

## ↑ Ballast Key, Florida, USA

\$15.8m Few island properties get more private than this 110,000sq m (27-acre) paradise. The tropical retreat of Florida investor David Wolkowsky, Ballast Key, which sits about nine miles to the west of Key West and can be reached in 25 minutes by boat or 10 minutes by helicopter, has no neighbours within an eight-mile radius.

Mr Wolkowsky, who once said he is 'always desperately looking for beauty', bought the island from the US Navy in 1970. In the past 40 years, Ballast Key's main house, guest house and pretty pavilions have played host to many distinguished guests, including Edward Heath, Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, Leonard Bernstein, Prince Michael of Greece and Truman Capote.

It also got a mention in Licence to Kill. In the book, the world's most famous spy flees to Ballast Key and tells Mr Wolkowsky: 'David, it's James. James Bond... On your island, I've just broken into your house.'

The main house stands at the southern tip of the Ballast Key peninsula and enjoys breathtaking sea views from every room.

Through Engel & Völkers (00 49 40 36 13 11 37; www.engelvoelkers.com)



## ↑ Rai Ki Wai, Wakaya Island, Fiji

Rai Ki Wai means 'view over the sea' in Fijian and this extra-\$6.95m ordinary estate truly lives up to its name. Perched on the highest spot on the private island of Wakaya, it looks out across its luxuriant grounds—a heavenly sequence of tropical flowers studded by banyan trees, grassy hills and stretches of rainforest—to the turquoise sea.

Most rooms in this striking property enjoy uninterrupted views of the ocean. The accommodation is split into a main pavilion with seven bedrooms, a separate master-bedroom pavilion, a two-bedroom guest pavilion and three guest bures (Fijian cabins) and it's almost as amazing as the panorama.

The interiors are decorated in a Balinese-influenced style, with a profusion of Fijian hardwood, huge Buddha statues and jaw-dropping marble bathrooms. Perhaps the most extraordinary room is the indoor-outdoor dining pavilion, which opens on to the infinity pool and overlooks the sea.

Through Christie's International Real Estate's associate Hilton & Hyland (00 1 310 278 3311; www.christiesrealestate.com; www.hiltonhyland.com)



