Owning a log cabin in the woods is becoming more attainable with the availability of kit homes in every size and price range. But when it comes to log cabins billionaires dream about, this 25,000-square-foot creekfront log lodge in northern Florida has both rusticity and elegance, along with a 22-car collector’s garage.

Timber Creek Lodge, along with its 1,249 forested acres with abundant fish and wildlife, has just hit the market at $9.5 million.

Log cabins have been sensible and practical in the United States since the 1600s as a fortress against the weather, predatory wild animals and in some cases, predatory humans. Pioneers felled their own trees, debarked the logs and cut the notches that would hold everything in place. They chinked - filled the spaces between the logs - with whatever they could find using mud, animal hair, grasses and bits of cloth. Although primitive, a unique sense of warmth and security existed inside, which only came from being surrounded by wood protected from the unknown wilds of nature on the other side of the walls. Today it’s a different story with companies building to the owner’s specs and machinery to do the hard work.

In northern Florida, this log lodge sits in the middle of 1,249 acres of woods, where the founder of Pro Bass magazine has created a hunting and sports-fishing compound. Cited along three miles of White Sand Juniper Creek, frontage on Pond Creek and with three ponds stocked with bass and catfish, the forest consists of hardwood and Longleaf pine with 116 acres of income-producing planted Longleaf pine with recent timber cruise figures estimating the value at $1,600 per acre. The forest is home to a large whitetail deer population and has multiple established hunting blinds. The entrance is gated and the drive to the lodge is paved ensuring complete privacy and ease of access. Natural white-sand beaches flank Jupiter Creek as it flows through the front yard.

Selling completely furnished, with the light fixtures alone costing a mere $250,000, the three-story interior of the home is geared to impress visitors between its architecture and decor. The 25,000-square-foot lodge has eight bedrooms including a master with fireplace, sitting area and balcony, ten elegant baths, a 2,000-square-foot living room with floor-to-ceiling windows and 40-foot ceilings overlooking Juniper Creek. The stone fireplace is double-sided, and there is an elevator, a theater, a fitness gym, over-the-top wine cellar, game room, gun room with safe, large chef’s kitchen and butler’s pantry.

Located minutes to I-10 and restaurants in downtown Crestview, it is 10 minutes to the Crestview Airport and 45 miles to Destin, shopping, dining, golfing and entertainment.

Selling turn-key and priced at $9.5 million, listing agents are Jon Kohler and Walter Hatchett of Jon Kohler Associates, Lamont, Florida.

Photos by Jon Kohler & Associates