

# TWIN CITIES luxuryhometour<sup>®</sup> 9TH ANNUAL



NEWS RELEASE

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## GET A TASTE OF THE LUXE LIFE AT THE TWIN CITIES LUXURY HOME TOUR

*Local homes open to the public during the first three weekends in June*

MINNEAPOLIS (May 28, 2009) – Amp up the luxury in your life during the ninth annual Twin Cities Luxury Home Tour. Open to the public for three consecutive weekends in June, the tour offers visitors an inside peek at the latest trends in interior design, homebuilding, architecture, craftsmanship, electronics, green living, appliances and landscaping.

Visitors get a glimpse of luxury-living on the self-guided tour through a select group of 15 custom homes built by the Twin Cities' premier home builders. The multimillion-dollar homes are located in some of the metro-area's most sought-after residential communities including: Eden Prairie, Edina, Gem Lake, Medina, Minnetonka, Minnetrista, North Oaks, Rosemount, Stillwater, Tonka Bay, Wayzata and Woodland. The Luxury Home Tour takes place June 12-14, 19-21 & 26-28, 2009, from 1-7 p.m. on Fridays and from noon-6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

This year's participating home builders include: American Classic Homes, Aulik & Associates, BriCo Construction, Classic Home Design, Denali Custom Homes, John Kraemer & Sons, Keith Waters & Associates, L. Cramer Designers & Builders, McNulty Homes, On the Level, Pillar Homes, Ridge Creek Custom Homes, Stonewood, Steiner & Koppelman, and TJB Homes.

"The homes on this year's tour have something for everyone" said Chris Lee, editor of *Midwest Home* magazine, the producer of the Luxury Home Tour. "For those in search of a builder to design their dream home, to those looking to create the luxe look for less in their own homes, the Luxury Home Tour offers all visitors an opportunity to experience luxury living firsthand.

Each of the 15 homes on the tour showcases one-of-a-kind features and custom craftsmanship. From a \$200,000 state-of-the-art home theatre and "man caves" that serve as boathouses and arcades, to memory-controlled showers and private islands, the homes have been built using the highest caliber products, amenities and finishes. "For \$6 million visitors can have it all, but for \$20, they can get a taste," Lee said.

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The economy hasn't slowed these builders down. "I am going into my busiest year yet," said David Beiker of Denali Custom Homes. Staying busy making their clients' dream homes a reality is the best part of the homebuilding process for Gary Aulik of Aulik and Associates, "This has been a rare experience for me, building an empty-nester couple's dream home; I actually lived on the same lot eighteen years ago". When Gary Aulik and his family lived on the lot and were planning on moving to Chanhassen, no wasted materials were spared. Aulik literally had his home picked up and transported to Chanhassen. Since selling that home many years ago, he states that it is one of the greenest building methods he has come across, "With 60% of landfills being filled with construction and housing materials, we keep this in mind when tearing down homes to build new ones." Since living on the same piece of land, he knew everything about the space, "From where to put windows to generate natural light, to landscaping with tall, indigenous perennials to avoid looking straight into the neighbors home – my client was happy to hire builder who knew the property so well" Aulik said.

Tom Budzynski of TJB Homes also enjoys the custom home building process, "My home on the Tour was designed for a very technology-savvy couple who both work for Adobe. With that technology interest in mind, a customized \$200,000 home theatre was designed that could be controlled from an iphone – per the clients demands. "That level of customization really is what makes these houses unique, no home on the Tour is alike for every home was built on one family's dream".

Passport tickets are needed for admittance and are available for advance purchase at Twin Cities Caribou Coffee locations or online at [www.luxuryhometour.net](http://www.luxuryhometour.net). Advance tickets cost \$20 and allow one-time admittance into every home on the tour. Passports can also be purchased during the tour at the participating homes for \$25. A ticket is required for anyone 5 or older.

All proceeds benefit Minnesota Public Radio, one of the nation's premier public radio organizations.

### **About Luxury Home Tour**

The Luxury Home Tour is an exclusive self-guided home tour event that features some of the most magnificent multimillion-dollar homes in the country's most prominent markets, including Chicago, Phoenix, Tampa, Twin Cities, Minn. and Naples, Fla. Making its 9th year of showcasing palatial homes in the Twin Cities metro, all homes are priced over \$1 million. Produced by *Midwest Home* magazine, the participating homes will unveil the latest trends in architecture, design, décor, craftsmanship, interior design, technology, appliances and landscaping. For more information, visit [www.luxuryhometour.net](http://www.luxuryhometour.net).

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