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AQUASAMUI SELLS 10 UNITS IN JUST 50 DAYS

NEW GARY FELL DESIGNED PROJECT ON KOH SAMUI, THAILAND FINDS AFFORDABLE LUXURY NICHE

Koh Samui, Thailand: *Luxury Living Asia (LLA)*, developers of *AquaSamui*, a new boutique property development on Koh Samui, Thailand featuring eleven private pool villas designed by award-winning architect Gary Fell of Gfab announced today that 10 units have been sold within fifty days of being offered on the market.

This boutique collection of 2 and 3 bedroom villas set in the hills on south Thailand's Koh Samui offers stunning panoramic views over world famous Chewang Beach and the Gulf of Siam. Gary Fell, recipient of the *World's Best Architecture* award at the 2011 Bloomberg International Property Awards, designed AquaSamui with his typical clever orientation and strong statement about contemporary tropical living.

Luxury property sales on Koh Samui, and throughout Thailand, have been sluggish since the 1998 economic crisis. However, LLA seems to have struck a chord with luxury buyers on Koh Samui by drawing on the fundamental principles of luxury property: premiere location, optimum design and quality construction. These principals, combined with LLA's ability to address the new demands of the 2013 global property investor, who now insists on razor-sharp pricing and legal security of a property, has proven to be a successful combination.

"We're obviously thrilled with AquaSamui's initial success but it doesn't come as a big surprise," says Antonio Duan, Managing Director of LLA. "Our extensive pre-planning and research showed us the current luxury market for holiday home buyers on Koh Samui, and Thailand in general, is very different than pre-economic crisis times. Luxury buyers still want great design, a wonderful location and quality building; but now developers must also offer well-thought out pricing and legal security for the buyer."

AquaSamui's designs are contemporary and modern, but at the same time classic and guaranteed to improve with age. In addition to the residential accommodation, central facilities comprise a lobby reception, a gym/health club, a restaurant/bar and parking for guests. Special features include water roofs, ponds and interesting walkways through the property to further focus on the panoramic 180 degrees of pure sea view.

"AquaSamui's design mandate turned small spaces into ultra-contemporary living areas which feel spacious in a large open-form layout," says architect Gary Fell. "Modern design, motivated by a quest for efficiency was distinguished by an emphasis on function over form. With this focus, we created a master plan that deals with the challenges of density without sacrificing privacy. The boundaries between interiors and exteriors are merged with an extensive use of glazing to provide a seamless spillover from architecture to nature. The integration of different ceiling heights within the interior area creates intimate spaces accentuated by lofty ceilings."

The main building components are stone and concrete. Rocks are quarried from the site itself and form the base of the structures. Glass is double glazed though orientation of the project mitigates

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any major solar gain problems. It is envisaged that the clubhouse will include some solar collectors on the roof to power lighting in public areas.

AquaSamui has been outfitted with several energy efficiency and eco-friendly features including lighting, climate control, water, recycling and conversion. Lighting will use efficient LED systems and mechanical ventilation will make use of inverter type air conditioner. Extensive recycling of water is planned for reuse on the site. The overall design encourages maximum (natural) through ventilation and makes use of reflecting pools to help cool the interior through evaporation. Large overhangs and orientation help ensure minimum solar gain. The development also has safety features including extra-wide foundations with protection against earthquakes, CCTV security and 24 hour onsite security.

Villas feature minimalist designs with floor to ceiling windows that open onto a private landscaped terrace. All bedrooms have en suites with waterfall showers, designer sinks and spacious toilet areas. The generous, open plan living space is ideal for families or groups of friends and overlooks its private Balinese slate infinity pool surrounded by an expansive sofa bed, a deck and a sala. The kitchen is a masterpiece in contemporary design with the latest amenities and fittings.

AquaSamui's 3 villa/unit designs are:

Two Bedroom Villa

Upper Row: 6 units total
Unit Numbers: 1-6
Size: 160 sqm
Price: 8.9 M THB / 231,000 EURO

Three Bedroom Villa Type B

Lower Row: 3 units total
Unit Numbers: 7, 9 + 11
Size: 275 sqm
Price: 15.9 M THB / 413,000 EURO

Three Bedroom Villa Type A

Lower Row: 2 units total
Unit Numbers: 8 + 10
Size: 220 sqm
Price: 9.9 M THB / 257,000 EURO

AquaSamui is located on Koh Samui (island) in the Southern Thai province of Surat Thani. A tropical island of great natural beauty and variety, Koh Samui has an abundance of natural resources, white sandy beaches, coral reefs and coconut trees. Samui is a world class destination that attracts over 1.5 million tourists per year and is Thailand's third largest island with an area of 228.7 square kilometers. It is home to more than 50,000 full-time inhabitants (2008) – 90% of which are Buddhist.

The AquaSamui building site location is amongst beautiful lush hills, and only a few moments by car to the famous shopping strip, international restaurants, beach of central Haweng. Samui international airport is less than 10 minutes away and 2 major hospitals are less than a 2 km drive, while the two top international schools and major shopping and top retail centers, Tesco Lotus and Big C, are just minutes away.

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