# LUXURY PORTFOLIO®



REAL ESTATE DESIGN TRAVEL LIFESTYLE VOLUME 12 | ISSUE NO. 2



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# PIAGE

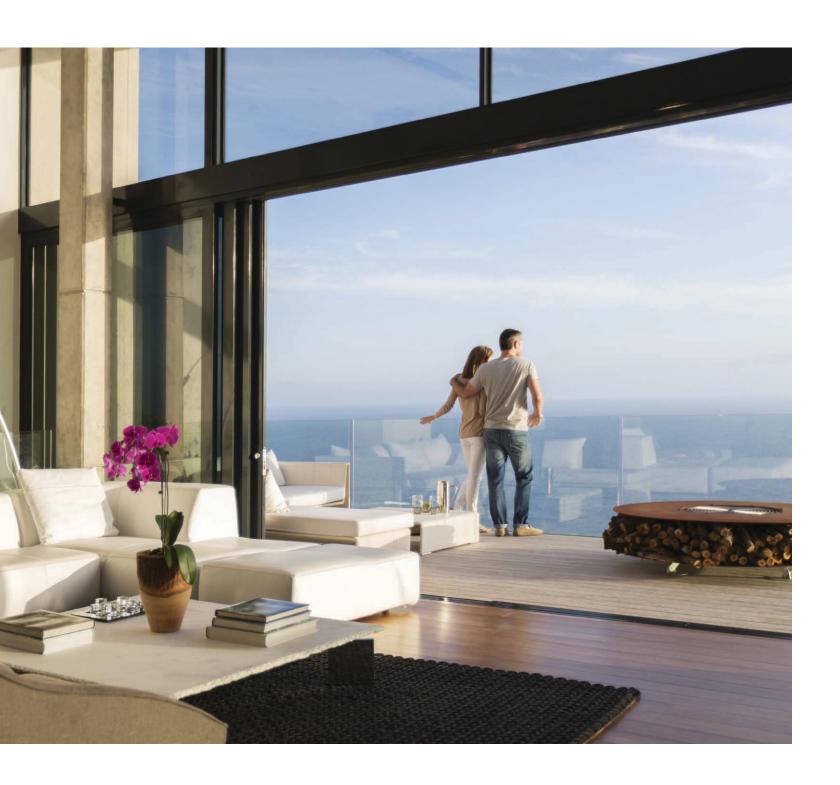
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Slow is good. That is what we have learned since the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to recalibrate our schedules, routines and movements. But I have always believed in the concept of slow — whether it is slow food or slow travel.

This unseemly rush to nowhere has left us little time to sit down, collect our thoughts and root ourselves in substance. The rise of the slow-food movement was a backlash to the fast-food trend that took hold in the 1950s without let up through the 21st century.

Not many people are aware of slow travel. The concept is simple: choose one or two places to visit, dive deep into the local culture, savor the area's food and experiences, get to know the inhabitants, landmarks and topography. Wake up and do not stress about the next item on the agenda, but simply live in the moment. Above all, take the initiative and book the trip.

#### Spring for it

This issue of *Luxury Portfolio* magazine offers plenty of opportunity to deep-dive. We have featured cities and regions from around the world, focusing on local cultural, design, culinary and sightseeing experiences for singles, couples, families and friends.

Take your pick of charming Palm Springs in California and its midcentury modern vibes, the majestic ski runs of the Dolomites in Italy, Carnaval in Rio de Janeiro, cosmopolitan and expat haven Dubai, buzzy Tel Aviv and contemporary African art in Cape Town, South Africa. You can spend a languorous weekend or week absorbing the local influences at each place.

We thought to step off the beaten path and encourage healthful forest bathing in Japan, which is one of the world's most beautiful countries. I still remember the smell of the woods and forests, the beautiful gardens and those simply divine Shinto temples that invite contemplation. No wonder Japan has some of the longest-lived men and women in the world. The society encourages them to be active, contemplative and useful at all ages.

#### Train of thought

While flying ties with driving as the two most popular modes of travel, I highly encourage train and sea. No bucket list is complete without a trip on the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express' traipse across Europe or on one of the queens of the Atlantic Ocean — Queen Mary 2 or Queen Anne. There is something to be said about the impact of the roll of carriages on a train or the tranquility of blue waters and endless horizons experienced on ocean liners. My abiding memory of the QE2 was waking each morning and heading to the balcony to watch the sunrise over the Atlantic: food for the soul.

We continue our tour with a visit to Scottish distilleries to discover the impact of peat on Scotch Whisky, revisit pearls as one of the most elegant forms of jewelry, examine quality rugs, wallpapers and strollers, appreciate the nod offered by the Museum of Broadway to theater's legacy and make the case for noble marble. Those who follow us know we love our pets, and this time we toe the line with parrots — long-lived, smart creatures who make lively companions.

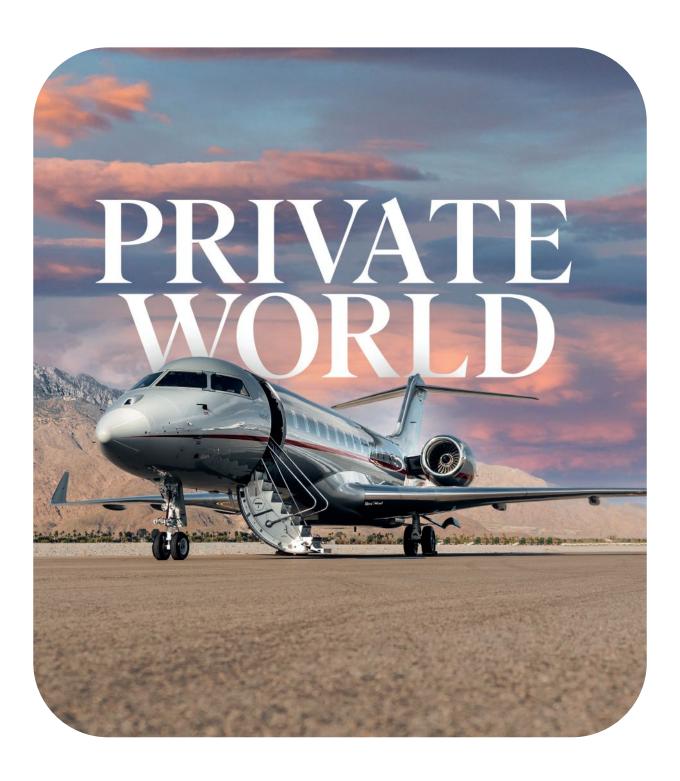
For good measure, we talk to royalty — Princess Fatima of Belha and Surat — on the origins of Indian food and its enduring popularity around the world.

THERE IS MUCH to discover in this issue, including fabulous real estate. Our theme is experiencing culture through global exposure, each destination inviting a longer, more immersive stay, active contemplation and perhaps a property purchase, if the desire holds. You have to ask yourself: Why do you travel? What does it do for you? How does it change things after your return?

As British travel writer Pico Iyer says, "We travel initially to lose ourselves, we travel next to find ourselves." Or, forgive the language, because it is Jack Kerouac's, "Because in the end, you won't remember the time you spent working in an office or mowing that lawn. Climb that damn mountain."

Mickey ALAM KHAN





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#### **DESIGN**

#### 12

#### P.S. WE LOVE YOU

In midcentury Palm Springs, enterprising architects created the iconic desert modern style

#### **28**

#### **RUG RAT**

High-end carpets and rugs made everywhere from France to Afghanistan to Tibet can perfectly tie a room together

#### **32**

#### OFF THE WALL

Wallpaper, whether a bold pattern or subdued texture, is an extra design touch that has a big impact

#### 38

#### **AFRICART**

At the Zeitz MOCAA museum in South Africa, African and Black artists, and their creative process, are highlighted



COVER PHOTO: Diverstudio/Getty Images



#### REAL ESTATE

#### **52**

#### **HIGH STAKES**

A custom manse and prize-winning horse farm in Westchester County, New York, USA

#### 56

#### **VIRGIN VIEWS**

A Caribbean escape at a sweeping estate in Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

#### 68

#### **EXCEPTIONAL LISTINGS**

A roundup of outstanding luxury real estate around the world

#### 71

#### DISTINGUISHED DIGS

Recently on-the-market homes owned by celebrities

#### **74**

#### **BUILT TO LAST**

Marble is a classic building material which has stood the test of time in both historic and contemporary architecture

#### **78**

#### MARHABA!

Dubai continues its meteoric rise to real estate stardom, with easy access and luxury resort living

#### TRAVEL

#### 96

#### ON THE RUN

A weekend in Italy's Dolomite mountains means ski runs galore and gourmet meals at the rest shelters along the way

#### 104

#### WINTER WONDERLAND

Christmas markets in Austria and Germany do not skimp on the traditional food, glühwein and holiday spirit

#### 106

#### TEL AVIV OR NOTHING!

The seaside city in Israel offers diverse neighborhoods, bustling markets, beaches and multicultural eats

#### 122

#### MEET ME IN RIO

Carnaval takes over the Brazilian city each winter with colorful samba parades and all-night street parties

#### 125

#### OLÁ, LISBOA

Lisbon, Portugal, is full of cultural sites and shopping options, and just a day trip away from beach towns

#### 128

#### TREE TIME

Japan is known for peaceful forests, where forest bathing, a practice with major health benefits, originated

#### 132

#### SHOW & TELL

The Museum of Broadway opens this fall in New York, showcasing the theater's history and behind-the-scenes action

#### 136

#### ALL ABOARD!

The Venice Simplon-Orient-Express is a train with a rich history across Europe that still offers a luxe travel experience

#### LIFESTYLE

#### 154

#### **CURRY FAVOR WITH INDIA**

A princess and cookbook author on all of the best things to eat in India, plus a recipe for one of her favorites

#### 160

#### **PEAT PULL**

Every sip of Scotch Whisky is full of flavors from the salty sea air, homegrown barley and, of course, smoky peat

#### 178

#### FOR GIVING

Philanthropic organizations that are working to better the world

#### 180

#### **HOT WHEELS**

Luxury stroller brands are upping the baby-moving game with fancy features and design details

#### 184

#### PEARLS OF WISDOM

Pearls are a jewelry classic, and brands such as Mikimoto and Tiffany & Co. are refreshing them for a new generation

#### 188

#### PARROTING THE LINE

Keeping a parrot as a pet is a sometimes challenging, but rewarding, endeavor

#### 216

QUEENS OF THE SEAS Cruising on classic ocean liners **ANGUILLA** 

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

AUSTRALIA

**AUSTRIA** 

**BAHAMAS** 

BARBADOS

BELGIUM

BRAZIL

**BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS** 

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#### WHAT IS YOUR



MICKEY ALAM KHAN DESIDENT

I'm staying domestic. I'd like to spend three months traveling to every U.S. state and territory, visiting key rural and urban centers to understand what makes America and Americans tick. Don't laugh!



JENNIFER WOODRING VICE PRESIDENT, **CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE & BRAND COLLABORATIONS** 

One of many bucket list trips is to adventure on an African safari with my husband and children. Experiencing wildlife in their natural habitat and sleeping under the brightest stars would simply be magical.



SARA NELSON MCKITRICK **DIRECTOR, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING** 

As a life-long beachcomber, rocks and shells along a sandy shore are my siren song. Add snorkel exploration to said shore? Heaven. Adventure awaits on the Great Barrier Reefl



LINDA TRIPHAHN **EVENTS MANAGER** 

Bucket list: Sydney, Australia. With visits to the Opera House, Bondi Beach, Harbour Bridge, Sydney Tower, Darling Harbour, National Maritime Museum, the Sydney Zoo and Sealife Aquarium. Yes, one day.



**HOLLY LLEWELLYN BRAND COLLABORATION &** SPONSORSHIP LEAD

A getaway to the South of France is in my distant future. I dream of visiting the historic vineyards and beautiful châteaux of Bordeaux.



AMELIA BOO SENIOR SPECIALIST MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

The exotic botanicals, Moorish architecture, seemingly constant baby blue sky and Yves Saint Laurent's iconic Jardin Majorelle make Marrakesh, Morocco, the crown jewel on my travel bucket list.



LISA KLEIN POWERS

STAFF WRITER I'd love to visit the "end of the world" in Patagonia the Strait of Magellan, mountains and glaciers plus guanacos, pumas and an island where only penguins live. Maybe I'll even make it to Antarctical



**KENNA STARK ADVERTISING SPECIALIST** 

Someday I'd like to visit Italy! I'd love to wander art fairs in Florence and take a boat through the canals of Venice.



#### **EMMA LORENZEN** MARKETING COORDINATOR

I have always been infatuated with the Amalfi Coast in Southern Italy. The stunning architecture, culture, cuisine and serene blue seas put it at the top of my travel bucket list!



#### **BRADEN POOLE DATA SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

I'd really like to visit New Zealand one day. I think the landscapes are gorgeous and I'm also a pretty big Lord of the Rings fan, so I would obviously want to check out the films' locations.



MEISHA ASHMON PROJECT COORDINATOR

My bucket list travel destination is the Greek islands. I would like to tour all the islands, but If I had to choose a specific island, my top choices would be Santorini or Crete.



**DREW MCCALL DIGITAL CONTENT** COORDINATOR

I'd love to visit Thailand. I think it has a rich cultural history and I think it would be incredible to visit some of the temples there. Not to mention the absolutely incredible food!



**BLAKE CRANE DATA QUALITY CONTROL SPECIALIST** 

I'd love to spend several weeks exploring the vast, scenic Patagonia. From hiking Torres del Paine to the sights of the world's southernmost city, the mix of adventure and spiritual refreshment calls to me.





to take our quiz and find out which stunning luxury travel destination you should visit next!









#### **IMAGINATIVE** MIDCENTURY **ARCHITECTS FOUND** THEIR MODERN **DESIGN MATCH IN** PALM SPRINGS

By LISA KLEIN

alm Springs – the fabled oasis in the Southern California desert – immediately stirs up images of golden-era Hollywood parties, the booze-filled glasses of the Rat Pack clinking together poolside.

But Palm Springs had more in its shaker during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century: the perfect cocktail of open land, open minds and optimism that allowed a faction of relatively unknown architects to mix up something new and more intoxicating than celebrity cachet — modern architectural masterpieces in the middle of the desert.

"It comes out of a vivid period which had a clear idea of what it was about," says Alan Hess, architect, architecture historian and author of several books on the subject. "These talented architects just captured the dynamism, the looking towards the future, the optimism, solving problems of the times. It's a really strong style of architecture."

These forward thinkers filled the resort town with their take on modernist ideas. and the style of homes, hotels, liquor stores and gas stations that they created came to be known as desert modernism.

The Abernathy House, designed by William Cody, was built in 1962 and recently carefully renovated by Michael Haverland Photo by Jake Holt, courtesy of Modernism Week



#### STAR TURN

Palm Springs is hidden in the Coachella Valley between the San Jacinto Mountains in the sunbaked Colorado Desert, part of the larger Sonoran where it meets the Mojave — a seemingly strange locale for the architectural hotbed it was to become.

The land of future Palm Springs had been inhabited by the Agua Caliente Band of native Cahuilla people for thousands of years. Things changed with California's incorporation into the United States and the resulting influx of settlers.

Not long after the town was formally established in the late 1800s, people began flocking to the area for the gorgeous scenery and health benefits of the hot, dry air.

Nellie N. Coffman, along with her physician husband, Harry, created the Desert Inn in 1909 as a hotel and sanitarium. More hotel developments followed and revivals of Spanish colonial, Mediterranean, Pueblo, Monterey colonial and English traditional became the dominant styles of public and private buildings.

Hollywood stars soon took note and started visiting Palm Springs in droves in

the 1920s and '30s to escape the prying eyes of the paparazzi in Los Angeles, where an affair or homosexuality was still a major scandal.

The Coachella Valley, in which Palm Springs is now one of nine cities, also proved to be the perfect distance from Los Angeles movie studios, which the actors were contractually obligated to stay nearby. The palm trees and invigorating weather were an added charm.

"Palm Springs was a small, sleepy town, which, of course, is one of the things that made it popular with the movie stars," Mr. Hess, who is also on the board of Modernism Week, an annual architectural extravaganza of parties and tours, says. "They weren't bothered when they were out there. They could just have fun — and they had a lot of fun."

Greta Garbo, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, John and Lionel Barrymore, Errol Flynn, Bing Crosby, Spencer Tracy, John Wayne, Cary Grant, Elizabeth Taylor, Bob Hope, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis and Priscilla Presley, Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, Kirk Douglas, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Lena Horne, Trini Lopez, Debbie Reynolds and Joan Collins — an endless parade of movie A-listers and musicians poured into town.

"Regular" people also started buying second homes in the desert after the Second World War, when money became more plentiful, cars and highways were making travel easier and vacation time allowed the middle class a few sips of the leisurely lifestyle celebs were cultivating there.

It seemed like everyone wanted a piece of the dusty California sun — and had the money to buy it.





- CHRIS MENRAD, PALM SPRINGS MODERN COMMITTEE



(2)

The famous pianoshaped swimming pool at Frank Sinatra's former 1948 home designed by E. Stewart Williams

Photo by David A. Lee, courtesy of Modernism Week



Chris Menrad's 1957 butterfly-roofed home in the Twin Palms neighborhood, designed by William Krisel Photo courtesy of Chris Menrad



Mr. Menrad restored his home using the architect's original plans and period colors and furniture Photo courtesy of Chris Menrad



Elvis and Priscilla Presley spent their honeymoon in the 1962 House of Tomorrow, designed by Palmer and Krisel Photo by David A. Lee,



to be in Palm Springs and do their work. "These were all interesting characters. Each had different reasons for being there, just expressing their interests and talent," he says of the accidental architectural school. "And that's one of the things that makes Palm Springs kind of extraordinary."

#### DRAFTING TALENT

Of course, someone had to build it all. Savvy developers – most notably two pairs of brothers, George and Robert Alexander, and Jack and Bernie Meiselman – manifested entire neighborhoods such as El Rancho Vista, Tahquitz River Estates, Vista Las Palmas, Tennis Club Estates, Twin Palms, Sunmor Estates and the aptly named Movie Colony out of the thin desert air.

These entrepreneurs really could have constructed anything during the boom of the 1940s through '60s, but the developers enlisted the help of some enterprising, design-driven architects who descended upon the valley at the perfect time for their talents to shine.

Those who were drawn in for a drink of Palm Springs found themselves in a wakina modern desian dream plenty of land to work with, a scenic and inspirational backdrop, a moneyed and open-minded clientele, creative freedom and peaceful anonymity.

Richard Neutra, John Lautner, Donald Wexler, William Krisel, Dan Palmer, E. Stewart Williams, William Cody, Albert Frey, John Porter Clark, A. Quincy Jones, Charles Du Bois and Hugh Kaptur were all sought-after for their services, but remained fairly obscure outside of the desert.

Although Neutra and Lautner had designed famous homes in town, "none of these other architects were known," Mr. Hess says. "That really was their intention. They didn't want to have big famous firms. They were perfectly happy just

The group, some of whom worked together in partnerships or on one-off commercial projects, wanted to push boundaries in their buildings.

"It's not like now, where the builders have the architects under their wings and kind of force them to make these awful things," says Chris Menrad, a real estate agent in current-day Palm Springs and founding board member of the Palm Springs Modern Committee, a group that works to preserve desert modern architecture. "In those days, architects were architects and the builders respected them. The architects here were just trying new ideas."

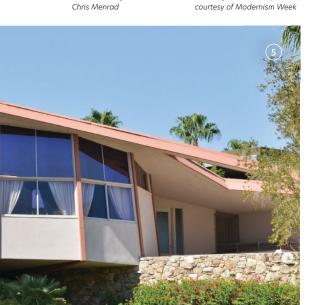
The architects' experimentation especially extended into the residential realm, where it was surprisingly, although sometimes begrudgingly, accepted.

"[Another] thing that makes Palm Springs special is that people who were conservative back home in Ohio or Beverly Hills [and] had a colonial house, when they were on vacation, they were much looser and so they were willing to have a modern house," Mr. Hess says.

Even Frank Sinatra came around after first asking Stewart Williams to build him a colonial-style home in 1947.

"Williams was just a committed, almost religious, modernist," Mr. Hess laughs. "And he actually talked Frank Sinatra into wanting a modern house, which is still there. It's a great house, too."

The Movie Colony house was named "Twin Palms" for the two towering trees next to the piano-shaped pool. Sinatra lived there for nearly a decade, during which he was married to fellow star Ava Gardner. She once said the home was the site of their most spectacular, of many, fights and there is still a chip in the primary bathroom sink from a thrown Champagne bottle that missed its target.



#### IN THE FRAME

The all-important desert modern philosophy centered on Palm Springs' climate and dramatic views, the architects' distinctive styles a direct response to the natural surroundings and the lifestyle they fostered.

Some style elements, like elsewhere in the country, were decidedly midcentury modern: the mostly low-lying ranch homes had simple, clean lines and very open, informal layouts.

Others took the locale into great consideration, with stone, stucco, concrete and glass as the guiding materials, using shapes and muted colors such as sage green, rose and pale yellow to somehow blend seamlessly into the environment.

The homes were post-and-beam construction, their iconic rooflines - either flat, "butterfly-winged" or "Swiss Miss" A-frame – all instantly recognizable. The angles of the roofs, different sections of the homes and shade walls were placed just so to deal with the beating desert sun.

Perhaps the most important feature in the Palm Springs home was the blurring of the indoors and outdoors.

Clerestory windows and floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors let light and mountain views in, and along with concrete block breezeways, literally opened the house to the outdoors and requisite swimming pool.

"It was indoor-outdoor living in a beautiful way, oriented to the mountains so that you're just always living with nature," Mr. Hess says. "That probably is one of the things that was really done in Palm Springs more so than anywhere else, and consistently."

Some homes, such as the Kaufmann Desert House, designed by Neutra for Philadelphia department store magnate Edgar J. Kaufmann Sr. and immortalized by photographer Slim Aarons' famous pool shot, were a step up from their peers.

Others, such as interior designer Arthur Elrod's house that featured in a Bond movie. Diamonds are Forever – a Lautner confection — and Robert Alexander's Palmer and Krisel-designed home where Elvis spent his honeymoon, are also fixtures on Palm Springs home tours, admired for their design chutzpah and early occupants.

But maybe one of the most surprising aspects carefully considered by Palm Springs' architects was a bit of highbrow design meant for everyone.

While most celebrity homes were custom, entire neighborhoods went up quickly by using tract housing — building multiple of the same or similar homes on a large, divided parcel of land. This was not a suburban, cookie-cutter, design nightmare, however.

"The floor plan is the same, it's postand-beam, it's almost like an assembly line," Mr. Menrad says of the tract homes built by the Alexanders and designed by William Krisel in the Twin Palms neighborhood, where he lives in a 1957 version. "But the rooflines are changed, the facades are changed, the materials that are put on the facades are different, colors were customized, even the roof colors were different.

"And so, the houses looked custom," he says. "I mean, I lived here a year before I finally realized these are all the same houses. I like the idea that there are so many people that have these houses. We're all sort of part of a club within the club of modernists."

Midcentury modernism - although it was not referred to as such in its contemporary heyday – was ultimately an architecture that everybody could understand, at least on a subconscious level.

"There's something when you're in [the house] that you just feel good," Mr. Menrad, who also coauthored a book on Krisel, says. "That's something the architects wanted. They didn't necessarily want people to go in and look at these details and talk about them in a scholarly way.

"These architects really felt that architecture could change how you lived and felt and experienced life," he says.

















#### RESTORED REPUTATION

Yet somehow, Palm Springs' allure eventually faded, and by the mid-1970s it had been all but vacated for neighboring towns in the valley such as Palm Desert and Rancho Mirage, where newer construction and larger golf courses beckoned. And it stayed that way for 25 years.

"It actually was a blessing because they didn't tear down stuff," Mr. Hess says. "They just left it there, fading in the sunlight."

Then a serendipitous couple of magazine articles in *Vanity Fair* and *The New Yorker*, about intrepid midcentury lovers purchasing and renovating homes in Palm Springs on the cheap, ran at the turn of the century, sparking a new boom that continues to this day — this time in restoration.

Robert Shiell, a retired attorney, part-time property manager and avid art collector, bought his 1959 Palmer and Krisel vacation home in the Vista Las Palmas neighborhood in 2013.

"I was just turned on by the whole lifestyle," he says. "It was the whole aura of the Rat Pack era in the neighborhood — it sort of permeates the neighborhood."  $\,$ 

Mr. Shiell set about carefully renovating the home, tearing out hedges that covered an original cement block wall and removing a 300-square-foot addition that had enclosed the breezeway. He added more clerestory windows for a better view of the mountains, as well as insulation — often missing originally.

"I was trying to restore as much as we could the original footprint," he says. "It had those great bones of the midcentury."

Not surprisingly, he covered the walls with part of his vast contemporary art collection and decorated with vintage and period-inspired furniture and lighting. Mr. Menrad bought his home in 1999 and also got to work on restoring it to as close to original as possible — a notion he got from working on classic cars. The process was made easier once he was lucky enough to meet the architect, William Krisel, himself.

"He had all of his drawings and plans for everything, even down to researching what the original colors were for the house," he says. "My belief is that you can't really draw a mustache on the *Mona Lisa*. If you just follow the original ideas and plans and be authentic about it, it'll be beautiful, because that's how it was intended."

Both homeowners' handiwork has been featured on tours during Modernism Week, started in 2006. The event has brought attention to Palm Springs once again, with tens of thousands of visitors coming from around the globe each year to toast its architectural legacy. It is even what first piqued Mr. Shiell's midcentury interest.

"My partner and I go during Modernism Week on so many of the home tours — we're just addicted to it," he says. "There was such great design, it was so signature, it so works with the environment. It's such a unique, historic, iconic style that should be saved and revered for other generations of people to be able to enjoy."

THE LATEST GENERATION of midcentury enthusiasts and the many preservation organizations in Palm Springs are certainly keen on protecting and celebrating the achievements of the desert modernists.

"It's really part of our cultural history," Mr. Menrad says of Palm Springs design. "Why do we hang a painting in a museum? Architects, to me, are like artists, just as much as a painter or a sculptor. This is really three-dimensional art that you walk through." [IP]







Robert Shiell's 1959 Palmer and Krisel home has many original elements, such as the ceilings, and displays some of his colorful art collection Photo by Caroline Greyshock Photography



Like all desert modern homes in Palm Springs, Mr. Shiell's encourages outdoor living and entertaining Photo by Caroline Greyshock Photography



The second home Albert Frey designed for himself, Frey House II, incorporates a boulder from the landscape, using it as a divider between "rooms" Photo by David A. Lee, courtesy of Modernism Week



The 1964 Frey House II blends seamlessly into the desert and looks out over the Coachella Valley

Photo by David A. Lee, courtesy of Modernism Week

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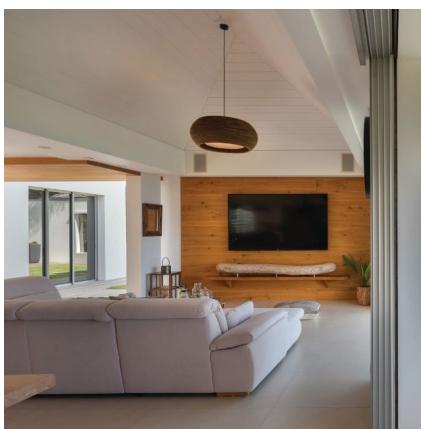
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# RUGRAI

Homeowners are all in on rolling out the right carpets for their living spaces — from Persian to Tibetan and beyond

The great room in a luxurious vacation home is completed by four antique Persian carpets Image courtesy of Claremont Rug Company



A 20th-century Turkish rug depicting lions Image courtesy of 1stDibs



An antique Persian rug Image courtesy of 1stDibs



hat would a remarkable home be without a pristine rug to lay one's eyes - and feet - upon?

People have sought the right rug for thousands of years, and luckily have quite a breadth of style choices such as Aubusson, Persian, Turkish, Kashmiri and Tibetan to complete their homes and, sometimes, expansive carpet collections.

"Many interior designers consider a beautiful rug to be the foundation, both literally and aesthetically, of a room's design scheme," says Anthony Barzilay Freund, editorial director of 1stDibs. "So, a top-quality piece whether it's antique Persian, Chinese art deco, midcentury Swedish or a contemporary show-stopper — can be an investment on top of which all other decisions follow.

"As we've emerged from a long period of neutral interiors that dominated the first decades of this century, people have once again been embracing color and pattern and the textural warmth that textiles can give to a room," he says.

#### WEAVING HISTORY

The very first rugs were made from sheep's wool or goat hair as early as 2000 or 3000 BC. Many believe carpets to have originated in the Middle East, being used for comfort or to keep the ground warm during cold temperatures.

Thousands of years later, rugs and carpets are now made of exceptionally thoughtful and exquisite materials and come in many forms.

Aubusson rugs, named after the French town, came onto the scene around the 16th century, when weavers were designing tapestries and carpets for castles. These kinds of rugs are hand-knotted, traditional woolen rugs with hand-carved designs.

Whenever a new French ruler came into power, he would have an Aubusson rug crafted to represent his leadership and style. A mid-18th-century pile French Aubusson carpet can retail for six figures on sites such as 1stDibs.

An Oriental rug refers to heavy woven fabric produced in any area that is in the Eastern world relating to Europe.

Persian rugs are Oriental rugs, but they

are only made in Iran and are known for their thickness, with up to 160 knots per square inch. According to handmade rug specialist Little Persia, the prominence of this kind of carpet traces back to the disparate rulers of the country over time.

Persian rugs are also known for their unique colorways and design motifs, as well as a distinct knot. The patterns are said to reflect Persia's history and culture.

Afghan rugs are handwoven, usually made in the northern and western parts of Afghanistan. They are immensely popular – the country exported 800,000 square meters of rugs, worth an estimated \$30 million, from March 2021 to January 2022, according to the Afghan Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Afghan rugs hold a rich history. The "war rug," or "Afghan war rug," style emerged from the Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan in the 1980s. While they share some design elements with Persian rugs, these Afghan versions usually illustrate imagery of war as opposed to typical geometrical designs.

"Certain types of rugs, such as Aubusson, Persian, Afghan, Tibetan, Nepalese and Turkish rugs, are often considered to be pillars of luxury due to their intricate designs and high-quality materials"

- CHLOE HUGHES, FOTER

The earliest records of Tibetan rugs stem back to the British invasion of Tibet in 1903. Tibetan rugs are usually made from Tibetan highland sheep's wool, called changpel. People in Tibet are known for using rugs for several purposes, including flooring, wall hangings, horse saddles and seating.

Nomadic people in Nepal originally used sheep's wool and other natural resources to make their carpets. The wool in Nepal is known for its softness and warmth, and its carpets for incorporating soft and shiny fabrics such as silk inserts.

Turkish rugs hold a history stemming back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, with 18 surviving pieces woven during the Seljuk Turk's empire. These rugs illustrate floral and geometric patterns and were woven in the Sivas, Kayseri and Konya provinces, where people still do so today.

There are several types of rugs produced in Turkey that are classified according to the materials used — silk on silk, wool on cotton, wool on wool, viscose on cotton, Kilims and Tulu. These rugs usually have either geometric, stylized motifs or naturalistic and floral designs.

"Certain types of rugs, such as Aubusson, Persian, Afghan, Tibetan, Nepalese and Turkish rugs, are often considered to be pillars of luxury due to their intricate designs and high-quality materials," says Chloe Hughes, editor in chief of architecture, decoration and interiors Web site Foter, New York. "Such rugs can often be quite expensive and are seen as a symbol of wealth and status."



#### DRESSING A ROOM

The right rug can complete a room.
Aubusson rugs are largely used to
complement spaces, with recommended
placements including in front of a fireplace,
under a dining room table, at the foot of a
bed or in a hallway.

Persian rugs are recommended for bedrooms, often in front of dressers, working as a pillar to establish harmony amongst the room's furniture.

"Many of our clients, even though they also invest in artwork, the rugs are the last thing they want to let go of because they have an actual personal relationship with them," says Jan David Winitz, founder and president of Claremont Rug Company in Oakland, California.

"We help them to discover the style of rugs which they relate to the most, which work with the décor and which touch them," he says.

"To me, just something that works with the décor itself is belittling. It needs to touch the individual as well, and we work to bridge that gap."

Affluent consumers and public figures appreciate rugs and carpets for their rich

heritage and artistic flair, with some owners even curating personal collections or offering the textiles as gifts.

American actor Chris Meloni reportedly boasts an extensive rug collection, while former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger also has an appreciation for antique carpets, specifically exquisite Oriental rugs.

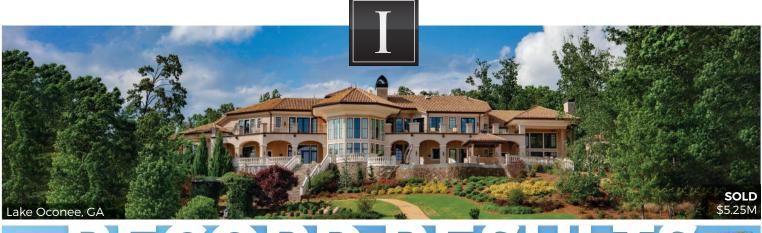
THE RUGS AND CARPET market in the United States was estimated at \$10.3 billion in 2021, and the global market is expected to reach \$38.8 billion by 2026. It is clear that the market is booming and leaves ample room for both creativity and investment.

"The luxury rug market is a niche market that is composed of high-end, handmade rugs," Ms. Hughes says.

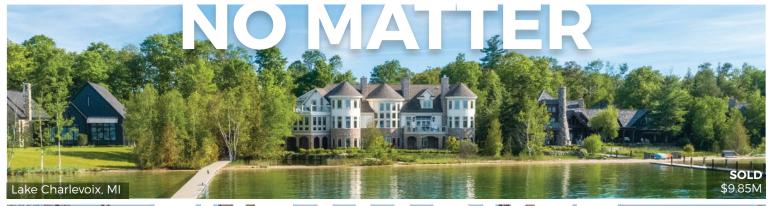
"These rugs can be quite expensive and are typically purchased by affluent consumers who are looking for a high-quality product that will last for many years," she says.

"The luxury rug market is highly competitive, and manufacturers must continuously innovate to stay ahead of the curve." [P

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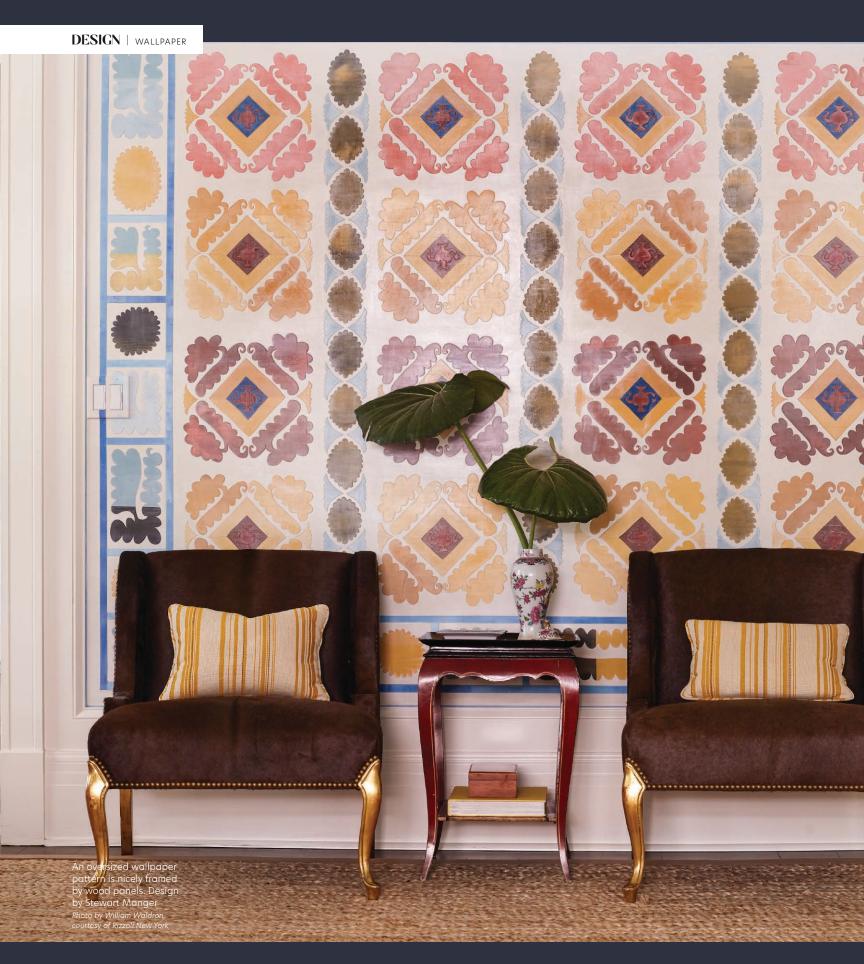






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#### Walls get in on the design fun with papers that set just the right tone

By LISA KLEIN

he walls of a room sometimes fade into the background – a place for passive paint hues, a neutral zone to go unnoticed. Coating them in wallpaper, however, brings the whole room to life.

Design experts know not to miss out on the opportunity to have style bursting from every meticulously matched seam and personality leaping from the walls with every repeat.

"Wallcoverings add that extra dimension to a room, enhancing a room's architecture, contributing wonderful color, pattern and texture," says Suzanne Tucker, designer and principal at San Francisco-based Tucker & Marks and author of the upcoming Extraordinary Interiors. "It's all about the full circle of design and providing the perfect finishing touch."

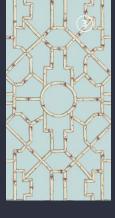
Wallpaper has seen countless iterations, from chinoiserie, 18th-century French scenic panels and hand-blocked English garden motifs to Victorian damasks and natureinspired art nouveau at the turn of the 20th century, the dainty florals of the 1940s and '50s to the groovy and sometimes garish graphics of the '60s and '70s.

There has been nary a decade in which wallcoverings have been out of style, save for the wave of minimalism starting in the 1990s. In the 21st century, there is a pattern to match just about any taste.

"I use wallpaper in almost every project," says Stewart Manger of the eponymous New York design firm, whose first book, Romancing the Home: Stylish Interiors for Modern Living, will be available soon.

"Even if you are a minimalist, you could use a textured wallpaper," he says. "As a maximalist, you might choose a scenic wallpaper. There are so many options."





#### ICONS AND HEROES

With so many choices in play, it is important to put some thought into what makes it onto the wall, especially the emotional response of whomever will be living with it. The wrong design can certainly put a damper on the mood.

Irish poet and playwright Oscar Wilde's reputed last words in 1900 in the floralpatterned room where he spent three years at the Hôtel d'Alsace - now l'Hôtel - in Paris were, "My wallpaper and I are fighting a duel to the death. One or the other of us has got to go."

That infamous wallpaper lived on in room 16 for 100 more years before it was finally refurbished in classic stripes and peacock frescos, proving that — love it or hate it - walls may be stuck with a paper choice for quite some time.

"A patterned wallcovering will affect all the other textile choices in the room, so make sure you and the people you share the space with love the look," says Sumitra Mattai, vice president of design for U.S. heritage interiors brand Scalamandré. "I think putting up wallpaper is like getting a tattoo - it's not as permanent, but it's a commitment."

Likewise, steer clear of anything too trendy to ensure a chosen motif is not out of style by the time the paste dries. A classic pattern will stand the test of time and, in the world of wallpaper, does not mean boring.

For Scalamandré, founded in 1929, that means bold graphics over richly hued backgrounds, gender-neutral geometrics and lush textures that harken back to its beginnings as a fabric manufacturer.



Scalamandré's Leaping Cheetah wallpaper, seen here in evergreen, packs a graphic style punch Image courtesy of



Special touches such as embroidery and beading add 3D texture, like on Scalamandré's Catwalk Embroidered Grasscloth Image courtesy of



Scalamandré's popular Baldwin Bamboo pattern in cream and red on aqua Scalamandré



A more minimal wallpaper adds depth to walls and creates a perfect backdrop for artwork in the 'A New York State of Mind' project. Design by Suzanne Tucker/Tucker & Marks

courtesy of The Monacelli Press

The brand's most iconic wallcovering, Zebras, was introduced after the company recreated a friend's one-off design for Gino of Capri restaurant in New York in the 1970s after it was destroyed in a fire, the original iteration with a bright red background.

"I've thought a lot about what makes Zebras continue to feel relevant," Ms. Mattai muses. "I think part of the beauty of the pattern is the pop art sensibility of a blackand-white motif on a saturated background.

"There is something arresting about that visual formula," she says. "I also think that

the treatment of the motifs is sophisticated, not childish or cutesy, even though they are animal motifs."

Baldwin Bamboo is another Scalamandré winner, its large-scale chinoiserie lattice pattern neither feminine nor masculine with both geometric aspects and fine detailing.

Newer patterns that are already on their way to becoming company classics include Leaping Cheetah, which Ms. Mattai created as a "friend" of Zebras with a similar feel. and the embroidered and hand-beaded Catwalk Embellished Grasscloth, which lends a 3D element to flat walls.

In his designs, Mr. Manger finds himself reaching for timeless, historic wallpapers from Bird & Thistle or Brunschwig & Fils and more modern hand-blocked papers from companies such as The Alpha Workshops.

"I love hand-blocked papers, in general, because you can see the craftmanship in them," he says.

Ms. Tucker often hangs "dreamy, handpainted" murals by the likes of de Gournay and Gracie, classic English patterns by Cowtan & Tout or Farrow & Ball and versatile grasscloth papers that she calls "decorating heroes."

### "I think putting up wallpaper is like getting a tattoo it's not as permanent, but it's a commitment"

- SUMITRA MATTAI, SCALAMANDRÉ



### IN THE MIX

No matter the pattern the designers choose for a project, they have some general rules to hang by.

"I start with the architecture," Mr. Manger says. "I then design the room, and from there, I select the wallpaper. For example, in a bedroom, you might apply panels [first] and then the wallpaper can be set into those panels. In a long hallway, you want the wallpaper to run from the baseboard to the crown molding."

When it comes to pattern choices, Ms. Tucker weighs her clients' gesthetic preferences and the fit with the rest of the home.

"Formal or casual, bold or subdued, color lovers or color timid, how one space is relating to its adjacent companion all those elements must be taken into consideration," she says. "Though there have been a few occasions where I have fallen in love with a pattern and patiently waited for the right project to deploy it."

Of course, wallpaper will not be the only thing in a room - designing any space is a delicate balancing act, especially when covering entire walls with a big statement.

"When designing a room, scale and proportion are key," Ms. Tucker says. "It's all about balancing the various elements of a room - architecture, furnishings, patterns off of each other and achieving a harmony that makes the room sing."







As a design feature, more subdued wallpaper can be used to add that extra needed layer to a room, creating dimension and a backdrop "beyond painted or plastered walls," Ms. Tucker says.

"I love using textured papers," she says.
"Grasscloth or slubbed silk are the perfect
choice to elegantly envelop a room, catch
the light, soften a space, complement art
and improve acoustics."

A daring pattern calls for a different approach to tie it all together.

"Generally, if a wallpaper is bold, it is better to be more restrained with the rest of the pieces in the room," Mr. Manger advises. "If a dining room features a dramatic scenic pattern, other elements in the room should not be as heavily colored. They should be subtle and complement the wallpaper. The chairs might have a pretty shape, but a more muted color."

Regardless of the part wallpaper plays in a room, a color palette, style or thematic approach is needed to make it cohesive.

Patterns used should be different in size and scale, and the mix of patterns and textures should complement each other rather than chaotically duke it out.

"Pin up all the [pattern] options and stand back — some will come forward,

others will recede," Ms. Tucker says.
"Take out the ones that are fighting and screaming at each other."

The room itself, too, matters when it comes to paper pattern. Powder rooms lend themselves to making a big splash, since they are small and less frequently used.

Another place for drama is the dining room, and murals are a great way to create it.

Ms. Tucker loves putting gold-leaf tea paper on the ceilings of both for a "magical glow."

Mr. Manger often finds himself wallpapering staircases with vertical patterns to emphasize their height and incorporating stripes into hallways to give the space some rhythm.

ON THE WALLS of a bedroom or long hall, drawing room, tucked-away mudroom or grand entrance, wallpaper can make for truly special design.

The perfect paper showcases everything from an antique rug to a fabulous art collection and, most importantly, personality.

"Wallcovering — whether its patterned, textured or both — activates a space and makes it truly unique," Ms. Mattai says. "A fresh coat of paint is great, but wallcovering is more expressive of personal style. It tells a story in a way that flat color cannot." IP



Extraordinary Interiors by Suzanne Tucker, The Monacelli Press



Romancing the Home: Stylish Interiors for Modern Living by Stewart Manger, Rizzoli New York



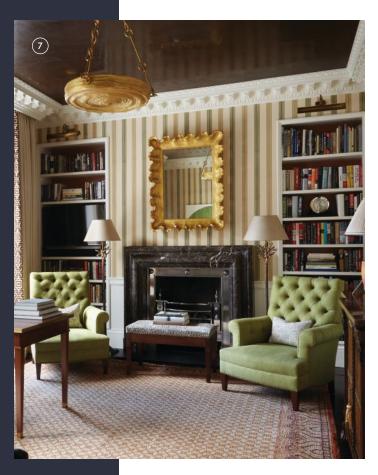
Classic stripes complement the classic décor in an office. Design by Stewart Manger

Photo by Fritz von der Schulenburg, courtesy of Rizzoli New York



Powder rooms are the perfect place to use bold patterns, such as in the 'A Classic Beauty' project. Design by Suzanne Tucker/Tucker & Marks

Photo by Roger Davies, courtesy of The Monacelli Press





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Contemporary African and Black art takes the spotlight at South Africa's Zeitz MOCAA

By LINSEY STONCHUS

ver the past few decades, Cape Town, South Africa, has emerged as a lively hotspot in the world of contemporary art.

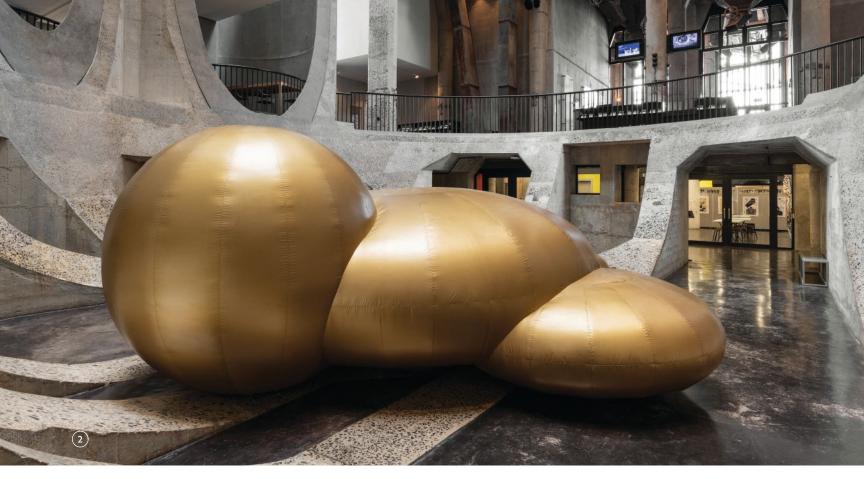
A standout amidst Cape Town's dynamic landscape of mountains and sea, art institution Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA) is a striking sight. A repurposed grain silo, it symbolizes the reclaiming of space following the country's challenging colonial past and its transformation into something beautiful and new.

"There was opportunity for us to literally make the building sing at certain points," says Storm Janse van Rensburg, senior curator and head of cultural affairs at Zeitz MOCAA.

The atrium, for instance, is captivating from both a visual and auditory standpoint.

"I've started to think about the majestic atrium as a musical instrument," Mr. Janse van Rensburg says. "The acoustic qualities in that space, it's cathedral-like, so any music or sound in that atrium space is absolutely extraordinary. It's so large - but it's also very small, the footprint of it."

Zeitz MOCAA's visually and acoustically stunning atrium ©Hufton + Crow Image courtesy of Zeitz MOCAA



### IN PERSPECTIVE

Historical context in mind, contemporary African art is uniquely global. In telling the full story, Zeitz MOCAA not only features the works of locally born artists, but also those that make up the African diaspora—and was the first institution to do so when it opened its doors in 2017.

The melding of African and African diaspora works is no better exemplified than in the institution's upcoming exhibit, When We See Us. It was inspired by the 2019 American television series, When They See Us, a true story of five young men wrongfully charged for a brutal attack in New York's Central Park.

The title inherently shifts the perspective of Black lives from the traditional lens of pop culture to how Black creators view themselves and the lives around them. In the same vein, its focus subverts the series' grief and instead points to celebration.

"It's not about subjugation," Mr. Janse van Rensburg says. "It's not about struggle. It is about joy. It is about spirituality. It's about sensuality. And it is about liberation."

Approximately 200 paintings are expected to be featured in a journey through various regions and time periods. The earliest works date back to the 1920s and carry into current times.

"It's a very important century, with the first articulations of Pan-Africanism," Mr. Janse van Rensburg says.

The exhibit will explore the Harlem Renaissance in the United States, Africa's various independence movements of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and the expanded representation of Black people within the context of art and pop culture during the 1970s and '80s.

"It's important that an ambitious project like this is realized from the African continent and from the perspective of the continent — it is symbolic," Mr. Janse van Rensburg says.

"It's important that we have artists that might not even know about each other in different times, in different geographical locations, united in the same space during the same period," he says. "What happens if a Gerard Sekoto and a Jacob Lawrence meet in one room? What possibilities of exchange or meaning is then generated in that dialogue and conversation?"

African and Black music, another important part of the continent's history, will be woven into the exhibition as well.

When We See Us is sponsored by Gucci and expected to run November 18, 2022 through August 31, 2023.



"It's not about subjugation. It's not about struggle. It is about joy. It is about spirituality. It's about sensuality. And it is about liberation"

- STORM JANSE VAN RENSBURG, ZEITZ MOCAA







Soft Vxnxs, a sculpture by South African artist Goldendean



Toil, a video by South African Helena Uambembe, part of Unfinished Camp, an art initiative partnership between Unfinished and institutions such as Zeitz MOCAA



Figures 1853, Kolonien in Afrika und in der Süd-See, by Madagascarborn artist Malala Andrialavidrazana

Images courtesy of Zeitz MOCAA



### FLYING SOLO

Zeitz MOCAA also often opts to showcase exhibits solely dedicated to an individual artist, rejecting the sometimes monolithic treatment of Africa in media and the broader art industry.

"That's what makes it a very strong statement," Mr. Janse van Rensburg says. "It goes against the prevailing attitudes towards this generalized notion of Africa. It's a continent of incredibly diverse environments, not only geographically, but also culturally."

In better centering the artist, the institution will at times shed light on his or her process.

Take, for example, critically acclaimed South African painter Johannes Phokela. Zeitz MOCAA's current exhibit of his work, Only Sun in the Sky Knows How I Feel, features large-scale pieces, plus an installation of archival materials encompassing books, letters, photographs, visual references and drawings that provide insight into his practice.

"It is an important moment for us to consider Johannes Phokela's decades-long contribution to the artistic vocabulary of the continent," says Koyo Kouoh, director and chief curator at Zeitz MOCAA. "His searing, visual talent makes palpable the contradictions and ironies of our moment."

Other recent exhibits have included the works of Goldendean and Tracey Rose.

Goldendean's work, *Soft Vxnxs*, was featured prominently within the museum's atrium bowl. Consisting of a single large, inflatable sculpture to represent the artist's self-described "Fat Queer White Trans body" and both its hypervisibility and simultaneous invisibility, the installation questions who is entitled to take up space.

Mr. Janse van Rensburg describes the contrast of the bold, inflatable sculpture against the museum's industrial backdrop as bringing "its queer softness into a hard space."

Tracey Rose's exhibit, Shooting Down Babylon, was one of the institution's most expansive to date, featured across three stories of the building, and was largely a critique of society and the art world.

"It is important to celebrate the work of Black women artists from the continent, and to acknowledge the immense contributions they are making to contemporary art discourse," says Tandazani Dhlakama, assistant curator at Zeitz MOCAA.

"Through this exhibition, visitors will be able to gain in-depth insight into three decades of Rose's practice. The themes in the exhibition, which stem from postcolonial entanglements, are relevant to our present times. Rose's work highlights her critical vision and social commentary."

ZEITZ MOCAA HAS made waves in its brief five years through the gathering of works from its continent and diaspora and in its showcasing of the individuality of artists in dedicated ways.

"It is necessary that Zeitz MOCAA provide a space and a platform that didn't exist before, on a scale and an ambition that is unprecedented," Mr. Janse van Rensburg says. "It comes with a sense of responsibility and of humility."

Each of the institution's curators understands this mission's importance and approaches the task with tremendous respect, forever reminding visitors that it is just as much about who is behind the paint brush as it is about the works presented.

"We feel like it's time for an in-depth look through an artist's practice, the nuance and understanding of what contemporary art history looks like from very particular, specific vantage points," Mr. Janse Van Rensburg says. IIP



### WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO AT ZEITZ MOCAA

zeitzmocaa.museum

- When We See Us
  November 2022-August 2023
- Only Sun in the Sky Knows
  How I Feel, Johannes Phokela
  PRESENT-January 2023
- Indigo Waves
  PRESENT-January 2023

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- Oplan Lewis Sculpture Garden dylanlewis.com
- WHATIFTHEWORLD gallery whatiftheworld.com
- SMAC Gallery smacgallery.com

5

South African artist Tracey Rose and work from her solo exhibit, Shooting Down Babylon, at Zeitz MOCAA

6

*Untitled 26,* by South African artist Luvuyo Equiano Nyawose



South African artist Johannes Phokela in front of one of his works and paintings in his solo exhibit, Only Sun in the Sky Knows How I Feel, at Zeitz MOCAA

Images courtesy of Zeitz MOCAA





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If you have been searching for a place to step away from a world gone mad, then you have arrived. Beaumont Ridge is a sanctuary like no other, offering nearly 40 acres of land, 3 homes, 4 large rolling pastures, a 6 stall barn, a new multi-discipline riding arena, skeet-shooting range, hiking trails and a stocked trout pond, all surrounded by lush landscaping and breathtaking views. Beaumont Ridge allows you to return to a simpler time and a simpler way of life, while still offering all of the modern conveniences expected in such a premier property.









## Montagnola, TI, Switzerland CHF14,000,000

WETAG CONSULTING
Philipp Peter — +41 91 601 04 50
peter@wetag.ch
Search NDGA on luxuryportfolio.com







Beautiful villa for sale in Montagnola. This splendid property is bordered by its own woodland and has an exceptional layout: open spaces, an inner courtyard, large terraces with their own garden on each floor, an ideal area for relaxing, a wellness area with an infinity pool and, finally, a magnificent lake view from all the rooms. Simply enchanting! Highlights include: In excellent condition and very well maintained, near the TASIS American School, remote-controlled total home control and A/C and own boathouse down at the lake.

This beautiful country castle from the early 17th century features 33,500 sq. m. of land including several buildings with historically valuable details. This excellently preserved, and in 2007 largely renovated, castle estate impresses with an extraordinary harmony between the baroque and classicist building phases. The nearby motorway connection provides excellent links to all destinations in the Swiss Midlands. For those who want to immerse themselves into the city life, within 10-20 minutes one can do so, as the city is just around the corner.

### Bern, Switzerland

Price upon request

NOBILIS ESTATE AG David Hauptmann - +41 44 266 60 39 desk@nobilis-estate.com

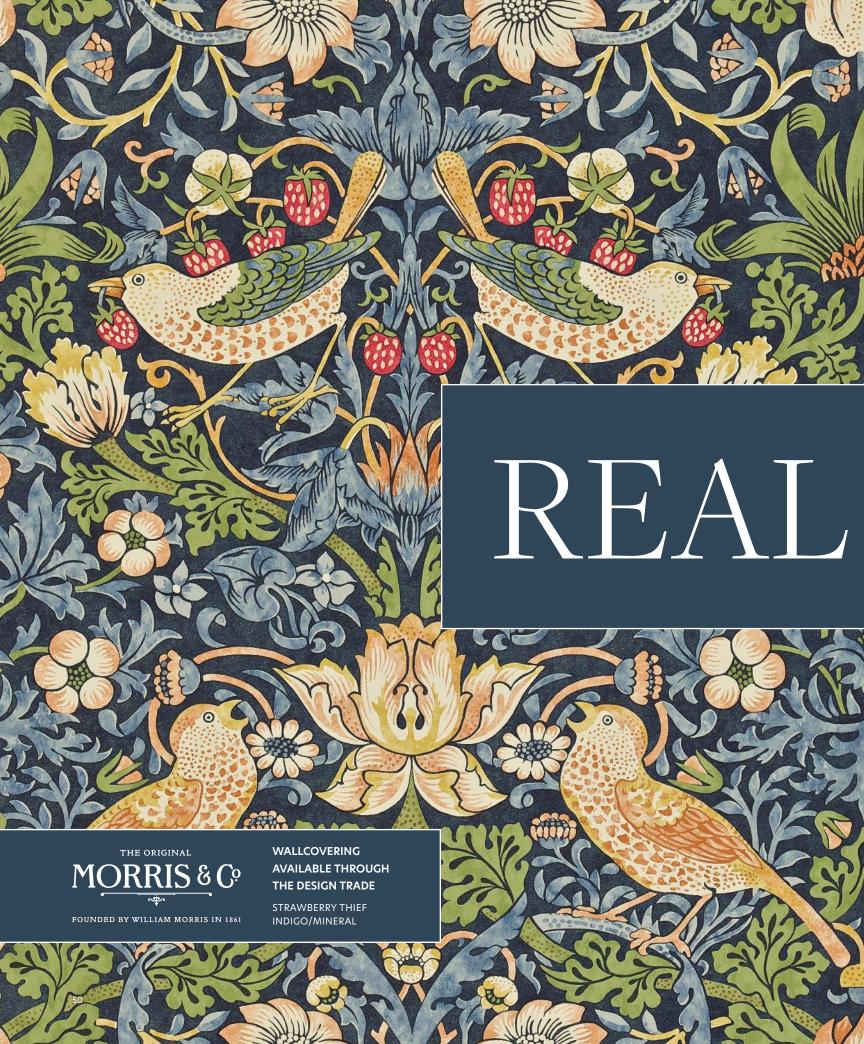
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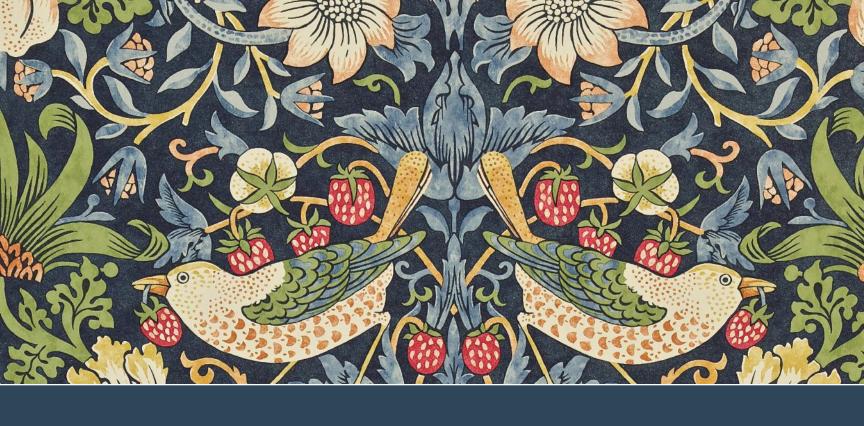












# ESTATE







A rural New York estate has wide open spaces and an open door for opportunity

By LISA KLEIN

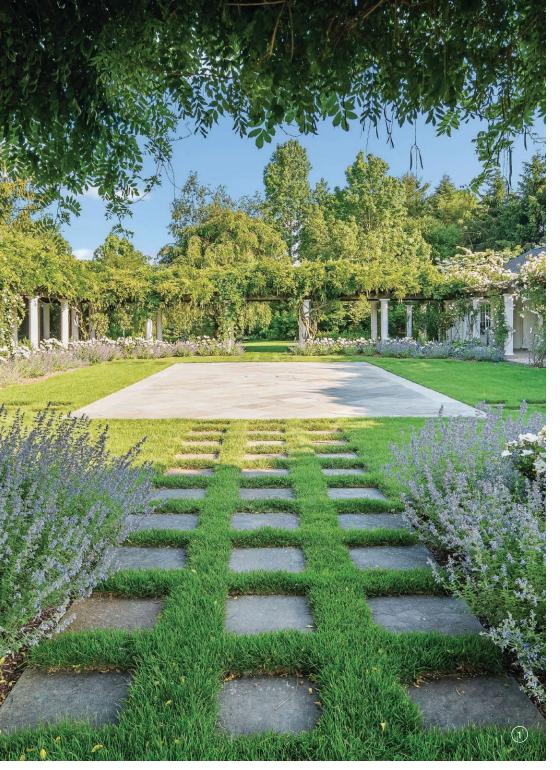
naking north from Manhattan, the Hudson River stretches all the way to New York state's capital, Albany, creating a verdant, rural wonderland in the surrounding Hudson Valley. Nearest to the city, Westchester County is home to suburbs and quaint towns, some of which are among the wealthiest in the United States, stippled between gorgeous natural parks.

In Granite Springs, in the northern reaches of the county known for charming old towns, hiking, biking and fishing, is Stonewall Farm – a sprawling, green-pastured, 740-acre estate that is shockingly just short of an hour's drive from New York City.

"Everything about Stonewall Farm feels just right, as if each detail was planned to a T," says listing agent Hope Mazzola, based in the Katonah, New York, office of William Raveis Real Estate, a Luxury Portfolio International member brokerage.

Nikki McMann, the agent who shares the listing, pointed to the effort invested in making the house a home.

"The owners have enormous pride in the evolution of the farm and the knowledge that they did everything they wanted and yet created a stunning grand canvas that inspires, but also feels extremely livable," Ms. McCann says.







### Sizing up

The centerpiece of Stonewall Farm is the colonial-style main residence built in 2004. The home's massive 24,000 square feet are grand yet comfortable, holding eight bedrooms and eight full bathrooms.

The owners created their customized East-meets-West vision with architect Rebecca Rasmussen and British interior designer Kelly Hoppen. They filled the home with antiques and personalized design elements such as the saddle-leather accent tiles in the impressive library and reclaimedpine flooring, each plank hand selected.

Other inspired spaces include a twostorey sunroom with an arched glass ceiling, pub and game room, 2,200-bottle wine cellar, indoor Zen garden and a primary suite that has the entire third floor to itself.

Surrounding the main home are four perfectly landscaped gardens to suit any

mood: a Japanese garden with a koi pond, an English rose garden, a butterfly garden and an herb garden. An indoor pavilion houses a 60-foot swimming pool with a spa that opens onto the rose garden terrace.

The rest of the grounds span 18 parcels of land — the largest privately owned property in Westchester County, about half of which is completely open for further development.

Landscaped walkways with allées of trees from Kentucky pass by apple orchards, ponds, pastures and natural woodland.

A 36,000-square-foot, 19<sup>th</sup>-century spring house, previously owned by a water bottling company, sits on the property, and still supplies 1,750 gallons of water a day from its wells.

But the main attraction is the world-class equestrian facilities that comprise one of the state's best championship thoroughbred breeding farms.

Stonewall Farm is responsible for breeding the winners of 40 stakes races. Stallion, broodmare and yearling barns, sheds, paddocks, staff quarters and a turf racetrack are all dedicated to fostering top-of-the-line thoroughbred breeding and training.

WHILE THE CURRENT owners realized both their home and horse dreams, the sheer amount of land, and its proximity to New York City, make Stonewall Farm an opportunity for anyone's vision to come to life, horse-lover or not.

Development options are endless, from additional residential plots to commercial or industrial pursuits. Or, of course, another horse farm.

"No matter what the next owners choose to do in the future, the framework of this stunning expanse offers limitless potential — though it really is perfect just as it is," Ms. Mazzola says.  $\mathbb{N}$ 





Price \$100,000,000

### luxuryportfolio.com WEB ID: AZSN



The main house is surrounded by beautifully landscaped gardens



A separate pool house includes a spa and opens onto the gardens and an outdoor entertainment area



The property includes horse training and breeding facilities that currently cater to thoroughbreds



The two-storey library nods to the property's equestrian ties with saddle-leather flooring



Light floods the sunroom through floorto-ceiling windows and an arched glass ceiling



A magical Caribbean estate pays homage to the island's past

By LISA KLEIN





aint Thomas, the largest of the U.S. Virgin Islands, has a storied history as a pirate's paradise starting in the 1600s, passing hands from the Dutch to the Danish and eventually the United States, of which it is still a municipality.

Perched on the cliffs of the island's southern coast overlooking the turquoise waters of the Caribbean is a modern-day waterfront estate that recollects a Danish fort of centuries past with a bastion wall, water cannons and even its own pirate ship.

"Everything you see has been curated by an imagination that rings of legacy, luxury, gracious taste and adventure," says listing agent Nick Van Assche of Seaglass Properties and the Island Living Collective, a Luxury Portfolio International member brokerage, in Saint Thomas.















The main villa takes design cues from old Danish forts, part of the island's heritage

The infinity pool and sundeck look out on the estate's private boat dock



The main villa's great room is two storeys high and showcases antique furniture



Traditional island details abound on the interiors of the main villa



The waterfront estate boasts breathtaking views



The grounds include a tiered waterfall that puts on a synchronized show

Images courtesy of Seaglass Properties/Island Living Collective

### Beacon of luxury

East of Puerto Rico by 40 miles, the Saint Thomas of today is known for its white sand beaches and clear seawater with abundant reefs for snorkeling.

The tropical climate keeps temperatures in the 80s Fahrenheit nearly all year, making the island a draw for tourism and luxury holiday homes.

The estate straddles two of the island's most desirable neighborhoods — the residential Estate Bellevue and the more commercial Estate Havensight – just south of the capital, Charlotte Amalie, with 12 total parcels on nine acres of land.

The latter area is home to Havensight Mall, the upscale Yacht Haven Grand designer shopping center, the busiest cruise port in the world, an aerial tramway to the Paradise Point outlook and numerous boating outfits offering sailing, snorkeling, diving and trips to smaller islands.

The property's shoreline sits in Prince Rupert's Cove, just across the bay from Hassel Island, where nature trails and historic

Although it has its own private 50-foot beach, the gorgeous Morningstar and Limetree beaches are within easy reach to the south.

### **Pooling resources**

Three cottages accompany the main house, while other residential parcels on the vast estate include a more modern-style villa with its own pool and water access and two that are older homes.

There are three registered motor vehicles and two registered marine vessels along with an 80-foot private dock - one of the few residential docks permitted on the whole island.

The main villa is surrounded by tropical landscaping such as royal palms and unique native plants.

A terraced waterfall with 17 separate falls also has jumping jets, fire braziers, lights and a fog machine, as well as incorporating two water cannons into a synchronized water show set to music.

An infinity pool looks out over the water, prime for watching Saint Thomas' perfect sunsets.

THE VILLA'S interiors impress no less with old-world charm, timeless Caribbean styling with wood-paneled ceilings and details and an enormous collection of West Indian antique furniture.

The 6,500-square-foot residence includes a two-storey great hall, five bedrooms, five full bathrooms and two powder rooms.

"When you enter the main residence of this estate, the experience begins," Mr. Van Assche says. "The ultimate opportunity to create a lifetime of memories is in this sublime and enchanting property, whose secrets will dazzle even the most seasoned lover of one-of-a-kind real estate." IP

Location

SAINT THOMAS. **U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS**  Price

\$24.000.000

luxuryportfolio.com

WEB ID: VHXK



# Jupiter, FL, USA \$13,900,000

WILLIAM RAVEIS REAL ESTATE, MORTGAGE & INSURANCE M. Noga/P. Wittmann — +1 561 801 3885 michelle.noga@raveis.com

Search NFRG on luxuryportfolio.com





With unparalleled detail and craftsmanship, this 2016 impeccably-built home by Turtle Beach Construction sits on 0.75 of an acre with 128 feet of panoramic views of the Loxahatchee River. This spectacular home features 8,302 sq. ft., gorgeous wood and stone floors throughout, impact glass and doors, 5 spacious bedrooms, including a luxurious primary suite, and 7.5 baths. The gourmet kitchen with an oversized island and top stainless steel appliances opens to dining area and family room for easy entertaining. Spectacular river views from almost every room!



### Reno, NV, USA \$12,000,000

DICKSON REALTY Rebecca Dickson - +1 775 742 2120 rdickson@dicksonrealty.com Search YIES on luxuryportfolio.com





St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands \$12,000,000

ISLAND LIVING COLLECTIVE Abigail Schnell - +1 340 998 1934 abby@holidayhomesvi.com Search AGVX on luxuryportfolio.com



# Zug, Switzerland Price upon request

NOBILIS ESTATE AG David Hauptmann - +41 44 266 60 39 desk@nobilis-estate.com Search DFIA on luxuryportfolio.com







A spatial work of art with ever-changing perspectives! This luxury villa will be developed on the sunny slope of the Zugerberg, from where one enjoys a unique panoramic view of the lake and snow-covered Alps. Zug is one of the most tax-friendly towns in Switzerland and attracts many multinational people. The room layout and interior design will be tailored to your needs and taste. Located centrally, you can reach the lively old town of Zug within minutes or explore the nearby forest whilst enjoying different leisure activities.



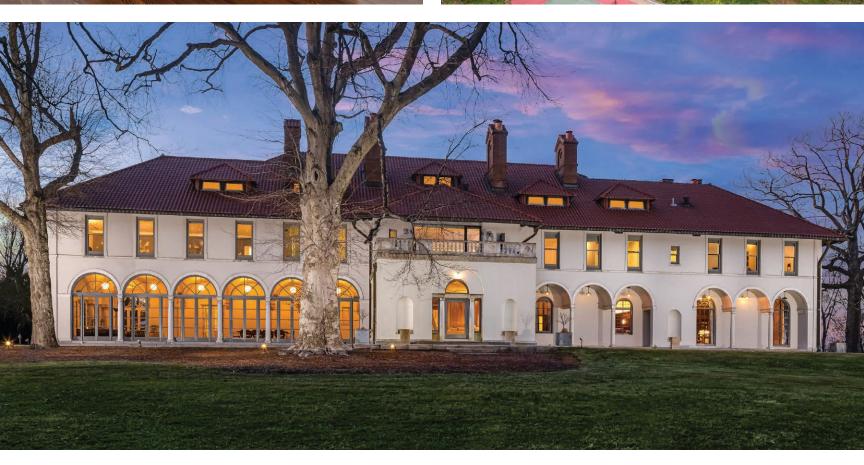
### Bernardsville Boro, NJ, USA

\$12,000,000

TURPIN REAL ESTATE, INC. Gerry-Jo Cranmer - +1 908 234 9100 gerryjo@turpinrealtors.com Search COFN on luxuryportfolio.com







Inspired by Tuscany's distinctive country villas, the elaborate Faircourt Mansion on 13 acres has been restored to reflect both its former glory and its future aspirations. Simplifying an ornate mansion and reimagining it to meet the standards of today's modern lifestyle was a challenge that New York-based architect Annabelle Selldorf quickly accepted. Its expansive layout provides 8 bedrooms, 8.3 baths, including a 4-room guest suite with 2 baths. Each of the home's 4 levels is served by the elevator. A pool, tennis court and putting green highlight the grounds.



# Kilchberg, Switzerland Price upon request

NOBILIS ESTATE AG David Hauptmann - +41 44 266 60 39 desk@nobilis-estate.com Search SBQS on luxuryportfolio.com







Living in the clouds. That's how you must feel when moving into the exclusive penthouse at 360Degree, located in renowned and tax friendly Kilchberg on Lake Zurich. Here you will find the perfect balance between nature and city. Kilchberg is located within 20 minutes to the center of Zurich, Zug and Zürich Airport. The elegant design of 360Degree captivates you with its clear forms and its exquisite and thoughtfully selected materials. The elongated panoramic glass fronts combine the interior and exterior space to create a versatile and playful living landscape.

# Longmont, CO, USA \$11,500,000

COLORADO LANDMARK, REALTORS Joel Ripmaster - +1 303 641 3377 joelripmaster@coloradolandmark.com Search WNAL on luxuryportfolio.com



## Alpine, NJ, USA \$9,995,000

HOWARD HANNA — RAND REALTY B. Plawker/T. Plawker - +1 201 615 6759 barri.plawker@randrealty.com Search XQHO on luxuryportfolio.com







St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands \$10,000,000

ISLAND LIVING COLLECTIVE Abigail Schnell - +1 340 998 1934 abby@holidayhomesvi.com Search CXQP on luxuryportfolio.com

Picturesque views from every room at this seven-bedroom Caribbean estate.



# Cherry Hills Village, CO, USA \$10,100,000

SLIFER SMITH & FRAMPTON REAL ESTATE John Jaster — +1 303 322 6200 johnj@sliferdenver.com Search JMFL on luxuryportfolio.com









Poised on just over 1.8 acres in one of the most sought-after neighborhoods in Colorado, this residence is one of the finest in Cherry Hills Village. One cannot deny the quality and craftsmanship that went into its creation. Glass atriums, tray ceilings, circular skylights and large windows invite natural light to flow through the interior, integrating the sculptured gardens, swimming pool, tennis court and multiple patios. Outstanding features of the home include a native Colorado stone exterior, Vermont slate roof and extensive use of exotic hardwood finishes and millwork. A majestic sanctuary designed for entertainment and enjoyment.



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By AMELIA BOO





Cape Town, South Africa | R184,000,000

WEB ID: WIRG



Whistler, BC, Canada | CAD\$12,995,000

WEB ID: RMAX













Cabo San Lucas, Mexico | \$12,000,000 WEB ID: UPRS

WEB ID: UERR



# Mangy-en-Vexin, France





# EXCEPTIONAL LISTINGS



Glenville, NC, USA | \$14,500,000



WEB ID: REEO

Athens, Greece | €6,350,000

WEB ID: LPNK





Location BELLEVUE, WA, USA

### CIARA AND RUSSELL WILSON'S WATERFRONT ESTATE

Home to sweethearts Ciara and Russell Wilson, the musicianathlete duo's waterfront home offers a private respite of calm and quiet set amongst one of the Seattle area's finest natural landscapes, Lake Washington.

Bask in bluff-top privacy and beachside fun, complemented by exquisite finishes and exceptional views prime for elevated living. A two-storey treehouse, three-slip dock and several hundred feet of Lake Washington frontage add up to a perfectly packaged property.

Price

\$26,000,000

luxuryportfolio.com

WEB ID: LPEG



The lakeside property sits on a bluff above a private three-slip dock with two jet ski lifts

The 11,000-plussquare-foot home boasts classic yet modern design and elevated amenities

galore

### AN ILLUSTRIOUS LOS ANGELES LEGEND

Few properties rival The Manor: the estate's renowned reputation certainly precedes itself and requires little introduction. Undoubtedly one of the finest estates in the world, this remarkable residence offers 56,000 square feet of unparalleled amenities and an unrivaled celebrity pedigree.

Former owners include late producer Aaron Spelling and widow Candy Spelling — parents of Hollywood fixture Tori Spelling. British heiress Petra Ecclestone, daughter of Formula One Racing tycoon Bernie Ecclestone, is also on the roster of elite owners.

Location

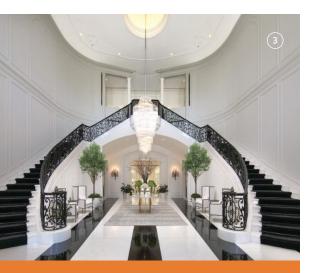
HOLMBY HILLS, CA, USA

Price

\$165,000,000

luxuryportfolio.com

WEB ID: JHKS





(3)

The manor is full of glamorous details such as this grand double staircase



The estate sits on 4.68 acres and borders the Los Angeles Country Club



The manor has its own bowling alleys, beauty salons and professional screening rooms, among other impressive amonties

Photos courtesy of













## TONY SHALHOUB'S ASSIC FIVE"

Tony Shalhoub's crown jewel is an exceptional example of sophisticated restoration. This beautifully maintained apartment calls one of the Upper West Side's finest buildings home. Four exposures and lovely light grace the entire apartment a rarity in New York.

Step inside to enjoy all that pre-war architecture has to offer, including original herringbone-patterned oak floors, ceilings over nine feet, lovingly restored crown and base moldings, Emery Roth-designed doorknobs and hardware, ceramic wall tiles and basket-weave mosaic floors. It is all in the details.

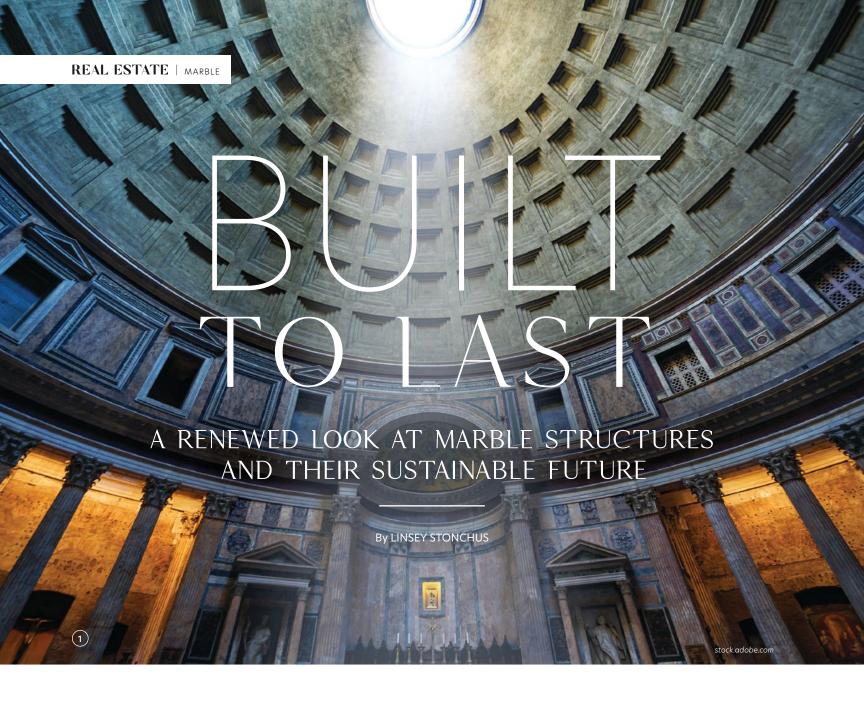
Location NEW YORK, NY, USA Price

luxuryportfolio.com WEB ID: LRFN

\$4,150,000







ew building materials make the statement that marble does.
The stone's exquisite beauty feels tied to the mountains and earth that it is pulled from, all the while balancing this ruggedness with a polished finish and the glitzy inflections of minerals. Its use in architecture and sculpture across all continents and over millennia is nonpareil.

"From monuments to temples to buildings and art, marble has been used for thousands of years by civilizations all over the world," says Sarah Cole, designer and owner of Boston, Massachusetts-based Sarah Cole Interiors.

"In addition to its durability, marble has earned a reputation of being a symbol of

luxury and taste," she says. "It is ubiquitous and, at the same time, unique. No two slabs of marble are exactly the same, and its natural beauty is in part what makes it timeless."

Marble is a limestone crystallized by metamorphism, ranging from granular to compact in texture. Its ability to take a high polish is one of its key advantages over any other natural materials sourced from nature.

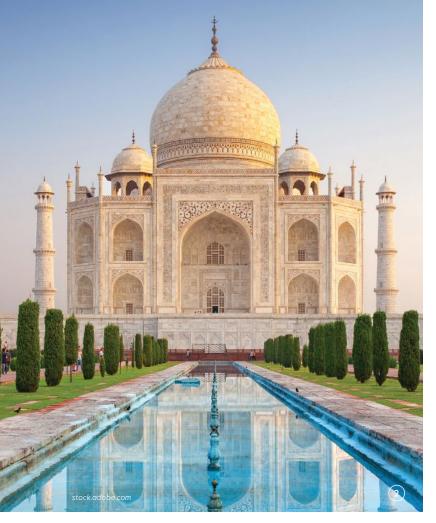
The stone's luxury status is rooted in its distinguished past. More sculptures have been carved from marble than any other stone in history, attaching a nobility to the honoree that no other material can achieve.

Its use as a building material conveys a similar message of grace.

"Each stone has its own say in history, because emperors, czars, nobles of the past and present have always loved and used this material," says Alessandra Malagoli Budri, art director of marble manufacturer Budri, Mirandola, Italy. "When a designer decides to use marble, it is because it expresses all these noble characteristics."

From the Roman Pantheon and India's Taj Mahal to the Acropolis in Athens and Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque of Abu Dhabi clad in Sivec marble from Macedonia, the stone has made various statements throughout history via inspiring structures.

Now, marble is entering a more sustainable era.



### DISTINGUISHED PAST

Marble stands the test of time. The buildings and structures of ancient Greece and Rome continue to inspire awe even after thousands of years of regime changes and weather.

"Statues created during the Classical and Hellenistic periods in Greece stand out as some of the finest," Ms. Cole says. "The Greeks were incredibly skilled in naturalistic representation in marble."

Such works maintain their influence in the present day.

"Fortunately, in Italy we are surrounded by beautiful architecture built or covered with extraordinary marbles, from basilicas to entire squares – prestigious buildings," Ms. Budri says. "In our work, the art director and designers are frequently inspired by these architectures."

Even architecture in the much younger United States was greatly inspired by that of the Greeks and Romans.

"Washington, D.C., is one of my favorite cities with great examples of marble in architecture throughout the city," Ms. Cole says. "The grand marble staircase in the Library of Congress is breathtaking and one of my personal favorites."

One of Washington's most recognizable structures, the Lincoln Memorial, was built with marble sourced from Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, Massachusetts and Tennessee, according to the National Park Service. Its architect, Henry Bacon, made this decision intentionally to symbolize President Lincoln's importance to the union.

Another northeastern U.S. city, Boston, widely embraced marble during the late 19th and 20th centuries.

"Great examples can be found in the Boston Public Library, Wang Center for Performing Arts and The Boston Opera House, all of which feature lavish uses of marble: doorways, stairs, walls with ornate carvings and marble statues," Ms. Cole says.



### SOPHISTICATED PRESENT

How marble is used boils down to the buildings it inhabits, whether that be residential, commercial or public spaces.

"Marble has the power to be either traditional or contemporary, depending on the type and application, and it has the ability to bridge the gap between old and new," Ms. Cole says. "For that reason, it's an incredible material when updating Boston's trove of historic homes without losing that vital connection to the past."

In showcasing its marble, Budri has collaborated with designers on various projects, such as the Grand Zayed Mosque in Abu Dhabi, for which it created more than 20,000 square meters of intricate, floral inlays both inside and out.

Retail spaces, on the other hand, often opt for trendy

The use of marble at skiwear and jacket maker Moncler's Singapore store is sleek and futuristic, while MSGM in London, known for its streetwear, is more playful and edgy, experimenting with non-traditional colors.

Italian fashion brand Dolce & Gabbana, meanwhile, varies its designs based on the location of each store.

"The Dolce & Gabbana boutique in London, designed by Gwenael Nicolas, was awarded for the outstanding design of Budri marbles, with particular attention to the monumental and twisting marble staircase," Ms. Budri says.

Construction began on the Pantheon in Rome, incorporating white marble, in 25 BCE

India's 17th-century Taj Mahal mausoleum was constructed using white Makrana marble veneer

Marble used as a backsplash and accents in a kitchen by Laney LA Photo by Eric Staudenmaier image courtesy of Anthony Laney Laney LA





"Marble has the power to be either traditional or contemporary, depending on the type and application, and it has the ability to bridge the gap between old and new"

SARAH COLE,
 SARAH COLE INTERIORS



The Budri Fragment Collection uses extra marble cut from bigger slabs as a sustainable alternative

Images courtesy of Budri

(5)

Budri's showroom in Milan highlights the numerous ways marble can be used in architecture and interiors

### GREEN FUTURE

Like many luxury industries, marble is in the early phases of a more sustainable era.

"The Fragment Collection is the first collection born with Budri SLIM marble," Ms. Budri says. "In this case, the marble used for the furniture is only three millimeters thick. In previous collections, the thickness of marble varied from one to two centimeters."

The collection is a long time coming, as Budri's research and development department has been working towards sustainability for more than 10 years to combat the impact that excavation has on the environment.

"In our own Italy, for example, in the Apuan Alps of the beautiful region [of] Tuscany, a wild and growing excavation has changed the landscape and geomorphology," Ms. Budri says. "This can happen anywhere.

"We want to prevent future generations from criticizing us for not having understood and acted in time," she says.

"The ultra-thin Budri SLIM Marble, acronym of Sustainable Light Innovative Marble, is a revolution in this sector: working with thinner surfaces means reducing the excavation of the material, which otherwise has a destroying impact on nature.

"In addition, transport and related costs are reduced, making it 80 percent lighter than traditional 20-millimeter marble.

Moreover, handling the stone becomes less hard for the workers."

The Fragment Collection was designed by Mr. Nicolas, the designer who worked on Dolce & Gabbana's London boutique, with fashion's influence apparent.

"The peculiarity of the collection is to discover that through the use of marble fragments — in this case, rods cut from residual slabs — you can create interesting patterns that visually create the effect of a fabric," Ms. Budri says.

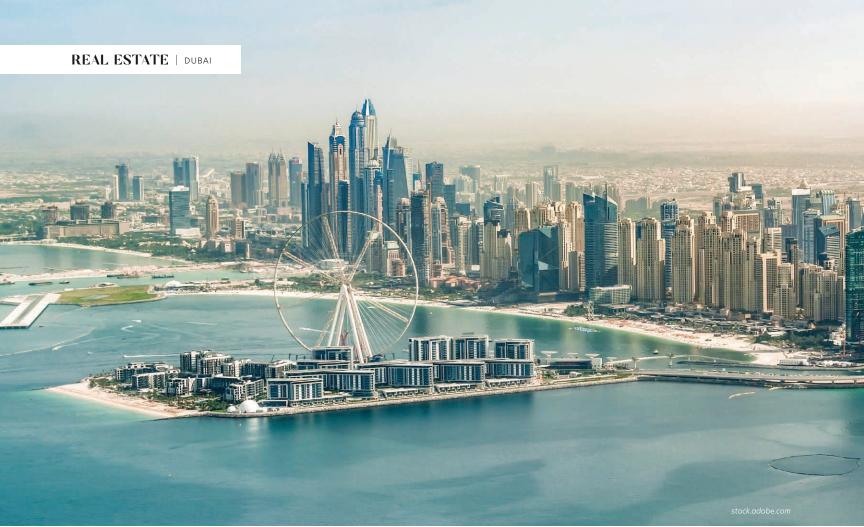
"The highlight of the collection is the Chandelier, composed of three-millimeter-thick marble rods and bent-arched," she says. "This design element contains exactly what was not expected from marble, which is lightness and flexibility."

DESPITE MARBLE'S long history, it continues to be used in fresh, new ways. It is a go-to for a reason, and its popularity is showing no signs of slowing.

"If it's natural wood, it might only have existed for a couple of decades or a couple of centuries, but marble has existed for millennia, and to have a little piece of that in your home or in your furniture, I think, is why it's been so timeless," says Anthony Laney, cofounder of Los Angeles-based architecture firm Laney LA.

"In that sense, we're not reinventing the wheel," he says. "We're going to continue the tradition." IP





# MARHABA!

DUBALIS
BOOMING IN
BUSINESS,
POPULATION
AND TOURISM

By LINSEY STONCHUS

ver the past few decades, Dubai has shaped into a world-class, modern city with top-notch activities, amenities and residences.

A business hub and travel destination, its smart visa program has attracted highly successful individuals. The city, one of the United Arab Emirates, is accessible within a 10-hour flight from 80 percent of all countries worldwide, making it appealing to both out-of-towners and locals.

"Dubai was recently selected as the world's most popular destination in the Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards 2022," says Kyp Charalambous, vice president of sales at Atlantis Dubai.

"The Emirate successfully managed a remarkable turnaround amid continuing global challenges, and it is that unwavering determination that will no doubt continue to cement Dubai's position as the destination of choice for international travelers," he says.

In addition to the recent travel industry honor, Dubai was also considered the number one destination for city lovers, rivaling the likes of New York and London.

Both Atlantis Dubai and Five Hotels and Resorts are debuting new resorts in the coming months: Atlantis, The Royal and Five Luxe, JBR, respectively. Each resort will include high-end residences and penthouses that cater to the lavish lifestyle of Dubai.











### **GOLDEN DAYS**

Jaydeep Anand, chief operating officer and chief financial officer of Five, attributes much of Dubai's popularity to thoughtful planning from its leadership in infrastructure, health and safety policies that curbed the lull in growth during the worst of the pandemic, and the ease of travel from every corner of the globe.

"Dubai is a thriving, dynamic multicultural hub that stands at the forefront of entrepreneurship, invention and innovation," Mr. Anand says. "It is a city of endless possibilities, a city of dreams, a city of the future, attracting the very best of investors, creators and artists."

To attract those very best, the UAE offers a Golden Visa program, which awards short and long-term residency to individuals it identifies as high achievers, such as investors, entrepreneurs, scientists, humanitarians and frontline workers.

Since September 2021, tourist visas were expanded from 30 to 60 days, with the goal of encouraging visitors to stay longer and immerse themselves in the city's diverse offerings. Additional visas include Retire in Dubai and virtual working programs.

"Golden Visa initiatives and an extremely effective response to the pandemic are the reasons for the Emirates' real estate industry growth," Mr. Anand says.

"There is a keen focus on environment-friendly, people-first projects that are being encouraged by the UAE's commitment to achieving net zero [emissions] by 2050," he says.

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Mr. Anand describes Dubai as a "dynamic melting pot of fashion, art, gastronomy, music, technology and architecture."

Popular destinations include the Dubai Opera, Dubai Mall – the second-largest shopping mall in the world — and Museum of the Future, which explores how society, namely in Dubai, may evolve in the coming decades.

Tripadvisor's Choice Awards 2022 also recognized Dubai as the number four destination for food lovers — unsurprising, as the city hosts "more than 12,000 restaurants and cafés that serve food and beverage drawn from the cultures of over 200 nationalities," Mr. Charalambous says.

"Dubai's reputation as a global gastronomy hub was further bolstered by the announcement of the launch of Michelin Guide Dubai in June," he says.

Accordingly, exceptional dining will be found in the upcoming Atlantis, The Royal resort.

"Further enhancing the region's culinary credentials, the property will introduce 17 restaurants to the destination, including eight by celebrity chefs such as Heston Blumenthal, Gaston Acurio and Jose Andres, as well as a world-first pool beach club by Nobu," Mr. Charalambous says.

### "Dubai is a thriving, dynamic multicultural hub that stands at the forefront of entrepreneurship, invention and innovation"

- JAYDEEP ANAND | FIVE HOTELS AND RESORTS

4

Hotel guests and residents can enjoy the social outdoor pool and nightlife options at the Five Luxe, JBR property Image courtesy of Five



The Atlantis,
The Royal resort
includes hotel rooms
and residences in
its innovatively
shaped towers
lmage courtesy of
Atlantis Dubai



Private pools at the Atlantis, The Royal are positioned to make the most of the views Image courtesy of Atlantis Dubai



A chic indoor pool at the Five Luxe, JBR Image courtesy of Five









#### WHAT A WORLD

Mr. Charalambous describes the Atlantis, The Royal as "the most ultra-luxury experiential resort in the world," crafted by leading designers, architects and artists.

"Atlantis, The Royal was conceptualized as the deconstruction of the traditional sculptural towers associated with Dubai, taking the form of individual parallelogram-style shapes, each offering their own bespoke experience," he says of the building's unique architecture.

The design lends to Atlantis' prioritization of indoor-outdoor space. Hotel rooms and residences will feature private pools, gardens and breathtaking views.

"Each of these private pools has been carefully positioned, providing maximum frontage across the balcony, giving guests an interrupted view from inside the water," Mr. Charalambous says.

Plus, "the building's two terraced towers step down towards one another to meet through the sky bridge, which features dramatic views of the Arabian Gulf and the breathtaking scenery of the Palm Island and Dubai skyline," he says.

Further incorporating nature are the resort's water features, including its Skyblaze Fountain, the region's first fire-meets-water spectacle created by Wet Design, and a lobby sculpture titled Droplets, which represents 'the first cool drop of rain in a dry desert.'

Five Luxe, JBR, a prime beach property, also emphasizes experience, including lively amenities and trending biophilic design.

The resort boasts 232 hotel rooms and suites, 212 lavish, serviced residences, multiple culinary and nightlife venues, ReFive Spa and an iconic social pool.

The beach property has uninterrupted sweeping sunset sea views and evenings filled with the glittering lights of the Dubai Eye.

Five has varied, homegrown, award-winning dining venues along with Dubai's most popular rooftop destination, The Penthouse, and signature concepts such as Skyline Thursdays at The Penthouse and Bohemia on Beach by Five that are singular entertainment extravaganzas with chart-topping DJs for a global audience.

DUBAI OFFERS EVERYTHING desired of an urban center — entertainment, shopping, dining, culture and a flourishing social scene.

Upcoming resorts Atlantis, The Royal and Five Luxe, JBR are expanding that scene, with nightclubs, restaurants and other amenities that appeal to tourists and locals alike, and fully lean into luxury living with their high-end finishes, art and thoughtful architecture.

"Dubai's future, in terms of further development, is extremely bright," Mr. Anand says.  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{IP}}$ 







# $Frankfurt/Main, Germany \\ \textit{Price upon request}$

VON POLL IMMOBILIEN GMBH 0049 (0)69 26 91 57 300 frankfurt@von-poll.com Search QBUI on luxuryportfolio.com This imposing villa property is a cultural monument, which is presented on an approximately 3,006-square-meter park-like estate, built in 1909-1910. The four floors offer approximately 1,132 sq. m. of living and usable space with 14 stylishly designed rooms and a spacious wellness area. In addition to the beautiful garden with a large heated pool and a very representative entrance, the property has a high-quality custom-made kitchen, an inviting fireplace room, a charmingly designed ladies' and gentlemen's salon, a winter garden and five comfortable bedrooms with access to a terrace.



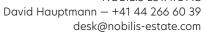






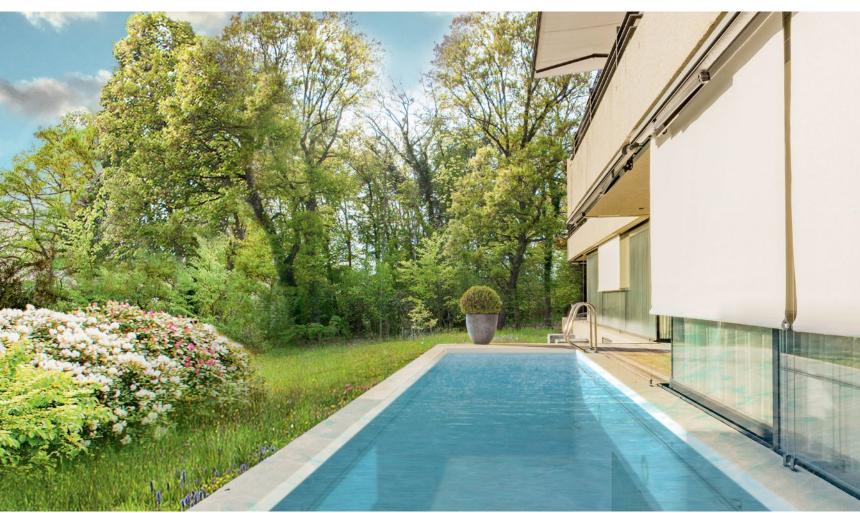
### Küsnacht, Switzerland

Price upon request NOBILIS ESTATE AG



Search VRRO on luxuryportfolio.com







A class of its own! In the privileged neighborhood of the so-called Goldcoast, this elegant luxury flat is nestled amidst the deep green hills above Lake Zurich. It features exquisite interior design, high-end bathrooms, kitchen fittings, French window glass fronts as well as underfloor heating through environmentally-friendly geothermal probes. The exterior stands out with an outdoor pool, several terraces and a fountain. In addition, there is a sauna, granny annex and heated underground car park for up to 12 vehicles!



# Aptos, CA, USA \$9,950,000

BAILEY PROPERTIES
Paul Bailey — +1 831 818 0406
pbailey@baileyproperties.com
Search LBDO on luxuryportfolio.com

SOLD FOR \$10,000,000. Extraordinary home on the sand in an exclusive, private, world-class beach location. Craftsmanship of this 5-bedroom, 4-bath home matches the view — breathtaking! Stunning home underwent a \$4-million-plus rebuild in 2019–2020. Amazing 42-foot wide by 9-foot-tall top-of-the-line "Fleetwood" window wall with storm-level glass. Premier quality light fixtures by John Pomp and Alison Berger. Security gate and steps from deck down to the sand. The home is a showstopper, like a 10-carat diamond!







### Sarasota, FL, USA \$8,950,000

MICHAEL SAUNDERS & COMPANY Kim Ogilvie - +1 941 376 1717 kimogilvie@michaelsaunders.com Search NVRS on luxuryportfolio.com





Armonk, NY, USA \$8,750,000

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE Angela Kessel – +1 914 841 1919 akessel@houlihanlawrence.com Search IJQI on luxuryportfolio.com



Redding, CT, USA \$8,500,000

WILLIAM RAVEIS REAL ESTATE, MORTGAGE & INSURANCE Stacy Young - +1 917 816 6733 stacy.young@raveis.com Search FXFL on luxuryportfolio.com



# Basel, Switzerland Price upon request

NOBILIS ESTATE AG
David Hauptmann — +41 44 266 60 39
desk@nobilis-estate.com
Search MUWP on luxuryportfolio.com

Beautiful townhouse — a diamond from the Belle Epoque! In the privileged setting, this elegant property built in 1906 has been wonderfully preserved. Ange de Bale impresses with a magnificent neoclassical facade, several balconies, terraces and a park-like garden that features a winter terrace. The property is one of the most representative family residences in Basel. The town villa would also provide an evocative setting for a company headquarters. It can also be used as a multi-family house, with the possibility of additional apartments in the attic.







Poised on the Manasquan River, this extraordinary 24,000-square-foot waterfront home with 9 bedrooms and 15 bathrooms is undoubtedly one of the finest waterfront estates available on the East Coast. This resort-like private outdoor oasis rests on 2.96 acres with 240 ft. of Riparian Grant water frontage and offers a guest house, tennis court, heated swimming pool, dressing rooms, cabana, outdoor kitchen and bar, two deep-water docks with slips that accommodate boats up to 65 ft. and easy ocean access. Close proximity to New York, beach, public transportation and executive airport.

# Brielle, NJ, USA \$8,499,000

DIANE TURTON, REALTORS Colleen Dingley - +1 732 322 0731

cdingley@dianeturton.com Search OUZF on luxuryportfolio.com









# Santa Teresa, Malpaís, Costa Rica \$7,960,000

LX COSTA RICA Clari Vega — +506 8824 1903 clari@lxcostarica.com Search RGUW on luxuryportfolio.com





Amenia, NY, USA \$6,495,000

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE Oliver Brown — +1 917 680 8933 obrown@houlihanlawrence.com Search KNPU on luxuryportfolio.com



### London, England

Price upon request

ONE GLOBAL GROUP SINGAPORE
One Global Property Services — +65 9784 6547
jamespuddle@ogpsglobal.com
Search AXHA on luxuryportfolio.com



# Siesta Key, FL, USA \$7,900,000

MICHAEL SAUNDERS & COMPANY
Team Dunn — +1 941 238 8119
teamdunn@michaelsaunders.com
Search FKKF on luxuryportfolio.com





Live an exceptional lifestyle reminiscent of a 17th-century Palladian villa in south France in this masterpiece. This custom-built home on Siesta Key's Cocoanut Bayou has 120' of waterfront protected by Roberts Bay providing direct access to the Intracoastal Waterway and the Gulf of Mexico. Elegantly appointed home features 8,571 sq. ft. of living space with a covered terrace, a heated saltwater pool and spa surrounded by Malibu marble with multiple entertainment areas, concrete seawall, composite wood dock and deep water, offering an extraordinary island lifestyle.



# Crested Butte, CO, USA \$7,500,000

BLUEBIRD REAL ESTATE
Trevor Bona — +1 970 319 5092
trevor@bbre1.com
Search RCLA on luxuryportfolio.com





Taylor Crest Manor's enchanting location and expansive views transport you to paradise in the Rockies. The 1.5-acre lot sits upon an aspen grove and includes a grand entry, great room featuring 30-foot windows, 4-car garage, 1,500-plus-bottle wine cellar and a primary suite with fireplace. 3,000-plus sq. ft. of patio space and hot tub allow for outdoor dining and entertainment. This one-of-a-kind home offers luxury and comfort among a magical landscape in a tight-knit community. A home away from home, take your chance to slow down, enjoying the simplicity that Mother Nature has to offer.



Breathtaking panoramic views the moment you step inside this stunning Beaver Lake home. Vetter Dank-designed, this architectural masterpiece is one of a kind. Set back only 50 ft. off the lake, enjoy the teal blue crystal water with 357 ft. of private frontage. Completed in 2016, this 10,000-square-foot home is exquisitely designed to be both a quiet oasis that offers the ideal space for entertaining. Featuring 8 bedrooms all with en suite baths, lake view decks on all levels, chef's kitchen, natural fireplace, sauna, home theater, LL game room, bar lounge area and more!

# Chenequa, WI, USA \$7,500,000



Search HNTG on luxuryportfolio.com











# Tampa, FL, USA \$6,250,000

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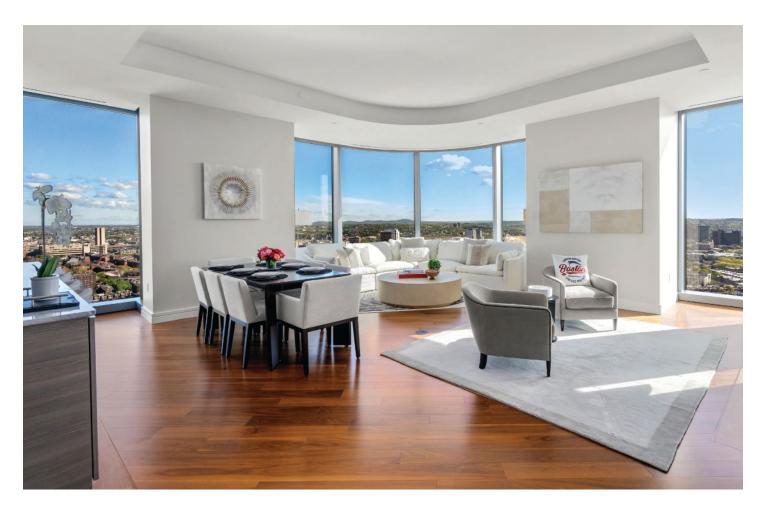
The waterfront home you have been dreaming of! This custom-built 6,100-square-foot estate is located on a huge deep water private lot and offers 5 bedrooms, 6 full baths, 2 powder rooms, 2 offices, 2 laundry rooms, an oversize 3-car garage, covered dock with boat lift, media room, gym, resort-style pool and amazing outdoor living space. Lavished with finishes of uncompromising quality this European-inspired showplace features coastal-style interiors and is fully updated. The home's open floor plan flows seamlessly from indoors to outdoors, creating the perfect setting.



Floor 30 is home to Residence #3005, a coveted upper-corner unit with floor-to-ceiling windows that seamlessly wrap around this luxury high rise. 61 stories of impeccable design standing 740 feet high grace Boston's skyline, flaunting its unique trefoil shape. Offering unparalleled amenities, spectacular views from Fenway to Logan airport, top-notch construction, 24-hour concierge and more. All furnishings included in the purchase. Do not miss out!

# Boston, MA, USA \$6,200,000

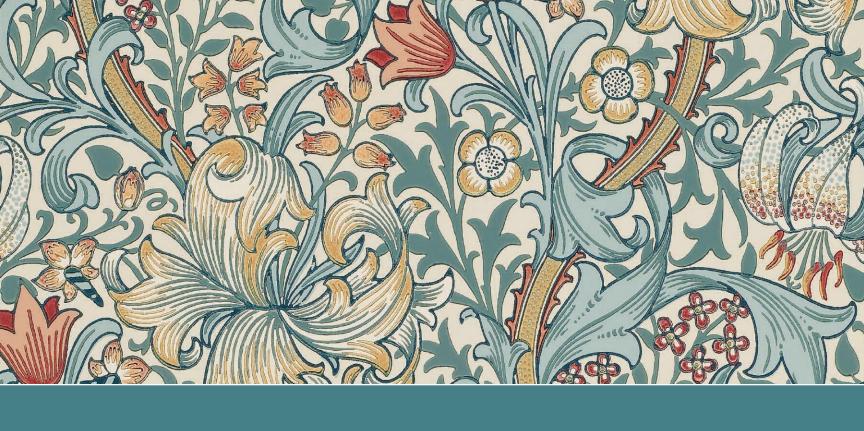
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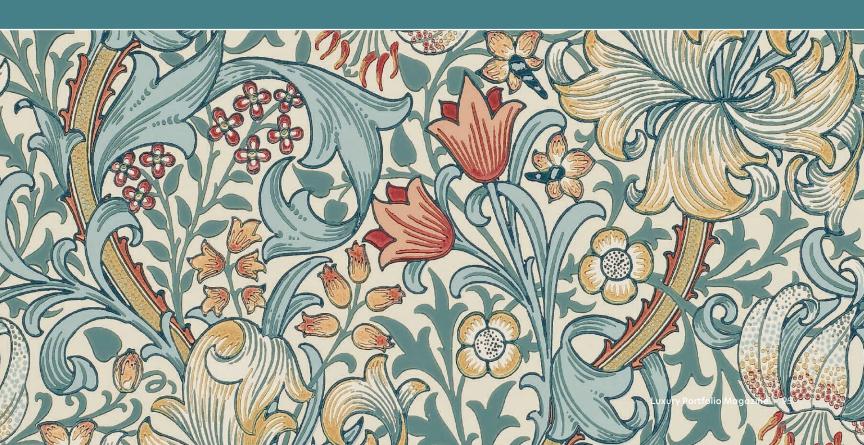








# TRAVEL







atching my breath near a lift, I scan the horizon in a slow 360-degree turn. It is a bit of a head trip, like standing in the center of an impossibly large porcelain bowl. White swaths curl their way down in all directions, while a network of chairlifts ferries skiers and snowboarders this way and that toward a dizzying array of opportunities. And, out of sight beyond the lip of each ridgeline, another network of cables stretches out, and yet another beyond that.

The Dolomites ski map that I dutifully studied this morning folds out comically large, roughly the same size as the gas-station state maps no one buys anymore — and it is about as much use. Lift upon lift link villages and resorts threaded through the mountains, each of which warrants its own fold-out map.

Over the years, I have zipped down countless "Racetracks," "Autobahns" and other runs named for the local interstate or highway, but this is the first time that I have thought commuting by ski could actually be a quicker option than by car.

"Consider twinning a Dolomites vacation with time in Venice. It's an easy drive through very pretty scenery, and on the way, you pass the glassware outlet stores!"

– Lucy Butler, Virtuoso travel advisor, Los Angeles



### DRIVING FORCE

Roughly two hours north of Venice near the Austrian border, the Dolomites jut from the earth to form Italy's ultimate adventuresports playground. This eastern stretch of the Italian Alps teems with rock climbers, kayakers, cyclists and trekkers in summer. Once the temperatures drop, the UNESCO World Heritage cliffs and valleys play host to the world's largest ski network: Dolomiti Superski, a 12-area expanse totaling more than 450 lifts and 750 miles of marked trails.

You could spend a whole season zigzagging among the mostly interconnected network without skiing the same run twice. Or, this being Italy, without eating the same plate of handmade tortellini from one of the 400 independent rifugi – former farmhouse huts renovated as restaurants – that stop skiers in their tracks.

For an introduction to the region, I decided to dig into two destinations popular with both international and Italian skiers: Alta Badia and Cortina d'Ampezzo, which sit on opposite sides of Falzarego Pass from each other.

"The skiing in Alta Badia is terrific for intermediates," says Los Angeles-based Virtuoso travel advisor Lucy Butler, who carved up its slopes recently. "I expected mainly super-duper expert terrain, but that certainly wasn't the case."

The same can be said for Cortina.

Though you can find the odd chute or bump run, the vast majority of the Dolomites' slopes are immaculately groomed for Italians to ski like they drive: fast and stylishly, over rollers and through sweeping g-force-inducing corners. Their daily goal seems to be a connect-the-dots lift game that involves swishing down as much terrain as possible.

Turnstile pass-readers even log your progress for a performance check so you can track vertical feet, miles skied and lift repetitiveness to compete against yourself, ski buddies and faceless diehards over the course of the day or season.

I have come around to the value of mountain guides when skiing a new resort, and Alta Badia is a prime example of why Virtuoso advisors often arrange them for clients' ski vacations.

"That's Lavarela, where we started in San Cassiano," my guide, Diego, says, pointing to a towering face two valleys and a small mountain away.

We are on just our fourth or fifth of the 16 different lifts that we will ride today.

In the Dolomites, it is not finding the best terrain that you need guides for - it is to ensure that you end up in the right town when the chairs stop, or at least one a manageable taxi ride away.



A steep downhill run in the Tofane ski area



The interior of Refugio Scotoni, specializing in grilled plates



The town of Cortina d'Ampezzo





### MOUNTAIN MAN

Chef Norbert Niederkofler introduced his "Cook the Mountain" menu to Rosa Alpina's St. Hubertus to let guests see, smell and taste the Dolomites on a plate.

The kitchen grows more than 100 herbs, works with a professor of fungi and will not serve anything you cannot find on the mountain — which means no fine-dining staples such as foie gras, citrus, tomatoes or vanilla.

"In the mountains, for four to five months nature doesn't give you anything," Mr. Niederkofler says.
"Starting this concept takes a full year. In summer, you have to fill up the storage room — drying, fermenting, preserving in oil — otherwise, you run out of food in the winter."

The restaurant sources ingredients from some 40 farmers — no middlemen — to supply its seasonal menu.

"Spring is light and fresh — what you're looking for after a harsh winter," Mr. Niederkofler says. "Summer is powerful and rich, autumn becomes more earthy and winter is dark and very earthy."

As for the dish that embodies his three principles of place, season and zero waste?

"Whitefish tartare," he says, locally caught, with the scales fried for texture and a sauce made from the bones.







### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

While the Dolomites are part of the Alps, the list of attributes that they share with the mountains of Switzerland's Saint Moritz or Courchevel in France ends somewhere shortly after "people who like sliding on snow." Formed from fossilized coral reefs and atolls, the imposing cliffs and massifs that define the region glow with soft oranges, pinks and reds in the warm morning and evening light, like chunky embers cast across the landscape. Witnessing their transformation as weather and time progress can be as much a sport as cruising their slopes.

"Compared to skiing in other areas, those dramatic, jagged peaks surrounding you stand out the most, but the food is actually my favorite part of skiing here," says Rick Reichsfeld, president of ski and adventure-travel tour company Alpine Adventures. "From the delicious beet ravioli to the dried meats and farmstead cheeses, you'll know you're not in Switzerland or France."

Although gourmet dining is as much of the ski-town experience as Gore-Tex these days, it is true that the Dolomites' - and especially Alta Badia's - blend of northern Italian, Austrian and Ladin mountain cuisine rivals its skiing, both in impressiveness and importance.

"Here, we ski two hours, then lunch two hours," says Hugo Pizzinini, owner and general manager of Rosa Alpina Hotel & Spa in San Cassiano, now part of a partnership with Aman hotels.

The third generation of Pizzininis to run the hotel, he personifies the Alta Badia experience – sophisticated and proud, yet unassuming. It is a feeling you pick up on when you first set foot in the hotel, where Mr. Pizzinini worked every staff position while growing up.

Fires crackle in the votive-framed fireplace in the lobby, which serves more as a cozy chalet living room where guests nurse negronis on couches and shaggy sheepskin-covered pillows. Local wood carvings, artwork and vintage photos line hallways and guest rooms paneled in knotty white pine.



Chef Norbert Niederkofler in his Michelin-starred kitchen at St. Hubertus



Pizza Verdura at Pizzeria Porto Rotundo in Cortina d'Ampezzo



The interior of St. Hubertus restaurant in San Cassiano



Roasted deer chop at La Stube restaurant in Cortina d'Ampezzo



A gourmet plate by chef Norbert Neiderkofler. enjoyed at Refugio Ütia de Bioch





### TRAIL MIX

Back up on the mountain, roughly two hours into our day, Diego suggests we stop for an *aperitivo* at Ütia de Bioch, a typical *rifugio*. As platters of speck, sausages, pickles, two cheeses, breads and empanada-like pastries arrive, he explains how, a few years ago, a group of these huts banded together to distinguish themselves by inviting Michelin-starred chefs to create a special dish for their menus.

What started as a bit of a PR stunt has evolved into the Gourmet Ski Safari, something visitors now plan ski days — and in fact entire vacations — around. Although you can order the dishes throughout the season, on one day each year, the chefs descend on the huts to cook their respective dishes in what becomes an extended progressive lunch on skis.

The annual event's popularity spawned wine spin-offs — numerous days each season when skiers pair up with a sommelier and a guide for hut-to-hut tastings of South Tyrolean wines.

"This year, there are more than 150 wines you can taste in a day," Diego says, as we finish a glass of prosecco, adding with a smile, "though, as instructors, we don't recommend that."

While our midday snack could pass for lunch in most places, soon we are linking more slopes en route to a special run that Diego wants to ski before our main meal.

After a few lifts, a ski taxi shuttle over the pass and a cable car that seems to defy physics with its near vertical ascent, we step off atop Mount Lagazuoi. On one side, Cortina's ski resorts fan out. On the other, a treeless white highway leads back to Alta Badia.

At more than five miles long, the Hidden Valley's Armentarola run is one of the standouts in the Dolomites, if not all of Europe. Steeply pitched in parts, the intermediate run begins with panoramic views of the peaks, then banks its way through a remote, cliff-lined gorge and canyon. Ice waterfalls and a massive rock face — the back side of Cortina's Tofana ski resort — loom closer and higher as you descend, making you feel infinitesimally small.

In a fitting flourish, the run ends with another Dolomites original: a horse-drawn sleigh trailing ropes — literally a two-horsepower lift that tows skiers along a snowed-in creek bed to Armentarola resort's lifts.

Roughly halfway down the valley, we pull over at Rifugio Scotoni. The sundeck is packed, wine and warm eggnog-like *bombardinos* are flowing, and even though it is nearly 2 p.m., owner Christian Agreiter is still a nonstop flurry of flames, flipping and chopping at the arill.

Scotoni is known for its family-style mixed platter of ribs, steaks, sausages, vegetables and polenta, and a quick glance around the room confirms the feast lands on most tables along with multiple bottles from the 400-strong wine list.

Things are more composed back at Rosa Alpina, where the day wraps up at the hotel's three-Michelin-starred St. Hubertus, Alta Badia's top restaurant.

Chef Norbert Niederkofler follows a sustainable, strictly locavore "Cook the Mountain" ethos with exquisite results: delicate trout with black garlic and foraged berries, ravioli with mountain cheese in a light chicken broth, lamb with koji sauce and a "Tomato?" course that turns out to be a preserved plum — tomatoes do not grow well in the Dolomites — are just a few highlights.

It is a strong finish to a big day, both by ski and by fork. Cortina has a lot to live up to, without a doubt.



Skiers take a break at Refugio Scotoni along the Armentarola run



The Lounge Bar at Cristallo Resort & Spa in Cortina d'Ampezzo



Skiing in the Tofane



### **GAME ON**

On the other side of Falzarego Pass from Rosa Alpina, Cortina d'Ampezzo presents itself as the glamorous, cosmopolitan counterpart to Alta Badia's quiet village life. The town splashed onto the international scene in 1956 when it hosted the first televised Winter Olympics. It has been refining its reputation ever since.

Spread across a valley with the Tofana and Faloria ski resorts dominating either side, the town of roughly 6,000 swells to nearly 50,000 during the season's peak — you will find a good chunk of them living it up at the pedestrian-only Corso Italia's bars, restaurants and shops when they are not on the slopes.

"If you want nightlife, you're better off in Cortina," says Lucy Butler, when asked who she would recommend it to over Alta Badia.

And as their base, the historic Cristallo Resort & Spa, recently restored to its 1956 Olympics glory with parquet floors, sparkling chandeliers and stenciled wood panels. Perched just out of earshot of the main drag's commotion, guests wake to valleywide views of Tofana resorts and Mount Faloria, returning after a day on the mountain to toast the alpenglow with the house cocktail, rosé Champagne and lychee liqueur.

Shortly after doing the former, I step off the gondola at Tofana. This largest of Cortina's ski resorts is noticeably more crowded than those on the other side of the pass, but it is also easier for first-timers to navigate.

AFTER A COUPLE of warm-up runs, I find my way to the mountain's famed downhill slope, an annual highlight of the women's World Cup ski tour since 1992. The run starts with a majestic view of the valley, then quickly accelerates to one of pro skiing's most iconic shots — the Tofana Schuss, a 65-degree pitch that dives to the right between two sharp spires. Lindsey Vonn and her peers blast through it airborne at a white-knuckle 80 miles per hour, but even seen through my goggles at a quarter of the speed, it is still a cheer-worthy sight.

A light snow begins falling at lunch, and clouds crawl down the peaks, nudging all but the foolhardy to more gentle terrain below the tree line and eventually back to town, where the Corso Italia's wine bars will be kicking off early.

Tomorrow brings the promise of Faloria's advanced slopes, or possibly those of Cinque Torri, with a run back down Lagazuoi — plus that two-hour lunch, espresso breaks and a midday *aperitivo*. The local take on a ski day brings a lot to the table. Performance check, please. LP



This story originally appeared in Virtuoso Life, the magazine of Virtuoso, which is a leading global travel agency network specializing in luxury and experiential travel. Scan this code to read more stories such as this and explore the world of Virtuoso.

# MAKE TRACKS — SET UP FOR GREAT DAYS IN THE DOLOMITES

### GO

Alpine Adventures tailors complete ski vacations at resorts around the world for groups ranging from two to 200. Options for the Dolomites include stays in Cortina d'Ampezzo and Madonna di Campiglio.

### **STAY**

- Gff-slope diversions at 55-room
  Rosa Alpina, an Aman partner hotel
  that includes a family pool and an
  adults-only pool in the spa, a game
  room and cinema and the lobby
  bar, where you will often find owner
  Hugo Pizzinini chatting with guests.
  Dinner at St. Hubertus is a must, and
  the hotel's casual Restaurant Wine
  Bar & Grill is San Cassiano's best
  spot for handmade pastas, grilled
  meats and wood-fired pizzas.
- Cortina d'Ampezzo's 74-room
  Cristallo, a Luxury Collection
  Resort & Spa, greets guests with
  sweeping views, a large spa, parlor
  games in the lounge and a mini
  ice rink on the terrace. Among its
  three restaurants, intimate La Stube
  1872 serves mountain dishes such
  as French rack of venison with
  potato galette, while fine-dining II
  Gazebo is the go-to for 360-degree
  Ampezzo Valley views and the likes
  of blue-potato dumplings with
  squid, candied cherry tomatoes
  and burrata.
- Wellness retreat Lefay Resort
  & Spa Dolomiti in Madonna di
  Campiglio features 111 suites and
  residences, all with fireplaces,
  two restaurants and an expansive
  54,000-square-foot spa an
  inviting retreat for post-mountain
  recovery.



Minter

EXPLORE
CHRISTMAS
TRADITIONS AT
THE HOLIDAY
MARKETS OF
AUSTRIA AND
GERMANY

By LINSEY STONCHUS

he winter holiday season is a time to take a break from the bustle of everyday life.
Christkindlmarkts in Austria and Germany turn back the clock, welcoming visitors to a storybook atmosphere of timber stalls, artisan goods and the comforting aroma of cinnamon and spices.

During the late 13<sup>th</sup> century, Vienna, Austria, was one of the first cities to introduce the Christkindlmarkt's predecessor, a Krippenmarkt, or "nativity market."

"These markets were not originally intended as being part of the Christmas celebrations," notes the Austrian National Tourist Office. "Instead, they were places where people could stock up on food and clothes for the winter season, get their shoes fixed and, in later years, buy gifts from local toy makers. They were meeting hotspots for traders and their customers, buskers and people seeking out the latest talk of towns."



Since the beginning, food and drink were important elements of the markets.

In Vienna, one could often find cookies, Maroni (roasted chestnuts), Kletzenbrot (Austrian fruit bread), Bratkartoffel (roasted potato wedges), Ofenkartoffel (baked potatoes), Christmas punch and glühwein (mulled wine).

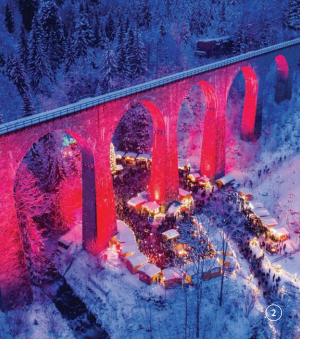
Barbara Shneeble, a German native and YouTube vlogger of the popular channel, My German Recipes, says that glühwein's origins at the markets are rooted in practicality.

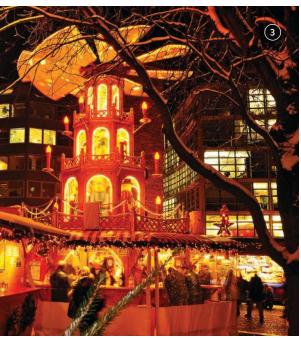
"When you have glühwein in your hand, it's going to warm your hands and it's also warming you from the inside," she says.

The glühwein was traditionally heated using a hot iron or hot stones placed within the mugs themselves. Spicing, meanwhile, originated from ancient Greeks and Romans.

"They started to spice the wine, mostly because the wine back then didn't taste very good — it was very sour, and it also tended to go bad very fast," Ms. Shneeble says.

Honey, fruits and herbs added to the flavor and helped the wine keep for longer. Romans eventually taught this technique to their European neighbors. And, because spices were imported from India and other countries, spiced wine was seen as a status symbol.









The 19th and 20th centuries solidified the markets' connection to Christmas, incorporating festive trees and fairy lights, adding color to the charming backdrop of medieval architecture. The markets of today continue to subtly evolve to incorporate new traditions, while maintaining much of the integrity of the past. The following are must-see markets in Austria and Germany.

### VIENNA, AUSTRIA

#### November 19-December 26 | austria.info

One of the oldest Christkindlmarkts is also one of the most plentiful. In total, Vienna offers 20 separate markets, with its Viennese Dream Christmas Market in front of city hall being the most popular. Attractions in the main market include a nativity scene trail, carousels, a Ferris wheel and an ice-skating rink. Also worth a visit are the Christmas Village Baroque Palace, Christmas Village on Maria Theresian Square and the Advent Delights Market at the Vienna State Opera.

### RAVENNA GORGE, GERMANY

### November 25-December 18 | hochschwarzwald.de

Located in the Black Forest beneath a 131-foot (40-meter) high railway viaduct, the Christmas Market at Ravenna Gorge, open Friday through Sunday only, is a sight to behold and feels uniquely secluded. For an added experience, visitors can opt to arrive at the market via a torchlit, 1.6-mile (2.5-kilometer) hike. The event is notably sustainable, powered entirely by hydroelectric energy, illuminated by LED lamps, and its goods and foods are sourced locally. Specialties such as Black Forest ham, trout and regional schnapps are served in eco-friendly cardboard, bamboo, wood and reusable dishes.

### MUNICH, GERMANY

### November 21-December 24 | munich.travel

Roughly 3,000 lights on a soaring Christmas tree glitter against the romantic backdrop of Munich's neo-gothic town hall. The city's offering of goods has changed little in 200 years, known for its gingerbread and Bavarian wood carvings, as well as its historic nativity scene in the town hall's interior courtyard featuring a manger built in 1953 by artist Reinhold Zellner. Additional markets to visit are Winter Magic on Viktualienmarkt; Munich's iconic and permanent daily market, Christmas Village in the Kaiserhof of the Residenz, featuring local goldsmiths, furriers and glassblowers; and a Mulled Wine Festival in the Bogenhausen Christmas Forest, showcasing traditional mulled wine favorites and Feuerzangenbowle, a flaming version.

### COLOGNE, GERMANY

### November 21-December 23 | cologne-tourism.com

Cologne's Christmas markets offer something for everyone, including Cologne Cathedral Christmas market, St. Nicholas' Village on Rudolfplatz, Harbour Christmas Market and Heavenue, an LGBTQ+ oriented market, plus organic and vegan food stalls aplenty. Each market offers its own unique character. Harbour Christmas Market, for instance, follows a theme inspired by seafaring and its ports, including tent materials reminiscent of ships, play boats for children and seafood. IP



The Adventmarkt in the Rathausplatz square in Vienna, Austria Photo by Harald Eisenberger ©Austrian National Tourist Office



The Ravenna Gorge Christmas market @Hochschwarzwald Tourismus GmbH



The Kripperlmarkt am Rindermarkt in Munich, Germany Photo by Stefan Böttcher ©München Tourismus



Germany's most popular Christmas market in front of the Cologne Cathedral Photo by Dieter Jacobi. courtesy of KölnTourismus

# TELAWWY ORNOTHING!

Israel's second city is hard to surpass for its café culture, tech chops, multi-ethnic cuisine and humming nightlife

By MICKEY ALAM KHAN

hile visitors could easily spend their entire stay in Tel Aviv on the beautiful beaches, there is more to the Israeli city than just basking in the sun, sea and sand.

Second only to Jerusalem in population, Tel Aviv is Israel's hub for nightlife, real estate, technology, finance and culture. The unique energy, vibe, café culture, salubrious weather and its location on the Mediterranean Sea have earned Tel Aviv a well-deserved sobriquet: the non-stop city.

Following, David Bibian, a Tel Aviv- and New York-based real estate broker and founder/CEO of Bibian Group Israel Real Estate, offers an insider view on what makes the city unique, and how its distinct neighborhoods and cuisines are worthy of serious attention.

### What is it that makes Tel Aviv so special compared to other Israeli cities?

In comparison to other cities like Haifa, Jerusalem and Eilat, Tel Aviv's geography is very convenient. [There is] easy access to the beach with clean, white sands and warm, Mediterranean water temperatures, flat streets and roads with no hills, valleys or mountains and a comfortable transportation structure with the subway being built at light speed connecting Tel Aviv as a main hub to other cities throughout Israel.

Tel Aviv has been leading the way for the cultural mix, food scenes and the economy for the entire country of Israel. Large soccer

and basketball sports clubs like Maccabi Tel Aviv, headquarters of magazines and newspapers, media channels and radio stations, theaters and the opera — are all located in Tel Aviv, showing how the city shapes Israel's cultural atmosphere.

It's probably the only city worldwide where all of a sudden you will be dancing with strangers in the street, chatting with locals about life and the next minute taking shots of arak — a local Israeli drink made from anise — and playing matkot, a well-known Israeli paddle-board game, on the beach.

### What are the top neighborhoods of Tel Aviv and what is their story?

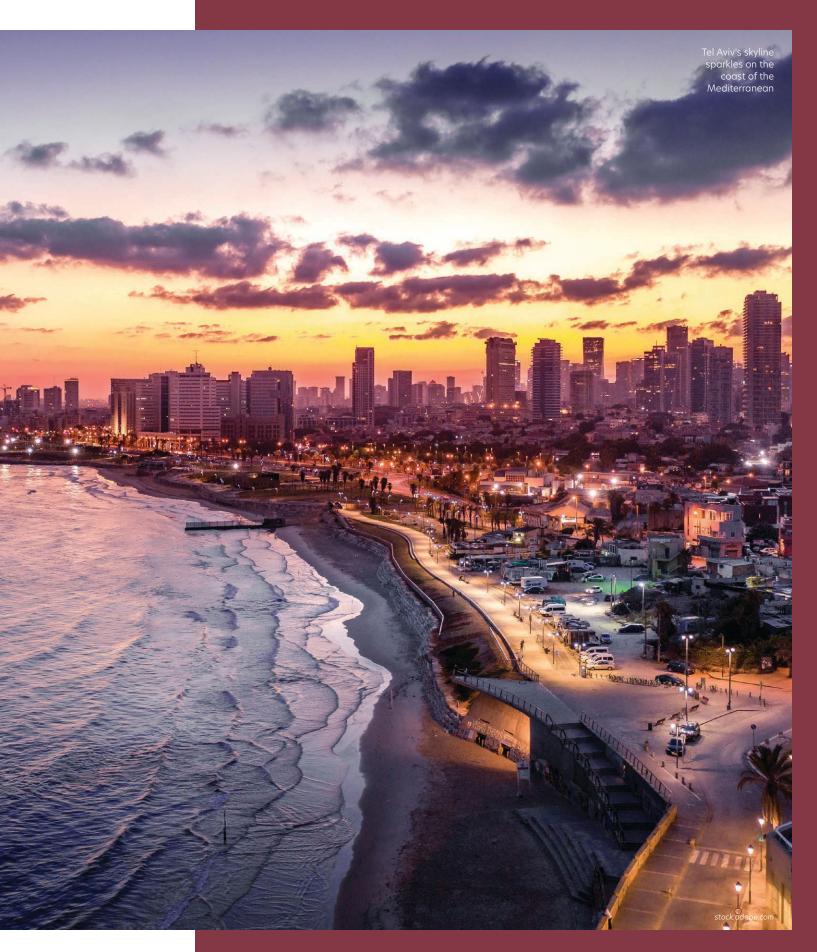
In Tel Aviv, each neighborhood is unique with its past and current residents and cultural backgrounds. What many don't realize is how Tel Aviv is really a cultural melting pot, which is part of what makes it so special and unique.

Each neighborhood and, in some cases, streets, have their own unique flair. For example, the Levinsky market area used to be known as the garment, textile and stationery district with old and historic buildings. For the past few years, with ecommerce changing how people purchase, new residents moved to the area and changed it to a lively area with bars, restaurants, cafés and open markets.

Tel Aviv is divided into nine districts and within them you can find the following main and well-known neighborhoods: Old Jaffa, Florentin, Neve Tzedek, Kerem Ha Teimanim, Lev Ha'Ïr, the City Center and the Old North.

**Florentin** today is known as "bohemian cool" with a laid-back vibe and a mix of artisans, artists and designers. Previously it was an area of textiles and light industrial businesses. The neighborhood became well known after a popular TV show in the 1990s about a group of artists and musicians living in the neighborhood. Since then, many real estate developers found interest in the neighborhood and made it very desirable.

In the Florentin area you can also find the Levinsky market, which is a relatively new hub for bars, cafes, spices and wholesale for candies and home décor.







**Jaffa** is the oldest seaport in the world. More than 4,000 years old and situated next to Tel Aviv, it is home to a vibrant, multi-ethnic community of Jews from Bulgaria, Muslims and Christians. It is from where the Prophet Jonah set off.

The port is known for excellent fish restaurants, bakeries and a robust flea market. It is one of the best places in all of Israel to watch the sunset and walk through the artist colony. Jaffa is considered to be a separate city from Tel Aviv, but the two officially merged in 1950.

In **Lev Hay'ir**, also known as the City Center, the best thing to do is head straight to the beach.

City Center has one of the oldest shopping centers in Tel Aviv, named after the street on which is it located, "Dizengoff Center."

City Center has many theaters such as Beit Lesin, Kameri and the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Opera}}.$ 

This is the heart of the city in the downtown district of Tel Aviv. It contains some of Tel Aviv's most beautiful buildings and is referred to as the "White City," known for its Bauhaus and eclectic architecture. It is the center of the finance, culture and art scenes.

The **Old North** is known for Ha'Yarkon Park, which is like the Central Park of Tel Aviv, where you can kayak, bike and picnic. The Old North has cafés and restaurants open until late, but in some ways it is still very quiet, less busy than other parts of Tel Aviv.

The future subway stations located in many parts of this neighborhood will give a huge boost to real estate pricing in the future. In the Old North, you can also find Tel Aviv Port, which is packed with great restaurants, shopping, fishing activities and, of course, nightlife.

**Neve Tzedek** today is the most sought-after neighborhood to live in. It is the oldest neighborhood, and has recently been restored.

The old, quaint and narrow streets are now filled with luxury real estate and high-end boutiques, all the while keeping the rustic charm of the neighborhood. Its name means "oasis of justice" and it is seen as a little retreat from the modern city.

**Kerem Ha Teimanim** is a neighborhood established by the Yemenite Jewish community. It is known for its charmingly small and winding streets, ground-level houses, which stand out from the highrises in the rest of Tel Aviv, and small, vibrant restaurants.

On Fridays, during the day, the restaurants turn to serve alcohol with music, making the area a mini-festival before Shabbat.

Near Kerem Ha Teimanim you can find the world-renowned Carmel Market with endless varieties of food, clothes, and fresh fruits and vegetables. At night, the market becomes a scene and connects itself to Kerem Ha Teimanim with live music, bars and restaurants.

The **Hatikvah District** is known for its market, the soccer team and the meat restaurant. This area is the next area to get developed and gentrified in Tel Aviv.

The proximity to City Center, affordability in comparison to other parts of Tel Aviv, and easy access to nightlife and beaches will give a huge boost to this area in the upcoming years.

When we have guests and clients coming into town and want to experience true Israeli restaurants, we take them to Hativkah Market, which is still shopped by locals and has great prices.



Mediterranean surfers in the Jaffa neighborhood at sunset



The Neve Tzedek neighborhood has picturesque narrow streets lined with older buildings



Fresh fruit at the popular Carmel Market in the Kerem Haa Teimanim neighborhood



Nuts and spices at one of the many open air markets in Tel Aviv



Tel Aviv's weather is perfect for enjoying outdoor activities such as bike riding down its boulevards

"Dishes from the Persian, Turkish, Moroccan, Italian, Spanish and Yemenite kitchens are only part of what makes the Tel Avivian food so great and unbelievable" - David Bibian, Bibian Group Israel Real Estate

### How about hotel stays in the city?

New hotels in Tel Aviv are the Norman, Setai, which is located in an old police station building — very cool; Royal Beach is a great one in an amazing location near everything you need; and Mandarin Oriental is developing a mega-hotel on the beach area near Carmel Market.

You can find many boutique and cute hotels throughout the city like Atlas hotels - a chain of boutique hotels - and Muse Hotel.

### Let's talk about the food scene in Tel Aviv. What are some of the top cuisines, favorite dishes and leading restaurants in the city?

Tel Aviv has a very unique food experience and is considered to be a very delicious melting pot of cultures and provides foodies with a diverse range of Asian, European and Middle Eastern cuisine.

The fresh produce, plus the creativity of Israelis with traditions of making food, has created an eclectic food scene that has nowhere else parallel to it.

Tel Aviv is also referred to as the "Vegan Capital of the World" since it has such a broad range of vegan restaurants to accommodate Tel Avivians, who are one of the largest vegan populations in the world.

Moreover, once you step into Tel Aviv, you can find street food available at any corner, fancy chef restaurants, fast food retails and many coffee shops. Tel Aviv is well known for its coffee shops serving delicious add-ons such as baked goods, sandwiches and unique pastries made in Israel.

Our top cuisines are from the Mediterranean kitchen, made with natural, fresh and mostly healthy produce – for example: olive oil, fresh herbs, spices and cheese.

Dishes from the Persian, Turkish, Moroccan, Italian, Spanish and Yemenite kitchens are only part of what makes the Tel Avivian food so great and unbelievable. It is hard to describe how good a food is on paper, but describing it might help.

Our top cuisine varies from street food dishes like falafel, shakshouka, Jerusalem mix, schnitzel, sabikh, shawarma [gyro or doner in other languages], Tunisian sandwiches, bourekas with add-ons, shish kebab, special soups and, of course, Italian dishes made with a Tel Avivian touch.

One of the leading restaurants in Tel Aviv is the famous Dr. Shakshuka in Jaffa, located in a historic building with a lovely vibe.

Many world-known restaurants are located in Neve Tzedek and the surrounding areas such as West Side in Royal Beach hotel, Shemesh restaurant at Hatikvah Market, Basta in Carmel Market, Shipudei Hakerem in Kerem Ha Teimanim and a special place underneath Sarona Market in an old Templar cave which was used later on by the IDF – the place called Whiskey Bar that serves special drinks with wonderful dishes. A great place to pick up food is Oh Mama, located on King George Street in City Center, Tel Aviv, which has an amazing variety of food. IP







# Providence, RI, USA \$5,995,000

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## Houston, TX, USA

\$5,750,000



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2148 Chilton is an ideal union of classic River Oaks architecture with modern design. The expansive living spaces are refined and comfortable for everyday living with attention to natural light. With 4 to 5 bedrooms and 5 baths in the main home plus detached quarters, family and guests enjoy curated finishes and privacy. Elevator to all floors of the home. Entertaining and enjoyment are paramount from the breathtaking kitchen, climate-controlled wine room and wet bar focusing on hospitality including an outdoor kitchen and lawn with room for a pool. Luxury is in every detail.



# Pismo Beach, CA, USA \$5,690,000

RICHARDSON PROPERTIES
C. Richardson/ K. Gentry — +1 805 900 0781 chrisandkristen@richardsonproperties.com
Search JHSI on luxuryportfolio.com





Panoramic ocean views make this private Pismo Beach estate the ultimate retreat. Beyond a picturesque location atop coastal bluffs, the three-level home includes five bedrooms and five full and one half bathrooms complete with elevator service and smart security system. Luxe touches include a temperature-controlled wine cellar with a 500-bottle capacity racking system, a library, a bonus room, a gallery with art lighting, lush landscaping and an expansive oceanfront terrace. If you are seeking a sophisticated oceanfront home in an extraordinary location, this is it.



Now under construction. Designed by Arquitectonica, 400 Central offers an elevated approach to luxury city living in the heart of St. Petersburg. This residence is draped in glass from floor to ceiling, allowing for an abundance of natural light in this stunningly designed four-bedroom penthouse. Take in panoramic city and water views in every room from the residence length, wrap-around terrace. The gourmet kitchen features Italian cabinetry, quartz countertops with a waterfall-edge island and top-of-the-line appliances. Luxury living in the sky.

# St. Petersburg, FL, USA \$5,680,000











# Washoe Valley, NV, USA \$5,400,000

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rdickson@dicksonrealty.com
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# Palisades, NY, USA \$5,000,000

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# Englewood Cliffs, NJ, USA \$4,988,800

HOWARD HANNA — RAND REALTY Barri Plawker — +1 201 615 6759 barri.plawker@randrealty.com Search QHNK on luxuryportfolio.com



# Blowing Rock, NC, USA \$5,000,000

**ALLEN TATE** Chris Spangler — +1 828 406 4310 chris.spangler@allentate.com Search FJCV on luxuryportfolio.com



This home's name, The Blowing Rock WOW House, perfectly describes the unmatched experience it offers. With breathtaking views from multiple locations within the home and from the heated infinity pool down the Wilson Creek Valley and the east side of Linville Gorge, it is nearly impossible not to sit and stare for hours, especially at sunset. The brand new home was built sparing no expense and represents true luxury. The grand exterior living space is closely rivaled by the amazing interior design and furnishings. It is unlike anything else on the market!





### San Diego, CA, USA \$4,995,000

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info@willisallen.com
Search XODP on luxuryportfolio.com





Discover your new lifestyle at Santaluz, the guard-gated coastal community that is second to none. Arrive at the wide, paved driveway with four car garage and additional parking. As you enter the double gates, enjoy the bubbling fountain in the courtyard. You'll find wood-beamed ceilings, stone flooring and a fireplace in the great room with vanishing doors of glass opening to the outdoor loggia. Entertain guests by the fireplace, grill at the BBQ island or dip in the sparkling pool. Prepare feasts with ease in the generous kitchen with room for all to gather.





# Asheville, NC, USA \$4,950,000

BEVERLY-HANKS, REALTORS Clary McCall - +1 828 768 0413 cmccall@beverly-hanks.com

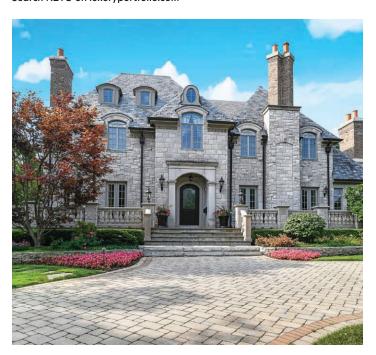




Soaring spaces flooded with natural light are the foundation of this transitional masterpiece by Buchanan Construction. 6 Stansbury in The Ramble is designed to function beautifully for entertaining in multiple areas simultaneously while also allowing for thoughtfully planned daily living spaces. The main-level living areas and primary suite overlook the incredible outdoor areas below. The fully fenced yard and pool are framed by the woods of the community land beyond. Two interior gas fireplaces are complemented by a wood-burning fireplace on the screened porch.

### Hinsdale, IL, USA \$4,950,000

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# Woodstock, NY, USA \$4,950,000

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# Chicago, IL, USA \$4,850,000

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Englewood, FL, USA \$4,750,000

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# Harrison, ID, USA

\$4,900,000



JOHN L. SCOTT REAL ESTATE Mark Hensley — +1 509 998 7200 markhensley@johnlscott.com Search STSF on luxuryportfolio.com



Perched above Coeur d'Alene Lake, this modern mountain retreat offers panoramic views for truly luxurious north Idaho living. Ultimate privacy on 7.83 acres with an additional 5.26-acre buildable parcel. The nearby community waterfront offers quick access to the lake as well as a boat slip.





### New York, NY, USA \$4,750,000

BROWN HARRIS STEVENS — NYC J. Joseph/W. Sarasohn — +1 212 906 9369 jjoseph@bhsusa.com Search EOBG on luxuryportfolio.com





Triple mint 3-bedroom home in one of the most desirable Upper East Side locations one block from Central Park. Rarely does an apartment in such pristine move-in condition come on the market. This "Classic 7" was gut renovated by the current owners in a no-expense-spared renovation. Features include new windows, new floors, new electric and a 3-zone central air-conditioning and humidification system to provide comfort and protect art and furnishings. This home wraps the corner of 64th Street and Madison Avenue offering southern and western exposures.







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NATURABISSE.COM



The history and traditions of the world's biggest party

By NORA HOWE

ach year, millions of Brazilians and international visitors come together in Rio de Janeiro for a weeklong series of exuberant parties, parades and events famously known as Carnaval.

Typically occurring between
February and March, the festival serves
as an end-of-summer bash as well
as the commencement of the Roman
Catholic season of Lent. With parades,
street parties, elaborate costumes,
exclusive balls and lots of samba,
Carnaval is more than an annual party—
it is an unparalleled celebration of life.

"Rio during Carnaval has an energy that is difficult to put into words," says Damon Banks, editor and managing partner at LuxeGetaways, Washington, D.C. "Many people in the United States have experienced Mardi Gras, which is an over-the-top celebration and is often compared to Carnaval.

"While both are widespread celebrations, the heightened excitement and energy in Rio will forever be unmatched," he says.



The Mirim samba school, formed to give younger people a chance to participate in Carnaval, performing in 2010



The samba school, Unidos da Tijuca, during the 2016 Carnaval in Rio de Janeiro



Each year the city of Rio de Janeiro parties 'til sunrise for the weeklong Carnaval festival



Understanding the festival's contemporary traditions requires an examination of its history.

While the inaugural Rio Carnaval masquerade festival took place around 1840, the tradition is founded in Christianity dating back to the Middle Ages.

As the 40-day season of Lent was a period of fasting and spiritual repentance, a celebration represented the last hurrah, complete with indulgent feasting and drinking.

When the Portuguese combined the Entrudo festival, similar to Mardi Gras, with these traditions, the Brazilian Carnaval was born.

An important element that differentiates Rio's Carnaval from others around the world is its emphasis on samba - a musical genre that originated within the Black communities of Rio in the early  $20^{\rm th}$  century.

African culture has significantly influenced the overall Brazilian culture, especially Carnaval celebrations thanks to the introduction of samba music in 1917. So much so, that samba now lives at the center of today's Carnaval celebrations in Brazil.

### **VAMOS FESTEJAR**

Before the Sambadrome Marquês de Sapucaí stadium was built in 1984, groups of samba dancers from various neighborhoods across Rio de Janeiro, known as samba schools, would perform for festivalgoers throughout the streets. With the venue, however, it has become a significantly greater production.

Known simply as the Sambódromo, the Carnaval complex houses a nearly half-mile stretch of the Marquês de Sapucaí street in the Santa Teresa neighborhood that has been permanently converted into grounds for the yearly samba parade. Tiered stadium seating was built on both sides to hold nearly 90,000 visitors.

Rio is home to more than 70 samba schools, all of which participate in the parade and each of which has roughly 3,000 members.







Spectators can cheer for those competing in the Grupo Especial, which awards a cash prize to a grand champion. To compete, each school is required to select a theme and match their costumes and choreography accordingly.

Costumes often err on the side of revealing, with an assortment of sequin, feather or jeweled embellishments to create eye-catching ensembles, some costing up to \$1,000 to make.

Schools must also design a parade float that supports their respective themes.

The competition is broadcast on national television on the Sunday and Monday of Carnaval, while a panel of judges ranks each school's performance based on song choice, drumming, precision, costumes, harmony and theme.

The celebrations do not end at Marquês de Sapucaí, however.

Street parties, called *blocos*, occur throughout Rio all day and night, attracting millions of people dressed in ornate costumes. Here, they dance, sing, bang drums, socialize and drink a lot of cachaça — Brazilian rum.

With parties popping up all around the city, they are hard to miss. However, there are a few that are notoriously large, such as Cordão do Bola Preta and Monobloco in downtown Rio, Volta, Alice! in Laranjeiras and Afroreggae in Ipanema.

### HAVE A BALL

One of the most popular locations for accommodations during Carnaval is Rio's South Zone, which consists of the beachfront neighborhoods of Ipanema, Copacabana, Leme, Leblon and Arpoador.

Some of the most recognized five-star hospitality properties include Belmond's

Copacabana Palace, Hotel Fasano in Ipanema, Fairmont Copacabana, Santa Teresa Hotel by MGallery and Villa Santa Teresa.

"Fairmont Rio de Janeiro Copacabana prioritizes the experience above all, with exclusivity and refinement," says Michael Nagy, commercial director at Fairmont, Rio de Janeiro. "The purpose of hospitality at the hotel during the Carnaval festival season is to create a lively and cozy atmosphere for those who want to enjoy the most awaited party of the year.

"In the middle of Sapucaí, the hotel has its own VIP area that provides an exclusive customer's view," he says. "During the show at Marquês de Sapucaí, the public can see countless fantastic performances, such as a great show by Cirque du Soleil, at each parade. It is all made by the best we have in this country — the people."

EVERY YEAR, Belmond hosts the exclusive and high-profile Magic Ball at the Copacabana Palace, which has a strict black-tie dress code policy of evening gowns and tuxedos or elaborate costumes. The entire hotel is transformed into a Carnaval paradise.

"Do not make the mistake of not planning ahead and just showing up expecting to watch parades, as you will miss out on the true Carnaval experiences," Mr. Banks says. "There are opportunities where you can be part of the parade, so be sure to inquire about these Instagramworthy experiences.

"Be sure to score tickets to one of the balls where you can choose to dress up and feel like you are sincerely a part of Carnaval and carry these memories with you for a lifetime," he says. IP



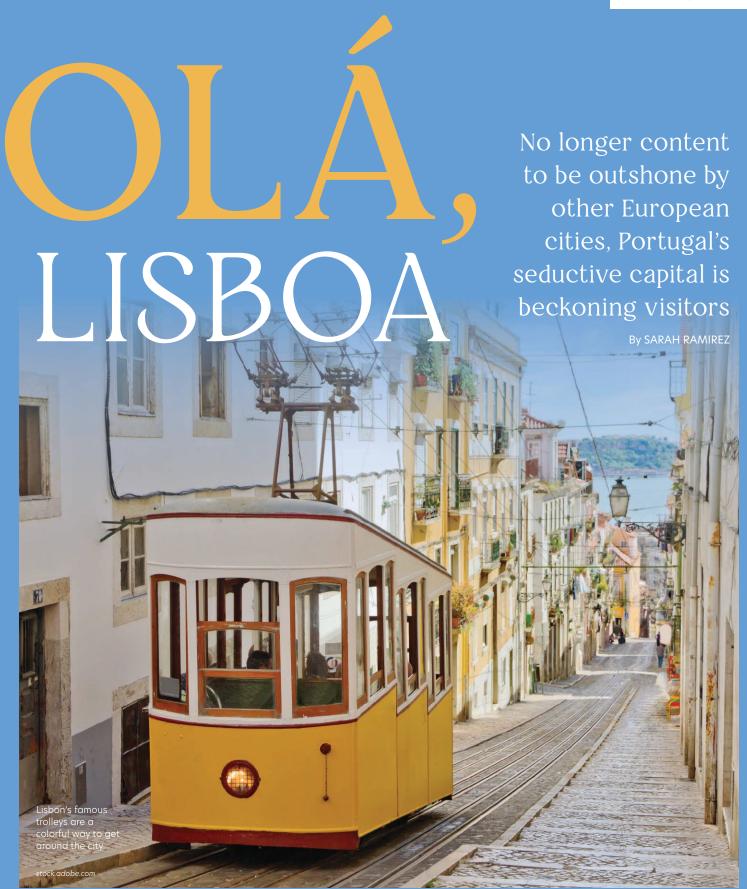
"Do not make the mistake of not planning ahead and just showing up expecting to watch parades as you will miss out on the true Carnaval experiences" – DAMON BANKS, LUXEGETAWAYS



The Ilha do Governador samba school parade in the Sambódromo in 2016



A samba school competing in the Grupo Especial during Carnaval in 2018



ne of the world's oldest cities, Lisbon captures the imagination in a way unlike some of its more glamorous European peers such as Rome and Paris.

Lying just off the Atlantic coast on the Iberian Peninsula, Lisbon's location makes it unique among its counterparts on the continent. The Portuguese capital predates most major European cities by centuries, and has seen a revival in recent years.

"Lisbon is a monumental city, blessed with a feeling of measured serenity that became a melting pot for new restaurants, new concept stores and with a vibrant cosmopolitan life," says Kika Coutinho, concierge and assistant guest service manager at Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon. "Underneath the brightly tiled exteriors of its traditional *azulejos* façade is a city bursting with the energy of youth.

"Cool breezes from the Atlantic protect Lisbon from the blistering summer heat of other southern European destinations, but this proximity to the sea brings other advantages — a trip to the beach is no more than half an hour from the center of the city," she says.

"From the luscious hilltop retreats, water sports, to the more traditional seafood restaurants and local appeal of Cascais, city life transforms into seaside idling with impeccable ease."

A few days is all it takes for a traveler to get a taste of everything that Lisbon has to offer, from museums and monasteries to one's fill of wine, cheese, seafood and pastries.

The best way to explore Lisbon's tiled cityscape, cozy streets and seven hills is by foot. Old-fashioned yellow trams offer a colorful alternative to visiting the city's most historic sections as well.

"There is so much to do, you will have no trouble filling your day with remarkable experiences," says Sunil Metcalfe, sales director at luxury tour operator Black Tomato.

# "City life transforms into seaside idling with impeccable ease"

### Shopping

Meaning "royal prince," **Príncipe Real** is one of Lisbon's most fashionable neighborhoods. Start your visit with a stop at Portuguese department store Embaixada, located in a converted 20th-century neo-Arabian palace. Príncipe Real is also a gold mine for antiquing.

The neighborhoods near Lisbon's docks and marinas have been reinvigorated in recent years, with **LX Factory** as one of the area's standouts. The historic industrial complex is host to more than 50 hip shops, restaurants, coffee shops and bars. Visit on Sundays for market day, with vintage shopping and food stands.

Luxury shoppers descend on the **Avenida da Liberdade** in the heart of Lisbon. Known to locals as the Avenida, this monument-lined boulevard is home to Louis Vuitton, Bulgari, Dior, Cartier, Versace, Van Cleef & Arpels, Prada and Gucci.

Equally upscale shopping, including Boss and Swarovski, awaits on **Rua Garrett** in the Chiado neighborhood. The retail street also has historic landmarks, including Livraria Bertrand, a bookshop opened in 1732. Sip on tea or coffee while reading your new book at the shop's own café.

### Day tripping

Portugal has plenty to offer outside Lisbon as well, with unique destinations for day trips or even overnight stays.

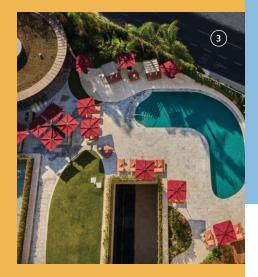
"Guests can swap a day in the city for a tailored trip into the countryside to discover Sintra's fairytale magic and Cascais' beach-chic surrounds, linked by Europe's westernmost point," Four Seasons' Ms. Coutinho says.

"Head to Alentejo for cheese and wine tastings in the beautiful landscape of this region and Arrábida for a full wine experience at José Maria da Fonseca," she says.

Black Tomato's Mr. Metcalfe also recommends Cascais for its old-fashioned Riviera vibes, its quaintness contrasted by the lavish hillside palaces of Sintra.

South of Lisbon is Comporta, a stylish resort destination that is as exclusive as the Hamptons or Nantucket in the northeast United States. The region's famous residents include Christian Louboutin and French power couple Nicolas Sarkozy and Carla Bruni.

In the northeastern corner of Portugal is Douro, a region known for its hillside wineries and Port production. The picturesque views are paired best with a refreshing white Port and tonic.







### Hotels

Located across from Parque Eduardo VII, Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon offers expansive views overlooking the entire city. The midcentury hotel is minutes away from some of Lisbon's most luxurious shopping on Avenida da Liberdade.

Also nearby is the lush Jardim Botânico de Lisboa, one of the city's many botanical gardens. Do not miss the spa, which is one of the best in Europe, says Black Tomato's Mr. Metcalfe.

+351 21 381 1423 fourseasons.com/lisbon

Nestled between the bohemian Barrio Alto and the Chiado theater district is the Barrio Alto Hotel. Equal parts quaint and elegant, the hotel is surrounded by intimate restaurants, bars, boutiques, bookstores and art galleries. The rooftop bar is a must for sunset cocktails.

+351 21 340 8288 barrioaltohotel.com

While not the most traditional hotel, Santa Clara 1728 offers visitors the privacy and comfort of a home away from home. The 18th-century property located on the outskirts of Alfama, the city's oldest Moorish quarter - has been restored and transformed into a minimalist, six-bedroom hotel.

A bit off the beaten path, the hotel overlooks Jardim Botto Machado and the Tagus River. On Tuesdays and Saturdays, visit the flea market steps away from the building.

+351 923 251 056 silentliving.pt/houses/santa-clara-1728

### Hotels outside Lisbon

On the bright sandy beach of Cascais is the seaside **Albatroz Hotel**. This glamorous property is on the edge of the bay and offers a memorable respite from the city. Guests can enjoy gourmet meals with ocean views, a dip in the elegant pool or set sail on the Albatroz yacht.

+351 214 847 380 thealbatrozcollection.com

Travelers looking for the royal treatment in Cascais can do no better than the **Grande** Real Villa Itália Hotel & Spa. The hotel site is the former residence of the last king of Italy, Humberto II. Lavish rooms offer sea or garden vistas, while the property's spa, saltwater pools and bars help guests unwind.

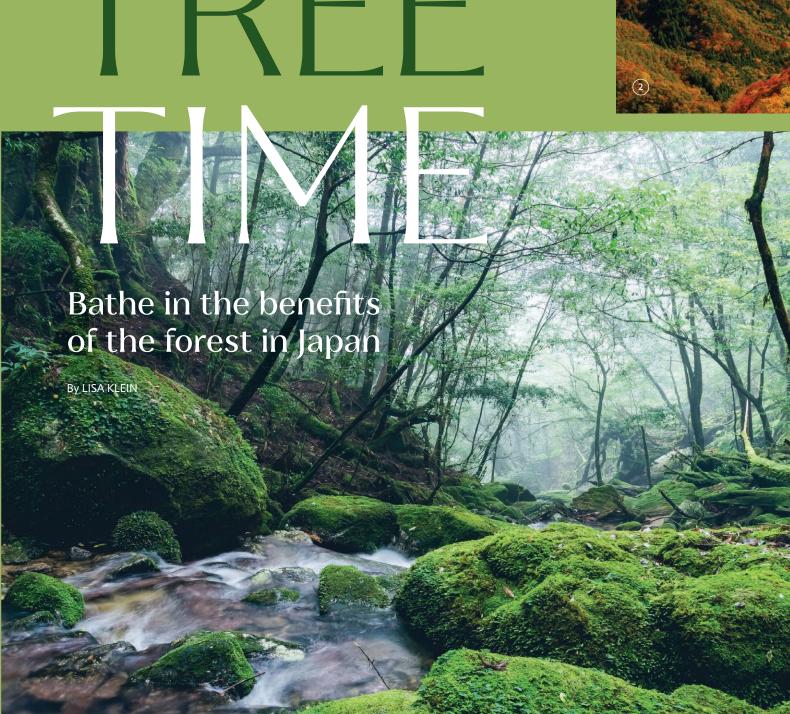
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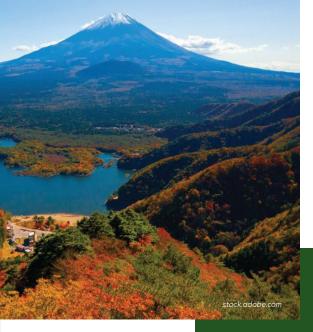
For privacy and exclusivity, **Sublime** Comporta sits on a secluded countryside property. The rooms, suites and villas are scattered across multiple buildings, enhancing the hotel's intimate feel. A quick journey to Comporta's beaches allows one to enjoy activities such as surfing, horseback riding and dolphin watching.

+351 269 449 376 sublimecomporta.pt

Six Senses Douro Valley is the ideal upscale retreat for wine lovers exploring the region. Tour Old World wineries, visit medieval towns and reconnect with nature. Black Tomato recommends intimate wine and Port tastings aboard private antique schooners.

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"This is not exercise or hiking or jogging. It is simply being in nature, connecting with it through our sense of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch."

– DR. QING LI, **AUTHOR AND RESEARCHER** 



ush greens and yellows, the wind rustling through branches above, the smell of moss and the crunch of dried leaves underfoot – the forest is a calming breath of fresh air, an escape from urban life to rejoin nature for just a bit.

While the forest is known as a peaceful place in many cultures, the Japanese have taken the concept to another level, truly encoding it in their cultural DNA with the governmentally and medically promoted practice of shinrin-yoku, which translates to forest bathing: a way of using time in the woods to heal.

"Shinrin-yoku means bathing in the forest atmosphere, or taking in the forest through our senses," says Dr. Qing Li, author of Forest Bathing: How Trees Can Help You Find Health and Happiness and environmental immunology researcher at the Nippon Medical School in Tokyo.

"This is not exercise or hiking or jogging," he says. "It is simply being in nature, connecting with it through our sense of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch."

The tradition has now been adopted internationally, but Japan is still one of the best places in the world to immerse oneself in the forest. This is especially the case during the last part of the year, when the mountains are filled with fiery trees and the country consciously takes time to enjoy them.

Yakushima Island is known for its waterfalls, dense forest and moss



A hike in Aokigahara forest can lead to stunning views of Mount Fuji



Giant Japanese cedar trees line much of the sacred Kumano Kodo trail



Japan is renowned for its fall season, when the leaves of its trees, such as this Japanese maple, turn bright colors

### Green light

The Japanese have long revered nature, which is the driving force of the country's native and animistic Shinto religion. Its practices revolve around the land and seasons, and Shinto's version of gods - kami - inhabit all things including the elements of nature.

Shinto shrines are nearly always surrounded by trees and pilgrimages wind through ancient forests.

Japanese folklore also often centers around nature. Its celebrated kodama spirits inhabit trees that reach 100 years, imbuing each with its own personality.

Even the country's manicured gardens are created to mimic scenes from nature or the spiritual world.

It comes as no surprise, then, that when faced with the added tensions of modern technology, the Japanese looked to the forest for answers.

In 1982 the term shinrin-yoku was coined for a new national program aimed at combatting the rising epidemic of "technostress" caused by computers, telephones and other constant electronic connections that has grown exponentially ever since.

The shinrin-yoku practice encourages people to simply spend time in nature to relax, breathe in the forest air and pay attention to their surroundings.

"When people started to practice shinrin-yoku in the early 1980s, it was based only on common sense and the intuitive idea that being in the beautiful green forests of Japan would be good for us," Dr. Li says.

It was not until 2004 that the Forestry Agency of Japan formed a task force to find evidence that their prescription was indeed medically sound and tapped Dr. Li as a founding member.





### Oil's well

Growing up in a small, nature-filled village in China, Dr. Li has felt the forest's power since childhood. A college camping trip to the mossy, mystical Yakushima island while he was studying medicine in Japan shortly after shinrin-yoku's inception sealed the deal.

"I became convinced that forest bathing was absolutely essential to human health," Dr. Li, who went on to serve as president of the Japanese Society of Forest Medicine, says.

The inherent calm of the forest cannot be denied, but its real magic lies in one sense in particular - smell.

When immersed in the woods, the air is filled with two important things: one, an increased supply of oxygen, is released from the abundant plant life during photosynthesis. The second, a bit more mysterious until recently, are phytoncides essential oils also given off by trees.

"Phytoncides are the natural oils within a plant and are part of a tree's defense system," Dr. Li explains, "Trees release phytoncides to protect them from bacteria, insects and fungi. Phytoncides are also part of the communication pathway between trees - the way trees talk to each other."

These protective qualities have been shown to transfer to the people who breathe in the oils.

According to several studies and trials, exposure to phytoncides increases the presence of natural killer (NK) cells, which help to prevent viral infections and cancer, and causes a decrease in stress hormones.

A mere three days' respite in the woods can boost immunity for up to a month.

Other research has found links between forest bathing and better sleep, lower blood pressure and heart rate, depression prevention and a suppression of the adrenaline-induced "fight-or-flight" response.

### Taking cover

Japan, known mostly for its futuristic, electrified and overcrowded cities, may at first glance seem like a strange place for shinrin-yoku to emerge. But those monuments of glass and concrete only take up a small amount of the country, thanks, in part, to its mountainous landscape: a full 67 percent of Japan is still covered in forest, from beech, fir and spruce in the north to towering cedar and twisted cypress further south.

While famous for cherry blossom season in the springtime, the fall season is a special time in Japan, and prime for a session of shinrin-yoku.

The changing colors of the trees, itself a kaleidoscope of bright yellows, oranges and reds, is a sight to behold.

Momijigari - red-leaf hunting takes place during the long autumn, from roughly October all the way through December.

For a beginning forest bather, Dr. Li recommends paying special attention to the five senses. Look at the colors of the leaves and the natural landscape, listen to the birds chirping and water running, touch the bark of the trees, taste the fresh air and, of course, smell those phytoncides.

TAKING IN THE atmosphere, literally and figuratively, may also make us happier and healthier because it reminds us, as Shintoism does, that despite the buzz of technology and modern life, humans and nature are one and the same.

"During that trip in Yakushima, the quiet atmosphere, beautiful scenery, mild climate, special good smell and fresh, clean air made me very happy and relaxed," Dr. Li says of his own forest bathing epiphany.

"Shinrin-yoku is like a bridge," he says. "By opening our senses, it bridges the gap between us and the natural world." IP

# Best forests for taking a bath

Peak fall foliage in Japan starts around early October in the north and gradually moves south through early December. Higher elevations will also see an earlier start.



### Akasawa Natural Recreational **Forest**

Dr. Li's favorite, and the birthplace of shinrin-yoku, this park has "towering groves of Japanese cypresses, or hinoki," he says. "They are beautiful trees with dark red trunks of peeling bark and deep-green needles on graceful branches."



### Chūbu-Sangaku **National Park**

Set in the picturesque northern Japanese Alps, this park has mountains and crystal blue lakes galore.



### Shikotsu-Toya **National Park**

On the northern island of Hokkaido. this park has active volcanos, caldera lakes and steamy hot springs.



### Sagano **Bamboo Forest**

Just outside of the beautiful city of Kyoto is this giant grove of towering bamboo stalks that make for an otherworldly walk.



### Yakushima

A tiny, remote island at the southern end of Japan's mainland, Yakushima is a misty, dense forest of moss-covered trees and the site of Dr. Li's pivotal camping trip.



### Kumano Kodo trail

The Kumano Kodo is an ancient, sacred pilgrimage route that snakes through the Wakayama prefecture on the Kii Peninsula, passing past through cedars with stops at various shrines.



### **Aokigahara Forest**

Known as the Sea of Trees, this park sits on the northwestern side of one of the most iconic sights of Japan, Mount Fuji.

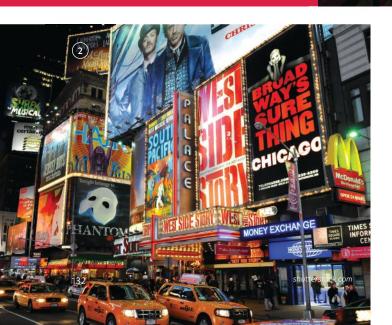


Akasawa Natural Recreational Forest Image courtesy of shutterstock.com



The Museum of Broadway opens this fall in New York, giving theater lovers a backstage pass to the Great White Way

By LISA KLEIN



/isitors to New York will soon have a new way to give their regards to Broadway at a museum right at home under the bright lights of Times Square and dedicated to the art of the theater, which has become synonymous with the famed city boulevard.

Raising the curtain on November 15, 2022 on West 45<sup>th</sup> Street in the heart of the district it celebrates, the Museum of Broadway will shine a spotlight on the art form's history, groundbreaking shows, cultural impact and the people who make it all sing.

"I really liked the idea of figuring out what the stories are, what stories we tell," says Julie Boardman, cofounder of the museum. "I think that the theater can really change hearts and minds, and the stories that we tell on stage really have an impact culturally, too."







The display for *Ain't* Misbehavin' (1978), a musical tribute to Fats Waller, was designed by Derek McLane



New York's theater district on Broadway

The display for the Ziegfeld Follies, a series of productions from 1907-1936, was designed by Sam and Rvan Ratelle



The Oklahoma! (1943) display includes a barn and art by Ann Marie

Renderings courtesy of the Museum of Broadway

"It's how the magic is made. People will see the show, but they have no idea that somebody hand-painted that rock [on stage]"

- JULIE BOARDMAN, MUSEUM OF BROADWAY

### SETTING THE STAGE

Ms. Boardman, a Tony-award-winning producer, got her start in a community production of The Sound of Music before moving on to theater school and acting in a national tour of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street.

The museum's other cofounder, Diane Nicoletti, owns an experiential marketing company, but also got a taste of the stage in her high school's musicals.

The college friends teamed up to create the new museum after working together on other projects and wondering why there was not already a place to celebrate Broadway and all its razzle-dazzle glory — especially because it is one of the top reasons why tourists visit New York.

Although a museum had been attempted before by others, the team thinks they have a winning combination of storytelling, interactive moments and Instagram-able installations that would do any production proud.

Along with the theater heavy hitters and major productions, the museum is "really trying to be as inclusive as possible in highlighting all of the various roles and individuals that have changed Broadway's history over the years," Ms. Nicoletti says.

The history of the Great White Way, so called because Broadway between 42<sup>nd</sup> and 53<sup>rd</sup> streets was one of the first stretches in New York to be lit by electricity, is storied indeed. The city's theater district began moving to Times Square in the late 19th century, and by the 1920s, a beacon of dazzling, electrified marguees lined Broadway.

The theater has always captured and contributed to the American culture of its time, from its early 20th-century vaudevillian roots and 1927's Show Boat — the first to use music as a major part of the storytelling to Broadway's golden era, when duo Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II revolutionized the musical with Oklahoma!, South Pacific and The Sound of Music in the 1940s and '50s.

Add to that illustrious heritage Bob Fosse's iconic choreography in Sweet Charity and Chicago, Andrew Lloyd Webber's dramatic 1988 Phantom of the Opera the longest-running show in Broadway history — and new and enduring blockbusters such as Hamilton and The Lion King.

"The theater that is created today is possible because of all of these people who pioneered and broke boundaries and barriers," Ms. Boardman says. "And so, we used this idea of 'we stand on the shoulders of those who came before' as very much a way to tell the story."





(6)

(5)

The Rent (1996) display was designed by Paul Clay, the show's original scenic designer The display for The Wiz (1974) includes a "yellow brick staircase" and art by lighne Li

Renderings courtesy of the Museum of Broadway

### **GIVING PROPS**

The museum opens with a "Map Room" exhibit showing the various incarnations and locations of New York's theater district, along with the movers and shakers who built it into what it is today. The "Timeline" exhibit that follows details its rich history and the groundbreaking productions that led the way.

Walking through the timeline is a journey through the milestones of the theater scene, with separate rooms dedicated to important productions over the years.

Just a small sampling of the chronology includes the *Ziegfeld Follies*, the early song-and-dance variety shows from the early 1900s through '30s famous for their bevies of chorus girls; *Oklahoma!*, the first Rodgers and Hammerstein musical that solidified music numbers' place within the storyline; *Ain't Misbehavin'* and *The Wiz*, two 1970s shows that celebrated Black music and perspectives; and *Rent*, the 1996 story of struggling artists in New York during the AIDS epidemic.

The museum partnered with an array of artists and creative minds to bring the timeline to life. Each show's room will combine experiential elements with ephemera and artifacts such as photos curated from various archives, including the New York Public Library's, posters, sketches, costumes and props.

"We have, from Disney, original Ziegfeld Follies costumes from the early 1900s," Ms. Nicoletti says of the room designed by Ryan and Sam Ratelle. "We do really go back in time."

The Oklahoma! display features a barn, cornfield and a sunrise painted by artist Ann Marie Coolick, while a video plays Agnes de Mille talking about her groundbreaking choreography for the musical. The Rent display, designed by the show's original scenic designer, Paul Clay, immerses museum goers in the '90s East Village.

Items that no one usually gets to see include production aids such as miniature set models by set designer Robert Wagner for *A Chorus Line,* first produced in 1975, which exemplifies major advancements in lighting and other stage technology.

"One of the things that we kept hearing along this process is just how many things get thrown away," Ms. Nicoletti says. "It's nice that some of them are seeing the light of day in this kind of environment."

### TAKE A BOW

It is not just things that will be making their public debut at the museum. Theater buffs will also learn what goes on behind the scenes in the last permanent exhibit, "The Making of a Broadway Show."

"It's how the magic is made," Ms. Boardman says. "People will see the show, but they have no idea that somebody hand-painted that rock [on stage]."

Visitors will be able to walk in the shoes of nearly every role in a theater production, from the writers and lyricists to lighting and sound directors to stagehands. They will hear interviews with people who work in those jobs explaining their processes and what a day in their life looks like.

"You knock on a stage door, you see the call board, you go down the stairs and then you go into a stage manager's corner and you can hear a show being called," Ms. Nicoletti says. "You go through a producer's tunnel, you hear from GMs."

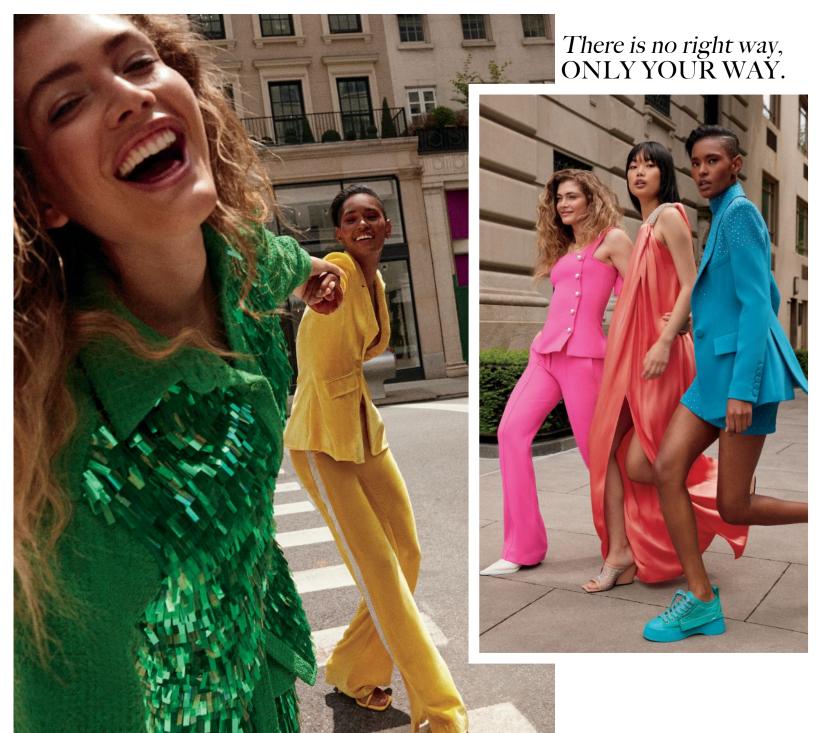
LETTING THE UNSEEN heroes share the limelight is a fitting final bow in the museum, as the founders hope for it to be a place for the entire theater community to see themselves.

All of the museum's curators are part of the theater industry too, from producers and prop supervisors to costume designers and artists.

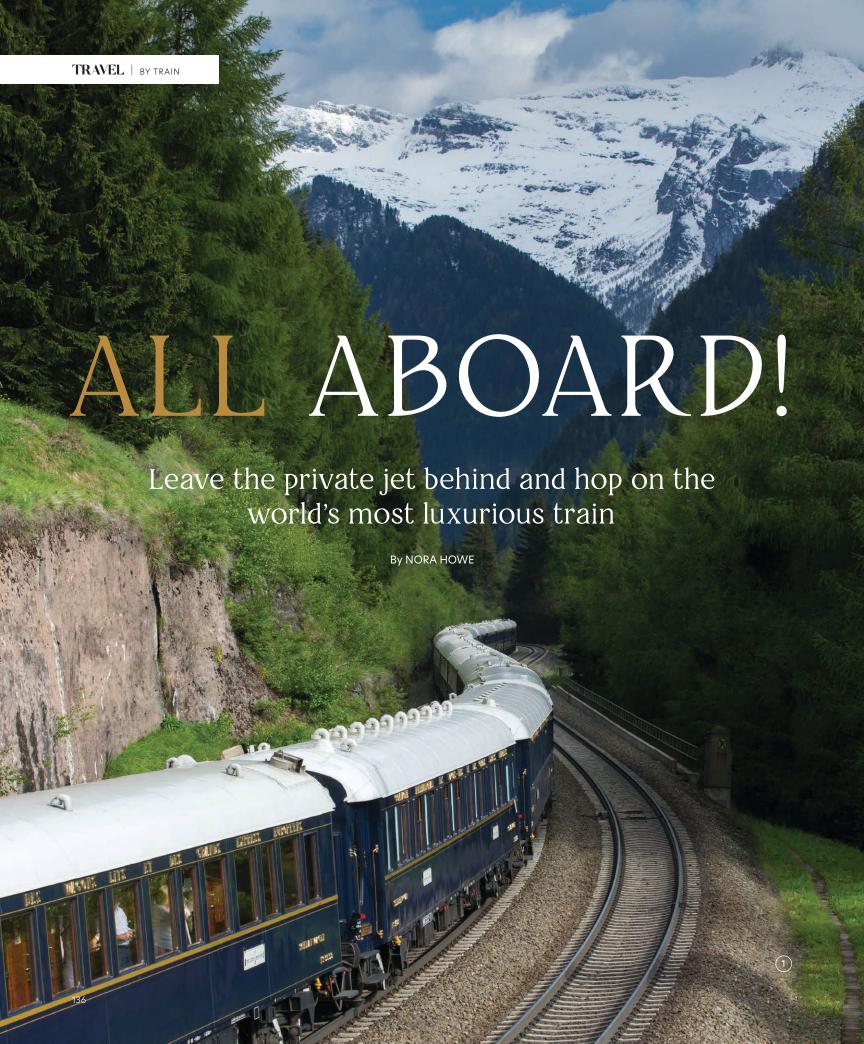
"It's very much like a community process, I suppose, because we're working with the estates of these shows and with a lot of people in the community to make this come to life," Ms. Boardman says, adding that the cofounders hope the museum inspires the next generation to get involved.

"For me, it goes back to the stories we tell, how much they matter," she says. "You can walk into the theater feeling one way, you see the show, and then maybe you view things from a slightly different perspective. And I think that's the power and the beauty of the theater."  $\mathbb{I}^{\mathbb{N}}$ 

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ransportation has become simply that -a way to get from one point to another, an area of limbo between reality and holiday. But what if the vacation started in tandem with the journey?

Imagine staying at a five-star hotel with a Michelin-level culinary experience, all while en route to some of the most historically renowned destinations in Europe. This was, and continues to be, the foundational concept of Belmond's Venice Simplon-Orient-Express train.

"Belmond has owned and operated the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express since 1982," says Gary Franklin, vice president of trains and cruises at Belmond, London. "It is made up of 17 original art deco carriages hand selected by Belmond's late founder, James B. Sherwood, and each carefully restored.

"The Venice Simplon-Orient-Express brings to life the romance and nostalgia of the golden age of travel, inviting travelers to dress up and celebrate from the moment they step on board," he says.

"Whether a relaxing breakfast in their private cabin while the European countryside passes by the window, cocktail hour and live music in the 3674 Bar Car, or multicourse dinners in one of three dining cars – the train is an elegant and comfortable space that travels with the guest from one destination to the next."

Belmond is now part of France's LVMH luxury empire, which includes brands such as Christian Dior and Louis Vuitton.

The Venice Simplon-Orient-Express travels from London to Istanbul



Every detail is taken care of aboard the luxury train

Images courtesy of Belmond





### TRAIN OF THOUGHT

Following the American Civil War, a prominent Belgian banking family sent its travel-enthusiast son, Georges Nagelmackers, to the United States, where he discovered an affinity for trains — but not just any trains.

Enamored by American industrialist George Pullman and the Pullman sleeper car, Mr. Nagelmackers returned to Europe with an idea to bring luxurious hotel-like experiences aboard a train that would take passengers from Paris to Constantinople – present-day Istanbul.

In 1873, Mr. Nagelmackers formed the Compagnie Internationale des Wagons-Lits, and by 1889 the Orient Express embarked on its first direct route from the Gare de l'Est in Paris to Constantinople, becoming Europe's first transcontinental express line. And although railroads made their debut at the start of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, this was unlike anything Europeans had ever experienced. It launched a new age of travel — for those who could afford it.

The Orient Express was widely seen as the transport method of the elite, from presidents and aristocrats to notable artists and cultural pioneers. A single ticket on the original train would cost thousands in today's dollars.

Now the train is predominantly recognized as the setting of Agatha Christie's 1934 classic murder mystery, *Murder on the Orient Express*, but that is not to say it is something of the past.

While the original Orient Express completely ceased service in 1977, the concept and some physical elements lived on under different management.

At an auction that same year, businessman and founder of the Belmond hospitality group, James Sherwood, bought two carriages from Mr. Nagelmackers' original service and spent nearly five years developing a full sleeper train to take wealthy travelers from London to his hotel property in Venice.

In 1982, the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express was born.





### **SUITE TALK**

A full-service express train to this day, the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express offers trips from March through November between London, Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, Geneva, Verona, Venice, Florence, Rome, Prague, Vienna, Budapest and Istanbul.

Like it did between the 19th and 20th centuries, the train still appeals to the adventurous and affluent.

High price tags come with high expectations, and Belmond delivers.

Upon boarding the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express train, guests are transported into a grandiose world that could best be likened to that of Jay Gatsby.

From intricate detailing in each of the private cabins to handcrafted furniture found in the reception cars to 24-hour butler service, the train simply oozes luxury and that does not even include the landscape views from any perspective.

Belmond invites guests to retreat to its restored 1920s cabins, offering a choice for them to stay in a twin cabin or one of six grand suites, starting at roughly \$3,000 and \$14,500 per person per night, respectively.

The grand suites, aptly named Paris, Venice, Istanbul, Vienna, Prague and Budapest, boast a number of features and amenities, such as unlimited Champagne, private dining, spacious marble en-suite bathrooms and a lounge area.



— Gary Franklin, Belmond



Watching the European landscape go by is part of the onboard entertainment



The train's luxurious Paris grand suite



The sumptuous Bar Car 3674 is the heart of the train

Images courtesy of Belmond



special memories around

- Pascal Deyrolle, Venice Simplon-Orient-Express





### MEALS ON WHEELS

A true testament to any luxury service, however, is the dining experience.

Earlier this year, Michelin-starred French chef Jean Imbert was appointed as the head chef of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, overseeing all culinary touch points, from menu curation to ambience.

Mr. Imbert brings his vision to life through dynamic, seasonal menus that incorporate ingredients from local farmers, producers and artisans, as well as guest experiences at visited destinations throughout Europe.

The famed chef redesigned the physical identity of the train's three 1920s restaurant cars - L'Oriental, Etoile Du Nord and Côte d'Azur – adding new ambient lighting to elevate the atmosphere, French porcelain dinnerware and color schemes that reflect the history of each car.

Starting with breakfast, passengers may either enjoy a plentiful spread in their private rooms or venture to one of the restaurant cars for coffee, smoked salmon, eggs, truffles, caviar and, perhaps, a mimosa or two.

Lunch includes a three-course meal in a guest's desired dining car with an onboard sommelier to pair each course with the appropriate wine.

By mid-afternoon, travelers may sit comfortably, taking in the scenic views while indulging in the train's tea service, complete with small pastries and an extensive selection of tea offerings.

Guests may enjoy a sunset-drenched cabin aperitif before heading to their desired dining locations for the main event: dinner.

More than a meal, Chef Imbert's carefully curated multi-course dinner serves as the centerpiece of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express experience.

AFTER DINNER, guests may revel with other travelers in Bar Car 3674, where bartenders mix fresh cocktails and the resident pianist fills the space with dulcet melodies and tunes.

If guests are not quite ready to turn in, the train service provides a "midnight brunch," including lobster rolls, truffled club sandwiches and Champagne.

"Sophisticated dining is a key pillar of the journey and our guests build special memories around the food they eat," says Pascal Deyrolle, general manager of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express.

"Jean Imbert is bringing a new level of culinary excellence, keeping the legend and mystery of the world's most famous train alive," he says. IP



The bar car offers live music, fresh cocktails and a 'midnight brunch'



Multi-course menus tempt train guests in the dining car



Chef Jean Imbert brings a gourmet touch to the train. Photo by Boby Allen

Images courtesy of Belmond



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ATLANTE PROPERTIES S.R.L. Adriano Cataldi — +0039 335458832 a.cataldi@atlanteproperties.com Search WRGW on luxuryportfolio.com We are in the heart of the city, among the most evocative views of the Sestiere di San Polo. The Campo of the same name, one of the largest in Venice, just around the corner, Rialto and its market, a destination for residents and those curious about the culinary tradition, are a few minutes' walk away. The property, a detached house on 2 floors with two private entrances, is located in a quiet area away from the tourist passage, yet in the historic centre, and the privacy it enjoys makes it a truly unique residence.









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Magnificent is the word to describe this stately home located in downtown Highlands and sited on  $\pm 5.6$  lovely acres! This was the original Town of Highlands doctor's home built in 1926 with the finest craftsmanship and is listed as one of the 189 historic structures in Highlands by the Highlands Historical Society. The warm, wormy chestnut and farm board walls, custom woodwork and angles combined with plentiful windows enhance the charm and beauty of this special place. This is a rare find in town behind a gate that reveals a private and lovely domain!



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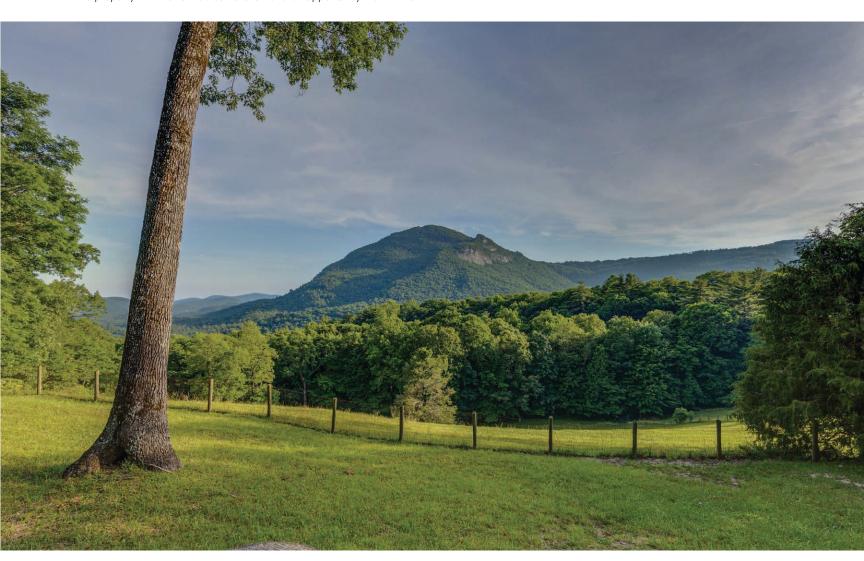
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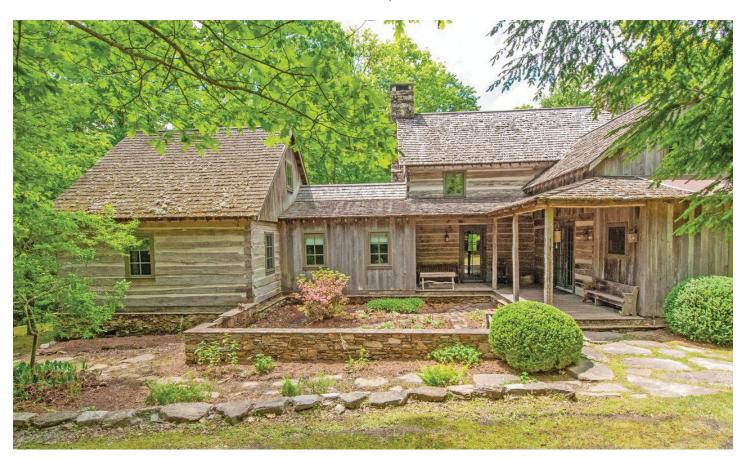
# Glenville, NC, USA \$4,200,000

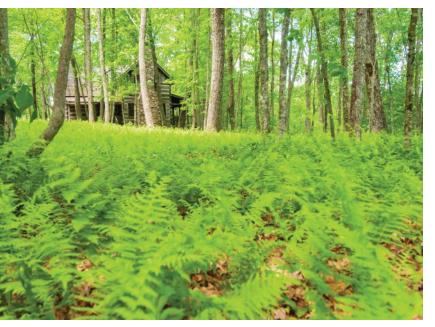
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Turkey Ridge, nestled on 23.88 acres of unrestricted land and minutes from downtown Cashiers, was the lifelong dream of Dr. Herbert Plauché and his beloved wife, Virginia. It was a dream that grew out of a love for nature, privacy and family. Their sanctuary is surrounded on 2 sides by 727 acres of conservation land with an outdoor pavilion and 2.5-acre meadow at the heart of the estate. The main house features hand-hewn logs disassembled from a turn-of-the-century stagecoach way station and the guest cabin was crafted from TN logs that were hand-selected by the Plauchés.







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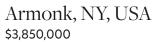


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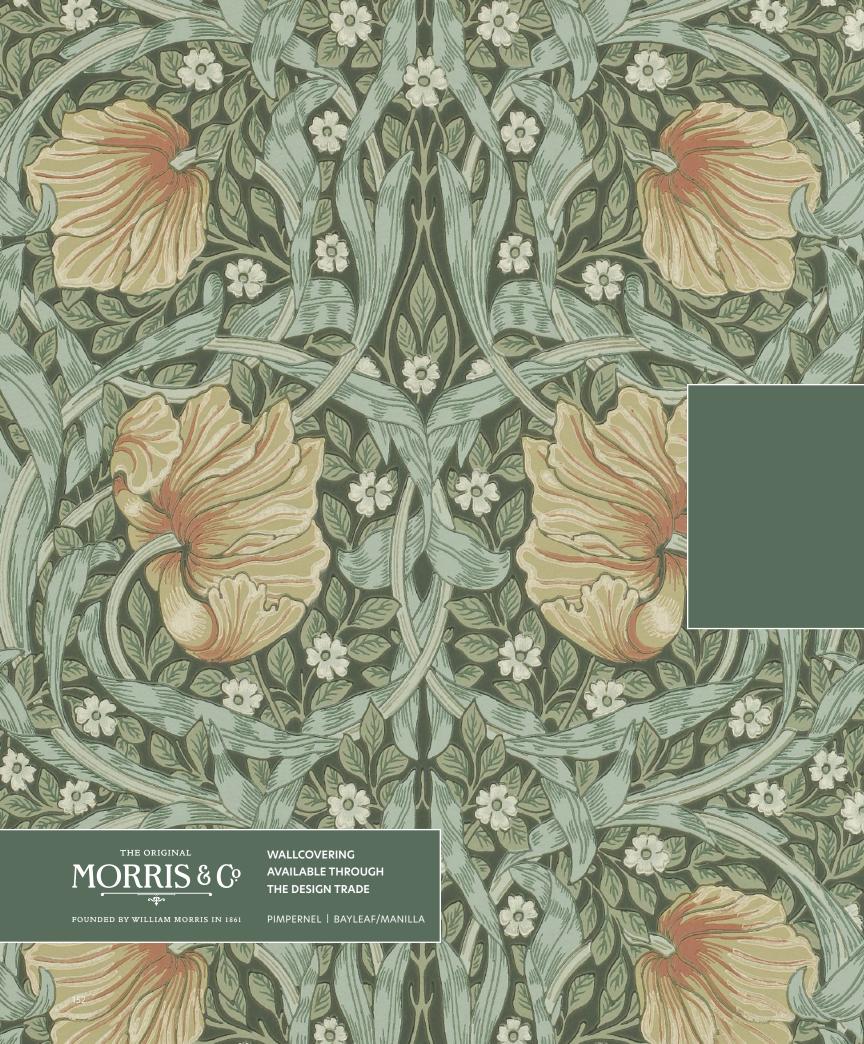
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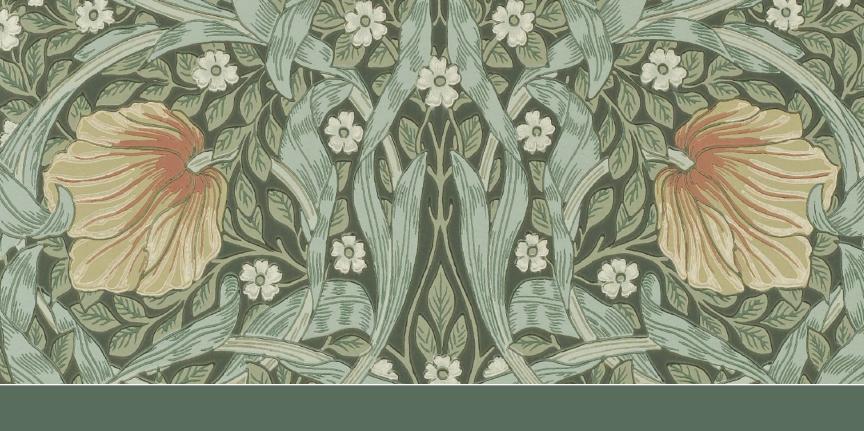


Naples, FL, USA \$3,775,000

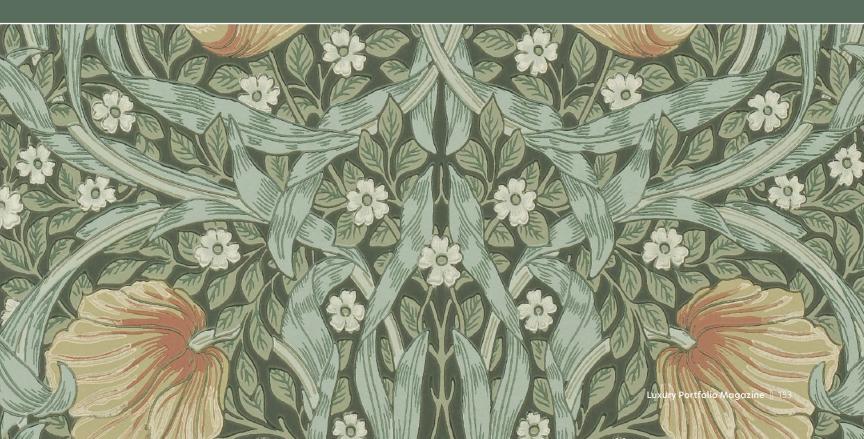
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# LIFESTYLE







ew will quibble with this observation: India's biggest export over the past few decades has been its food.

Along the way, the country's food has had to battle a bunch of misconceptions that its cuisines are uniformly spicy, all the dishes largely end up in a brown curry and that chicken tikka masala is an Indian-origin dish. The last-mentioned dish is as British as marmalade, cooked up in the United Kingdom and ranked as the country's No. 1 favorite dish for takeout and restaurant sit-downs.

"All Indian food is not spicy – different regions of India have different spice levels," says Nawabzadi Fatima Alam Khan of Belha and Surat, cookbook author and YouTuber.

"For example, the spiciest Indian food will be found from South India, the mildest spicy food is from the eastern region of India and the sweetest food is from Gujarat, which is in the west of India," she says.

The princess, author of Cherish and Relish: Everyday Indian Vegetarian and Non-Vegetarian Recipes, grew up eating and cooking many of the dishes whose recipes she lists in her book and features on her YouTube channel, the Cookbook Channel. As the daughter of Nawab Mir Usman Alam Khan, Nawab of Belha and Surat in the western part of India, she has been exposed to the finest food that India has to offer - at home, as a guest, on travels and in restaurants.

While palace cooking – with which she grew up under the sharp eye of her mother, Kulsum Begum Sahiba, Begum of Belha and Surat - may seem a tad more elevated than others, the sentiment behind Indian food is the same: to have those eating the savory meals enjoy the best that nature has to offer with family and friends.

Above all, Indian food is an assimilation of the Hindu, Islamic, Sikh, Parsi, Jain, Buddhist and Judeo-Christian cultures that truly coexist in harmony. On the following pages, the princess sheds light on all things Indian food.



What is it that makes the many cuisines of India, including Mughlai, different from those of other nations?

India is a melting pot of cultures, religions, civilizations and traditions. Due to its multicultural fabric, every region in India has unique recipes. People cook recipes in their own personal styles. The tastes and flavors differ with the use of spices native to their areas.

India has more than 5,000 years of history of people settling within the country. The Aryans, Central Asians, Persians, Arabs and people from across the globe brought their local food influences.

India has hundreds, or even probably more than thousands, of dishes cooked in their own unique styles. Rice and wheat are staple diets. Each state has its own signature cuisine.

Indians are creative in their cooking styles and adapted foreign recipes to give it an Indian twist — for example, Italian pizzas, Arabic shawarma, Hakka Chinese, Mexican and many more.

India's fertile soil and agriculture have a positive impact on its diverse cuisine. Fresh vegetables, fruits, herbs, meats, seeds and spices are abundant. In some countries, salt and pepper are the only spices, while in India, garam masala is an important spice.

Marinating, clay oven baking, steaming, frying, boiling, al dente and barbecuing are many ways to cook an Indian meal. As compared to world cuisines, Indian food caters favorable aromatic food to many around the world.

Why do you think Indian food is so popular across cultures worldwide? This was not the case 50 years ago.

The world is like a global village. Indians in the last 50 years have migrated to many countries around the world. We take pride in our culture, traditions and cuisine.

Indian restaurants globally have played a huge role in popularizing the traditional regional foods of India. Dishes such as butter chicken, chicken tikka, kebabs, palak paneer, biryani, pulao, naan and chicken curry, including snacks like samosas, are relished.

Food speaks no language. Indian food is rich in spices, especially garam masala and curry powder.

Food choices have increased for a foreign palate. It's just not about pizza, pasta and burgers anymore. It's all about the flavors in Indian food. Focus has shifted from salt and pepper.

- Dahi vada, deep-fried fritters in a yogurt sauce
- Biryani, a popular mixed rice dish, this version with chicken
- 2 Tomato and egg curry
- 4 Palak paneer, a curry dish made with a thick spinach paste and Indian cottage cheese

### What are the top cuisines of India and from which regions? And what are their key dishes?

The flavors across different parts of India, whether it is from the north, south, east or west, are not homogeneous.

Having said that, biryani is a dish that is common to all parts of India.

The food from the north of India is famous for its parathas, palak paneer, butter chicken, biryani and kebabs.

Rice and coconut are an integral part of south Indian cuisine. This region has the spiciest food in all of India. Dishes include Hyderabadi dum ki biryani, dosa, Chettinad chicken and curd rice. The coastal regions have a large variety of seafood.

Cuisine from the west of India is as diversified as the other regions. Popular dishes include laal maas, Surti biryani, saak bhaji, dal baati churma, vada pau, dhokla and butte ka kees.

The food in east India is less spicy as compared to the other parts of India. Popular food comprises momos, machcher jhol, dalma, thupka, bamboo-steamed fish and a variety of seafood dishes.

What are the distinguishing ingredients that go into typical Indian dishes?

Despite the huge variety of foods in India, there are a few staple ingredients that distinguish Indian food from other cuisines around the world.

Ingredients such as cardamom, black cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, star anise, bay leaves, cumin, fresh ginger and garlic, fennel, turmeric, Kashmiri red chili powder, garam masala, coriander seeds, mustard seeds, curry powder, green chilies, ghee, saffron, coconut [milk, shredded and powder], lentils, jaggery, coriander, mint, lemon juice and yogurt, along with a few other ingredients, are staples in any Indian kitchen.

Herbs such as curry leaves, coriander leaves, mint leaves and basil are widely used to add fragrance to dishes. One of the most popular ingredients used in Indian cooking is garam masala powder.



"Indian restaurants globally have played a huge role in popularizing the traditional regional foods of India"

NAWABZADI FATIMA ALAM KHAN OF BELHA AND SURAT,
 COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND YOUTUBER





### What is the biggest misconception of food from India?

The biggest misconception of food from India is that it's spicy. Along with it being thought spicy, there are few more misconceptions.

For example, one widely held belief is that Indian cuisine is all about curry. Butter chicken is like a poster child for Indian food.

All Indian food is not spicy. Different regions of India have different spice levels.

For example, the spiciest Indian food will be found from south India, the mildest spicy food is from the eastern region of India and the sweetest food is from Gujarat, which is in the west of India.

There is a misconception that Indian curries have the same base, which is so clichéd. Curry base could be purely tomatoes, yogurt, nuts, onions, coconut milk, broth or even chickpea flour.

Vegetarian food is vastly popular alongside chicken, mutton and seafood.

Another misconception is that garam masala is the primary masala used for Indian cooking. A simple recipe for a chicken curry would need ginger, garlic, salt and red chili powder along with yogurt — without garam masala.

You have written a book on outstanding Indian recipes and have a popular YouTube channel and Instagram page. What message are you trying to convey to people?

All the recipes contained in my cookbook, Cherish and Relish: Everyday Indian Vegetarian and Non-Vegetarian Recipes, are kitchen tested.

This Indian cookbook encompasses 70 dishes such as butter chicken, kebabs [minced meat cutlets], fried chicken, mutton chops, chicken masala curry, palak paneer, lamb roast, tandoori chicken, fried fish masala, chana masala, dal makhani, chicken biryani, vegetable pulao, coconut chicken curry, tomato onion raita, salmon with spinach, cold fish and instant kesar kulfi.

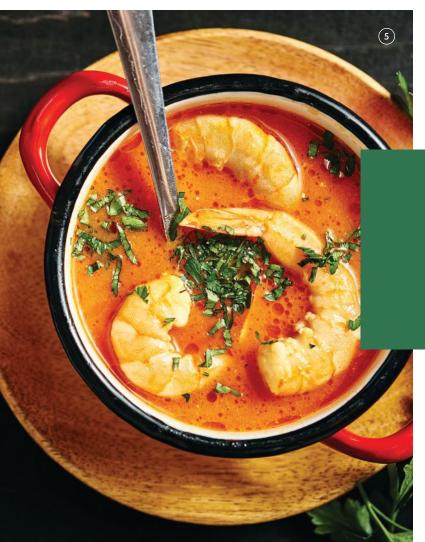
I wanted to share these recipes from my home to yours. Some of the recipes have played center stage at many a festival and special occasions that my family has celebrated.

We have savored, relished and cherished these recipes. At a time when the opportunities of having family get-togethers are becoming increasingly rare, it is all the more important to make these occasions memorable.

This recipe book is a result of my personal culinary journey, and it also provides an opportunity for everyone to get in the kitchen and cook up a dish to enjoy and a story to appreciate.

You can view Cookbook Channel recipes as videos on my YouTube channel. My YouTube channel has more than 137 recipes cooked by me. I wanted to share real recipes for real people.

Each and every recipe is an honest video recipe, whether it involves an easy or complicated cooking method. I have mentioned important tips and short cuts to enjoy cooking an authentic Indian recipe and more. IP



#### Resources

**YouTube channel:** Cookbook Channel youtube.com/c/cookbookchannel

**Facebook page:** Cookbook Channel facebook.com/cookbookchannelrecipes

Instagram: @cookbook\_channel
Web site: cookbookchannel.com

**Book:** Cherish and Relish: Everyday Indian Vegetarian and Non-Vegetarian Recipes





Shrimp and coconut curry

Cherish and Relish



Cookbook author Princess Fatima Image courtesy of Nawabzadi Fatima Alam Khan



The ever-popular butter chicken dish (recipe opposite)



# BUTTER CHICKEN RECIPE

#### (Serves approximately 4-6)

#### Ingredients

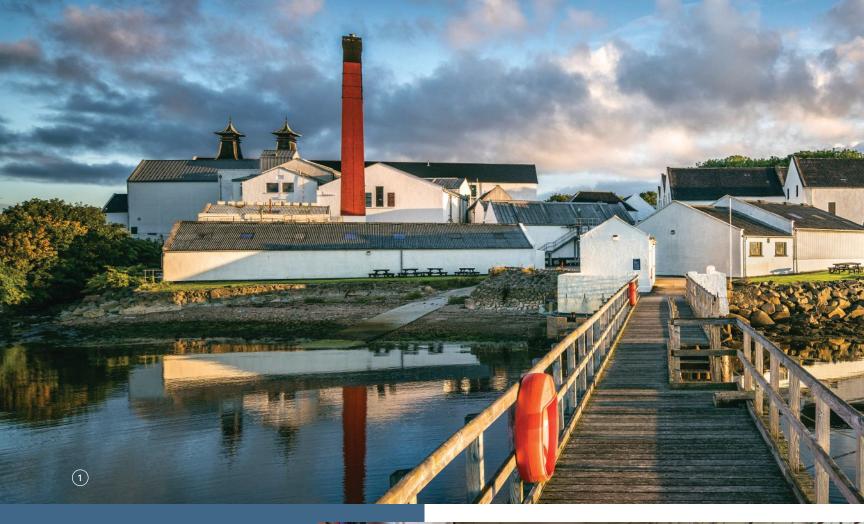
- ullet Boneless chicken breasts 900 grams (21b) cubed small
- Ginger and garlic paste 2 tbsp
- Cashew nuts -2 tbsp
- Cream 1/4 cup
- Tomato ketchup 4 tbsp
- Saffron 6 to 8 strands
- Tomatoes 3 medium-size cubed
- $\bullet$  Small onions 2 finely chopped and fried
- Coriander leaves 1/2 bunch
- Red chili powder 2 tsp or as per taste
- Turmeric powder ½ tsp
- ullet Coriander powder (dhania) -2% tsp salt to taste
- Whole cloves 4 pieces
- Whole cardamom -5 pieces
- Cumin seeds (zeera) -1 tsp
- Cinnamon stick -13-inch stick
- Butter 120 grams (1/3lb)

#### Method

- Add cubed boneless chicken in a pot. Add one cup of water and boil the chicken till it is 70 percent done.
   Keep the chicken aside once cooked.
- Grind the cashew nuts, thick cream, onions, tomatoes and tomato ketchup into a fine paste. This makes the creamy cashew nut paste. Keep this aside.
- In another pot, melt butter and then add the cinnamon stick, whole cloves, whole cardamom, nutmeg, cumin seeds, saffron and chicken.
- Fry for 5-7 minutes.
- Add the ginger and garlic paste, red chili powder, turmeric powder, coriander powder and salt.
- Add ¼ cup of water. Cook on low flame for approximately 10 minutes.
- Add the ground creamy cashew nut paste. Add the chopped coriander leaves. Stirring occasionally, cook for another 10-15 minutes on low flame with the pot covered.
- Serve hot with rice, dinner rolls or bread naans.







ising from the sea mist off the craggy, windswept coast of Scotland is a mossy rock loaded with precious peat: "Whisky Island." Every sip of its signature tipple is a taste of the island's history and its earth.

The Isle of Islay, one of the Hebrides off the United Kingdom's northwest coast, stands out for its whisky in a country where it is already renowned. Throughout Scotland, storied distillers take just three things that happen to appear in abundance on the northern third of Great Britain — water, barley and, most importantly, peat — and turn them into Scotch, the flavors of each bottle unique to the land from which its simple beginnings came.

"The cool maritime climate that permeates the air and infuses the peat that covers most of the island lends a 'salted smoke' character derived from Islay's unique terroir," says Ewan Morgan, national luxury ambassador for Diageo, parent company to Lagavulin, one of the distilleries on Islay.

"That same gulf stream climate is also perfect for growing barley, which is one of the basic raw ingredients for producing Scotch Whisky," he said.











Lagavulin's Scotch Whisky distillery on the Isle of Islay

An older version of Lagavulin's famed stills



Copper pot stills inside Lagavulin's distillery

Burning peat flavors the barley that will eventually become Scotch

Images courtesy of Lagavulin

#### DISTILLED WISDOM

Like all whisky, Scotch is made from water, grain and yeast, its difference in taste drawn from the malting process unique to the form. Barley, mostly locally grown, is allowed to germinate up until a certain perfect point at which it is stopped using the heat from burning peat.

"The abundance of water in the form of rain that feeds its rivers and lochans – small lakes – along with the prevalence of peat that smokes Scotch malts, gives the whisky the wonderful smoky aromas and flavors that the region is renowned for," Mr. Morgan says.

Peat forms in wetlands and bogs, where organic material only partially decomposes over hundreds of thousands of years into the precursor to coal due to waterlogging, high acidity and a lack of oxygen. Scotland's peat is heavy in sphagnum moss, and it covers about one fifth of its land.

Burning peat creates a powerful aroma and flavor that comes from the carbon-based phenols released – some smoky, some medicinal and some even fruity and floral.

While it can be mixed with other whiskies to become a blended Scotch, single malt Scotch comes from just one place, praised for the distinctive flavors unique to its distillery's style. And while malt whisky can be produced anywhere, it must be made wholly in Scotland to carry its name on the bottle.

#### SEE TO SEA

Whisky first made its way to Scotland via Ireland, where Scottish King Henry II found monasteries making the "water of life" upon his invasion of the other island in 1170.

The practice made its way across the Irish Sea over the next few centuries, with the first written mention of Scotch Whisky in the famous Exchequer Rolls in 1494 - Scotland's King James IV purchased some from a friar.

By the 17th century, nearly every Scottish farm had its own still. "Historically, it was farmers who were distilling, so all spare grain was used for producing whisky," Mr. Morgan says.

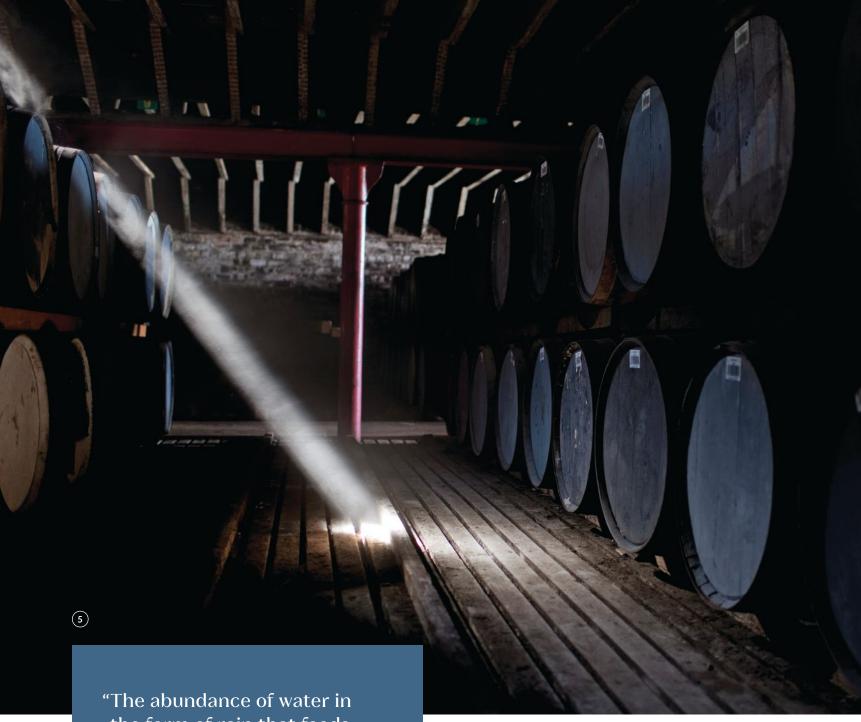
An excise tax in 1660 caused many distillers to go underground, making Scotch illegally. Some of these farmhouse operations went legit and turned into major distilleries that are still around, such as Lagavulin and Bowmore, which is the oldest distillery on Islay that dates to 1779. Glenturret, dating to 1775, is officially the oldest in Scotland.

There are currently more than 130 distilleries throughout Scotland, making it the highest concentration of whisky production in the world.

The nation exports 44 bottles of Scotch per second, according to the Scotch Whisky Association. The organization is charged with protecting the liquor's eponymous good name, which by U.K. law must be made in-country and contain no added flavors or sweeteners.

"Just like Champagne, it's a hallmark of a product made with meticulous attention to quality," Mr. Morgan says of the Scotch moniker.

Scotch Whisky is the largest food and drink export of the U.K., earning the country \$175 every second in 2021 for a total of more than \$5.5 billion. So, it is unsurprising that the industry and country are highly protective of the drink's name and reputation.



the form of rain that feeds its rivers and lochans — small lakes — along with the prevalence of peat that smokes Scotch malts, gives the whisky the wonderful smoky aromas and flavors that the region is renowned for"

– EWAN MORGAN, DIAGEO





#### ISLE TALK

Scotland is divided into five main whisky regions, each with its own ecosystem that imparts its beverages with a unique flavor: the Highlands, with vanilla and fruit notes from distilleries such as Glenturret and Glenmorangie; Lowland, a lighter taste from the likes of Daftmill and Glenkinchie; Speyside, a small valley of rivers home to half of all Scottish distilleries including Glenfiddich, Glenlivet and Macallan; Campbeltown, a small region with distilleries Glengyle and Glen Scotia; and Islay, land of maritime smokiness and Lagavulin, Bowmore, Laphroaig and six others.

Islay, dubbed 'whisky island,' has just 3,000 permanent residents and nine distilleries to its 239 windy, seawater-sprayed square miles - renowned for their peaty, smoky, salty, sometimes medicinal single malts, thanks to Islay's extra-mossy peat. Lagavulin's 16-year single malt Scotch is often called the perfect expression of the island's whisky.

"Sweet smoke is the character they produce at Lagavulin," Mr. Morgan says. "I always describe Lagavulin 16-year-old as a beach bonfire with fruit cake thrown into it."

All of Lagavulin's peat is procured on Islay, where the distillery holds court on the southern bay of the same name, the 12th-century Dunyvaia Castle visible in the distance.

Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, is rumored to have hidden there after fleeing a mainland rife with civil war in the 1300s.

The bay was later overtaken by illegal whisky makers until a distillery was officially founded at Lagavulin as Mackie & Co., destined to be run by the family's infamous nephew, Sir Peter Mackie, an eccentric Scotch Whisky advocate.

#### SCOTCH BROTH

For such a celebrated spirit, the process of making Scotch is relatively simple, each distillery injecting it with its own special tweaks.

First, and most important for flavor-injection, is malting.

"Malting is the process of controlled germination of the barley that is then arrested with heat once the perfect amount of starch is present in the grain," Mr. Morgan explains. "This starch is what we convert into sugar and by proxy into alcohol.

"What Islay and its distilleries are famous for is the smoke, which comes from drying our malt in a kiln to arrest this germination process," he says. "[At Lagavulin] we also smoke our barley for around 12 hours to attach all those wonderful rich flavors and aromas to the malt."

Next, the smoke-fueled barley is mashed – ground into powdery grist and mixed with hot water to produce a sugary liquid called wort.

In the third step, yeast is added to the wort and fermented into an alcohol called wash.

After that, the wash is distilled two or three times in copper pot stills, heating it into a vapor and then cooling it back into a liquid to remove any impurities.

"Lagavulin has one of the longest distillation times - nine hours in Scotland because we want a lot of copper interaction to purify the spirit, so the fruit and sweetness are allowed to shine through," Mr. Morgan says.

Finally, the liquid must be matured. To be called Scotch, it rests for a minimum of three years in oak casks, which add their own touch to the flavor profile by soaking up immature elements such as sulfur and adding new notes from the wood.

"I frequently compare this metamorphosis to that of a butterfly, the cask being the chrysalis," Mr. Morgan says. "The end product is this mellow, beautiful golden or dark liquid that entered that cask clear, agaressive and fiery. What happens over time within the cask is organic chemistry, albeit very delicious organic chemistry."

EVERY STEP ALONG the way to whisky is infused with the flavors and history of its respective distillery, region and, of course, Scotland itself.

"In addition to the natural flavors provided by the location, it's the time-honored methods of producing the whisky, with generation after generation working in the same distilleries, passing on the skills and craft to the next in line," Mr. Morgan says. IP

- Whisky must age in oak barrels for at least three years to be considered Scotch
- Yeast is added to wort in washbacks, such as these historic versions, to start fermentation
- Lagavulin's 16-year single malt is considered a prime example of Islay Scotch

Images courtesy of Lagavulin



#### San Antonio, TX, USA

Price upon request

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For the most discriminating buyer who seeks perfection, architectural interest, forever views and privacy, this magazine-worthy hilltop home offers it all. The well-conceived architectural design delivers newer construction, dramatic ceilings and an ultra-functional layout for casual living or entertaining on a high scale. No detail was overlooked, including Italian polished floors, dramatic light fixtures, designer-curated hardware and plumbing fittings, an over 200-bottle capacity glass wine room and rare onyx and calacatta gold counters. The resort-level outdoor space features  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ brilliant infinity edge pool, spa and basketball court.







#### Winnetka, IL, USA \$3,649,000

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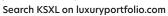






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Exquisite architecture designed by Greg Perry and meticulously built by Grandfather Homes in highly desirable Foxcroft. No detail overlooked. Sprawling plan creates tons of entertaining options: private courtyard with a fire pit and covered porch has wood-burning fireplace with retractable screens. Custom steel door invites you into the foyer with feature wall and grand dining area that displays conditioned, glassfront wine storage. Chef's kitchen has Thermador appliances, custom hood and cabinets and the waterfall island is open to a great room with fireplace. One of a kind!









#### Fox Point, WI, USA

Price upon request



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Thoughtful design flows flawlessly throughout this beautiful home. Two islands anchor the gourmet kitchen overlooking the spacious great room and light-filled dining room. The main living spaces and four of the six bedrooms were purposefully constructed to envelop the expansive blue horizons of sky and lake. Luxurious living is amplified by a two-storey foyer, beautiful hardwood floors, 2 laundry rooms, home theater, gym, office, work studio, 3<sup>rd</sup>-floor flex space, 4-floor elevator and heated garage with 3 charging stations.



#### San Miguel de Allende, Mexico \$3,200,000

CDR BIENES RAICES SAN MIGUEL Nancy Howze — +1 415 103 0585 nancy@cdrsanmiguel.com Search UTFO on luxuryportfolio.com Casa Arcadia is located on Calle Aldama, often called the most beautiful street in San Miguel de Allende, and just steps away from Centro's El Jardin and our famously splendid pink Parroquia. Calle Aldama is an unspoiled, intact Spanish colonial street with its original 16th-century cobblestones and charming colonial-style homes. The quietly elegant street-facing facade of Casa Arcadia gives no clue to its magnificent interior.









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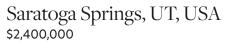


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THREE
PHILANTHROPIC
GROUPS THAT
ARE LEAVING
THEIR MARK ON
THE WORLD

By NORA HOWE

ome people equate supercars, lavish five-star stays and the finest quality apparel to the good life. But maybe the good life is one that does not involve material possessions at all.

It is easy to get distracted by the alitz and alam of the luxury world, but behind the

It is easy to get distracted by the glitz and glam of the luxury world, but behind this silk curtain is a world riddled with poverty, war and illness, and there are millions of people and numerous organizations who work every day to bring these issues to light and find solutions for them.

From protecting wildlife to safeguarding the rights of children around the world to supporting the arts, the World Wildlife Federation, UNICEF and the Chihuly Foundation have set out to bring good into the world.





#### World Wildlife Federation (WWF)

People are becoming increasingly aware of their impact on the environment, and the World Wildlife Federation has been at the forefront of this issue since 1961, working to sustain the natural world for the benefit of mankind and wildlife.

The organization's mission is to build a future in which people may live in harmony with nature through six key areas: climate, food, forests, freshwater, oceans and wildlife.

WWF is focused heavily on increasing the world's tiger population, working with world leaders to raise money to support community-based conservation programs.

According to the federation, tigers play a critical role in maintaining a thriving ecosystem, so each time a tiger is saved, 25,000 acres of forest are as well.

The organization has also been integral in efforts to close Asia's illegal ivory markets an industry that kills roughly 20,000 elephants each year for their tusks. worldwildlife.org

### **United Nations** Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Creating a better tomorrow means protecting the leaders of tomorrow: children. Founded after World War II, UNICEF is committed to safeguarding the rights of all children, everywhere.

In partnership with world leaders and other organizations, UNICEF works to promote policies and expand access to services that protect children, reduce child mortality rates, provide quality education, alleviate poverty and provide emergency assistance to youngsters in areas affected by war and natural disasters.

In early 2020, UNICEF saw more children living to see their first birthday, as child mortality had fallen 50 percent since 2000. Maternal mortality and child marriages were on the decline and more girls were going to, and staying in, school.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has become the greatest threat to children in UNICEF's 75-year history.

While the number of children who are hungry, out of school, abused, living in poverty or forced into marriage is increasing, those with access to healthcare, vaccines, sufficient food and essential services is decreasing, according to the organization. unicef.org

### Dale and Leslie Chihuly Foundation

Guided by the principle that art plays a critical role in inspiring people around the world, glass artist Dale Chihuly and his wife. Leslie, both leaders in the art world. founded their philanthropic project.

The Dale and Leslie Chihuly Foundation was formed in 2009 with a mission to inspire and educate the public regarding all forms of art and to provide support to artists and arts organizations through grants.

Since 2010, it has made multi-year funding commitments to programs and organizations that support artists, enable youth arts education and enhance the quality of life for underserved communities, including the elderly, veterans and the disabled, through art-making experiences.

So far there are eight Chihuly grant recipients: Artist Trust, Hilltop Artists, Path with Art, Classical KING FM, Hot Shop Heroes, The Pratt Fine Arts Center, University of Washington's School of Art and Design and the Aspen Institute. chihulyfoundation.org



t is never too early to be introduced to a lifestyle of luxury, as several stroller brands recognize while vying for the affluent consumer's attention.

Coveted luxury stroller brands, including Orbit Baby, Bugaboo, Nuna, Silver Cross and UPPAbaby, offer features that cater to individual families' specific needs. With offerings that are worth thousands of dollars and endorsed by public figures from star athletes to celebrities and beyond, luxury strollers provide another chic outlet for families to express themselves while keeping their children secure.

"The goal of many luxury products is to bring ease and comfort into people's lives, and the stroller world is not different," says Braden Jones, CEO of Orbit Baby.

"Parents want to give their babies the very best, so Orbit Baby has created stroller systems with soft, breathable Oeko-Tex certified fabrics, aerospace-grade framing and a high-performance design that makes travel simple and seamless," he says.

"The modular design allows parents to build their own system, choosing metals and colors for frames, and canopies and different seats as their little ones age and their families grow."



Luxury strollers offer another chic outlet for families to express children secure



Strollers have come a long way, literally and figuratively. In the 1700s, English landscape architect William Kent designed the first stroller for the Duke of Devonshire, who wanted a means to beguile his children.

Kent's creations were considered luxury items and used solely by affluent citizenry. His stroller was designed to be pulled by goats, dogs or other small animals, not to be pushed by humans.

During the 19th century, strollers became popular pieces for consumers across all economic backgrounds. U.S. toymaker Benjamin Potter Crandall broke the mold in designing a new stroller – this one with the capability to be pushed.

Fast forward more than 100 years later, and luxury strollers are not only expected to be easily maneuvered but to set themselves apart with thoughtful materials and capabilities.



The Orbit Baby Stroll and Ride system Image courtesy of Orbit Baby



The Silver Cross Jet 3 stroller Image courtesy of Silver Cross



#### MODEL TURN

Leading luxury stroller brands now have myriad offerings that marry chic, customizable and comfortable.

Premium material usage — lightweight, sturdy frames made from aluminum and soft, easily cleaned fabrics, extended warranties, design technology, sleek aesthetics and bespoke options are just a few selling points.

One cannot discuss luxury strollers without mentioning Silver Cross, a brand that has been on the scene for more than 140 years and is a favorite of the British royal family.

Silver Cross is known for its stylish craftmanship, even offering hand-built prams — as strollers are known in the United Kingdom — and valet services.

Orbit Baby's focus on innovation recalls its California roots. Its models incorporate technology including suspension systems and all-terrain wheeling to guarantee smooth rides and enhanced safety.

Inspired by Dutch design, Nuna strollers balance practicality with sustainability. Select strollers use organic cotton and environmentally friendly merino wool, and Nuna's lightweight and compact designs are ideal for city dwellers and frequent fliers.

Families that travel together can also consider the Jet Super Compact Stroller from Silver Cross, which ensures easy travel with its airline cabin approval, footrest and toddler bar.

UPPAbaby is a great choice for affluents seeking an innovative luxury stroller brand, offering both full-size and lightweight strollers.

Bugaboo is another stroller brand that embraces the adventures of parenthood, offering comfortable and durable all-terrain strollers for families on the go.

Each Bugaboo model includes a rain cover, and customizable add-ons allow families to further personalize strollers to fit their needs.

Recognizing that expecting the unexpected is part of parenting, Bugaboo also offers a 100-day free trial for its strollers.

Parents with multiple young children can consider UPPAbaby and Bugaboo, which sell popular double strollers or models that can be reconfigured with attachments for growing families.

### **PUSHY TYPES**

Many celebrities have fallen in love with their favored luxury stroller brands.

Orbit Baby strollers have been driven by U.S. reality TV star Kim Kardashian, Grammy Award-winning performers Beyoncé Knowles, John Legend and Justin Timberlake, and American actors Jack Black, Jessica Alba and Tori Spelling.

The Bugaboo Fox stroller has been photographed with models Kylie Jenner and Gigi Hadid, British socialite Pippa Middleton, British actor Tom Hardy and the Duchess of Sussex. The Bugaboo Donkey model has also proven popular with Ms. Kardashian, U.S. comedian Amy Schumer, Australian actor Chris Hemsworth and American actress Zoey Deschanel.

Reality TV star Kourtney Kardashian and American actresses Hilary Duff and Jessica Biel have been photographed with the Nuna MIXX.

Britain's Silver Cross is adored by the British royal family, as its strollers have been driven by Queen Elizabeth II and the Duchess of Cambridge.

UPPAbaby Vista fans include
Ms. Deschanel, American actress and
filmmaker Olivia Wilde, British actress
Emily Blunt, Olympic gold medalist Michael
Phelps, singer Joe Jonas and actress
Sarah Jessica Parker.

AS PREPARING FOR a new family member can bring forth numerous tasks and needs to be filled, luxury stroller brands are looking for new ways to stick out and make the transition a bit easier.

"Thanks to this unique live commerce offering from Emplifi, expectant parents can peruse products at Orbit Baby online and get the expert help they need through a live video stream with an in-store expert," Mr. Jones says.

"This expert guide can walk them through key features of each product, make recommendations based on their personal preferences and needs, and answer any questions they might have," he says.





There is renewed interest in pearls, with the gemstones even trending in wedding jewelry By KATIE TAMOLA

"A woman needs ropes and ropes of pearls"

"The pearl is the queen of gems and the gem of queens"

- PRINCESS GRACE OF MONACO

"Pearls are always appropriate"

- JACQUELINE KENNEDY ONASSIS

"Perhaps pearls are a girl's best friend, after all"

oes the pearl need a more full-throated endorsement? From the first cultured pearl being created in 1893 to current celebrities going beyond strands to use the gemstones in engagement rings, they remain timeless, graceful objects that symbolize elegance and glamour.

Pearls, both natural and cultured, have been used in jewelry for hundreds of years. Several luxury jewelry brands, including Japan's Mikimoto, place pearls at the heart of each of their pieces, as they continue maintaining popularity among affluent consumers and celebrities.

"Historically, pearls have always been associated with luxury and elegance," says Kentaro Nishimura, chief operating officer of Mikimoto America, New York.

"At Mikimoto, we believe a classic pearl strand is timeless," he says. "However, new, more modern jewelry designs have increasingly become popular among younger generations.

"The popularity of pearls in the last few years stems from pop culture, celebrities and nostalgia-fashion influences. Pearls are a mainstay of fashion, and we look forward to being at the forefront of evolving pearl trends."

#### Flexing muscle

There are two kinds of pearls: natural and cultured. Their variety of colors come from the type of oyster or mollusk that creates them along with other factors such as nutrient supply.

A natural pearl is formed organically when an irritant – such as seawater, sand or dust – enters an oyster's soft muscle tissue, causing it to produce layers of calcium carbonate secretions that slowly develop into a pearl.

Cultured pearls are produced in the same way, but with human assistance in the irritant department. There are two main types of cultured pearls: freshwater and saltwater.

In Egypt, decorative mother-of-pearl, the shimmery calcium carbonate layer inside of shells, was used as far back as 4200 B.C.

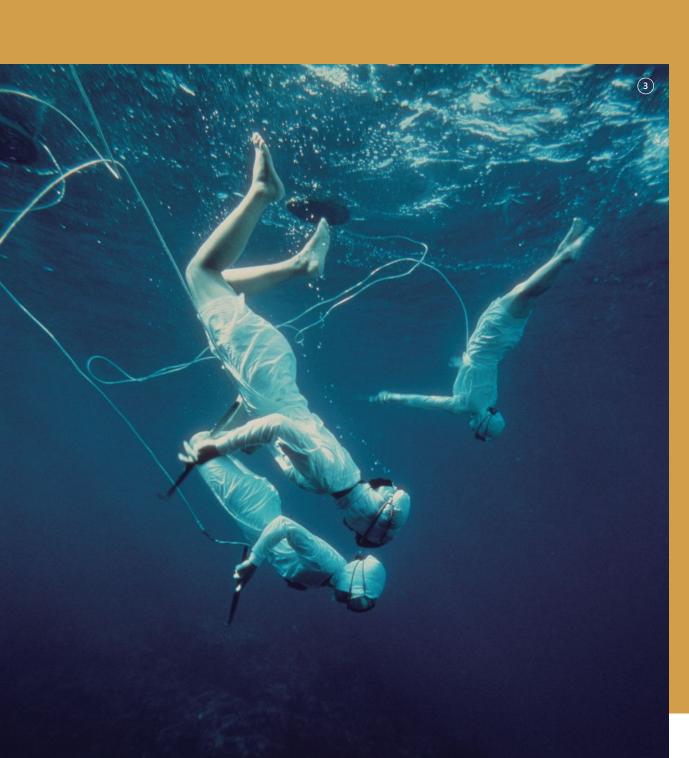
Before the creation of cultured pearls, natural pearls themselves were immensely rare and expensive, and were mainly available to the very wealthy.

Pearls were so revered and expensive, reaching a peak of popularity at the height of the Roman Empire, that Roman general Vitellius reportedly funded an entire military campaign by selling just one of his mother's pearl earrings.



A Mikimoto necklace made with a larae natural pearl Image courtesy of Mikimoto

(2) A pair of pearl earrings from Tiffany & Co. Image courtesy of Tiffany & Co.



pecialize in more than t deep into vater, using techniques heir breath

4

A pearl bracelet from Tiffany & Co. Image courtesy

(5)

A pearl necklace from Mikimoto in collaboration with Comme des Garçons

6

A pair of Mikimoto earrings featuring natural pearls Image courtesy of Mikimoto



Tiffany's new take on a pearl necklace Image courtesy of Tiffany & Co

#### Mothers of pearl

Mikimoto's founder, Kokichi Mikimoto, created the world's first cultured pearls in 1893.

When Mr. Mikomoto began his business, he tapped Ama divers to foster his cultured pearls on Mikimoto Pearl Island in Toba Bay. Ama, which translates to "women of the sea," are female Japanese divers known for collecting pearls. Records indicate that this practice could be more than 2,000 years old.

These women specialized in diving more than 30 feet deep into cold water, using special techniques to hold their breath for up

to two minutes at a time. They often worked for four hours a day gathering abalone, seaweed and other shellfish — but the most lucrative find was always pearls.

Mr. Mikimoto gave the Ama the task of collecting the oysters from the seabed so that pearl-producing nuclei could be inserted. Then the divers would carefully return the oysters to the ocean floor.

The Ama were crucial drivers in Mr. Mikimoto's work, and for more than 100 years, the company has fostered a line of offerings that are centered on pearls.

# "Pearls are delicate, organic gems and really should be your 'last on, first off' piece of jewelry"

- LORRAINE BRANTNER | JAMESALLEN.COM

#### New culture

There is renewed interest in pearls, and the gemstones are trending in wedding jewelry.

According to the Pearl Jewelry Market: Global Outlook and Forecast 2020-2025, the global pearl jewelry market is likely to grow at the compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of more than 13 percent by 2025.

Several celebrities have recently showcased pearl-centered jewelry, specifically in their engagement rings.

"Pearls have been a treasured gem for many years, but only recently has interest in them been reawakened for bridal and fashion jewelry," says Lorraine Brantner, gemologist at JamesAllen.com, Washington, D.C.

"Celebrity engagements like Emma Stone and Ariana Grande really brought pearls back into the spotlight," she says.

U.S. jeweler Tiffany & Co., now part of France's LVMH luxury conglomerate, boasts more than 100 pearl pieces, ranging from necklaces to bracelets and earrings. For those consumers who want a classic, the jeweler sells an 18-inch necklace of South Sea cultured pearls for \$29,000.

Mikimoto has several collections, including the Jeux de Rubans assembly, which features pearl jewelry with a motif of ribbons and a whimsical feel.

There is also the Mikimoto Feather Collection that aims to represent beauty and grace while eliciting courage from wearers of its pendants and ear cuffs.

A Mikimoto premium pearl necklace costs \$34,000 at current prices.

For those looking for an even more exclusive find, online design marketplace 1stDibs.com listed several pearl pieces from French jeweler Cartier earlier this year, including a Cartier South Sea cultured pearl necklace for \$75,000; a Cartier pearl, diamond and chrysoprase sautoir 18-karat yellow gold necklace for almost \$20,000; and a Cartier pearl pink quartz diamond necklace for \$35,000.

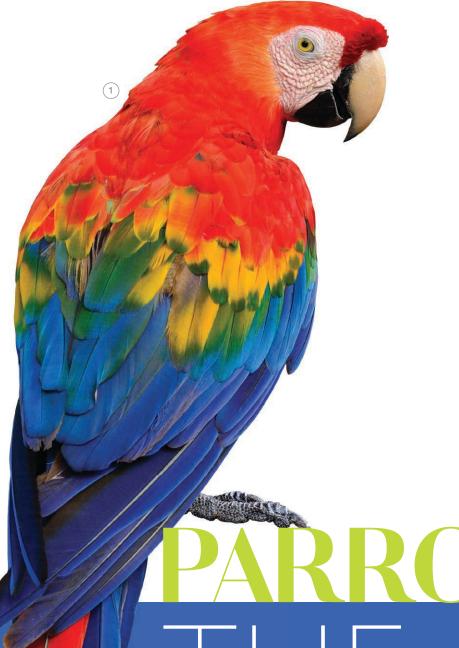
For watch lovers, auction house Sotheby's has listed several timepieces that subtly include pearl, including a Patek Philippe yellow gold and diamond calendar watch featuring a mother-of-pearl dial, and an Audemars Piguet white gold and diamond-set wristwatch, also with a mother-of-pearl dial.

WHETHER WEARING a pearl as a symbol of love on one's ring finger, fostering a collection or looking for the ultimate antique piece, it remains clear that these jewels are timeless and remain sought-after symbols of graceful glamour.

"Pearls are delicate, organic gems and really should be your 'last on, first off' piece of jewelry," Ms. Brantner says.

"Classic strands will never go out of style and are not just for formal events, but can pair just as nicely with jeans and a tee," she says. "If a strand is too much, there are modern designs that showcase a single pearl in a fresh new take." IP





# Colorful and clever, parrots can be high maintenance, but make the perfect feathered friends for committed pet lovers

ogs may be man's best friends, but those who desire a more unique pet and longtime companion should consider animals of the feathered and winged variety.

Parrots have been kept around the world as companion pets for millennia. They are renowned for their intelligence and beauty, but their strong personalities mean parrots are not the ideal pets for everyone.

"The more you interact with your bird, the nicer it's going to be," says Dr. Alisa Rassin, exotics veterinarian at The Exotic Animal Hospital of Philadelphia. "It doesn't really matter if it comes from nature or comes from a breeder, you still need to put a lot of work into making birds friendly and making them know that you're their friend."

PARROTING
THE LINE

By SARAH RAMIREZ







# Ruling the roost

Although people likely envision a vibrant macaw or cockatoo when they think about parrots, there are nearly 400 bird species in the biological order, *Psittaciformes*. The order is divided into three superfamilies: the *Psittacoidea*, "true" parrots including macaws and grey parrots; the *Cacatuoidea*, or cockatoos; and the *Strigopoidea*, New Zealand parrots.

In nature, parrots are primarily found in tropical and subtropical climates.

Birds, including parrots, were kept as pets in ancient Greece and Rome. After Alexander the Great invaded India in 327 B.C., he brought parrots back to Macedonia — including one now known as the Alexandrine parakeet.

Parrots remained popular among the wealthy during the Middle Ages, while native tribes in the Americas, including the Toltecs, are also believed to have been involved in the trade of these birds.

The Age of Exploration, which spanned the early 1400s to the 1600s, further accelerated the global parrot trade. Parrots eventually arrived at King Henry VIII's Hampton Court in England and later Versailles in France.

Birds have also been found in the White House as First Pets, with Dolly Madison, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy among the famous residents who owned parrots, including Amazons, macaws and parakeets.

According to the Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery, birds were the most popular indoor pet in the United States by the  $19^{th}$  century. Wealthy bird lovers often kept a diverse flock in spacious aviaries.



Scarlet macaws are native to Central and South America



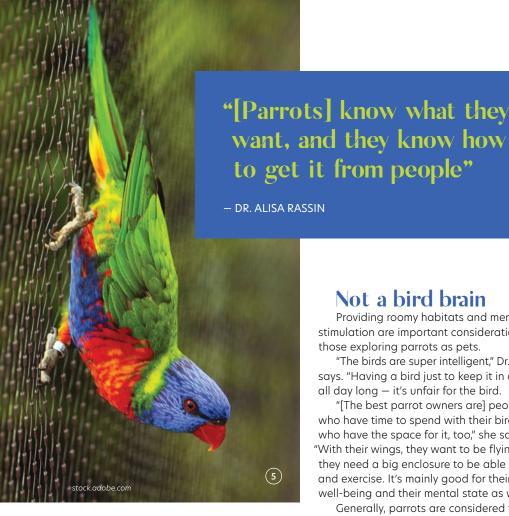
African grey parrots need a lot of socialization and attention



Amazonian parrots are known for their friendly personalities



The small parakeet makes a good pet for a beginner bird owner







Lorikeets, from Australia, need room to fly around and a special diet



anywhere between 40 and 70 years

### Not a bird brain

Providing roomy habitats and mental stimulation are important considerations for those exploring parrots as pets.

"The birds are super intelligent," Dr. Rassin says. "Having a bird just to keep it in a cage all day long - it's unfair for the bird.

"[The best parrot owners are] people who have time to spend with their birds, who have the space for it, too," she says. "With their wings, they want to be flying so they need a big enclosure to be able to fly and exercise. It's mainly good for their well-being and their mental state as well."

Generally, parrots are considered to be as intelligent as a five-year-old child and often have the attitude to match.

"They know what they want, and they know how to get it from people," Dr. Rassin says.

To keep parrots busy and engaged, Dr. Rassin recommends providing puzzles and opportunities to forage for food. She also suggests fresh fruit and vegetables, rather than a feed-based diet, for optimal health.

Parrot owners who travel often should establish relationships with caretakers who specialize in birds, ensuring their feathered friends receive the appropriate care and attention while they are away.

Similarly, parrot parents need to make sure they can reach an avian vet, since not all veterinarians are well-versed in exotic animals.

Including parrots in your estate planning is also important, as many species, such as African greys, macaws, cockatoos and Amazons, can live for decades.

"You need to make sure they go into your will and somebody's going to be able to take care of them if you pass away," Dr. Rassin says. "I know a few people who inherited birds that they definitely did not want to have."

### Different breed

In the U.S., the Wild Bird Conservation Act prohibits imports of exotic birds, and many other countries have similar legislation. The only ethically responsible way to acquire a companion parrot, or any bird, is through a breeder – either privately or through an exotic bird store.

Many of these stores are phasing out live bird sales to focus on rehoming efforts and other services.

Finding the best fit can be overwhelming for a new parrot parent.

Budgies and parakeets are popular starter birds, according to Dr. Rassin. These parrots are small, relatively easy to manage and do not require the largest of enclosures. In good conditions, they can live for 15 to 20 years.

Lorikeets have striking rainbow plumage, but have become rarer as companion parrots because of their specialty diets.

African greys, Amazons and macaws are especially prized for their intelligence, cleverness and long lifespan, and might cost thousands of dollars. They bond with their family but can be picky or aggressive with others.

"Birds usually will choose a family member and that will be their person," Dr. Rassin says. "They don't love everybody. They'll usually like one person the most and everybody else will just be tolerable."

If indoor or covered outdoor space allows, many parrot species also do well in small flocks or groups for company.

WHILE PARROTS ARE by no means low-maintenance pets, they reward their owners with many years of companionship, loyalty and enjoyment.

"Investing in a bird is a big undertaking," Dr. Rassin says. "People should really, really know what they're getting themselves into."  ${\rm I\!P}$ 

# What's driving luxury consumers?



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# San Miguel de Allende, Mexico \$2,395,000

CDR BIENES RAICES SAN MIGUEL Joseph Lown — +1 415 103 3374 jwlown@gmail.com Search AVDJ on luxuryportfolio.com Nestled into the woodlands of Candelaria, a 500-acre ecological preserve, this home is a testament to an architect's expertise in creating an intelligent and beautifully-designed space. A welcoming entry gives way to an expansive central grand salon with a traditional boveda ceiling. The stylishly casual, one-floor open living plan is seamlessly integrated both inside and out, taking full advantage of the natural beauty of the property.









# Highlands, NC, USA \$2,325,000

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This wonderful family mountain retreat has room for everyone! The main floor features an open concept family room with a stacked stone fireplace and an oversized dining room. The main level showcases mountain style with tongue-and-groove natural wood. The primary bedroom is on the main floor and features an oversized bath, access to the covered deck and his/her walk-in closets. This home has an amazing long range view and is located behind the gates of Old Edwards Club at Highlands Cove. This is a must-see property!

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Renovated to perfection, this beautiful home with private dock has gorgeous interior finishes and is perfectly sized, all with stunning Lake Norman views! Two-storey great room with an abundance of natural light, open concept floor plan, new kitchen. Spacious primary bedroom on main level with hardwood floors, new bath with heated floors. Patio, screened porch and balcony allow multiple entertaining areas. Composite decking on covered pier, dock and deck. Cove is perfect for swimming and docking. Don't miss this opportunity to start living the lake lifestyle today!



Panoramic Lake Winnipesaukee and mountain views. Perched above Meredith Bay in the Lake Ridge Association, this 3,962-square-foot Colonial has 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, multi-level deck and terraced backyard. Large spiral staircase, formal dining room, open kitchen with breakfast nook and great room with stone-adorned gas fireplace. Enjoy the wine bar and den suite which could be used as a first-floor bedroom. Two additional ensuite bedrooms and 850-square-foot primary suite. Third level with office. Cooled 117 wine rack. Association amenities: pool, playground, storage and boat slip.

# Meredith, NH, USA

\$1,595,000



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Welcome home to 126 Talons Pointe Road. This waterfront home sits on almost two acres and is complete with a deep-water dock. You will notice the industrial style theme with floor-to-ceiling windows, a switchback floating staircase, a large waterfall-style kitchen island and sleek cabinetry. There are so many options to enjoy the outdoors. Have dinner on the screened porch or the patio area, retreat to the fire pit after a day on the lake or lounge on the dock. Located in a beautiful cove with long views, enjoy swimming, floating or just sitting on the dock.

# Kamas, UT, USA \$ 1,595,000

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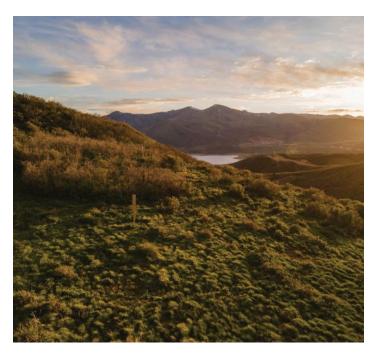


Santa Ana, San José, Costa Rica \$1,385,000

LX COSTA RICA María José Barrios — +506 8816 3971 mariajose@lxcostarica.com Search ZDPM on luxuryportfolio.com Integrated design with vaulted ceilings, marble floors and an open distribution. The Utopia Home boasts manicured gardens and a delightful swimming pool area with sun deck — the whole package in a perfect location within a luxury residential community on the west side of the capital city of San José.

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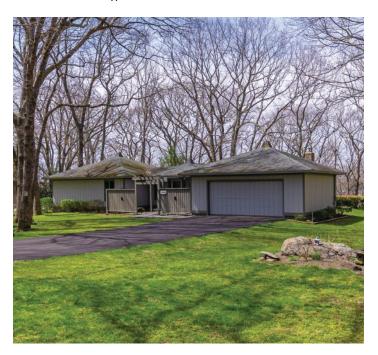
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# QUEENS OF THE SEAS

By MICKEY ALAM KHAN

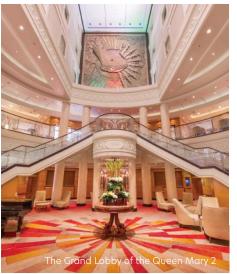
hink about it: When was the last time you enjoyed the journey as much as the destination? The mode of transport as much as your hotel, resort or non-primary home? We all have endured road, train and air trips with equanimity or a sense of frustration. But for those of us who like leisure travel, nothing beats sailing on the seas.

I have been on many cruises over the years, across different lines. One of my abiding memories is sailing on the Queen Elizabeth 2. A Cunard ship, the QE2 was in a class of its own. Its normal route was the trip between the English port of Southampton and New York and back. Of course, it took on other voyages as well.

What can I say about ocean travel? That the vistas feed the soul? The sunrises and sunsets are beyond compare? The escort of prancing dolphins excited by company? That the solitude on the ocean clears the mind's clutter and focuses on what really matters?

My personal preference is for ocean liners such as the QE2 — now retired and docked permanently in Dubai — as well as the Queen Mary 2 and Queen Anne. While others sail around the Mediterranean, Caribbean or up and down the East and West Coasts of the United States, the two Cunard ships focus on transatlantic crossings over the course of a week or so. The two other ships in the family, Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria, ply different routes, including Australia.







#### SHIP SHAPE

There is a certain grace about the Cunard ships. For one, they have the blessing of Queen Elizabeth II — the real queen of the United Kingdom. Two, their service standards are beyond compare.

I remember quite vividly the crew of the QE2 — possibly the most well-mannered staff of any hospitality establishment
I have experienced. They anticipated the passengers' every need. All I had to do was to slightly turn my head to one side and a waiter showed up to my right, or rest my fork and knife at twenty-five past and the plate was cleared. And the food, china, cutlery and linen — well, they were all exquisite. As is tradition on such liners, we had blacktie nights, dances, performances, games, deck outings and the usual dips in the pool.

The Queen Mary 2 inherited quite a few of the staff of the QE2, so the service standards have been upheld. Plus, the ship is relatively new and even grander in its staterooms, public areas and art. Indeed, it is a sight to behold when it sails out of New York Harbor, majestic and redolent of a more gracious era when glamour and travel went hand in hand.

I cannot wait for my next ocean voyage. This is not an advertisement, but I would highly recommend the transatlantic crossing on the Queen Mary 2, if you have never embarked on such a cruise. It certainly is a cut above the rest and may inspire new thoughts, new ventures, new relationships. As someone once said, "When was the last time you did something for the first time?" IP

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