The soothing far-off bustle is below as your front door closes with that reassuring click you’ve known your whole life. It’s quiet now.

You feel high above the world yet never disconnected from it, in your own succinctly thought-out space where design’s only purpose is to put you at the centre of your home. A place where aesthetics, practicality and intuition come together. Effortlessly. Seamlessly.

The time is now to once more live in a thriving neighbourhood you can call your own. An urban environment defined by creativity and energy. You’re close to everything here. Because this is home.

A life curated just for you.

Defined by Blok.

We are Blok.
We have a saying here, “Business Un-usual”. Blok wants to be there for each moment of property and lifestyle investment with unique opportunities that engage, educate and enhance our clients’ wellbeing. We don’t want to change lifestyles, we simply want to add to them. Part of our role is to make the transition for homeowners as clear as the glass ceiling above, because property is about building long-term generational wealth that long withstands economic cycles and trends.

Urban living is fast becoming the preferred way of living. As consumers our needs have started to shift, and as developers we aim to constantly challenge design strategies in order to embrace this. Working as an architect has informed my approach to developing in such a way that my obsession with people and how they live and interact in a city is now fully realised. Blok is the perfect merger of the two. We believe that conventional apartments don’t cater for the current mindset and lifestyle demands. That’s why designing from the inside out is central to our design ethos; we imagine people living in their future homes with all the demands of modern living. All this whilst giving you the opportunity to live in a space curated just for you.

Locally we are still adapting to the idea of apartment living, often seeing a flat as simply four walls - here at Blok, we’re saying it’s much more than that. Our city presents many exciting opportunities. Its layered texture creates a competitiveness that encourages evolution and creativity, and it’s this ongoing evolution that makes urban living so intriguing.

SEVENonT is an exciting project, mostly because of its enviable location. It’s a short walk to the High Street buzz of Main Road and its shops, bars, restaurants and clubs as well as the Urban Park, a truly global green lung in our city. And the incredible views of the stadium, harbour and ocean with the backdrop of Signal Hill and the mountain will take your breath away. When walking through Green Point you realise how truly special the neighbourhood is due to the canopy of greenery that’s scattered throughout the narrow streets and its bustling pedestrian boulevards. The dappled light from tall trees gives a gentle and warm touch to this urban hood, and that contrast is special.

For South Africans it’s liberating to have the chance to live in a secure block without the heightened concerns for safety and security. We’re also seeing the comeback of the butcher, the baker and the flat white maker, the faces of our communities that make us feel a part of something greater. By living in a block you start walking more - an additional perk that allows you to get closer to the smell, the touch, the taste, and the feel of your neighbourhood. A great developer knows you want all these things to happen.

We invite you to share our love and passion for urban living, because together, we can reshape the cities we live in one block at a time.

Blok is an exciting new property business embracing modernity and classical values.

Each development brings a new layer to the area surrounding the building, and the opportunity for urban living is in turn significantly enhanced by the area.

Our team assembled at Blok, led by its Managing Director, Jacques Van Embden, have undertaken impressive responsibilities on behalf of their new owners. It has been a thrill to work with my son and witness his development since he graduated as an Architect from UCT; all of his experience, vision and passion is brought to the forefront of this exciting venture.

Much of what you will read and see in this magazine spells out all that we are about - from thoughtful design, to a passion for urban living.

Yet the overriding goal is always to “under promise and over deliver”.

We are sure you will be impressed, and treasure your investment in a Blok building in the years to come.

Jacques van Embden
Managing Director and Co-founder of Blok

Marco van Embden
Co-founder and Chairman of Blok
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Overlooking Green Point is the latest member of the Blok community. Perfectly located on the cusp of the city and Atlantic Seaboard with Signal Hill at its back is SEVEN on the city and Atlantic Seaboard with Signal Hill at its back is SEVEN on T, your own quiet retreat in a truly exceptional skyline. With a bustling strip on your doorstep and sweeping views of the harbour, stadium complex and ocean, this is the best of everything Cape Town living has to offer.

The building’s unique U-shape design gifts every apartment the maximum amount of natural light pouring in through the windows, creating a bright, invigorating living space.

Lush urban greenery abounds in this quiet corner of Green Point, making your leafy surrounds the ideal retreat from the urban landscape you’re right at the heart of. With its own park just steps from your front door and a distinctive central “green lung” of foliage that extends from the ground floor upwards in the centre of the building, you’re surrounded by calm. In the heart of this vibrant urban expanse you’ll always feel you’re amidst the tranquility of nature.

A 24-hour concierge in the lobby is always there to welcome you home, and with genuine oak wooden floors, Smeg appliances throughout and a bio-ethanol fireplace, home is exactly where you’ll be.
No detail has been overlooked. Every fixture, faucet and finish has been curated especially for you.

The warmth of the oak floors, the MasterChef-worthy Smeg appliances and the dancing flames of the bio-ethanol fireplace. All of which stand alongside the refined interior architecture, awaiting your personal touches and flourishes to make it your home.

Your piece of the Blok.

Your haven.
WAUW finds itself in the unique position where the client, project manager, design and construction team are all part of a very close interwoven collective. This allows us to escape the usual politics associated with the built environment and focus on what we are good at: designing inspired buildings and spaces.

Having completed a number of successful residential projects in Cape Town over the past few years, and also living in the CBD, we have developed an in-depth understanding of local urban living requirements and how to overcome the associated spatial limitations without compromising on quality of living. We do this by designing well-considered, multi-layered spaces which often transition into each other seamlessly. The sense of space, logic and flow being central to our process. We understand that every inch of space is crucial, and constantly seek out the small moments where space meets creative solution. The success of high-density living relies greatly on ergonomics and understanding how to make spaces work together rather than independently.

Green Point has undergone a massive transformation in the past few years and SEVENonT is perfectly located to take advantage of the groundwork that has already been done. It is conveniently placed between High Level Road and the Green Point strip making it very accessible to the shops and restaurants while not having to deal with the noise of these busy streets. The existing building was North-facing with amazing potential views towards the ocean, stadium, and also the Waterfront and greater city. It did however not capitalise on these. We re-designed the existing units to better reveal these positive elements and make better use of space, also adding balconies to allow for a better inside-outside experience. We further added six penthouses onto the top of the building, which together with the balconies allowed us to transform it into a contemporary apartment block without having to completely demolish the old. The units are internally finished with a natural palette and clean lines leaving it open to creative interpretation by its new owners while the exterior combines steel timber elements to create a warm contemporary urban aesthetic.

With Blok, we hope to be an integral part of the evolution of the inner city experience and play a role in expanding and pushing the envelope when it comes to urban living. We don’t necessarily follow trends, but rather focus on what is appropriate in each specific instance striving to create projects that integrate well with the surrounding urban fabric and that are contemporary solutions to current urban challenges.

Blok has given us an amazing platform from which to explore these architectural ideas and engage in the shaping of our fantastic city and the way we live in it. What an exciting time to design.
### APARTMENTS OVERVIEW

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*Tandem parking bays*
1a

First Floor
Two Bed
Two.5 Bath
108 Interior
32 Exterior
140 Total
One Parking

1b

First Floor
One Bed
One.5 Bath
66 Interior
7 Exterior
73 Total
One Parking
First Floor
Two Bed
One.5 Bath
75 Interior
7 Exterior
82 Total
One Parking

First Floor
Two Bed
Two.5 Bath
111 Interior
33 Exterior
144 Total
One Parking
Home shouldn’t stop at the front door. Nor does it, with your new Blok apartment designed around you and situated in a thriving community you can call your own. Every conceivable convenience and indulgence is just a short walk away. The beautifully thought-out space of your new home puts you at the heart of the Blok experience. Exceptional urban living curated just for you.
Second Floor
One Bed
One Bath
51 Interior
3 Exterior
54 Total
One Parking

2a

Second Floor
Two Bed
Two Bath
103 Interior
32 Exterior
135 Total
Two Parking

2b
Home is where the Butcher, the Baker and the Flat White maker are. An entire community to explore comes standard with your new Blok apartment. Beautifully thought-out design inside, opens onto a bustling neighbourhood outside. So whether you’re exploring the myriad of shops on your doorstep, or visiting your local restaurant or barrista, exceptional urban living is always just steps away.
3a

Third Floor
One Bed
One Bath
51 Interior
3 Exterior
54 Total
One Parking

3b

Third Floor
Two Bed
Two Bath
104 Interior
32 Exterior
136 Total
Two Parking

Thornhill Rd
3c
Third Floor
Two Bed
Two Bath
89 Interior
7 Exterior
96 Total
One Parking

3d
Third Floor
One Bed
One.5 Bath
75 Interior
7 Exterior
82 Total
One Parking
Third Floor
Two Bed  
Two Bath  
106 Interior  
33 Exterior  
139 Total  
Two Parking

Third Floor
One Bed  
One Bath  
51 Interior  
3 Exterior  
54 Total  
One Parking

Third Floor
Two Bed  
Two Bath  
106 Interior  
33 Exterior  
139 Total  
Two Parking

Third Floor
One Bed  
One Bath  
51 Interior  
3 Exterior  
54 Total  
One Parking
Fourth Floor
Three Bed
Two.5 Bath
139 Interior
35 Exterior
174 Total
Two Parking

Duplex Penthouse

Floor One
Three Bed
Two.5 Bath
77 Interior
21 Exterior

Floor Two
Three Bed
Two.5 Bath
62 Interior
14 Exterior

Floor Three
Three Bed
Two.5 Bath
83 Interior
11 Exterior

Floor Four
Three Bed
Two.5 Bath
139 Interior
35 Exterior

Duplex Penthouse

48 49
N
4a
Thornhill Rd
Thornhill Rd
Floor One
Three Bed
Three.5 Bath
74 Interior
26 Exterior
26 Exterior
170 Total
Two Parking

Duplex Penthouse

Floor Two
Three Bed
Three.5 Bath
65 Interior
5 Exterior
4c

Fourth Floor
Three Bed
Three.5 Bath
142 Interior
11 Exterior
153 Total
Two Parking*

Duplex Penthouse
The Atlantic Seaboard stretches along the shimmering coastline to your left, with the working harbour and the cusp of town to your right, you are nestled in the middle of a truly unique urban space.

Green Point is aptly named, with lush parkland linking the city to the sea, beginning just 10 steps from your front door.

A dazzling array of bars, restaurants and late night speakeasies line the neon-tinged buzz of the main road, with the magnificent Greenpoint stadium dominating the skyline, and illuminating the night sky.

Everything is accessible from this quiet haven including a cycle lane traversing the whole of your new back yard.

Exceptionally thought out and yours to explore, Blok has once again redefined modern urban living by creating a leafy retreat in the heart of bustling Green Point.
After working for the famous Rieses delicatessen during the 80’s, Giovanni Esposito was struck with a desire to open a fine food delicatessen of his own in Green Point. Giovanni’s is Cape Town’s first authentic Italian Deli, brimming from floor to ceiling with drool-worthy gourmet food, imported deli products and revitalizing espresso. But be warned, one sip and you’ll be buzzing around the bend all day. Giovanni’s is a beloved local gem that is widely believed to have facilitated the start of the regeneration of Green Point Main Road.

When did you first decide to open Giovanni’s and why in that particular spot?

I worked for Rieses for six years, which was an upmarket delicatessen in Sea Point during the 80’s. I was looking around for premises to start my own dream delicatessen and was lucky enough to find an existing café in Green Point called Stadium Café. I bought it and it broke my piggy bank! I was brought up in Green Point and was at CBC school just up the road so I knew this area very well and believed the location was spot on. I can’t believe how underrated this area used to be.

How has Green Point changed over the years, and more importantly how has your deli changed the face of Green Point?

When I started in Green Point in 1989, it was such a run-down area. Many people called me brave to start my business here, but I persevered! I managed to clean up the area surrounding my shop and eventually people started noticing. New businesses started around me and that helped clean up the area too. Then there was the birth of the V&A Waterfront right there on our doorstep. After that, Green Point was completely upgraded by the City of Cape Town to accommodate the FIFA World Cup in 2010. I like to believe that Giovanni’s started the regeneration of Green Point Main Road.

How crucial is it for a suburb like Green Point to have an offering like yours?

Green Point is a dense suburb with so many people living here and that is why I believed my concept was going to work right from the get-go. The idea was to provide ready-made meals and related convenient products to the locals, which wasn’t on offer before. The coffee bar became their local meeting place.

Do you notice a certain type of person coming to shop and eat here?

We have a very high-income bracket clientele who we service every day. Some have been coming for so long that they are like family to me. We also have a large amount of foreigners visiting our deli every year, which brings an important and exciting energy into the establishment. We love hearing feedback from our customers and engaging with people who love great food, in a fantastic area.

How does it affect your overall take on life to work in such a lively area like Green Point?

I have been doing this for 25 years and nothing has changed. Working in Green Point everyday is what keeps me going. The people, the vibe, and the energy... it’s the best place in the world and absolutely amazing to be a part of!
For over three decades, Cape Town City officials held onto a vision for a 107 hectare “People’s Common” and in 2011 the dream became a reality. At the heart of the Common is the 12.5 hectare Green Point Urban Park designed to cater for all ages and all cultures who share one common love: an urban community space. Let the footprints in the ground and the informational boards guide you, and enjoy the chance to play outdoors and learn about biodiversity. At the heart of the Atlantic Seaboard the Green Point Urban Park enhances the surrounding urban environment.

When did the Green Point Urban Park first open to the public, and how long have you been behind the scenes?

The reconstruction of Green Point Common from dreary and largely dysfunctional sports fields and a parking lot took place in line with the design development of my firm, OvP Associates and Landscape Architects. Planning started in 2006, and the park was officially opened in October 2011.

How crucial is it for a suburb like Green Point to have an Urban Park?

The park provides an amenity that most communities could only dream of! To have an urban park that serves the city as well as the local community is something only a suburb like Green Point could provide. Not only is Green Point’s proximity to the city less than 10km away, but also the size of the grounds are favourable, and the 360 view you get from that is something no other suburb has to offer. You’ll see the mountains in front of you, the stadium on the left, and the sea to the right.

What makes an urban park unique versus a park in the middle of suburbia?

The uniqueness comes from the location and a direct response to the surroundings. There are so many factors that we built upon, for instance, the accessibility and mix of amenities, quality of the park furniture, the vegetation, the sounds of water and seagulls, the views of the mountain, stadium and city, and the many opportunities for people watching. There’s a huge sense of safety and security here as we have 24-hour “eyes on the park” from the surrounding flats.

Tell us a little bit about the spot you chose to build the park around. Why there?

This was the result stemming from the reconfiguration of the sports fields and the golf course in particular. The alignment with the promenade centering on the lighthouse was a non-negotiable.

Do you plan on hosting more events and incorporating agricultural aspects to the park?

The opportunity to create an urban farm, like Oranjezicht Farm, would be amazing. Irrigation water is free and the space is there! The park could have regular events here such as the Sunday Concerts, Farmer’s Markets, Art in the Park events, model yacht competitions and so much more. We need to drive the City to get a tearoom established though, because the old folks are crying for it. The long-term goal and very much part of the original plan is an Eco-Centre, which the team at Green Point’s Urban Park understands the community needs.
This Cape Town institution stands as the benchmark for uncomplicated, consistent and casual dining. The name “Mano’s” reads like a one-word definition of success in the South African restaurant industry. They’re one of the only establishments to abide by one strict rule for over 18 years: No Reservations. With Mano at the helm of the kitchen, the minute you walk past the threshold you’ll feel right at home. On any day of the week, the energy of Green Point Main Road echoes through the restaurant. Don’t forget to save us a seat!

What year did you first open your restaurant and were you always interested in doing so in Green Point?

I started Mano’s in September 1996 after eight months of searching for suitable premises. The premises were centrally situated and had been the home to an Italian restaurant called La Mafia for many years. La Mafia unfortunately closed, and what with such a beautiful and well-located building, I decided I had to take over the shop.

After 18 years, what has been the biggest change in Green Point that you have noticed?

The area was not well lit and had many seedy elements to it when I first started here. Mano’s, Giovanni’s and the then run-down Claridges Hotel were the only establishments in the area. Let’s not forget the Synagogue too! It took five years for Mano’s to settle into what it is now: an established restaurant feeding three generations of customers, regular travellers from all parts of the world and local residents. Then came the stadium for the World Cup, and wow, has that made a difference! Apartments have been built around the area and it’s become a shopping strip too. That, together with bars and other food outlets, has made Green Point one of the best spots in South Africa.

Tell us a little bit about the foodie culture in Green Point?

I think this strip caters to people looking for comfort, familiarity in their surroundings and consistent food! We haven’t seen the upmarket delicate flare that “foodies” might expect from renowned chefs, but it certainly caters for a variety of people looking for “a home away from home.” That’s who we are, and what we look for in other establishments.

In this day and age what do you think the diner wants?

In my humble opinion, people are generally looking for a great all-round experience, and that is what I have strived to do for nearly 18 years at Mano’s.
Marthinus Jacobs has the best office in Cape Town, The Metropolitan Golf Club, rated one of the top 10 9-hole courses in South Africa. From spring water irrigation to wildlife, they are as avidly involved in environmental governance as they are in maintaining an authentic golfing ethos.

How long has the Metropolitan Golf Club been running for, and when did you join the team?

The Metropolitan Golf Club was founded in 1895, but play was briefly interrupted by the Anglo Boer War and two subsequent World Wars. It was also interrupted when the new Cape Town Stadium was built between 2007 and 2010 - a happy interruption that we all welcomed. The course has been reconfigured four times since 1895 and I joined the golf club as General Manager in 2011.

Looking back to 2011, how has Green Point changed?

To be honest, the green belt in Green Point was previously a bit of an eyesore for such a prestigious residential area. The redevelopment of the area, which included the Urban Park, the Stadium, the Metropolitan Golf course, and other sports clubs, created an inner city space that is unrivalled in the world today. Imagine going to Central Park in New York and playing golf there? Over weekends, people from afar flock to this area to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and frequent the restaurants and bars along the Main and Beach Roads of Green Point. The golf course is a major attraction for visiting golfers on Sunday mornings.

Are the visiting golfers regulars, locals or tourists?

Although we have a solid membership base that play golf regularly, nearly half of all the rounds played here are from visitors. We also have a large contingent of members, the so-called “swallows” that follow the warm weather between Cape Town and Europe. They stay here for six months of the year. The rest of the visitors are equally spread between local and overseas tourists, as well as players from the rest of the Western Cape that want to play in such a beautiful part of Cape Town.

Tell us a little bit about the golfing community in Green Point?

The golfers are an eclectic bunch! There are several small groups of male and female players that play on weekday mornings, and then we have the Monday afternoon seniors. After golf they like to sit at a long table reminiscing about the day’s events over a couple of drinks. The serious golfers play on Thursday afternoons; these are mostly business owners and wealthy retired residents in Green Point. Yet, through all of this diversity the Club is a close-knit unit of loyal members.

How does the environment you work in affect your overall lifestyle?

This must be the best “office” in Cape Town. We are continually working on ways to green up the area; from the introduction of spring water for irrigation instead of tapping into our precious potable water resources, to coordinating annual bird counts. I recently introduced 20 owls as part of a program to get wildlife back into this area. According to environmental compliance and good governance, we have been certified as the best Golf Club in South Africa. Being a part of such positive environmental activities in this beautiful space is heart-warming to say the least.
The corner butchery is back in fashion and the owners of The Butcher Man, Mimi & Gerald Winkler, see Green Point as a prime location for a contemporary business like theirs. They firmly believe people want more out of their local retail food store and offer a personal and tailor-made customer experience.

You’re relatively new to Green Point, what attracted you to this particular spot in Cape Town?

Compared to everyone else around us, we really are! We opened on the 4th July 2013 and chose this spot because it’s in a prime position on one of Cape Town’s most popular strips. You’ve got Giovanni’s a stone’s throw away, the best pizza right next door at Big Route – the area is bursting with quality businesses and is a hub of community and activity. We first came up with the idea because there aren’t any butchers around this area. People are moving away from supermarkets because they want quality and personal care. The corner butchery is coming back into fashion and we wanted to bring the concept to Green Point.

Describe to us the different types of people you see on a daily basis?

We get regulars that come all the way from Higgovale, Vredehoek, Camps Bay, Melkbos and Constantia. They come because of our solid reputation and quality meat and we love that we’re able to provide an offering to our locals, but we also make it very easy for anyone to travel from farther out to get our products. We get regulars and overseas visitors whom we pack meat for and send abroad.

What do you think the residents of Green Point want?

They want convenience, a quick meal and high quality. They also want to be able to discuss their meat with their butcher face to face. That level of customer interaction and education is rare in the retail food industry. We help them with ideas and offer advice for cooking and preparing meat for their friends. People want to know more about what they are consuming and feel they deserve the right to gain that level of insight directly from an expert. From spices, to cuts, to types – they’re after a variety of knowledge.

How does it feel to work in an area like this?

Oh the energy of Green Point inspires us, there is always something going on around the corner that makes working here constantly exciting. It’s really a bonus that it’s such a beautiful spot! The fact that we aren’t stuck in the middle of a mall is a crucial element to who we are as a “designer” butchery - we want to be right here where all the action is.

Do you find that more people are moving and settling in Green Point?

We find that parents whose children have left home are moving to this area - just like us! We moved from Constantia.

Indulge us… what is your most exotic type of meat?

We have crocodile, quail and pigeon. We definitely don’t have horsemeat!
TAKE A SUNDAY WALK NOT A SUNDAY DRIVE

1. BLOK PARK
Think of it as your own personal garden. Minus the admin. This idyllic piece of parkland on your doorstep is where children and hounds run amok so the adults can take it easy.

2. MANO’S
A landmark restaurant in one of the most competitive areas and an all-time favourite of notoriously fickle Capetonian pal- ettes. When anyone gives you directions in Green Point they will usually start with, “you know where Mano’s is…?”

3. JUST SKIN CLINIC
Everything you need to feel as beautiful as your surroundings is just a brisk trot away. Cape Town’s best kept secret keeping you looking your best.

4. EL BURRO AND CABRITO
This is as authentically Mexican as it gets, with chefs flown in from the Old Country itself to share their knowledge of daring, delicious true Mexican gourmet chow. Come for the food, stay for the tequilas.

5. GREEN POINT CYCLE LANE
Put the green into Green Point by taking your bike everywhere along the dedicated cycling lanes linking your whole urban landscape together.

6. GREEN POINT STADIUM
A glittering shrine to the greatest sporting event on earth held with pride in the Mother City during the 2010 FIFA World Cup. International concerts are held regularly, and to be truly cosmopolitan buy a season ticket to watch local team, Ajax Cape Town.

7. METROPOLITAN GOLF CLUB
If you’re looking for more challenging greenery in your new leafy enclave, hit a few around the acclaimed 9-hole golf course. Just a chip and a putt away from your front door.

8. ATLANTIC ATHLETIC CLUB
There’s no lack of physical activity on your doorstep, but if running’s your game, join the club on their varied scenic runs. It’s so close you won’t even need to warm up when you get there.

9. MOUILLE POINT LIGHTHOUSE
This distinctive landmark sits along the beachfront road running along Mouille Point (“Mooly Point” to the locals). Its distinctive red and white design is not only a beacon to seafarers, but locals as well.

10. GREEN POINT URBAN PARK
Yet another swathe of greenery for you to enjoy. A stroll? A picnic? A run? Your call. Make sure you check out the exhibitions along the way.

11. CHRIS WILLEMSE CYCLE SHOP
The pre-eminent cycle specialists in Cape Town are just a walk away, if your bike’s broken or you are on the way to buy one from them.

12. THE BUTCHERMAN
There’s nothing better than having a local expert on your doorstep to get you the freshest prime cuts. Visit once, and you’ll be a regular.

13. GIOVANNI’S DELIWORLD
The meeting place in Green Point. Typically Italian, with some of the finest deli produce and coffee that’s just perfect, complete with brusque, no-nonsense service. Just fantastic.

14. REDDAM SCHOOL
One of Cape Town’s best preparatory schools is just down the road. Safe to walk or cycle to, your kids will love going to school in the city. Independence starts earlier here!