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THE ULTIMATE
SAGAPONACK
RETREAT



WORLD'S FINEST RESIDENCES

Miami, Florida

By: Claire Bolgil

The US construction hiatus that followed the collapse of the real estate market is now a thing of the past, and one American city is embracing this with boundless enthusiasm.

Miami, Florida has countless new construction projects in the pipeline, as well as many more that are already well underway, yet these are not merely some standard, run-of-the-mill condos for the masses. One look at the city's burgeoning skyline will reveal some of the most desirable, luxurious, and expensive real estate on earth, helping to cement Miami's status as one of the world's wealthiest cities. And there's one residential project in particular which has (quite literally) reached new heights in luxury living. It's called **The Mansions at Acqualina**.

Marketed as the 'World's Finest Residences' and 'Mansions in the Sky', The Mansions at Acqualina represent the height of luxury not only in Miami and not even just within the United States, but anywhere in the world. They represent the apex of modern living for the ultra-rich. As President of the Mansions Michael Goldstein aptly explains, "We didn't just say we were building the world's finest residences. We backed it up, we did it."

But why Miami? Developers The Trump Group have been constructing fine residences in South Florida since 1983, and despite a current construction project in Rancho Belago, California, their heart lies here in Miami.



"It is the greatest city in the world", Goldstein confidently states. He reveals that he and the owners, Eddie and Jules Trump, "traveled to London, New York and Monaco to see their most expensive residences. Our vision was to build something even better than all of them combined."

It's a vision they've achieved. The smallest floor plan here includes three bedrooms with six full bathrooms and a powder room, that has a price tag of \$7.5 million. Vein-cut travertine marble and molten glass mosaic walls are among the finishing choices for owners in these furniture-ready residences. The most discerning of buyers will be looking at the sprawling penthouse, which is spread across 20,000 square feet and covers two floors. It has its own indoor swimming pool in addition to an outdoor glass bottom pool that is cantilevered 12 feet out from the building, allowing swimmers to see all the way down to the gardens below. The \$55 million price tag of this penthouse residence places it among the most expensive real estate in Florida, though considering the level of luxury and internal space, it would be considered a real bargain in cities such as London and New York.

What Miami can offer over these two cities is a desirable tropical climate and all the benefits that come with it,

including the beachside setting and high air quality. Miami was ranked the cleanest city in the United States by Forbes magazine in 2008, and is currently ranked among the top ten U.S. cities in terms of finance, commerce, entertainment,

and culture. It's an Alpha-World City that has a large concentration of banks, national, and international companies, and is the richest city in the entire nation in terms of purchasing power. It seems fitting then that Miami should be home to what Goldstein firmly believes are the "World's Finest Residences".

Goldstein goes on to describe some of his favorite features of the properties. "The entire building is furnished by Fendi Casa. We have a spectacular \$1 million hammam sauna, a cigar lounge, wine lounge, 25-seat cinema, golf simulator, and a kids' game room with a \$40,000 custom gaming chair," he says. "Owners have all this plus access to Acqualina, a Five-Star Five-Diamond hotel – one of only 76 in the world to have this rare designation."

Despite the high prices, The Mansions at Acqualina are selling fast. "We sold \$400 million-worth [of residences] in the first twenty-three weeks, and that was without any advertising." Demand is very strong for Miami and its most luxurious development to date, so readers should act fast to buy into a piece of this ultra-luxe real estate. ➔



President of the Mansions, Michael Goldstein