

INTERNATIONAL
PRIME
PROPERTIES



RIVIERA DREAMING
Discover the crème de la crème
of Côte d'Azur homes

BARBADOS GOLD
The holiday home haven that sets
the standard in the Caribbean

WHAT'S IN A NAME?
The rise of branded
residences around the globe

£4.99



‘Munich, Amsterdam, Monaco and Berlin are Europe’s standout performers, recording price growth of 12%, 10%, 10% and 9% respectively in 2015’

Source: Knight Frank Wealth Report 2016



DIVINE PROVENANCE

When a property that has been in the hands of a religious order since 1939 arrives on the market, you expect a little intrigue, even a few additional Our Fathers to close the deal.

Luxembourg’s Schengen Castle comes with such provenance. The 14th-century castle, painstakingly restored in the 19th century, has entertained the French writer Victor Hugo and is famously located. Anyone familiar with political history will know the town is the birthplace of the Schengen Agreement, signed by France, Germany and the Benelux countries in 1985 to begin Europe’s open border policy.

The spirit of the agreement has been sorely tested in recent times on the heels of the Syrian refugee crisis and thousands of migrants threading their way across Europe to escape conflict.

The sale, brokered by Engel & Volkers, wasn’t without ecclesiastic deliberation, needing the blessing of the Archbishop of Luxembourg all the way to the Vatican before the new owners could collect the keys. Global conference and office space provider Regus bought the property for €11m, and plans to turn 5,000m² of living space into a corporate training facility.

LIGHTS OUT, LONDON

THE ‘buy to leave’ phenomenon continues to hang over some of London’s most prestigious neighbourhoods. Firm numbers on properties left empty by overseas owners are hard to come by, but using census data, Kensington and Chelsea Council has identified more than 9,000 vacant flats and houses across the borough, just over 10% of its total housing stock. London’s mayoral race in June may shed some light on the future of the capital’s housing policy, with the *Financial Times* reporting that should Labour’s Sadiq Khan win office, he would not rule out using planning powers to try and rebalance London’s residential market.

Boutique Montenegro

Once loved by Sophia Loren, Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor, Montenegro suffered during the Balkan conflict but this Adriatic gem is set to be a luxury hotspot for discerning travellers once again. Next year will see the opening of Portonovi, an exclusive 60-acre resort on the Bay of Boka Kotorska. A state-of-the-art, 220-berth superyacht marina will sit alongside the properties, which range from luxurious townhouses to stylish villas in landscaped gardens and sleek penthouse apartments overlooking the marina. The first phase will open in 2017. portonovi.com

