



“Going to the woods is going home.”

—John Muir

We are pleased to announce the inception of Sunalei Preserve— a mountain park carefully balancing homes with the stirring landscape of a giant mountain and the surrounding valleys, on the western edge of the range known locally as The Northern Peaks.

*Sunalei Preserve: A place for your family to gather.
A place to be inspired, to be infused with the mountains' presence.
A place to protect.*



*“There is in every American something of the old Daniel Boone—
when he could see the smoke from another chimney,
he felt himself too crowded and moved further out into the wilderness.”
—Hubert H. Humphrey*

SUNALEI PRESERVE

We intend Sunalei Preserve to be developed in the Great Camp tradition— the resort lifestyle that took hold in the Northern Woods of New York State before the turn of the last century, where the rugged construction materials and techniques of the pioneers evolved into the highly sought after rustic style we now call Adirondack. The Great Camps— where families planned their holidays around the seasons and came north for the canoeing, fishing, hiking and skiing, where the comforts of modern life were provided in simple splendor.



The tradition, which began in the Adirondacks, flourished throughout the country— the boreal forests and rivers of Michigan, the Western slopes of the Rockies, and now, the Southern Appalachians. A very limited number of home sites shall be developed here, in the highest region of Watauga County, eight miles northwest of Boone in western North Carolina. The concept of grand parcels of land and careful placement of home sites and outbuildings will minimize the conflict between the residential community and the environment. The size of the home sites, known as Homestead or Camp Lots, will be determined by the suitability and the lay of the land. Ranging from two to twenty acres, the sites are designed to remain intact, accommodate entire families and be passed down to future generations, creating a sustainable resort lifestyle in one of the South's most stunning natural settings.

Sunalei Preserve extends from the high, rocky outcroppings along the highest summit ridge located entirely in Watauga County to the rolling meadows and streams below. The crags along the precipitous, serpentine spine of the peak offer stirring views of mountains without end— the Unakas and the Unicoi, the Irons and the Blacks and the Blue Ridge; and of course all the peaks of the High Country: Grandfather, Roan and Beech; Table Rock and Hawksbill, Flat Top, Elk Knob, Tater Hill, Three Top, and all the valleys falling away into the watersheds of Wilson Creek, the Yadkin, and the New River.



Below the rugged beauty of the summit zone, the high meadows, valleys, and the creeks that fall along the mountainsides offer tranquil walks and an ever-changing vista of the subtler aspects of nature. A rich community thrives in the fields and meadows below the peaks— wildflowers and mountain shrubs and grasses, songbirds and turkey and deer and grouse. The rich contrast between the lush meadows and the high peaks provides a dramatic natural setting through every season of the year.





The Sunalei vision is a way to live within the environment— to experience it, to enjoy it, and to protect it.

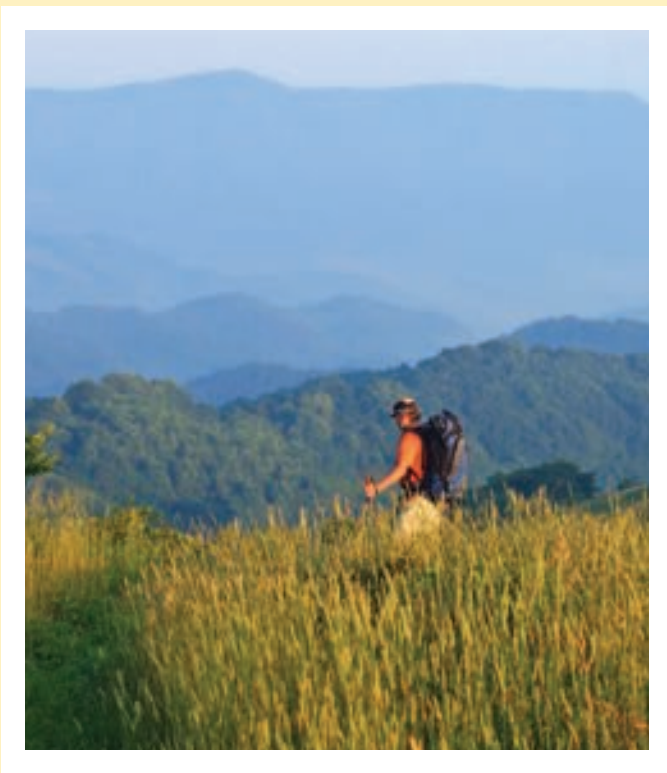
With this vision in mind, over 200 of the 1000 acres at Sunalei have been designated as a permanent natural preserve; a land trust that includes the continued stewardship of the High Country Conservancy. Environmentally sensitive habitats and places of great aesthetic and spiritual value, such as the summit of Sunalei, will form the heart of the protected lands, while the large size of the home lots ensures an even greater amount of preserved acreage. As each family builds their “camp,” the attention to sustainability will create micro-ecological zones creating an enduring mix of family home sites within a natural preserve.



The intricate systems of valleys and ridges that form Sunalei and the adjacent lands have a rich cultural heritage. For generations, Native Americans migrated through the valleys in search of buffalo. Later, Daniel Boone and others used Buffalo Gap and the mountain’s striking profile as a landmark on their way to the West. It was here that the Buffalo Trail and the Indian Path met as they traversed the Blue Ridge on their way to the Carolina Coast. The lush meadows below the high peaks became favorite campsites for travelers, eventually becoming a permanent settlement known as Trading Grounds. By the mid-1700’s, Trade, as it’s now known, was home to several hundred families and was quickly evolving into the colorful frontier town for which it is legendary. These days, Trade is a quiet reminder of its past, celebrating the region’s history annually at the Trade Days Festival, one of many events which celebrates both the High Country’s past and present. At Sunalei, our goal is to remember our history, to celebrate the present, and to plan for the future.

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The majesty of the Blue Ridge draws more and more people every year. At Sunalei we want to protect the environment we feel is necessary to truly experience the peace and tranquility of the mountains. We come to the mountains in search of the sublime, but it is in the unhurried pace away from the crowds where we find it— the changing of the light in the evening, the first ice rime on the trees in fall, stepping away from the warm glow of the Lodge's fire for a look at the winter stars.



And while Sunalei is just minutes away from the great trout streams, ski slopes and golf courses of the High Country, it is the quiet setting of the countryside and the rugged beauty of the summit of the mountain that makes Sunalei a place not only to call home, but a place for reflection and adventure.





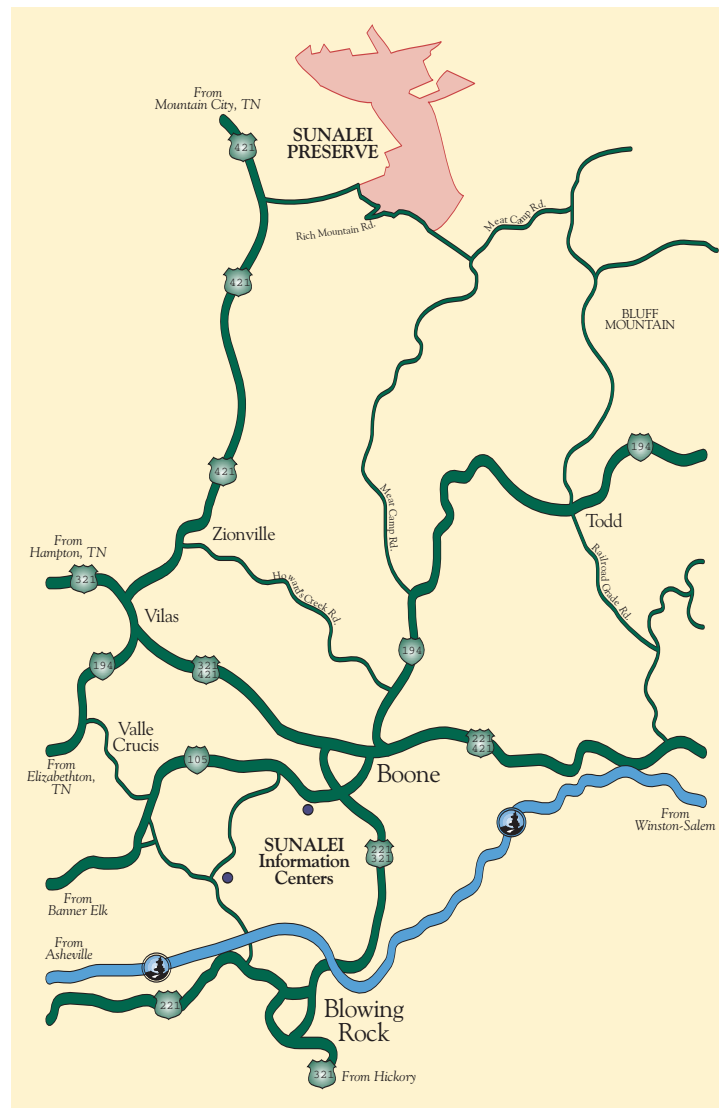
Within the Preserve, the conservancy lands and the Main Camp form the basis of the Sunalei lifestyle. At the heart of the Main Camp is the Guest House. Built in the rustic style of Adirondack architecture, the Guest House epitomizes the simple splendor of life at Sunalei: from the wooden banisters and stone steps of the front porch, you might pick up a walking stick and stroll into the high mountains and watch the sun set over Roan Mountain, then afterwards recount the day's adventures while relaxing in the care of the Camp's outstanding service. Guest rooms in the tradition of America's great National Parks are available for property owners and guests.



In addition to the Guest House, the Main Camp includes a fitness center, a resistance pool and the Shelter. The Shelter, in its rustic style, overlooks a tennis court and putting green for property owners and their guests to enjoy.

Of course, at Sunalei, we believe the focal point to be the land itself– and to this end, we have designed trail systems throughout the conservancy lands and suitable greenspaces for the quiet enjoyment of the Preserve. The Shelter houses the Nature Center to help residents, their guests and community visitors gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the intricate ecosystems of Watauga County's Northern Peaks. The intent is to sustain and even enhance the unique qualities of the conservation lands.

SUNALEI PRESERVE



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