed boarding, training, and showing in both Western and English disciplines. It also includes an outdoor show arena, regulation-size dressage court, and reining pen. A spacious lounge with a full tack shop overlooks the courtyard and stables.

equestrian center year-round.

Although most riders at Las Campanas ride Western on the trail, they favor the English disciplines, which include hunters, jumpers, and dressage. Stevenson sees a trend, however, that, aided by the addition of new Western trainer Kent Kramer, probably will bring Western riders up to equal numbers by next year. “We want to make this center for everyone,” Stevenson says. Raised in Hollywood, Stevenson worked with animals and actors in the film industry and has used her decades of experience with horses to create equestrian programs for various horse communities. At Las Campanas, she has designed programs that are enjoyable for all ages and suited for all disciplines.

Lessons at the equestrian center are available in jumping, dressage, reining, trail and gaited riding. The center caters to whatever equestrian interest the members have, from weekend trail riding to horse shows. “Our programs are personalized to fit the needs of both the horse and the rider,” Stevenson says.



Among the 20 acres of facilities that compose the Las Campanas Equestrian Center is the 30,000-plus-square-foot indoor arena. The center is one of the largest and most comprehensive equestrian facilities of any private club in the nation.



The Estancias Cabin is being used currently as a model home and hospitality house. The Estancias has added Northern New Mexico- and Rocky Mountain West-style architecture to complement the traditional pueblo and territorial styles that are prevalent in the other areas of Las Campanas.



Looking west from the back of The Estancias Cabin, the rolling Jemez Mountains line the horizon.

The quest to capture the enchantment and lifestyle of Santa Fe in a master-planned recreational community was begun more than a decade ago by Lyle Anderson, chairman of The Lyle Anderson Company Inc., developer of the property. "My vision was for us to create a very high-end, very relaxed ranch atmosphere that conforms to the area's lifestyle and celebrates the wide-open spaces, beautiful blue skies, and majestic mountain views," Anderson says.

The panoramic views are, indeed, extraordinary, and visitors find themselves taken with them. "When I first came to Las Campanas, I sat outside on the back porch of one of the [Club] Casitas, and the sky was so clear and bright you could see a trillion stars. I think that is what did it for me," says Harry Turner, president of Las Campanas.

In this spectacular setting, Las Campanas offers property owners a wealth of distinctive amenities. In addition to the eque-



At 7,000 feet above sea level and secluded in the shadow of the southernmost range of the Rocky Mountains, a pair of Jack Nicklaus signature golf courses were designed to blend into the dramatic landscape. The two 18-hole championship courses are aptly named Sunrise and Sunset. Sunrise's 13th hole is shown here; the Sunrise course is the 100th designed by Nicklaus.

trian center, the community boasts a lavishly appointed 26,000-square-foot spa and tennis facility, dining at the Main Dining Room or The Mixed Grill—located at the award-winning Hacienda Clubhouse—as well as two 18-hole championship golf courses designed by Jack Nicklaus. Aptly named Sunrise and Sunset, the members-only golf courses offer some of the best places to view the rising and setting sun against the mountain-filled skyline.

Natural resources are not taken for granted at Las Campanas. Turner has more than 25 years in master-planned community development and golf operations and is attuned to New Mexico's conservation needs. "Water conservation is very important at Las Campanas," he says. In keeping with water conservation efforts throughout the development, Las Campanas makes every effort to irrigate the courses with reclaimed water from the city and surrounding communities.

All home sites include an equity golf



The 26,000-square-foot spa and tennis facility offers indoor and outdoor pools, six tennis courts, and rooms for massage and body treatments. Swimming at Las Campanas is supported by a year-round indoor lap pool and an outdoor pool for seasonal use.

The Ranch Estates offers everything the Wulfs wanted—especially ranch living complete with miles of bridle trails for horseback riding and access to nearby Bureau of Land Management lands, which offer an additional 68,000 acres of riding opportunities. “The whole concept of the Ranch Estates is that you can have two horses and a barn on your property,” Jerry says. The home sites are large enough to accommodate a small barn and turnout area and are connected to private trails that lead out to the BLM land that stretches to the Rio Grande. All 27 home sites of the Ranch Estates have access to the nearby equestrian center via riding trails.

Future plans at Las Campanas include the last phase, The Estancias. Eighteen of its properties are designated one-acre cabin sites, each allowing for a 2,800-square-foot cabin and a 1,200-square-foot bunkhouse. Other home sites in The Estancias are all more than two acres and require a main house of at least 4,000 square feet. Many of the homes will border the acres of BLM land, as do the Ranch Estates. And many home sites will be connected to private riding trails that open to the high desert plain for miles of horseback riding.

“This is it for us,” says Joyce, speaking of their home, her and Jerry’s passion for horses, and the ranch lifestyle at Las Campanas. As Jerry explains, “I think there is a kind of a sense of timelessness and peacefulness here. And as you look around, there are a lot of houses here, but you don’t see them. You have a feeling of serenity.”

Resources

Las Campanas has established itself as one of the finest gated residential communities in the Rocky Mountain West. Set amid gently rolling foothills 10 miles outside Santa Fe, the community’s more than 4,700 acres offer an unmistakable sense of open space and serenity. The community features an internationally renowned Equestrian Center, riding trails, and access to thousands of acres of adjacent rangeland. Two Jack Nicklaus Signature golf courses and a spa and tennis center are also available to members. Local Native Americans and descendants of Spanish settlers who have dwelt in the region for hundreds of years influence the architecture and unique character of the community. Home sites begin at \$225,000, and finished homes start at \$1 million, although some golf villas are available from \$700,000.

Las Campanas Santa Fe

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