

# THE LIVING KITCHEN





DESIGN

# THE LAP *of* LUXURY

*Boston's new eco-conscious Millennium Collection at Winthrop Center features artfully edited interiors and custom cabinetry by acclaimed designer Christopher Peacock.*

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By Janice Randall Rohlf / Photos courtesy of MP Boston

The view from a 62nd-floor penthouse in The Millennium Collection at Winthrop Center sweeps out over the sailboat-dotted Charles River all the way to Cambridge on the opposite bank. Closer in, the eye focuses on downtown Boston, where amid the office buildings, department stores, and restaurants, Millennium Tower, another development by Millennium Partners, reaches for the sky just a couple of blocks away. When it was built seven years ago, the Tower was the epitome of luxury living in the heart of Boston and still offers second-to-none comfort and amenities. But the Millennium Residences at Winthrop Center, unveiled in April 2023 and including the exclusive Millennium Collection, take this new way of living one step further by integrating health and wellness, sustainability, and technology in building design. Designed with eco-conscious features themselves, the residences sit atop 812,000 square feet of office space slated to become the world's largest Passive House office building.

"In creating the penthouses and residences that comprise The Millennium Collection, we envisioned a seamless integration of environmental advantages, experiences and amenities that make residents feel good inside and out, and physical spaces that deliver a sense of well-being," says Richard Baumert, Principal of Millennium Partners, the internationally recognized developer behind both the Tower and the Collection.

All the amenities one associates with a comfortable lifestyle are here, including a world-class fitness center, farm-to-table cuisine from a Michelin-starred chef, and

even a dedicated club and program tailored to dogs and their owners. An immersive social calendar connects residents with curated Boston experiences across food, travel, art, and culture, and five-star service is assured from valet to door attendant, concierge, and beyond. But it's in the residences themselves that Millennium Partners' unique commitment to their clientele shines.

The residences within The Millennium Collection—12 penthouses on floors 61 and 62 and three estate-style homes on floors 35 and 60—feature towering ceilings as high as 14 feet. Natural light floods in through floor-to-ceiling windows that frame spectacular views. Such features, research has shown, create mindsets of freedom, creativity, and less confined thinking. It's an environment consistent with the philosophy underlying this state-of-the-art building, where behind the refined interiors is an effort to advance lifestyles that are healthy for both the person and the planet. This concept is attractive to collaborators like Christopher Peacock.

"A more evolved wellness perspective includes how you feel in your environment," says Peacock, the renowned cabinetry designer behind The Millennium Collection's one-of-a-kind kitchens, baths, and dressing rooms. Inviting the client's input on the design of these spaces early on is a new approach for the development team. Peacock, whose showrooms include one on Harrison Avenue in Boston, explains that clients have the ability to meet with him or his design team. This way, he says, "The homeowners feel that they are buying into a building; they are able to make it more personalized."

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For cabinetry, including appliance panels, Peacock has curated dozens of paint colors from which a client can choose. Ranging from perennially popular white to currently trending charcoal and navy blue, all the hues complement the gray-veined arabescato marble countertops, backsplash, and island top in each kitchen. Peacock, who visits the quarry to handpick the stone, has also assembled a selection of cabinetry hardware if a client wishes an even more customized look.

"A lot of the buyers are coming from large homes in the suburbs, and they don't want to downgrade," observes Peacock. "They are discerning and want very high quality."

The sustainability aspect of these LEED (which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold residences was important to Peacock as well. He explains that "the cabinet interiors are American black walnut, locally sourced and milled in our facility in West Virginia, and the paint is made for us by a company in Vermont, Fine Paints of Europe. We use their water-based eco-paint."



Designer Christopher Peacock in one of the Millennium Collection at Winthrop Center residences.





Photo: Jack Vatcher



Christopher Peacock's cabinetry graces the kitchens, baths, and dressing rooms of the residences at the Millennium Collection at Winthrop Center, many of which have spectacular views of Boston's waterfront.

The kitchens showcase sustainable appliances, including energy-efficient Sub-Zero refrigerators and wine storage units, and Wolf convection steam ovens and induction cooktops, which allow a faster, safer, healthier, and more energy-efficient method than gas cooktops. If a client is not familiar with the cooking methods, they are invited to attend a seminar at the Clarke Showroom, Boston's showroom for Sub-Zero and Wolf appliances, to learn how to use them. To launch their culinary adventures in their new homes, there is also a complimentary piece of cookware from Made-In as a welcome gift to owners.

Over the years, since launching Christopher Peacock cabinetry in 1992, the London-born designer's standards have remained consistently high. For example, for The Millennium Collection, installation entails hand-painting each cabinet in place to realize a depth of color and subtlety that cannot be achieved otherwise. It is this fervent desire to create the most beautiful and lasting products that drives the company.

"When we refer to the 'professional grade kitchens' featured within The Millennium Collection, we are alluding to creating something to the best of our ability, using the best joinery techniques and the finest materials available," says Peacock. "The finished product is inherently professional grade because it is built to last forever."