

Nicola Place

Your Place to Call Home

by Susan M Boyce



When Christopher Rogers moved to Vancouver, he knew he was moving to one of the most beautiful cities in the world. But when he discovered Nicola Place in Vancouver's West End, he immediately found himself falling in love all over again.

"Sure I'd looked at other rental apartments, but when I walked in here, it just felt like I'd come home," Chris says. "Everything — absolutely everything I want from the city — is right here in the West End. Grace, the Resident Manager, made me feel so welcome it was like I was already part of a family. And the view from my suite...it's amazing! I couldn't ask for anything better."

Classic Beauty Reborn

And there was even more good news in store for Chris. Nicola Place is currently undergoing a top-to-bottom renovation. Floor by floor, every one of the suites is being gutted, rewired, refinished, and transformed into sunny living spaces that would be quite at home in any new condominium development. "It's like I've moved into a brand new suite," Chris says, enthusiasm sizzling down the phone line. "New hardwood floors, new appliances, new bathroom — even the blinds are new."

My curiosity now fully engaged, I'm delighted when Alisa Aragon, Sales and

Marketing Manager for Hollyburn Properties, offers to let me see for myself. Although I confess the kitchen is usually my first stop, as we step into this tenth floor suite, I find myself — just like Chris — immediately smitten by the view. I can see clear across English Bay to Kits Beach and out toward the Gulf Islands. "Can't you just imagine sitting on the balcony and watching the fireworks?" Alisa says. You bet I can — no problem.

When I finally drag my attention back to the interior, I discover a meticulously planned kitchen with white cabinetry, an angled peninsula-style island that provides an astonishing amount of work surface, plus two rarities in the rental marketplace — a dishwasher and a window. Okay I'm envious — I don't have a kitchen window in my own condo.

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Christopher Rogers

"Hollyburn is also considered a national leader in energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction programs," Alisa says. "For example, all the new appliances here at Nicola Place are Energy Star,

lighting fixtures and light bulbs are Power Smart, and we've installed digital thermostats to maximize heating efficiency. It's all about conserving energy."

A Great Time to Visit

"We're completing one floor per month — so eight more units will come available in March and again in April and May," Alisa tells me as we check out the tiled bathroom, the light oak hardwood laminate flooring throughout the main living area, and the sleek, utterly contemporary lighting fixtures. "It's great for people who are thinking of moving but aren't quite ready yet. They can fill out an application now, they know exactly what their suite will look like, and they don't have the pressure of moving in two weeks."

I take a last, longing look at the view as we head for the elevator. In my mind, I hear Chris' voice. "There's no way I could afford a place like this in New York. I absolutely made the right decision moving to Nicola Place."

Nicola Place is located at 1228 Nicola Street in Vancouver and provides a selection of fully renovated, one-bedroom apartments proudly managed by Hollyburn Properties — nationally known for quality rentals. For more information and to arrange a viewing, call 604-684-4244 or visit www.rentersguide.com.

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