



## Puttin' on the Ritz - a closer look at what's to come

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Now that they're ready to talk, the group developing the Ritz-Carlton Dove Mountain Resort is really talking. And showing off.

"It is so good to be able to talk about it now," said Casey Bolinger with Greenbrier Southwest Corporation, Scottsdale. "This is an amazing project we are very happy to be underway."

Guests of the tour check out model rooms that will be in the resort. The rooms will keep a Southwest feel with exposed beams and rich earth tones.

Nov. 7, the developers took 75 people on a tour of the property that will become the resort, showed off some samples of what guest rooms will look like, walked part of the half-completed golf course and showed off a sample residence.

"We will be building not just a resort," said David Mehl, owner and developer of the 6,200 acres that make up Dove Mountain in Marana. "We are building a Ritz-Carlton community. It is something truly special."

Officials of the Town of Marana agree.

"We're putting as much town resources into this as we can," said Michael Reuwsaat, town manager. "Let's get this built."

Marana Mayor Ed Honea said "This is going to be the premier resort in all of Arizona if not the entire southwest. But more than just the prestige of this resort is the fact that it will bring 600 jobs to the town of Marana. A lot of those jobs will be higher than minimum wage. This will be a catalyst for future economic development. It is a win-win."

At the site of the resort, nestled in a canyon north of Tangerine Road, work is already underway. Some walls are erected, and the rebar frame is in place for many more. Crews are working on the foundation of the four-story, 250-room resort.

"This epitomizes what we are all about as a brand," said Ken Rehmann, executive vice president of operations and CFO for Ritz-Carlton. "We have 67 resorts in Ritz-Carlton and this will be a classic resort of the brand."

On the 18th hole of one of the two Jack Nicklaus signature courses, Kevin Hammock, vice president of golf development for Ritz-Carlton spoke of desert golf.

"Desert golf is unique to any other type of golfing in the world," he said. "This course will be one of the best desert golf sites in the country."

The World Golf Championships - Accenture Match Play Championship will be played on the course in February 2009. In terms of world-wide exposure and publicity, the championship is the fifth most-watched tournament in the world, behind the four major championships.

The model rooms for the resort incorporate a feeling of Arizona and the nearby Tortolita Mountains as much as possible.

"Some of you who live here may take the desert and this landscape for granted," said Bill Rhodes, senior vice president of operations for Ritz-Carlton. "But for those who don't see this everyday, it is amazing."

The rooms will have exposed beams in the ceiling, natural desert colors and patios to enjoy the scenery. The bathrooms will be sleek with floor to ceiling frosted glass, a walk-in shower as well as a separate large tub.

The Residences at The Ritz-Carlton Dove Mountain will consist of nearly 300 homes. Owners will be entitled to enjoy the amenities at the resort.

"The architectural styles will be southwest," said Rick Owen, regional vice president of sales and marketing for Ritz Carlton. "The details in the homes will be highly personalized."

As he spoke he pressed a button and the floor-to-ceiling glass wall behind him slid out of sight and the whole wall was open to the back yard.

"This allows people to incorporate the back yard in their entertainment, which people here can do much of the year," Owen said.

The \$160 million Ritz-Carlton Dove Mountain resort is scheduled to open in late 2009.