

TIME FLIES

There just isn't enough time in the day or itinerary to take a breather and write. So here it goes...my gallivanting from last November til now running around the globe. This travelogue review covers my trips to: [The Maldives](#), [Abu Dhabi](#), [Dubai](#), [Riviera Maya/Mexico](#), [Milan](#), [Monaco](#), [Rome](#), [Lugano & Bellagio/Lake Como](#) and updates on [Miami](#). Enjoy the travel tips and business opportunities I discovered along the way.

THE AMAZING MALDIVES

The magical Maldives have been on my bucket list for quite awhile. It looks so dreamy in all those photos and the reality does not disappoint. The Maldives truly are one of the most special places on the planet. I was headed to the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix on business so I decided to tag on a pleasure trip



beforehand. It was in the name of "research" to explore and experience overwater bungalow living firsthand. Our [Viceroy Bocas del Toro Panama](#) resort development will be the first to have this type of accommodation in Panama. So off I went from [Miami](#) to [Qatar](#) to Male International Airport in the [Maldives](#).

Gili Lankanfushi



Upon arrival, I was shuttled by speedboat to my first stop, [Gili Lankanfushi](#). Even before finishing the refreshing signature drink, 'Gili Refresh', a rejuvenating potion of organic ginger, apple and lemongrass, I was at their dock (it's one of the closest resorts to the airport, but worlds apart) being greeted by the friendly staff which included my very own personal butler or as they call him, 'Mr. Friday'. First order of the day was giving my shoes to my man as the house rules are "No news, No shoes" at Gili Lankanfushi. I was delivered to my Robinson Crusoe style overwater bungalow where my bamboo colored bike was perched out front. This would become my barefoot transportation for my visit around this paradise island. Walking in and seeing the vista ahead was wow factor. The open air living room lead to my private sunbathing deck. Continuing my 'house' tour I discovered my oversized bathroom with his & her sides and a catwalk leading to the open air shower and steps to the private swim area for some frolicking in my birthday suit. Next, I checked out my rooftop deck and finally my bedroom with windows all around looking out as a stingray passed by. This is a place I could move into, only wishing never to move out. It was super spacious and just the right touch of modern day conveniences paired with open-air rustic touches for my new barefoot lifestyle.



guide were great too. And catching a movie under the stars is yet another special thing to experience before hitting your dreamy sack. Gili Lankanfushi ranks up there as one of my all-time favorite places on the planet.

Gili Lankanfushi Videos

<http://www.gili-lankanfushi.com/maldives-luxury-resorts/villas/#>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBsoPKV0FpQ>

<https://vimeo.com/227008371>

<https://vimeo.com/227010275>

<https://vimeo.com/227665161>

<https://vimeo.com/227665856>

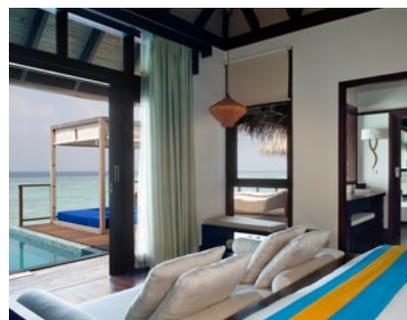
Coco Bodu Hithi/Coco Collection

I checked out another resort in the Maldives for a different overwater bungalow experience. Round two was at **Coco Bodu Hithi**, part of the **Coco Collection**. My boat transportation ventured further out into the Indian Ocean delivering me to yet another part of paradise. Here my bungalow was in the middle of the ocean with water as far as the eye can see. The style was more modern than rustic and had a nice plunge pool on my private deck. Underwater life is more abundant here in the middle of nowhere with many super-sized turtles swimming around. Mother Nature did not completely cooperate, but who cares when you are underwater anyways. On my daily jog, I discovered a pathway filled with wedding bliss where couples placed signs sharing their love messages for all to see. Ahhh....



I took a loop around the island on my bike to get oriented and stopped for a healthy gourmet lunch at the **Overwater Bar** with goodies from Gili's very own organic garden. Here every meal is more delicious than the last. The GM invited me to a wine pairing dinner in the contemporary **Wine Cave** where chocolate truffles infused with exotic island fruit flavors accompanied each flight. And at breakfast, there is always a bucket of champagne to start the morning off in bubbly fashion followed by a trip to the cave to taste all the truffles that are tucked neatly into drawers and nibble on international cheeses next door. There is a fabulous breakfast buffet ready outside where you can also order from a healthy fresh juice menu. The honey table displayed a myriad of varieties beyond the imagination plus homemade jams in equally exotic fruit flavors. Dinners were divine with unique themed cuisine nights like "Passage to India/Tandoori Night" as well as their popular Japanese **By the Sea** eatery and destination dining options. One morning I chose breakfast overlooking the organic garden.

Enough with the food... there are plenty of ways to work off the calories either romantically or otherwise. Mornings began with outdoor yoga in an intimate pagoda steps from the sea. The gym was great with good equipment in a contemporary space. The spa was amazing set over the Indian Ocean with sounds and motions of waves lapping that matched the rhythmic strokes of the experienced masseuse. Paddle boarding on the calm waters was perfect for keeping your balance. For underwater adventures, snorkel trips with a marine biologist



Lots of love is in the air in the Maldives. You can't help but be bitten by the love bug here.

Coco Bodu Hithi Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LOcgnKTqmGk>

With more than 1000 coral islands to discover in this tropical nation in the middle of the Indian Ocean with breathtaking beaches, blue lagoons and reefs, I will be back. With 2 down, that's only 998 more to go!

MALDIVE ISLANDS FOR SALE

For anyone looking to own their very own private paradise island in the Maldives, I have many for you to choose from. Or if you are a resort developer, we can select just the right island for your specifications. I have a strategic alliance with the Maldives Islands expert so you will be in great island hands.



housing the Viceroy hotel was our host home to launch **Viceroy Bocas Del Toros Panama**. The Viceroy Panama is an organic opposite in a setting created by Mother Nature unlike this manmade one in the desert. It will sit on a peninsula surrounded by water on two sides and the jungle on the third. We proudly displayed this new resort development along the catwalk inside the Yas Viceroy hotel overlooking the track where the race cars zoomed below. Our Viceroy Panama video caught the attention of guests intriguing them to consider buying their own villa or suite in this future jungle resort.

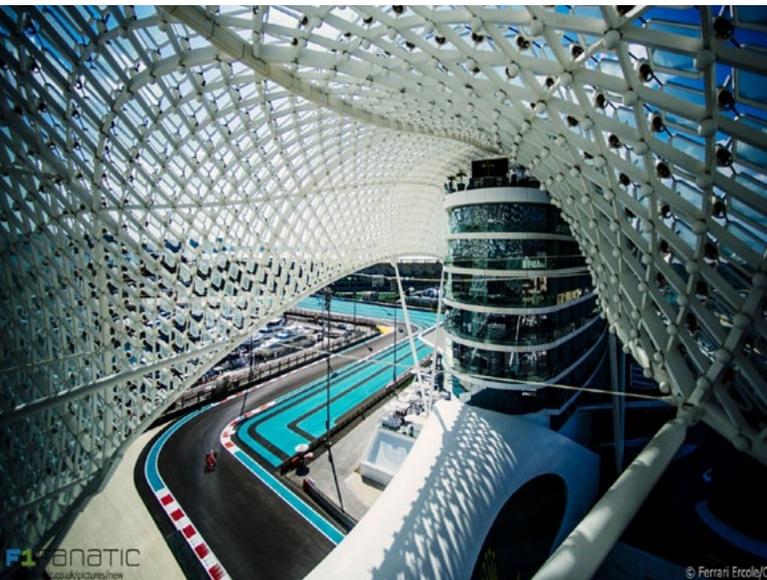
Viceroy Bocas del Toro Panama

<https://vimeo.com/172296799>

www.ehopeinternational.com/PanamaNewsletter2016.pdf

ABU DHABI F1 MIDDLE EAST METALLICS MEET THE LUSH JUNGLE

The **Abu Dhabi Grand Prix** racetrack runs right through the **Yas Viceroy** hotel. It's an astonishing site to see. This spectacular shimmering metal architectural wonder woven like a basket



DASHING THROUGH DUBAI

Being a runner, I always like to try to stay in an area where I can run daily. The Dubai Marina had been my preferred go to place. This trip I tried a whole new city within a city in Dubai that recently popped up, **Al Habtoor City**. Some Emirati friends



of mine developed this new area which contains residential towers, Starwood hotels and a fabulous new waterway allowing visitors to go by boat/water taxi to different parts of the city. It has a great path alongside it, perfect as my jogging trail. I stayed at the hip **W Dubai** hotel with a panoramic view of the waterway. The friendly GM treated me to dinner at their **Namu** restaurant which features tantalizing Korean flavors with a Japanese slant. Later, Drake performed in their **Boa Club** creating quite a buzz. Residential units are for sale in Al Habtoor City so if having a place in Dubai appeals to you, I can hook you up.



Al Habtoor City, Dubai Brochure & Video

www.ehopeinternational.com/DubaiAlHabtoorCityBrochure.pdf

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rd5boppiZrk>

RIVIERA MAYA MEXICO RESORT LIFE

I was invited to another jungle setting, this time in Mexico in the **Riviera Maya** region where the Yucatan peninsula greets the Caribbean Sea, playing host to flora, fauna and the second largest coral reef in the world. Here a special resort was developed called **Mayakoba** which is home to 260 species of wildlife and 9 kilometers or almost 6 miles of lagoons and canals. Architects



joined forces with biologists, geologists and engineers to create a master planned retreat synergistic with nature. Four leading hotel brands aligned to each have a signature property within this resort: **Banyan Tree**, **Fairmont**, **Rosewood** and **Andaz**. Transportation between hotels is by a palapa roofed electric boat or by land. Thus, guests can easily experience the restaurants and amenities at each place.

I stayed at my own private villa at Banyan Tree which I shared unbeknownst to me with a friendly monkey, putting on an entertaining show for me. He played 'Peeping Tom' posing on the jungle tree branches outside my bedroom. Each morning I ran on the nature trail and each afternoon took my villa bike to the beach riding around the PGA golf course, **El Camaleon** and later to the resort's authentic Mexican village square called **El Pueblito** where I bought handicraft gifts. In the early evening I hit the Banyan Tree spa for a relaxing Balinese treatment followed by tequila time at the Rosewood restaurant, **Agave Azul** with a library wall full of bottles to choose from. My last evening, I had the best homemade guacamole ever at the Banyan Tree lobby bar which I washed down with my new favorite tequila cocktail called La Bonita, a blend of fresh raspberries, basil, aged Tequila 1800 and lime juice served on the rocks.

Mayakoba Residences

Mayakoba Residences is the real estate arm where you can own your own residence in this multi-faceted eco-resort. Three choices are available from time-sharing at **Fairmont Heritage** to private **Rosewood** or **Banyan Tree** villas. The Fairmont's fabulous condos come fully furnished starting as low as \$175k for a time-share. The Rosewood villas along the waterway are stunning delivered turnkey furnished as well. I am working directly with the development team here on residential sales. If interested, let me know and you can join me and my monkeys sometime soon!

Mayakoba Residences Video

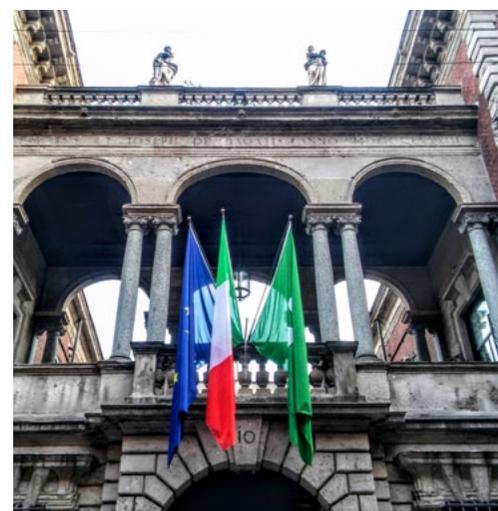
<https://vimeo.com/203232297>

Mayakoba Resort is nearby the trendy town of **Tulum** which sits alongside Mayan ruins of ancient civilization. **Cancun International Airport** makes access to Riviera Maya a convenient destination. It's a short direct flight from Miami. I'll be back mid-October for the **Planet Hope** celebrity golf invitational charity event hosted by **Sharon Stone** at **EL Camaleon**. Let me know if you would like to play or be a team sponsor.



Mayakoba Planet Hope Golf Charity Pro/Am 2017

<http://www.ehopeinternational.com/MayakobaMexicoPlanetHopeGolfCharityProAm2017Presentation.pdf>



MIAMI MEETS MILAN

'Miami met Milan' in June when we went to present the most elite Miami Beach residential development, **87 Park**. This project is the only residential building in Miami that sits alongside both a park and beach, designed by Pritzker award winning Italian architect, **Renzo Piano**. Renzo is like God in Italy...truly a treasure with people worshipping him everywhere! We hosted a lovely evening in **Palazzo Bagatti Valsecchi**, to present 87 Park to a well-heeled audience.

87 Park Milano Event Video & Photos

<https://youtu.be/yk6UO0pleys>

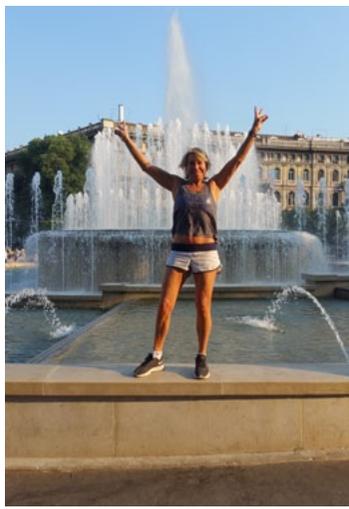
<http://legrandmag.com/le-grand-mag-palazzo-bagatti-valsecchi-june-7th-2017-presenting-eighty-seven-park-renzo-piano-2/>

87 Park Miami Beach Brochure & Video

www.ehopeinternational.com/87Park.pdf

<https://vimeo.com/217300052>

My home for the week in Milan was the artsy boutique hotel, **Boscolo** in the prime city center location walking distance to everything. My first Italian aperitivo was enjoyed at the hotel rooftop lounge overlooking the **Duomo** cathedral at sunset. My iced orange aperol spritz was accompanied with a wide variety of little canapes including pizzettas. This was the first of far too many orgasmic carb-filled meals in Milan. My favorite Milan restaurant discovery was the trendy **Langosteria**. **La Risacca 6** restaurant also seemed to be at the height of its fame full of important people. As usual, I found my running routes which included **Parco Sempione** with **Castello Sforzesco** at its entrance. Since we were busy with work, I had no time to shop thank goodness as that would have put a big dent in my wallet. I did visit Armani as in the **Armani Milano Hotel** for a few meetings...a super stylish place. There I had the pleasure of meeting the GM who shared his family property they want to sell in **Sardinia** overlooking the archipelago about a half hour from **Porto Cervo** by boat or land. It's a perfect place for either a developer to build villas or an individual to have a spectacular private compound. Contact me for details if interested.



like a superyacht. Formula 1 kingpin, Flavio Briatore's new restaurant/lounge **Twiga** overlooking the sea was a pleasant surprise with great food, dining alfresco-style under the stars and a full red moon. My usual morning run was around Port Hercule up the hill to Prince Albert's castle. My afternoon visit was to the exclusive elite gated community, **Cap Martin** to tour my friend's villa that I am helping to sell. This historical 1800's Belle Époque style villa is a real gem. I also have another extraordinary waterfront villa in **St. Jean Cap Ferrat** for sale very quietly for qualified buyers.

ROMING AROUND ROME

I took my first **EasyJet** plane from Nice to Rome which surprisingly was a positive experience. The Italian transportation system went on strike so there were no trains or planes for one day...but they politely tell you in advance so you can make alternate plans. I was attending a wedding so I had to get to the castle on time.

Sardinia Land Opportunity Brochure & Video

<http://www.ehopeinternational.com/SardiniaProperty.pdf>

<https://vimeo.com/228053684>

A MONACO MINUTE



A quick side trip to Monaco provided the opportunity to see a few good friends and check out the new **Monaco Royal Yacht Club** (aka 'Yacht Club de Monaco') designed by **Philippe Starck** shaped



SWISS LAKES LUGANO to COMO

I continued onward transferring in Milano to Lugano catching my first glimpse of Switzerland by train. Lake Lugano is such a pretty place. My friend Maria Elena, who is VIP Director/Partner in [Art Stage Singapore](#) and [Art Stage Jakarta](#) arranged a power girls' dinner at the [Swiss Diamond Hotel](#) where we dined under the moonlight glistening on the lake's surface. My room at [Hotel Walter Au Lac](#) had a breathtaking view from my balcony. Taking a morning run alongside the lake was a delight. Then I was picked up by my friend and driven around the windy roads in the foothills to the ferry that took us across [Lake Como](#) to the charming village of [Bellagio](#). Here we were met by the proud Italian owner of a Bellagio hilltop family estate. He gave me a personal guided tour of his 360 degree panoramic view property. Afterwards, he served us a wonderful prosecco filled lunch along with pasta and julienne vegetables from his garden. His neighbor on the opposite hilltop is the [Rockefeller](#) family foundation. Nearby are the villas of [George Clooney](#), [Richard Branson](#) and [Donatella Versace](#). This lovely Italian gentleman is entrusting me with the sale of his treasured property. Contact me for details.

Bellagio Lake Como Estate Video

<https://vimeo.com/225571007>



[Castello Orsini-Odescalchi](#) in [Bracciano, Italy](#) is a spectacularly romantic setting, picture perfect for a fairytale wedding in a majestic renaissance castle overlooking a lake. The happy newlyweds, Erika and Alban met in Miami at [Seaspice](#)... small world! The Seaspice owner, his wife and daughters were sitting next to me during the ceremony. WOW, what a wedding indeed with a global guest list.

Castello Orsini Odescalchi Video

<http://www.odescalchi.it/#!/GALLERY-VIDEO>

Saturday eve, I went with my Miami friend, Marcella to an authentic trattoria, [al vero Girarrosto Toscano](#) where she knew the owner since childhood. We had the best antipasto spread ever with plates just coming and coming and coming followed by the traditional Italian meal finale, Limoncello. But rather than the usual shot glass, the owner gave us a bottle so we shared with our new friends at the next table. My morning run in Rome was around [Borghese Park](#) filled with museums and sculptures at every turn. I found it peculiar that all the female sculptures were headless....hmmmm.

Gotta love the trains in Italy. I took the bullet train sitting in the Executive car from Rome to Milan and received white glove service while seated on a plush leather oversized seat with a Michelin star menu. And best of all, all my fellow travelers in my car were handsome, elegant, well dressed Italian businessmen.



HOME IS WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS

Maybe I should change my address to Bellagio and soak in those breathtaking panoramic views forever. However, Miami is another kind of paradise and I actually love living here. We have fresh air, ocean breezes, beautiful beaches, clear blue sky and a multi-cultural mosaic of people from all over the planet living in a fun, action-packed town full of excitement. Never a dull moment in Miami! 24/7, 365 days per year.



SOUTH BEACH NEW REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENTS

My current picks for South Beach include the pre-construction project, **Monad Terrace** and the **Edition PH** which is move-in ready turnkey fully furnished. Monad Terrace is designed by renowned French architect, **Jean Nouvel** who plays with reflecting light for this residential development that will overlook Biscayne Bay conveniently within walking distance to shops, movie theaters, restaurants, nightlife etc... **The Edition Penthouse** is one of my favorite residences available now in South Beach. It is a triplex condo within the 5 star Edition hotel with all its amazing amenities including pool, spa, outdoor theater, restaurants, bars, lounges, bowling lanes and even an indoor ice skating rink. The PH bottom floor includes the bedrooms, middle floor the living and kitchen areas, top floor outdoor deck with Jacuzzi, summer kitchen and dining area. It has wow views of both the ocean/beach and bay.

Monad Terrace Brochure & Video

www.ehopeinternational.com/MonadTerraceBrochure.pdf
<https://vimeo.com/168255464>



Edition PH Fact Sheet & Video

www.ehopeinternational.com/TheEditionResidencesFactSheet.pdf
<https://vimeo.com/208084468>
www.editionhotels.com/Miami

DOWNTOWN MIAMI'S NEWEST HIGHRISE DEVELOPMENT

Aston Martin Residences, the first branded building by this renowned auto-maker is making its debut in Miami. The development has just recently officially launched and will be ready 2020. Get in line with James Bond to reserve your unit now! It will be a slick glass tower with an unbelievable four story amenity space in the sky.

Aston Martin Residences Brochure

www.ehopeinternational.com/AstonMartinResidencesBrochure.pdf



MIAMI'S NEW HOTSPOTS

The most recent additions to the Miami scene include a new hotspot along the Miami River called **Kiki on the River** with Greek fare, a new Sofi neighborhood restaurant in South Beach named **Upland** with California cuisine plus, a healthy choice in a small strip mall called **South Beach Lean**, but don't be confused by the location as it's a culinary treat for sure. Also, a hidden new Miami gem is **Café Roval** tucked away off Biscayne Boulevard in a sacred garden with a pond.



MIAMI SPECIAL EVENTS

The **Hearts & Stars Gala** is always special. This year's event was magnificent, hosted at a new Star Island mega-mansion benefiting underprivileged children in Miami.

Hearts & Stars Gala Press

<http://resident.com/hearts-stars-gala/>

<http://www.brassringmagazine.com/hearts-stars-gala-a-smashing-success-on-star-island/>



Faces of the World (FOTW) photo exhibition was a timely presentation of multi-cultural combination children by Swedish photographer, **Viveca Ljung**. FOTW was held at a Miami River warehouse space.

FOTW Press

<http://resident.com/faces-of-the-world-exhibition/>

<http://www.brassringmagazine.com/faces-of-the-world-global-photo-exhibition/>



The **Phillip & Patricia Frost Museum of Science** also opened this Spring to much fanfare.

Frost Museum of Science Video

<http://www.southflorida.com/video/93260104-132.html>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_rjoxmKpd0



FT. LAUDERDALE BOOMTOWN

Ft. Lauderdale is becoming a boomtown. Just imagine where Miami was over 15 years ago and that's where this town is at today. It's time to jump on the Ft. Lauderdale bandwagon while these early opportunities pricewise exist. From the **airport** expansion adding over a billion dollars in upgrades with new direct international flights from London, Dubai etc...to the new luxury **bullet train** (30 minutes to Miami and 30 minutes to Palm Beach) and the downtown area going through gentrification (Las Olas District to be redone and a new closed to traffic shopping/dining street mimicking South Beach's Lincoln Road) and 5 star condo hotels from **W** to **Conrad** to **Four Seasons** coming to Ocean Boulevard...with deals of a lifetime, now is the time to get onboard.

Ft. Lauderdale Report

<https://issuu.com/isgworld/docs/mr-ftl-2016-watermarked-singlepages?e=5404517/39316215>



W Ft. Lauderdale Residences Brochure & Videos

<http://www.ehopeinternational.com/WResidencesFtLauderdale-Brochure.pdf>

<https://vimeo.com/210020267>

<https://vimeo.com/210020260>



The Ocean Resort Residences at Conrad Ft. Lauderdale Beach Brochure, Leaseback Program & Video

www.ehopeinternational.com/ConradFtLauderdaleBrochure.pdf

www.ehopeinternational.com/ConradFtLauderdaleLeasebackProgram.pdf

<https://vimeo.com/215469147>



Four Seasons Brochure & Video

www.ehopeinternational.com/FourSeasonsFtLauderdaleBrochure.pdf

www.ehopeinternational.com/FourSeasonsFtLauderdaleMap.pdf

<https://vimeo.com/227011818>

EXTRAORDINARY EXUMA LAND OPPORTUNITY

The **Exumas** are an archipelago consisting of 365 cays and islands in the Bahamas, starting just 35 miles Southeast of Nassau and are considered the most beautiful of the Bahamian islands. They are divided into three major areas:



Great Exuma, Little Exuma and The Exuma Cays. The largest of the cays is Great Exuma, which is 37 miles in length. Here I have about 37 acres of land for sale that is perfect for development opportunities being just 10 minutes from the Georgetown International Airport and overlooking a marina and the sea. Great Exuma is only a 1 hour 15 minutes direct flight from Miami.

INVESTORS FAVOR REAL ESTATE NOW... STOCKS & HEDGE FUNDS LESS APPEALING

As reported by Bloomberg mid July 2017, wealthy investors boosted bets on real estate and left hedge funds and equities as concern over high valuations and geopolitical risk push them back to basics. Investors are more comfortable with assets they can have direct ownership of. According to a recent Bankrate.com report, *'Real estate is America's favorite long-term investment'*.

Wealth Management Reports

http://www.wealthmanagement.com/equities/americans-favor-real-estate-over-stocks?utm_rid=CPG09000007959957&utm_campaign=10134&utm_medium=email&elq2=833d05981db4444680457f7a6e41463e

http://www.wealthmanagement.com/alternative-investments/wealthy-investors-leaving-hedge-funds-look-for-haven-real-estate?utm_rid=CPG09000007959957&utm_campaign=10134&utm_medium=email&elq2=833d05981db4444680457f7a6e41463e

FROM THE HAMPTONS TO MIAMI, MOKE AMERICA HITS U.S. SOIL



From British classic to Caribbean icon, Moke has become the must-have emblem of carefree chic. It's a 20th-century collectable car with 21st-century sex appeal, available exclusively from Moke America. **Moke America** has hit the Hamptons for Summer 2017 and is headed to Miami this Fall. Reserve your custom electric or gas Moke today! We are looking for dealerships in South Florida and nationwide as well as internationally. Contact me for details to either buy a Moke or become a dealership.

UP NEXT, BELIZE

A new private island experience awaits at **Caye Chapel**. Here a future **Four Seasons** resort and residences will become your very own private playground. A 2.5 mile hideaway exists in a land where the locals speak English. Straight ahead is the **Great Belize Reef**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** with its underwater world of wonders and the largest blue hole in the world at 407 feet deep celebrated by Jacques Cousteau as a top 10 diving site. A 5-star resort, marina, **Greg Norman/Lorena Ochea** designed golf course and just 90 oceanfront homesites await. Become a Founder - a limited time special offer for the first owners is available now. Belize is only a 2 hour direct flight from Miami, then an 8 minute private plane ride to Caye Chapel.

Caye Chapel Brochure & Video

<http://www.ehopeinternational.com/cayechapelbelizebrochure.pdf>

<https://vimeo.com/216436637>



Hope to see members of my 'Global Tribe' soon in sunny South Beach!



HOPE GAINER

Managing Director,
Sports, Arts & Entertainment Division
Venegas International Group, Luxury Real Estate
President, Hope International, Global Marketing

www.HopeMiamiRealEstateServices.com

www.ehopeinternational.com/HopeGainerRealEstateAd.pdf

www.ehopeinternational.com/HopeProfileSofiMagazine.pdf

www.ehopeinternational.com/HopeAd.pdf

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