

Beaver Creek

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CHASING ADVENTURE

Summer colors

WINE & DINE

Beaver Creek's restaurant scene

INSPIRED

Life in art

MOUNTAIN TIME

Fun on the hill

A TIMELESS DESIGN

This Bachelor Gulch home is perfectly tailored to the family's needs



AS AN INTERNATIONAL resort destination, Beaver Creek's crown jewel is the mountain. And so it is as a residence, too. Sports enthusiasts, nature devotees, skiers, boarders, horseback riders, snowshoers, bikers, hikers — many clamor to come and play. But precious few have the privilege to live on it.

Beaver Creek Mountain saw its first homesteaders in the early 1900s when five bachelor loggers who raised cattle, chickens and hay made their home on the north-facing slope. Half a century later, in an Eagle County history-making sale on Beaver Creek Mountain, the first 52 homesteads marked the beginning of what is now one of the most prestigious communities in the Vail Valley: Bachelor Gulch.

This alpine gated area of 1,400 acres hosts panoramic views stretching from the Gore Range to Castle Peak where 85% of its 106 residences enjoy ski-in/ski-out access as well as an on-site chair lift that allows access to 1,832 skiable acres.

In this low-density

In addition to serving as the gateway to ski-in/ski-out access, the ski room serves as a gathering place, complete with fireplace.



mountainside community, the architectural structures are reminiscent of the grand lodges of America's national parks, focusing on the natural earthy elements of timber, stone and wood. And one spectacular home on Tall Timber Road epitomizes everything that Bachelor Gulch represents, designed by Brian Judge of Judge and Associates Architects and Planners.

This rare and remarkable home personifies the elegance and comfort that is Beaver Creek, but with a soul that represents exactly who this family is at heart.

Before breaking ground and moving even a shovelful of earth, Judge explains the process of designing

this — or any masterpiece — first rests in listening to the clients' wants and needs for their home — how do they want to “live” there?

“This couple wanted a unique and special gathering place for them and their adult children along with their families — they wanted everything about the home to be centered around that concept,” Judge says. “This was everyone's place to come together, relax, have fun and unwind. This home was about getting together and enjoying one another, so the floorplan is open with each room seamlessly integrating together, not separated by doors. Spaces are open

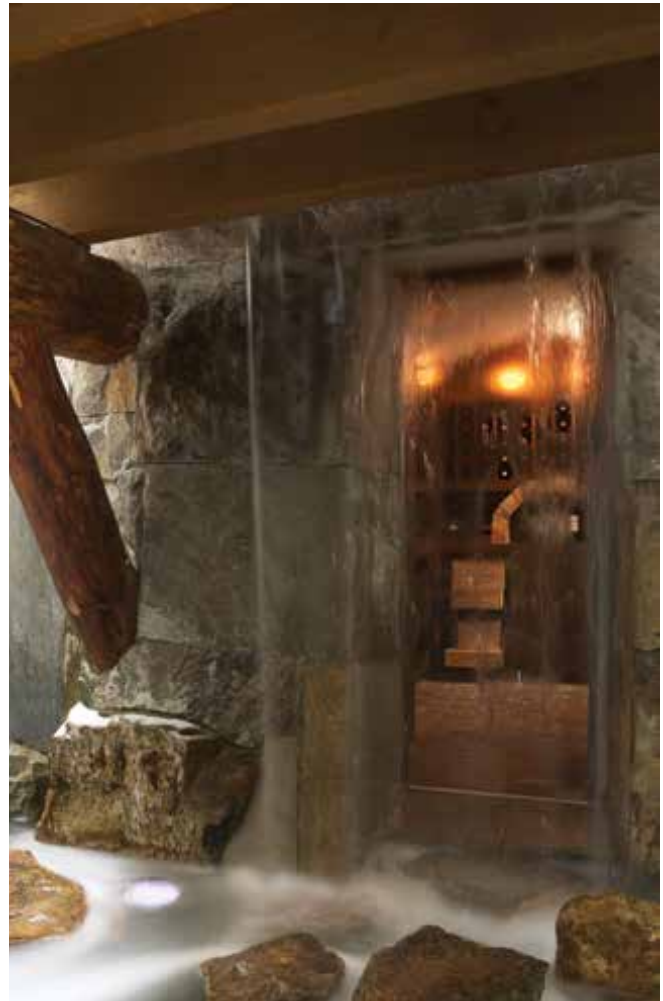
but intimate, and they are all places to collectively socialize, relax and play.”

The private, pine-laden, three-acre pristine homesite was chosen and the construction began. Because the focus of the structure was natural light and maintaining views from every room in the home, part of the mountainside had to be carved out of this flat lot to accommodate this emphasis.

“We moved a lot of dirt to create a home with a lower level that lives like a main level, and to enable us to have large, floor-to-ceiling windows on all sides and on all levels of the house,” says Judge.

Though the cooking area is compact, the room flows into intimate seating for four and then a larger dining area, so the cook can be near the action.

OPPOSITE PAGE: *The wine cellar is accessed through a water feature inspired by Bellagio Las Vegas.*



“YOU WALK ACROSS STEPPING-STONES THAT CREATE A PATHWAY THROUGH THE STREAMING WATER, AND AS YOU APPROACH THE WATERFALL THAT CREATES A NATURAL DOORWAY INTO THE WINE CELLAR, THE WATER PARTS TO ALLOW ENTRANCE.”

“Also, the house is curved so that the windows follow the movement of the sun to capture the light as well as the fabulous views.”

The earth had to be dug out to allow for the spectacular water feature that runs adjacent to the house creating some dazzling surprises in the home.

One peek at this 10,000-square-foot home shows its success. While the house is large, each room is beautifully scaled

to promote the welcoming ambiance for the coming together of family and friends. Each comfortable area beckons as a gathering spot and the intelligence of the design bears out the family’s wishes for beauty and togetherness.

A perfect example is the gourmet kitchen. The actual cooking area is compact, perfect for the person preparing food, with informal seating for four at the counter. But the room

then gracefully expands out to a comfortable open seating tableaux that keeps family and guests together in the same location.

The home is filled with imaginative surprises throughout. For a truly exciting way to taste test a lovely new vintage of wine, this home makes a trip to the wine cellar an adventure. Designed after the famous fountains of the Bellagio Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, this

home’s water feature not only carries the natural sounds of rushing water, but that water can also be synchronized to respond to music, reflect changing lights, and a waterfall acts as a magnificent entryway into the wine room just outside the house. “You walk across stepping-stones that create a pathway through the



streaming water, and as you approach the waterfall that creates a natural doorway into the wine cellar, the water parts to allow entrance,” says Judge.

Another noteworthy design feature is the ski room, the gateway to direct ski-in/ski-out access. Unlike many ski rooms meant only to store skis and change boots, this room is designed as another important gathering place, complete with fireplace. “This is a celebration room, an arrival and departure space in which 10 people can return from a delightful day on the slopes, relax, regroup and share stories before

continuing their evening.”

Other surprises: the creative onyx bar with lighting from under the stone showing off its mesmerizing patterns, the theater room’s charming area that’s equal in design to the rest of the home, and the large plunge/quick-recovery pool that can be used as a cool pool or a hot tub, depending on the season.

The expansive outdoor living space is all connected by a heated walking path that encircles the entire home. Every room has access to outdoor areas with some areas inviting an intimate tête-à-tête

while others beg a group to join in a marshmallow roast around the firepit.

“Even though this home was built in 2004, it reflects a classic architectural style that is timeless, both inside and out: Integrating with nature and celebrating the light is what we do and that will always be in style,” says Judge. “Our approach of listening to our clients first, learning what they want from their home and the character they wish to present is our welcomed challenge to fulfill. We don’t just create beauty, we’re creating a lifestyle.” — BY KATHY FILGO

Floor-to-ceiling windows are an important feature in almost every room in the house, including the living room and master bedroom, pictured opposite.



THIS HOME WAS ABOUT GETTING TOGETHER AND ENJOYING ONE ANOTHER, SO THE FLOORPLAN IS OPEN WITH EACH ROOM SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATING TOGETHER, NOT SEPARATED BY DOORS.”