

How to spend it

32-PAGE PROPERTY SPECIAL

get realty

Rarefied residences and snazzy pads for citizens of the world. By **Lisa Freedman**

Service with a smile used to be a question of cucumber sandwiches and Lapsang or Earl Grey, but now **MIAMI**'s most demanding property purchasers are expecting – and receiving – significantly more. In Sunny Isles Beach, buyers at the **Porsche Design Tower** (www.designtowermiami.com; remaining units from \$6.3 to \$32.5m), where vehicles will be delivered to the apartment door by robotic parking, can rely on the rather more bespoke ministrations of a car concierge to assist with oil changes and tyre rotation; while, at the Rafael Viñoly-designed **One River Point** (www.oneriverpoint.com; from \$750,000), art aficionados can turn to the resident curator to provide customised guidance on storing their Warhol or Matisse. Pet owners, too, are well served at **The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Miami Beach** (www.onesothebysrealty.com; from \$2m to \$40m), where a dog walker and pet grooming room will keep four-legged friends in couture condition.

Golf, once a get-away-from-it-all mostly male preserve, is increasingly becoming an inclusive affair, with elite courses around the world recognising the need to cater for families. The one at Les Bordes in the **LOIRE VALLEY** is among Europe's finest and its sacred surroundings have, until recently, been a golfers' secret.

Now the former hunting estate of Baron Marcel Bich (founder of Bic pens) will welcome both golfing enthusiasts and those more interested in an indulgent rural retreat. Here, **Les Domaines de La Forêt** (www.lesbordes.com; from

€2.275m) will allow purchasers to build a home to their own specifications, while **Les Résidences du Plein Air** (from €2.3m) will offer three- to five-bedroom properties. For those not wedded to the links, there's a spa, equestrian centre, adventure playground and luxury hotel, as well as the local châteaux, medieval villages and vineyards of the Valley of the Kings.

Across the Atlantic, **Aman Resorts**, famed for its *ne plus ultra* holiday offering, has chosen to launch its first golfing project in the **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**, a Caribbean island now something of a mecca for those targeting a hole in one. A natural rainforest preserve framed by mountainous jungle and poised on 60ft cliffs, **The Playa Grande Club & Reserve** (www.playagrande.com; from \$4m) has a Robert Trent Jones Sr-designed course, a mile-long stretch of untouched sand and, of course, all the luxury facilities



Above: an Amanera Founder Villa at the Playa Grande Club & Reserve, Dominican Republic, villas from £4m. Below: One River Point in Miami, residences from \$750,000



Above: the living room of the penthouse at 160 Leroy in Manhattan's West Village, \$80m





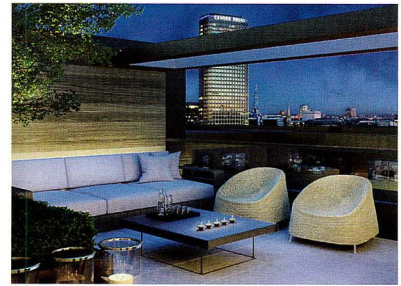
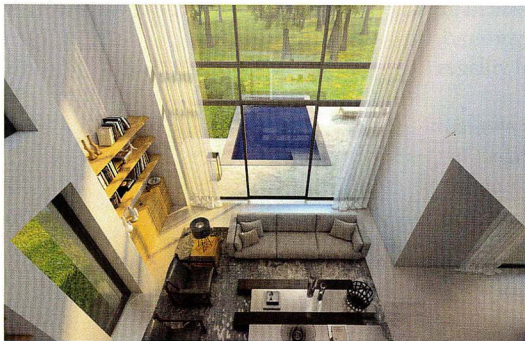
Above: Tuscan Chianti Estate in Tuscany, €17.15m. Below: the living room of a three-bedroom property at Les Résidences du Plein Air, Loire Valley, prices start at €2.3m

question has been envisioned by one of the world's leading architects. **Rathbone Square** (www.rathbonesquare.co.uk; penthouses from £4.475m), just north of Oxford Street in Fitzrovia, has been designed by Make Architects, whose founder, Ken Shuttleworth, is the defining hand behind such iconic landmarks as the Wembley Stadium arch, The Gherkin and the Millennium Bridge. One of the first to be created in the city centre for more than 100 years, the square will, on its completion in 2018, be a real live-work space, open to the public during the day, but allowing owners of the 142 sleek apartments to have it to themselves at night – along with the private pool, screening room, wine cellar and lounge.

🌐 Ian Schrager is someone who's always understood the word "exclusive". In the 1970s, he co-founded **MANHATTAN** nightclub Studio 54, where dancefloor regulars included David Bowie and Salvador Dalí; more recently, he's become known as a (if not *the*) pioneer of the boutique hotel. His latest venture, **160 Leroy** (www.160leroy.com; from \$2.5m to \$25m; penthouse, \$80m), in Manhattan's West Village, demonstrates his customary appreciation of the rare and covetable. To join a raft of world-class names redefining the New York waterfront, Schrager commissioned Pritzker Prize-winning architects Herzog & de Meuron to design 49 one-of-a-kind apartments. What's possibly most remarkable about this sensuously curved tour de force, however, is the views over the Hudson, the Freedom Tower and the city skyline.

🌐 If you have an extended family or a wide range of close friends and like to holiday en masse, buying an entire estate in **TUSCANY** would certainly solve any logistic

issues. The **Tuscan Chianti Estate** (www.christiesrealestate.com; €17.15m), overlooking vineyards producing the celebrated wine, sits in 20 hectares and comes with everything you might expect of the genre, from ancient cypresses and olive groves to fountains and a private forest. The real boon, however, is the thoroughly modernised accommodation: the original Renaissance villa (complete with 17th-century chapel) has now been charmingly converted into two private villas and seven apartments, accompanied by three private pools. Classic, one might say, with just the perfect modern twist. ✦



Above: a terrace at Rathbone Square, Fitzrovia, penthouses from £4.475m

CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE, (IBOX, LISSONI ASSOCIATI), ONE RIVER POINT