

Press Release

Immediate release

2nd April 2008

154 acres of rare Crown Range property to be sold

One of the last available properties of its kind and steeped in culture, Skyview is a privately elevated property positioned on a natural ridgeline. Available to purchase for the first time in approximately 19 years, this spectacular home is nestled 300 metres above the Wakatipu Basin, offering 63ha (154 acres) of peace and tranquillity and breathtaking panoramas across the entire environ.



Jeff and Robina Desbecker have owned their Crown Range property since 1988 when current council regulations required owners of such large sections to prove the property's economic benefits to the region before permission to build was granted.

Whilst many people in the area suddenly became "deer farmers", Jeff and Robina's environmental passions and initiative shone through and they decided to plant flowers and start a dried flowers business, as well as selling the wood on the property for firewood and planting maple syrup trees to harvest natural maple syrup.

Currently run as a successful self-contained luxury lodge, with Jeff and Robina's private residence also on site, Skyview is located deep in a natural sunny amphitheatre protected from the elements and secluded from view of all other properties.



The lodge-which sleeps up to 12 people-was originally used as the drying room for the dried flower business and Jeff and Robina lived here whilst building their current residence located at the other end of the property on a natural elevated ridge line. In 2003 they transformed the old flower drying shed into Skyview Luxury Lodge.

Located in a separate building and surrounded by private gardens, the lodge also has a 25 metre solar-heated indoor swimming pool which when it was built in 1995 had the largest number of solar panels on a building in the Southern hemisphere, a pretty mean feat for a couple in Central Otago.

During this time Jeff and Robina also spent hours trawling the region for used car tyres, which culminated in a feature wall in the swimming pool building made from 1,500 rammed-earth tyres, which as well as being beautifully filled with flowers, also acts as extra insulation.



Skyview truly is an environmentally conscious home, with no chlorine used in the pool, using copper silver ionization instead. Jeff and Robina are also kind enough to open the swimming pool doors once a week to the local Water Discovery group which teaches toddlers between the ages of 6 months-4 years to swim.



Built in 1989, the 60ft high by 14ft wide onsite windmill-which sits over a 9 meter well-is also used to power water for the property.

Jeff and Robina's private home is unique, with a timber theme throughout and has uninterrupted 360 degree vistas of Lake Wakatipu, the Remarkables mountain range, the Crown Range, Coronet Peak ski field and the Kawarau River.



Skyview is exclusively situated in the idyllic Crown Range mountains around 20 minutes drive from central Queenstown and boasts a phenomenal 3km of marked, private walking/biking and running tracks.



Beautiful paddocks of long natural grass, stands of sugar maples, blocks of Douglas fir, larch, cedars, poplars, silver and paper birch, cypress, eucalyptus, black walnuts, many other exotic species, and small fruit orchards are in abundance around the property.

Around 4,000 trees, including 35 mature fruit trees are planted throughout on a scale so rarely seen in private properties in the Wakatipu region. Jeff and Robina are keen gardeners and as well as the many trees they plant annually, they also farm organic grain, barley, peas and oats.

With the extensive established grounds, high elevation and privacy and environmental attributes, Skyview truly is a dream property in this pristine environment.

Contact:

Please contact Naomi Lindsay at Browns Sotheby's International Realty for all photography, more information and to speak directly with Jeff and Robina Desbecker.

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Fast Facts:

Price: NZ\$9,500,000

154 acres (63ha)

3km of marked, private walking and biking tracks

The lodge: 4 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, 2 car garage, two living areas, indoor climbing wall, 25m solar-heated indoor swimming pool

The Residence: 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, office, 2 car garage, large living/dining area, large kitchen and walk-in pantry

The environment:

Solar-heated swimming pool, with 1,500 earth-rammed tyres for extra insulation

No chlorine used in pool-copper silver ionization

60ft high windmill to power water supply

4,000 trees planted throughout, including over 35 mature fruit trees

Grow organic fertilizer, as well as grain and herbal tea

Local Water discovery group are allowed to use the pool on a weekly basis for toddlers to learn to swim.