

Live Here

A look at the country's latest, greatest loft developments

BY KATHERINE DYKSTRA

New York City

Artisan Lofts

143 Reade Street

(212) 732-4000

artisanlofts.com

Amid the cobblestone streets and cafés of Manhattan's downtown TriBeCa neighborhood comes Artisan Lofts, an 18-story conversion of a historic Art Deco building. Behind the cast-iron columned façade, constructed circa 1929, stretch 37 new lofted residences with 11-foot ceilings, hardwood plank floors, board-formed concrete ceilings, 8-foot-tall steel casement windows and (deep breath) splayed interior columns. Two-, three- and four-bedroom units range from 1,500 square feet to 4,260 square feet and from \$2.25 million to \$7.47 million. Adding to the arty downtown vibe is a curated art gallery in the lobby and artisan garden on the roof. Other pluses include a fitness center with yoga and treatment rooms, refrigerated storage for grocery deliveries and wood-burning fireplaces in select residences.

Asheville, North Carolina

Mica Village Lofts

75 Thompson Street

(828) 215-3949

micavillagelofts.com

In Asheville's River Arts district, a downtown neighborhood overflowing with galleries and working art studios, urban industrial living has gone green. The Mica Village Lofts are the restoration and conversion of the Schoonmaker Mica Company building, constructed in 1899, into 10 residential loft spaces. More than 60 percent of the materials used to construct the building were salvaged or recycled from the original plant. The glass used in the lobby's terrazzo floor and in the lofts' countertops came from broken windows; the metal used to support the kitchen bar countertops are from the factory's plumbing pipes. Residences feature exposed brick walls, original hemlock beams, exposed pipes and ducts, and restored original wood flooring. One-bedrooms begin at 830 square feet; prices start at \$226,000.



Mica Village Lofts



Mica Village Lofts

ON THE MARKET



CIMA Lofts

CIMA Lofts

Miami

CIMA
400 South Miami Avenue
(305) 285-1418
cimabyneo.com

Having a living room inside your home? How passé. CIMA, on Miami's riverfront, has put a living room outside each of its 30 loft residences. (It is Miami after all.) "ExoRooms," as

they're called, are 12-foot-deep covered balconies (versus the average 5 feet of most common balconies) that serve as outdoor living spaces. Units in the sprawling 13.5-acre gated downtown development will also include media rooms, floor-to-ceiling windows, ceiling heights up to 18 feet and SMART technology, which personalizes electronics, lighting systems and more. Cafés, reflective pools and an outdoor playground dot the site. The one-bedroom, one-bathroom lofts average 930 square feet apiece and begin at \$365,800.



CIMA Lofts

ON THE MARKET



Kansas City, Missouri

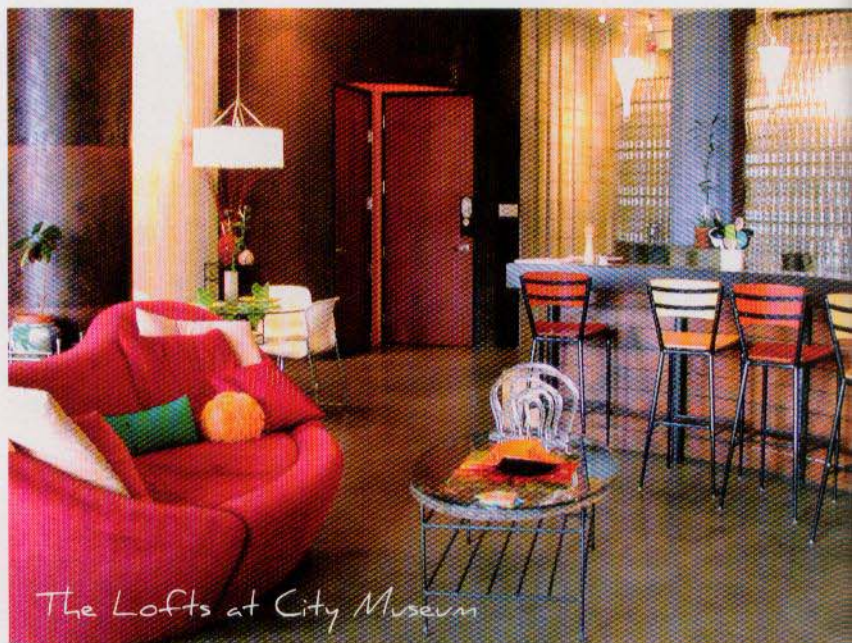
Windows Lofts
380 West 22nd Street
(913) 980-6453
windowslofts.com

In 1907 it was home to the threshing machine-building Case Tractor Company; in 2008 it will become Windows Lofts. The timber, iron and concrete structure, an area landmark, sits in the middle of the Crossroads Arts District, a historic downtown neighborhood stuffed with art galleries, restaurants and music venues. The building's 105 loft spaces will feature brick walls, exposed columns, oversized windows and 10- to 14-foot timber ceilings. From the rooftop, residents will have access to a pool, deck, workout facilities and views of the Kansas City skyline.

St. Louis, Missouri

The Lofts at City Museum
(314) 231-2423
citymuseum.org/loftscontact.html

Curved hallways made from antique steel tanks, escalator stairs, glass bottles and concrete. Is it art or a place to live? Actually, it's both. The City Museum, a playground-meets-fun-house constructed out of found objects by artist Bob Cassilly, housed in the former International Shoe Company factory warehouse, has added loft units to its community with the conversion of the fifth floor. (There are expansion plans for upper floors.) The 28 units, designed by Cassilly, offer complete flexibility in design and opportunities for personalization. One- and two-bedroom spaces, with multiple bath combinations, from 1,300 square feet to more than 2,800 square feet, include granite counters, custom cabinetry and stainless steel appliances. Prices start at \$200,000.



Oakland, California

Pacific Cannery Lofts
12th Street and Pine
(510) 588-5155
pacificcannerylofts.com

Among the first projects slated for the revitalization of Oakland's Central Station community, one of the oldest neighborhoods in the city, is the Pacific Cannery Lofts. The conversion of what was, in 1911, the Pacific Coast Canning Company, will result in 163 residences, ranging from 750 square feet and 2,000 square feet, with prices starting at \$350,000. Units will boast double-height ceilings (as high as 19 feet), mezzanines and exposed concrete columns, utilities and ducts. The original train loading docks will become patios; the cannery's light wells will be open-air courtyards. ●