



Life at Ensō Verde  
You're not imagining it.  
But you could have.

## Overview

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A Life Plan Community with a focus on mindful aging, active living, the joys of nature, environmental stewardship and healthy life choices for adults 60+, Ensō Verde will feature close to 300 thoughtfully designed contemporary senior living residences on a welcoming campus on a hillside setting in Ventura County.

Like its sister community, Ensō Village in Sonoma County, Ensō Verde has been designed to extend the promise of Zen-inspired senior living to Greater Los Angeles. A collaboration between the San Francisco Zen Center, a landmark of American Zen practice, and Kendal, a visionary provider of retirement community services founded on Quaker principles, the culture of Ensō Verde is rooted in the Zen values of kindness and abiding presence as well as the Quaker tenets of acceptance, inclusion and reverence for nature.

### **Zen-inspired, not required.**

While Zen practice is welcome here, so are all people, faiths and philosophies. From gardens to kitchens to meditation spaces and even in its healthcare center, Ensō Verde will inspire a spirit of connection, compassion and mutual respect that embraces residents of all backgrounds and beliefs.

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ZEN-INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING  
IN VENTURA COUNTY

Per Health and Safety Code section 1772.2, Kendal at Ventura has filed an application for a Permit to Accept Deposits and a Certificate of Authority with the California Department of Social Services.



# Our Story

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Thanks to the strong interest in Ensō Village, now open in Sonoma County, it became clear to its founders that expanding the idea of Zen-inspired senior living to other areas was not just a possibility, but a responsibility.



A collaboration between San Francisco Zen Center, a landmark of American Zen practice, and Kendal, a Quaker-based leader in transforming the aging experience, Ensō Village inspired the creation of Ensō Verde in a green and temperate mountainside setting in Ventura County. Like its sister community, Ensō Verde will be open to all who are receptive to aging mindfully and living joyfully in a beautiful, thoughtfully appointed and sustainably designed environment. Though Zen practice is welcomed and encouraged, the community is purposefully diverse in every respect, open to all beliefs, traditions and spiritual perspectives.



Ensō Verde has been designed in accordance with the ecological principles of “living lightly on the land.” So, in addition to offering residents an unrivaled dining experience focusing on organic, locally sourced ingredients (some of which will be grown in on-site gardens), we will strive to meet the highest level of sustainability and leave the smallest possible ecological “footprint” while maintaining exacting standards of quality and purity.

**KENDAL**<sup>®</sup>  
Together, transforming the experience of aging.<sup>®</sup>

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Consider it done:

## *Resident Services at Ensō Verde*

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In the design of Ensō Verde, the principle of “meeting people where they are” is not simply a figure of speech. To ensure that residents’ time, resources and energy can be spent on the activities that give them joy and fulfillment, the following services will be provided under the terms of their agreement to every resident of Ensō Verde.

### **Included Services**

**These services are covered under the Monthly Fee:**

- Flexible Dining Program
- Residence, building and grounds maintenance
- Utilities — heating, air conditioning, water, electricity, cable television, Wi-Fi and internet access
- Housekeeping
- Linen service
- Transportation
- Concierge services
- Community amenities
- Comprehensive wellness programs
- Recreational, social, spiritual and educational programs and excursions
- Fitness center
- Additional storage

### **Additional Services**

**These services are available at an additional cost upon request:**

- Spa services
- Room Service
- Guest Dining
- Additional housekeeping and maintenance services
- Private car service

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It's all yours:

## *Amenities at Ensō Verde*

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**Ensō Verde residents will enjoy all-inclusive access to the following on-campus amenities, as well as additional services such as housekeeping and enrichment programs:**

- Alfresco Dining
- Electric car charging stations
- Fitness and wellness center
- Greens-inspired vegetarian bistro
- Guest suites
- Indoor and outdoor contemplative spaces
- Indoor heated pool and hydrotherapy
- Mindfulness Classes
- Performance venue
- Private Dining
- Tai Chi
- Walking bridge over dry creek
- Yoga
- Zendo/Meditation Hall

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## Where the fare is excellent: *Dining at Ensō Verde*

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Southern California is recognized worldwide as a destination for culinary excellence. As a result, there is a strong focus here at Ensō Verde on the pleasures of growing and procuring, preparing and sharing exceptional meals. The goal is for a significant portion of the food supply to be locally sourced, seasonally varied and organic whenever possible. Meals at Ensō Verde will be chef-prepared and include:

- Sustainably driven, farm-to-fork cuisine and an abundance of vegetarian and vegan options
- Seasonal menus that feature daily specials and locally sourced ingredients
- A flexible dining plan providing each resident with monthly credits at all dining venues
- On-site catering for special events
- To Go and delivery options

Experience the culinary delights at the main restaurant, or stop by the Greens-inspired vegetarian bistro. Take advantage of the abundant cornucopia of fresh and prepared foods Greater Los Angeles has to offer. Everywhere you turn, you'll find foodie-friendly options just outside your front door—and, when you prefer, the comfort of your own home cooking in your state-of-the-art kitchen.

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Where we live:

## *Simi Valley and beyond*

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Ensō Verde is nestled in a verdant valley with a mountain view, adjacent to a sycamore grove and spanning a dry creek. The site is adjacent to the Brandeis-Bardin campus of The American Jewish University in Simi Valley, Ventura County.

### **The Surprising Nature of Simi Valley.**

Scenery on all sides. Temperate weather year round. Abundant and accessible cultural, recreational, educational, culinary and retail opportunities. Unlike some valleys where summer temperatures hover in the three digits, here the mercury rarely tops 90. Simi enjoys 277 sunny days a year, 72 more than the U.S. average.

### **The world comes to us.**

Nearby, the Cultural Arts Center hosts world-renowned performers in theater, dance, music and the visual arts. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum offers rotating exhibitions that transcend politics. The city also attracts visitors from far and wide to annual events including a celebrated Film Festival.

### **We get around.**

Just a 40-minute drive from Los Angeles on average, Simi Valley also offers bus routes that connect to the Los Angeles Metro. There's an AMTRAK station that provides options up and down the coast. A freeway offers easy east-west access to San Fernando, Burbank and Moorpark. And both Burbank Airport and LAX are less than an hour's drive.

### **The Great Outdoors are greater.**

With more than 50 parks for hiking, biking and equestrian pursuits, along with half a dozen golf courses, Simi Valley is also less than an hour away from some of California's most beautiful beaches.

### **More smiles per hour.**

In 2022, Simi Valley was ranked 21 among the 50 safest cities in California, and the crime rate is 70% lower than the California average. No wonder people love life here. Simi Valley has been ranked the fifth happiest city in America, according to a study by the University of Vermont.

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The inside story:

# *Residences at Ensō Verde*

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In harmony with its natural surroundings, your home at Ensō Verde will be designed both to welcome and inspire by the renowned architects of Mithun. In accordance with community values, each residence is built to meet or exceed strict sustainability standards. With contemporary and stylish floor plans and thoughtful and unique finishes, your Ensō Verde residence will express and reflect your aesthetic values and way of living. Residence features will include:

- Thoughtfully designed one-bedroom, one-bedroom plus den, two-bedroom and two-bedroom plus den floor plans
- Balcony or patio
- Generous walk-in closets
- Individually controlled heating and air conditioning
- Internet connectivity throughout your home
- Emergency response system
- Smoke detectors and sprinkler system
- High ceilings, open floor plans and ample natural light

## **Design Selections:**

Your home will be a reflection of who you are. With that in mind, we offer three standard packages specifically created for your selection. Each package has additional options which can be incorporated at your request.

- Hardwood cabinetry with soft-close drawers
- Quartz countertops with select backsplash and trim options
- Wood luxury vinyl tile floor in kitchens
- Carpet in living areas
- All finishes are non-toxic and free of Red List materials
- All appliances meet the most stringent standards for water conservation and energy efficiency

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So much to do:

## *Programming at Ensō Verde.*

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The hillside surroundings provide the perfect backdrop for programs based on physical, spiritual and emotional growth. As with all aspects of life at Ensō Verde, these programs will be developed and organized by resident community members.

Events and activities. Excursions and seminars. Performances, clubs and classes. Discussion forums and guest lectures. From your home at Ensō Verde, the world is yours to discover and explore. The following types of clubs and programs are anticipated at Ensō Verde:

- Aquatic classes
- Concerts and performances
- Strength training
- Cultural events and outings
- Current events discussion groups
- Daily meditation
- Special Interest Groups
- Education and Entertainment
- Fitness
- Health and Wellness
- Hiking, walking and biking groups
- Horticulture and gardening
- Lifelong learning classes
- Mindfulness classes
- Mindful Community Training workshops
- Pottery, painting and woodworking
- Tai Chi
- Travel
- Weekly Dharma talks
- Writing and poetry
- Yoga

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## Meeting people where they are: *Life in a Life Plan Community*

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Residents in independent living at Ensō Verde live a daily life much like they always have, enjoying the freedom to travel and entertain, along with the benefits of being part of a culturally, socially and actively engaged community, all without the constraints of homeownership. They can also relax in the knowledge that their community will be there for them as both a provider of care and an advocate if and when the need arises. That is, by definition, what makes this a Life Plan Community.

Care services, specifically assisted living and memory support, are provided in residential settings designed specifically with those needs in mind at Ensō Verde. The modality of care here is rooted in a practice known as Mindful Community Training. This discipline, in which all Ensō Verde team members are certified and which residents are encouraged to explore, encourages a compassionate, accepting and empathic approach to the aging process.

### **In-Home Care**

Because Ensō Verde will be licensed as an RCFE (Residential Care Facility for the Elderly) by the state of California, residents are eligible to receive assisted living care in their independent living apartments if conditions allow. In these situations, aides, therapists and other care providers will visit by appointment, negating the need to relocate to an assisted living apartment.

### **Assisted Living: A hand to hold. An ear to lend. A commitment to care.**

Assisted Living services are provided for residents who need help with daily activities. With 30 dedicated residences available on campus, those who require Assisted Living can relocate within a short walk from their independent living residence, allowing for easy visitation

from a spouse or partner who continues to live independently. Of course, those in Assisted Living will continue to enjoy many of the same culinary, recreational and learning opportunities as they did before. New residents can also move directly into an Assisted Living apartment should their condition require it.

### **Memory Support: As the past darkens, the future brightens.**

In keeping with the practice of Mindful Community Training, Memory Support services at Ensō Verde are administered in comfortably appointed residential apartments by a team specially versed in a compassionate, person-focused and family-centric approach to managing the challenges of dementia and memory loss.

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# *Relocating to Ensō Verde*

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Moving is both an ending and a beginning. The goal at Ensō Verde is to help residents adjust to the first reality and embrace the second. New residents are introduced to a personal relocation advisor who will help manage every detail of the move, customizing services to fit your needs—even offering tips on how to choose a van line, sell or donate furnishings they don't plan to bring with them or how best to arrange their new residence.

## **Relocation Advisory Services:**

- Real estate agency referrals
- Preferred moving, packing and storage companies
- Auctions, estate sales and donations to charitable organizations or family members
- Decorating and designing your new residence at Ensō Verde
- Arranging for organizing and planning services
- Scheduling for and managing on move-in day

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Words we live by:

# Guiding Principles of Ensō Verde

**These principles reflect what matters to us; they are who we are and what we do. They are supported by the practices that are the principles in action.**

**We dedicate ourselves to evolving the experience of aging.**

We view this time of life as an unprecedented opportunity for self-realization, learning, giving and growth. We support one another to live mindfully, cultivate joy and meet change with curiosity and courage.

**We honor each person's authentic path.**

We recognize that the experience of living and aging, with its opportunities and challenges, manifests in individual ways. We accompany each other through this process without judgment and with love and acceptance. Our community welcomes and benefits from diverse beliefs, practices and life experiences.

**We acknowledge and celebrate the interrelatedness of all beings.**

We help each other live our most awakened lives by focusing on the connections between us. We mindfully tend our relationships with residents, their families, the staff and our neighbors by engaging in widening circles of listening.

**We provide opportunities to express our nature through spiritual practice.**

We understand wellness to include care for the body, mind, heart and spirit. We offer time and space for silence, daily meditation, teachings, spiritual companionship, solo retreats, work practice and communal meals, as well as traditional Zen rituals.

**We attend consciously to aging, sickness and death.**

We build our capacity to meet these realities individually and as a community through training in mindfulness and contemplative care. We measure the health of our community by valuing the well-being of everybody, including caregivers and staff.

**We make decisions with an awareness of how our actions impact the Earth.**

Our activities flow from our deep connection with and responsibility to the natural world, in recognition that it is not separate from us. We commit to environmental stewardship built on clear, measurable objectives and outcomes.

**We pay warm-hearted attention to everyday life.**

We create and maintain physical spaces that reflect the simplicity, stillness and beauty of each moment. We respect the objects that live in our physical spaces and mindfully care for them.

**We honor food as a gift and remember how it comes to us.**

We cultivate and express gratitude for the many beings of the earth, sky and sea who provide us our daily nourishment. We support the vitality of our bodies and the Earth by growing food, acknowledging its sources and making conscious, informed decisions around the meals we prepare, serve and eat.

**We co-create our community and share responsibility for the health of its resources.**

We use interdisciplinary teams and consensus-building in the decision-making process to consider the people who will be affected by our choices. We recognize that our ability to live in accordance with our principles depends on the well-being of all of our resources—including people, land, buildings, finances and community agreements—and we collectively care for them with transparent, human-centered practices.

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## The principles we serve:

# *Kendal Values*

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As an organization dedicated to transforming our culture's perception of aging, Kendal has been inspired from its beginnings by the Quaker values of the founders. In the six decades since, those values have been enacted into a set of guiding practices that serve as a living, breathing embodiment of those values across the ten Affiliates, now serving older adults in eight states, plus Ensō Verde.

- To enhance the quality of life and vitality of those we serve and to foster a sense of community, treating each person as a valued individual and in an atmosphere of mutual respect and caring;
- To promote an environment of continuing learning, encouraging lifelong growth for staff, community members, boards and volunteers;
- To encourage and welcome all people without regard to race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by law, to live in our communities and to serve on staffs and boards;
- To provide high-quality wellness programs and health care services, treating each person with dignity;
- To provide physical settings that are sensitive to the aging process and that enhance quality of life, security and wellness;
- To engage in practices that sustain and improve our environments and our planet;
- To employ financial designs that contribute to security and serve our social objectives to make our services and communities affordable, to the extent possible, to a range of economic capabilities;
- To foster a high-quality work experience for staff, recognizing that Kendal must be a good place to work if we are to offer good places to live and to provide high-quality services;
- To strive for excellence in management and governance, seeking and developing board and staff dedicated to our mission and values, and building partnerships with those we serve;
- To value participation, transparency and consensus building by nurturing careful listening and effective decision making;
- To take responsibility in the larger community, maintaining extensive and mutually supportive relationships and sharing our resources and experience;
- To continue to grow by engaging in ongoing evaluation and staff development, and by seeking and responding to new opportunities to further our mission;
- To take an active role in aging issues through professional dialogue, research, public policy and other means, thereby contributing to improved services for all older people;
- To foster a culture of generosity, encouraging and developing full use of our time, talent and resources;
- To maintain integrity and high ethical standards in everything that we say and do.

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Leaders who serve:

# The Ensō Verde Board of Directors

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**Meet the dedicated people who are helping make Ensō Verde a reality.**

**Stephen G. Bailey** is Chief Strategy Officer at The Kendal Corporation and is responsible for leading new senior living initiatives, seeking new development opportunities, and fostering innovative partnerships with universities and other non-profit organizations in support of Kendal's mission. He and his team support the land acquisition, planning, development, and construction of real estate projects at all of the Kendal affiliate communities. Steve also led Kendal's expansion to California with Ensō Village, a first-of-its-kind life plan community and partnership with the San Francisco Zen Center.

Beyond his decade of work in non-profit senior living, Steve has held leadership roles in residential, commercial, and industrial development firms, creating profitable and creative real estate projects nationwide from inception through disposition. A Licensed Landscape Architect, Steve earned his undergraduate degree in Landscape Architecture from Michigan State University and an MBA from the Whittemore School of Business and Economics at the University of New Hampshire.

He is a member of the Society for the Advancement of Gerontological Environments and the Urban Land Institute, and he has participated in panel discussions and presentations at national senior living and commercial real estate conferences. Steve is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania/New Jersey/Delaware chapter of the CCIM Institute as well as the Philadelphia chapter of NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Foundation.

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**Joan Barnes** is an entrepreneur, inspirational speaker and published author. She was the founder and CEO of Gymboree, a global billion-dollar brand, before moving on to founding YOGASTUDIO. Joan is an accomplished speaker, advisor and mentor about life balance issues and women's advancement in the professional sphere. Her book, "Play It Forward," chronicles her journey of business success, self-reflection, and societal awareness. She has vast knowledge in areas such as consumer marketing, brand building, and work/life balance.

**Rabbi Laura Geller** is Rabbi Emerita of Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills, and was the third woman in the Reform Movement to become a rabbi. Named one of Newsweek's 50 Most Influential Rabbis in America, and by PBS' Next Avenue as a 2017 Influencer in Aging, she was a cofounder of ChaiVillageLA and is the chair of the Synagogue Village Network. She served on the Corporation of Brown University from where she graduated in 1971, and now on the boards of the Jewish Women's Archive, CoGenerate.org (formerly Encore.org) and the ActiveAgingNetwork.org (formerly B3: the Jewish Boomer Platform.) Her book, co-authored with her husband Richard Siegel (z'l) *Getting Good at Getting Older*, was named a National Jewish Book Award Finalist in the category of Contemporary Jewish Life and Practice.

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# The Ensō Verde Board of Directors continued

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**Paul Kuenstner** previously served as Executive Director of the Association for Preservation Technology International, a nonprofit organization of architects and engineers who specialize in the preservation of historic buildings. Prior to that, Mr. Kuenstner served 20 years as Vice-President of the Fidelity Foundation in Boston, where he worked with all types of nonprofit organizations around the country. Before that he worked in corporate real estate managing people, properties, and projects. A registered architect, Mr. Kuenstner has a BA in English Literature from Swarthmore College, a Masters of Architecture from Columbia University, and an MBA from NYU. He has been on the boards of a number of local and national organizations. He and his wife Debby live in Boston.

**Zesho Susan O'Connell** currently serves as the Spiritual Director of the Zen-Inspired Senior Living Community Project. She was on the Board of Directors of San Francisco Zen Center (SFZC) for 10 years as Vice President, then President of San Francisco Zen Center, and before that for two years as an elected member. She began Zen practice in 1987 and became a resident of Zen Center in 1995. She received priest ordination from Tenshin Reb Anderson in 1999, was head monk (shuso) in 2004, and was given Dharma Transmission in 2017. She has lived at all three practice centers at SFZC and served in a number of senior training positions. Susan attended UC Santa Barbara and UCLA in film and television and worked as a professional actress from 1967 to 1990. She has produced several films, including Tell Me a Riddle, and a movie for television. She is a co-producer of A Confederacy of Dunces, now being developed at Paramount Pictures. Susan is a founder of Northern California Women in Film,

a founding member of the Delta Psi chapter of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority at UC Santa Barbara, and a founding officer of No Abode Hermitage. She has served on the boards of Women in Film and Make-A-Circus.

**Laurie Sowd** served as Senior Vice President, Chief Operations Officer at the California Science Center from 2015-2021, where she oversaw guest services, food and event services, building and exhibit maintenance, and living collections. For 25 years prior to that, Laurie was Vice President for Operations at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, where her responsibilities included the facilities, security, risk, and information technology departments, and management of many multi-million-dollar construction and historic rehabilitation projects. Trained as a classical pianist and choral conductor, Laurie now enjoys reconnecting with her musical past as chair of the board for the Pasadena Conservatory of Music.

**Nancy H. Welsh** is an associate at DLA Piper LLP (US). She focuses her practice in the area of commercial real estate. Her experience includes representing property owners, purchasers, borrowers, and developers in the acquisition, disposition, and development of office and lab properties, multifamily properties, industrial properties, and mixed-use projects. Nancy earned her JD and Masters of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Michigan, and her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College.

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The team who dared to dream:

# *Design and Development at Ensō Verde*

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Ensō Verde has engaged a talented team of experts to collaborate closely on the concept, design and construction of this unprecedented community.

## **MITHŪN**

### **Architect of Record (and Collaborative Designer): Mithun**

As project architects for Ensō Verde, Mithun is a mission-driven, design-first firm committed to delivering the highest-caliber work with the smartest, nicest and most collaborative teams in the profession. Having designed the sister community, Ensō Village in Sonoma County, and collaborated closely with the San Francisco Zen Center on multiple previous building initiatives, the Mithun design team brings an intrinsic understanding of the culture and values of Ensō Verde. The firm's practice philosophy is "Listening to our clients, communities, environment, partners and teams—it's in our DNA."



### **Interior Designer: IDA**

Founded in 1981, Interior Design Associates, Inc. (IDA) is nationally recognized as a visionary leader in the design of senior living interiors. Having served on over 150 senior-centric projects, the firm understands that good senior living is really just good living ... spaces that are not just beautiful and functional but that enrich lives by inviting curiosity and conversation. IDA is guided by the belief that with careful attention to design and detail, every space can be beautiful and functional. That's why they work diligently to translate their clients' visions for each project into stunning reality.

## **GREENBRIER**

### **Development Support: Greenbrier**

As trusted continuing care retirement community developers and advisors, Greenbrier Development has a successful history of helping affinity-based, not-for-profit organizations. With more than 100 years of combined experience in senior housing and Life Plan Community development, Greenbrier principals have been involved in developing some of the industry's leading senior living communities throughout the country.

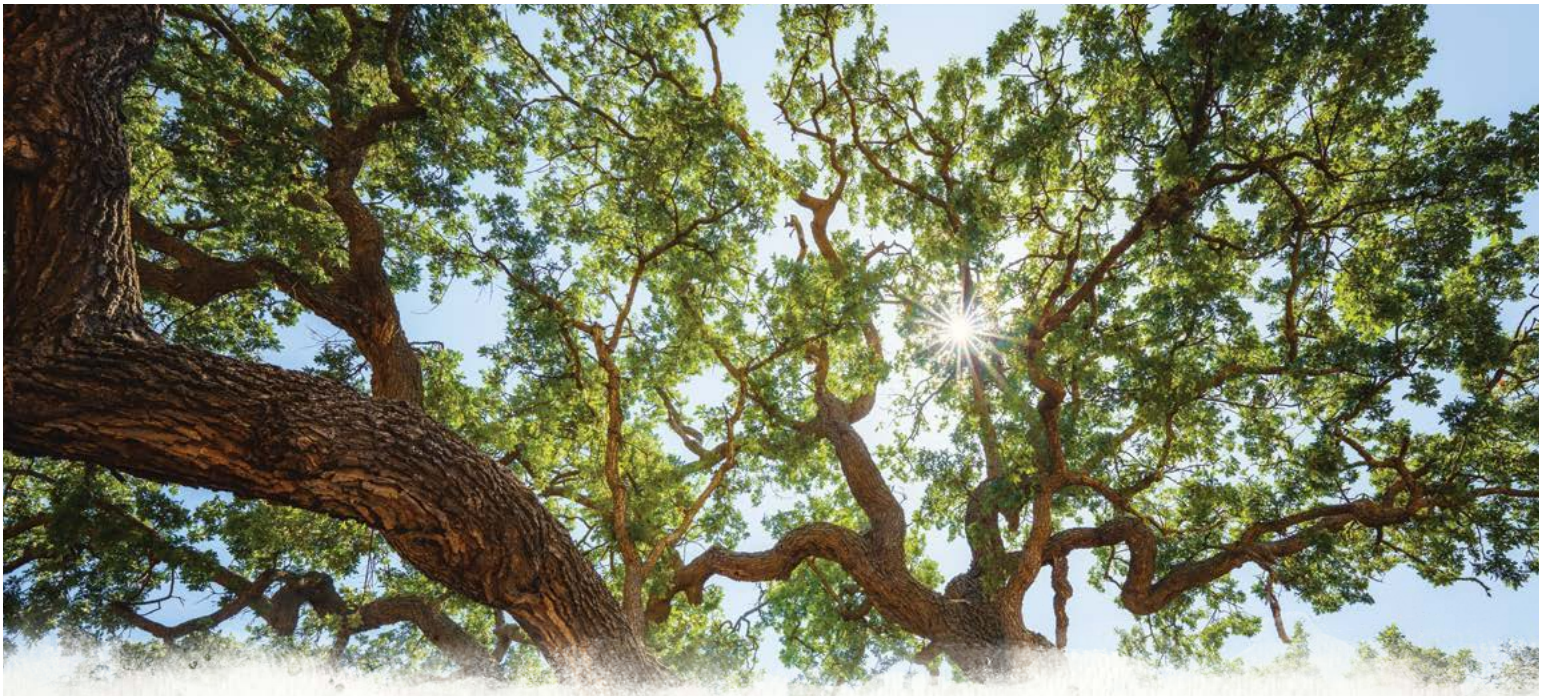
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Designed with the world in mind:  
*Sustainability at Ensō Verde*

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Sustainability is a core value of both Kendal and the San Francisco Zen Center and will accordingly be a top priority in the design and lifestyle of Ensō Verde. The community has been designed from the top down with the goal of a net zero energy use due to solar panels, green energy and adherence to LEED Gold standards. Ensō Village, the sister community in Healdsburg, was the first senior living center to receive a green bond certification, and Ensō Verde will also be financed in accordance to that standard.

That commitment will continue in the daily life of Ensō Verde, as residents and team members will work to sustain and improve the environment through carbon neutrality and the active pursuit of conservation solutions both within and beyond the campus grounds.

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Good things come to those who can't wait:  
*Member Benefits at Ensō Verde*

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As an Ensō Verde Wisdom Circle member, you'll have access to an exclusive array of benefits without any financial risk. To join, you will be asked to place a fully repayable 10% deposit, allowing you to reserve the residence of your choice. That deposit is then applied toward your entrance fee when you move in. As a member, you'll receive this list of impressive benefits:

- First choice of residences at preconstruction pricing
- Exclusive privileges such as input on amenities and invitations to special events
- Residence personalization and professional move-in assistance
- A 90% repayable Entrance Fee (vs. Standard 80%)
- Second-Person Entrance Fee waived (\$35,000)
- A 15% discount on higher levels of care
- The cost of parking waived

So if the possibility of a secure, engaged and deeply fulfilling life in a mountainside setting in Ventura County is attractive to you, there will never be a more opportune time to make that choice.

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ZEN-INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING  
IN VENTURA COUNTY

Per Health and Safety Code section 1772.2, Kendal at Ventura has filed an application for a Permit to Accept Deposits and a Certificate of Authority with the California Department of Social Services.

