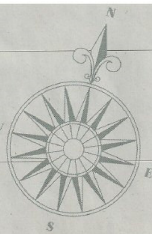




property

International hot spots

Compasspoints



Looking for something a little different in a home? Property sleuth **Graham Norwood** selects the world's most unusual bolt-holes for sale

1 Inverness-shire



LOCATION
Farr
GUIDE PRICE
£595,000
AGENT
CKD Galbraith
(01463 224343;
ckdgalbraith.co.uk)

Each home by Charles Rennie Mackintosh is different – so this is unique, not merely unusual. Surprisingly, it was completed recently in 1992. From a plan created in 1900, there are four

bedrooms, a gallery landing, balcony and roof terrace plus a covered garden. There's more than an acre of land and, to bring it bang up to date, solar panels and a ground-source heat pump.

2 Somerset



LOCATION
Bath
GUIDE PRICE
£165m
AGENT
Savills (01225 474550;
savills.com)

It may not look it, but this is almost 30 years old – and Bath's only home covered in zinc. There are three bedrooms, plus a guest bedroom and men's with an office, store and

large double garage. Thermal panels, high ceilings, glazed orris and climate-control technology set off this futuristic property, which sits on Spar Hill overlooking the city.

3 Italy



LOCATION
Luzca
GUIDE PRICE
£724,400
AGENT
Cosci & Country
(020 7993 2967;
cosciandcountry.com)

This 19th-century three-bedroom, three-bathroom house in Luzca, Lazio, is a one-off in its locality. Very few homes are situated on their own private estate. The house has been fully restored

throughout, boasting original art-deco terracotta floorings and beamed ceilings. Inside, there is more than 3,000 sq ft of space, while outside there are almost two acres of land with a stream.

Investment of the week



LOCATION
Oreid
GUIDE PRICE
£360,175
AGENT
Chester International
(01540 8210;
chesterinternational.com)

This 400-year-old home is built into a wall a short walk from the coast. There are arches, sunken floors, tapestries and thick walls, plus three bedrooms and three bathrooms. Outside is a large courtyard overlooked by a terrace, plus a balcony.

There are modern features including air-conditioning, in each room.

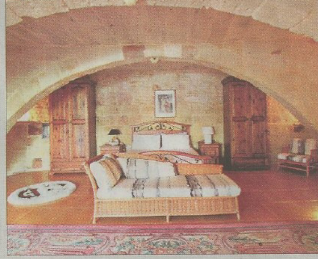
4 France



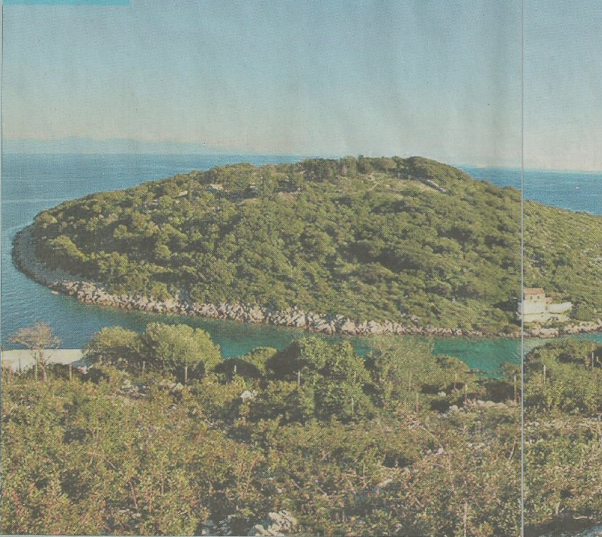
LOCATION
Dorset
GUIDE PRICE
£524,000
AGENT
Hamblins International
(020 7265 6699;
hamblinsint.com)

You wouldn't know it from the tiny line saving the private pools, but inside there are terraces, ramparts, ponds, castellated areas, fairy grottoes and a swimming pool. The house comprises four bedrooms and two bathrooms, an artist's studio, study and fabulous countryside views. It's close to the market town of Bokerley Toid.

5 Malta



Property of the week



6 Greece

LOCATION
Kaltanisi
GUIDE PRICE
£4.14m
AGENT
Aylesford International
(020 7348 9972;
aylesford.com)

It may be a mere 320,085 sq ft and only have planning consent for a villa – it isn't built yet – but you can put your own mark on it. And this would be, after all, your very own Greek island. It is owned by a sister 17th-century church, who most of the island is protected forest. Your island is a hop of 70 ft from neighbouring Messopis.

International hot spots



LOCATION
Umbria
GUIDE PRICE
£277,100
AGENT
Cuttlers Italy
(0039 075 845 0100;
cuttlers.it)

Trouble at all? Definitely not. This renovated watermill is now a one-bedroom home set over three levels and 1,000 sq ft. There is a pool, a barbecue, stone external steps, terracotta flooring, a loggia for enjoying the afternoon sun, two acres of landscaped gardens, a pool and pond. And don't forget the wisteria around the door. The nearest shop is a two-minute drive; another 15 minutes and you reach the nearest town, Trestina.

7 France



LOCATION
Luberon
GUIDE PRICE
£972,275
AGENT
Home Hunts
(020 8 144 5501;
home-hunts.com)

Opulent loft towers are typically found in this southern French region, and this 1,700 sq ft, three-bedroom example has been built in stone. Other notable features include an original fireplace

and a 16th-century loft. Outside, there is a generously sized private swimming pool (although to use it you'll have to leave yourself away from the gorgeous view of the Provence countryside).

8 Edinburgh



LOCATION
Colinton
GUIDE PRICE
£795,000
AGENT
Knight Frank (01 31 222 6600;
knightfrank.com)

Only an apartment is for sale, but it's an unusual one – a library to the former mansion that has become a three-bedroom home. It has a spa, a drawing room with two furnaces, an open fireplace and an elaborate beamed ceiling. There is a double garage, and the extensive garden and grounds are approached via a private driveway.

10 Somerset



LOCATION
Yeovil
GUIDE PRICE
£900,000
AGENT
Greenslade Taylor Hunt
(01935 415300;
gth.net)

There aren't many homes like this – it's a former Royal Observatory Corps HQ that was converted to a bunker in 1963 and has now been turned into a four-bedroom estate house. It's luxurious, too, with bespoke ash staircase, a balcony across the property, a front, a gym and games room and an area that could be best described as a 'contemporary' games.