

With demand for riverside homes at an all-time high, developers are just going with the flow



by Gordon Miller

NEXT week, the capital will be celebrating the Thames as London Rivers Week gets under way. Running from June 26 to July 2, the week is organised by environmental charity Thames 21, and aims to inspire people to take pride in our waterways, understand the challenges they face and come together to create a healthy future for our rivers.

Undoubtedly, new housing developments impact our riversides, sometimes adversely, but in many cases they are revitalising formerly contaminated and derelict sites, and enhancing existing ones.

Among them is Southbank Place, a 5.2-acre site adjacent to the London Eye, a significant new, mixed-use residential, commercial and retail community that is transforming the riverside just over the bridge from the Houses of Parliament.

The site was once inaccessible private land, but a new public realm includes landscaped gardens that meet the Thames towpath, and pavemented walkways that draw the public into its restaurant and café-lined squares.

The central London location, unrivalled river views and a quality design, build and finish, has meant that more than 400 luxury apartments have been sold in a little over two years. Prices start from £1.05million for a sumptuous one-bed apartment in Belvedere Gardens, with Miele appliances, floor-to-ceiling polished stone bathrooms and windows in the west-facing 17-storey tower nearest the riverside (southbank-place.com).

Surrounded by three of the landmarks which have come to symbolise London — the Thames, the Tower of London and Tower Bridge — more than 80 per cent of Landmark Place is wrapped in glass to provide what Barratt claims to be 'the widest views of any development across the River Thames'.

Tower Millennium Pier is adjacent to the east of the site, giving residents access to the Thames Clipper commuter and other leisure river services. Prices start from £862,500 for a one-bed (barrattlondon.com).

Bellway Thames Gateway are building a new collection of waterside homes called The River Gardens in Greenwich.

As well as an impressive 300-metre river frontage, the development has a concierge, swimming pool and gym for residents' private use.

Comprising more than 250 stylish new apartments in a range of one, two and three-bedroom layouts, the homes are set in a series of five sleek buildings. Prices are to be confirmed (**bellway.co.uk**).

Meanwhile, over in Woolwich, Royal Arsenal Riverside has a kilometre of river frontage, and a Thames Clipper pier right to hand on site. Prices start at £442,500 for a Manhattan suite and £485,000 for an apartment with one bedroom and one bathroom. (**royalarsenalriverside.co.uk**).

Landmark Pinnacle

Canary Wharf



One of the UK's tallest residential towers, at 233 metres high, this 75-storey development stands at the western end of South West India Dock. A range of apartments, from studios to three-bedroom homes is available. Seventy-five floors up on the roof, residents will be able to experience the spectacular and other-worldly terraces open to the elements with breathtaking views towards the east and west sides of Canary Wharf. Prices start from £425,000. (landmarkpinnacle.com)

Iverna Quay

Greenwich Millennium Village



Iverna Quay is the newest phase of homes at GMV, a joint venture development by Countryside and Taylor Wimpey. The collection of contemporary homes is exclusively situated behind the Greenwich Yacht Club, with some apartments overlooking the River Thames. Prices start from £530,000 for a two-bedroom apartment — and London Help to Buy is available on selected units. (gmv.london)

Lombard Wharf SW11



Sitting on the banks of the Thames, all 134 apartments at Lombard Wharf have luxurious, private wrap-around terraces with views across the Thames. The tower has a graceful aesthetic, which incorporates a slight two-degree twist as it rises. Next to Cremorne Bridge, Lombard Wharf is just a short walk from Battersea Park and Clapham Junction train station. Prices are from £721,500 for a one-bedroom apartment. (barrattlondon.com)

Royal Docks West

Royal Docks



Mount Anvil is developing Royal Docks West, which has panoramic views of the Docks and the Thames across to The O2 and Canary Wharf. The 19-storey tower of 105 studio, one, two and three-bedroom homes (including 26 affordable homes) also features alongside retail space and a public landscaped garden. Prices from £465,000 for a one-bedroom apartment; completions are scheduled from autumn/winter next year.

(royaldockswest.com)