

GRAND DESIGNS

As the high-end property market diversifies, HNWs are investing in homes and interiors that showcase their personalities

Words: Cheryl Markosky

When it comes to upper-scale interior design, almost everything – furniture, materials and trimming colours – is custom-made today, says Bear René's Nicola Oaten. "Fabrics are woven to specific designs with the kids' initials. One client wanted wallpaper displaying the same number of birds as her children, with the capacity to add another one when a new baby arrives," she explains.

Other personalised trends, according to Nicola, include a jewellery room where friends admire your illuminated collection of spinning turntables, pools with portholes, and integrating elements from paintings into homes. Many well-heeled homeowners are also harking back

to the 1970s, which fashion-turned-interior designer Tomasz Starzewski believes is a revival of 1930s fashion. "Nervousness is the mood of the moment, so we're all non-minimalist homemakers now," he says.

OS Designs' Oz Lancaster notes an appetite for matching interiors in multiple homes – and yachts – around the globe. A Middle Eastern customer linked the style of his £12m Manchester residence to his penthouse in Dubai's Burj Khalifa and an Indian property.

She argues that high-end patrons want to add value by embracing new trends to make homes more sellable. "In an unsettled market, starchitect buildings are undoubtedly a safer prospect that will always command a premium," adds Harvey Daniels of One Sothebys International Realty.

Knight Frank's Edward de Mallet Morgan emphasises the value of underground parking for 20 cars, and red and white wine cellars with tasting zones to attract the right buyers; while YOO's John Hitchcox thinks luxury's having "solitary nesting space alongside communal areas where you spend time with your kids and friends, with eco-friendly homes the next big thing for the socially conscious".

Here we discover four of the most unique properties on the market right now. »

Industrial heritage meets contemporary city living at Khun by YOO in Bangkok

One Thousand Museum

One Thousand Museum isn't a museum but a duplex penthouse measuring 16,000 sq ft in Zaha Hadid's first residential skyscraper in the western hemisphere, overlooking Miami's Biscayne Bay and the Atlantic. It's blessed with an indoor pool, a private elevator whisking you up to a private rooftop helipad, and sensually curved architectural lines that blur the boundaries of art and architecture. On sale for \$49m (£34.6m).

onesothebysrealty.com



PROPERTY

Grevillia

Modish Art Deco-style design reigns supreme at this £49.4m waterside estate on the Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat peninsula in southeastern France. Owners can enjoy 12 bedrooms and 13 bathrooms across a principal villa, secondary villa and guesthouse. Fun touches include a glass-sided infinity pool, polished copper-clad walls, a fitness area with sauna and hammam, and a media room with a bar. »

knightfrank.com



Khun by YOO

John Hitchcox and Philippe Starck work their magic at this 'industrial heritage', 27-storey project in Bangkok's Thong Lo in the heart of the Sukhumvit district. Luxe marble, unpolished concrete, copper and terrazzo meld with Starck's playful yet functional furniture and furnishings.

sansiri.com



PROPERTY



Chester Square

Elegantly renovated by Wilben Developments, this substantial, Grade II-listed, white stucco terrace with eight bedrooms sits on a private garden square in London's Belgravia. Key features include surround sound cinema, a gym, air-conditioning and an incorporated mews house with double garage and roof garden. ①

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