



## Welcome to the Annex

The Annex was designed and built for your comfort, to support your experience, and to promote environmental sustainability.

**Sustainable design.** The building has multiple features supporting environmental sustainability and energy efficiency. The Annex uses almost 50 percent less energy than a typical building of its type. How did we do this? The building is extremely compact—30 percent less overall volume than other 80-room guest buildings. The concrete frame not only provides structure but also functions as an insulator and an all-natural design surface, cutting down on excessive use of building materials. Large windows throughout the building allow for beautiful views and maximum natural lighting, while also minimizing heat from the sun through a special enamel coating. The building's temperature is moderated by radiant heating and cooling, a technology used throughout Europe but relatively new to the United States. This method of temperature control uses less energy, is very quiet, and, in the Annex, is supplemented by a natural air circulation system.

**Healthy, comfortable interior.** With a minimalist design and environmentally sustainable materials, your room was designed to support your comfort and experience at Kripalu. The flooring, mattress, and most furnishings in your room are all-natural. The flooring is linoleum made from linseed oil, and is non-toxic and hypoallergenic. The mattress was sourced regionally and contains no petrochemicals commonly found in mattresses. The bed and desk (in rooms with a queen bed), as well as the bedside table and entryway drawer unit, were made locally from natural materials.

Every room in the Annex has wireless Internet available free of charge. If you have any trouble connecting, please contact SafetyNet Access at 888.636.5212 for 24/7 customer support.

House phones and directories are located across from the elevator.

## FAQs

**Is the building “LEED” certified?** LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification is a system of acknowledging and awarding buildings that demonstrate the use of sustainable building practices. Sponsored by the U.S. Green Building Council, the LEED rating system has been instrumental in publicizing the need for responsible green design in this country. LEED certification is entirely voluntary and since the process entails added costly administrative burdens (approximately \$65,000 for the paperwork and audits), Kripalu, like many sustainable building projects that would qualify, chose to forego LEED and instead put their financial resources directly into the building.

**How was the Annex funded?** The Annex was part of an \$18-million campus improvement project aimed at bringing the benefits of yoga to a larger population while improving the energy efficiency of the Kripalu campus. The expansion was funded in part through revenue and in part through the generosity of donors, including an anonymous challenge grant. The bond for the Annex was offered as a tax-free bond to investors through the State of Massachusetts. To learn more about supporting Kripalu, please visit [Kripalu.org/makeagift](http://Kripalu.org/makeagift).

**Who designed the Annex?** The building was designed by renowned architect Peter Rose + Partners in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and created to exist in harmony with the surroundings, both aesthetically and ecologically. The construction was managed by Barr and Barr Builders of Williamstown, Massachusetts.

### Is there anything else that makes the Annex unique?

There are many aspects of the Annex that are unique. In addition to those already mentioned, several others include the following:

- The location and design was chosen to offer magnificent views. The slight V shape of the building ensures that every room has a lake or tree view.
- The width of the hallways decreases from one end to the other, which causes air to flow naturally through the space.
- The building is covered in southern cypress salvaged after hurricane Katrina. When this wood ages, it will blend in with the natural surroundings.
- Kripalu staff wrote their intentions for Kripalu and the Annex at a groundbreaking ceremony in March of 2008. The intentions were buried in the foundations of the Annex and connector with Shadowbrook. Unbeknownst to Kripalu, the ironworkers who built the concrete structure (many from the former Soviet Union) followed with their own tradition of burying coins in the concrete foundations for good luck and prosperity.

Enjoy your stay at Kripalu and rest well in the Annex.