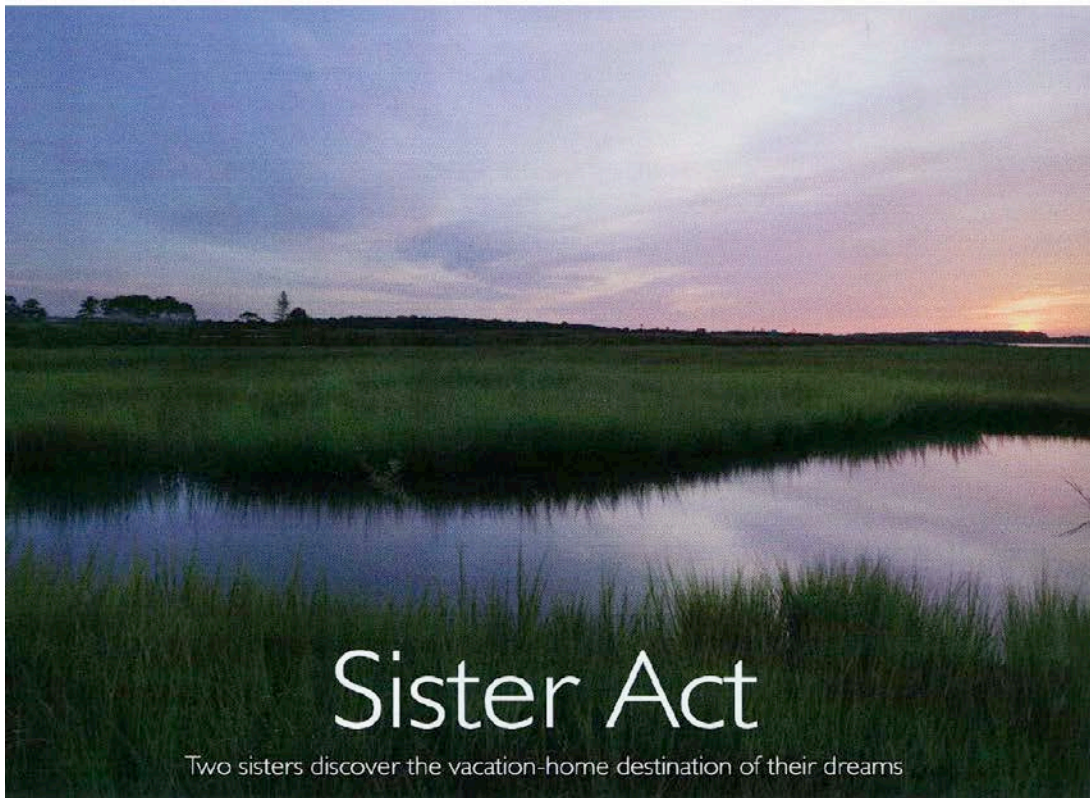


# LUXURY LIVING

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## Sister Act

Two sisters discover the vacation-home destination of their dreams

BY BECKI BRYANT

When they were children, sisters Diane Kinsey and Kathy Smith spent their summer vacations exploring the coasts of Maryland and Delaware. The sandy beaches, playful waves and warm sunshine provided instant fun, lasting memories, and a special kinship that has kept them vacationing together—along with their grandparents, parents, husbands and children—for almost 30 years. They have skied the Rockies, combed the beaches of Mexico and golfed some of Arizona's best courses. Yet they had never owned a vacation home until they discovered The Peninsula on the Indian River Bay.

"Everything [at The Peninsula] is top shelf," says Paul Kinsey, Diane's husband. "And the setting is spectacular."

Located in Millsboro, Delaware, along the Delmarva coastline, The Peninsula is exactly what its name suggests: nearly 800 acres of land with 225 acres of natural wetlands bordered by water on three sides.

It is beautiful, peaceful and, for many East Coast families, easily accessible—Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington D.C. are less than a two-hour drive away.

The ability to travel a short distance in order to "get away from it all" is key, says Kathy's husband, Dennis, who, along with his wife and Paul and Diane, are busy parents and health-care professionals. "We can leave on a Thursday night and recharge our batteries over a long weekend."

Relaxation and rejuvenation will come easily at The Peninsula when the community's master plan is complete. The centerpiece, a private Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, will open in April.

"It's a spectacular setting for golf with seven holes hugging the shoreline and a closing hole that will rival the famous 18th hole at Pebble Beach," says Nicklaus proudly. The course will run through each of The Peninsula's nine planned neighborhoods and will be managed by Troon Golf, whose portfolio includes more than 140 clubs in 25 states and 11 countries.



While Larry Goldstein, president of The Peninsula, feels that "golf is a very big attribute," he estimates that only about one-third of the residents will play. To keep boredom at bay, there will be the Lakeside Village. Currently under construction and scheduled to be finished by the end of the year, the village will include an adults-only outdoor pool and a 10-acre wave pool for families, complete with a sandy beach, waterslides and water toys. The village's athletic club will have an indoor pool, a spa and fitness center. There will also be up to eight Har-Tru tennis courts (four of which will be lighted and one that will have stadium seating), locker rooms and a full pro shop. Casual dining and a gourmet market will round out the village's offerings.

Nestled near Lingo Creek, The Peninsula's Nature and Exploration Center will help residents "recognize and appreciate the aesthetic beauty of their community," says Goldstein. Equipped with several docks for exploring the area by canoe or kayak, the center will host educational programs and will feature spacious decks, a large fire pit and an outfitter's shop.

The Peninsula will also provide transportation to Dewey Beach, which is just 15 minutes away by water taxi. From there, day-trippers can go to popular Rehoboth Beach, called "the nation's summer capital," which offers a mile-long boardwalk, galleries, restaurants, exciting nightlife and more.

"There's something for everyone at The Peninsula," says Paul. And with ages ranging from 10 to 82, a diverse to-do list is paramount for the Kinsey and Smith families. Together, they've purchased an estate lot on which they are building a 4,300-square-foot home with two master suites. Located just off hole No. 11, the three-story home will offer golf course and Indian River views, and is scheduled for completion by winter.

"Sometimes you may experience buyer's remorse," says Paul. "But every time we visit The Peninsula we feel good about what we've done."

Obviously others are also feeling that way, as The Peninsula reported more than \$200 million in sales in 2005. All said and done, the gated community will include more than 1,400 residential units, ranging from luxury condominiums to custom-built homes. Prices start from the \$300,000s. ■

*The Peninsula on the Indian River Bay, (888) PEN-DELA, peninsuladelaware.com*



Many of The Peninsula's custom homes feature stunning golf course, river or bay views, as well as spacious kitchens with adjoining fine dining rooms.