

WELLNESS SPECIAL

BOAT

International

PORT OF COOL

INSIDE THE UNSTOPPABLE RISE OF PALMA

“They had guns and rockets pointing at our boat!”

Page 240

THE SPACE RACE

RIVA SUPERSIZES WITH NEW 50 METRE

PLUS: CRUISING THE CAYMAN ISLANDS; THE HOTTEST NEW DINING DESTINATIONS; YACHTING'S GREATEST LOVE STORIES; AND A WESTPORT'S HURRICANE RESCUE



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Villa with a View

Sophia Wilson discovers a slice of Wall Street amid Fort Lauderdale's leafy waterways that's guaranteed to generate high interest

There's no way to describe this colonial Portuguese-inspired six-bedroom mansion other than over the top. Sitting on Fort Lauderdale's North Compass Drive, the property has a long list of add-on features including a home trading centre (with 10 monitors and an LED news ticker), a dog spa with a custom-made bath, a library with a built-in humidior, a wine cellar for more than 1,000 bottles and a cinema. There's also a professional-level kitchen with two marble-topped islands, allowing four cooks to work at the same time.

Built by the owners and on the market for the first time, the property is packed with distinctive details including custom woodwork, bespoke mouldings and handcrafted wrought-iron balustrades for its spiralling staircases. There are intricately hand-painted ceilings throughout the house and oversized windows make the most of the natural light. "The home is situated on multiple lots that allow almost every room to offer breathtaking views,"



says Niki Higgins of Douglas Elliman Real Estate, who is handling the property.

Its eccentricities are bound to catch the attention of its purchaser, but the property is first and foremost a ready-to-move-into home. "It was built by a family for a family. You can feel the warmth," says Higgins. The expansive terrace boasts an infinity pool and a heated loggia with a wood-burning pizza oven. "The outdoor living area was designed for entertaining, with attention to every detail. A family can easily visualise the memories to be made."

Ideal for boating enthusiasts, the plot sits on 75 metres of direct Intracoastal Waterway and another 34 metres of deep-water canal. Pier 66 Marina, home to the superyacht fleet during the Fort

Lauderdale International Boat Show, is also less than seven nautical miles away. To sweeten the deal even further, a black limo and nearly all of the house's artworks are included in the price.

220 North Compass Drive, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is for sale with Douglas Elliman for \$12.995 million, elliman.com

Market overview

The property market in Fort Lauderdale is growing steadily, with a 7.2 per cent year-on-year increase in median sale prices reported in Douglas Elliman's Q3 2019 Residential Report. The luxury detached family home market continues to exceed expectations and waterfront properties command the highest prices. "South Florida is all about magnificent waterways and beautiful beaches," says Niki Higgins. "Extraordinary residences situated on an expansive Intracoastal lot command a premium."



The mansion's distinctive features include handcrafted balustrades (above) and oversized windows (below)

