

# Iconic Cary Grant Estate Sells for Record Price

THE AGENCY LOS ANGELES, CA



**It was during one of Alfred Hitchcock's visits** to Las Palomas, Cary Grant's storied Palm Springs estate, that the legendary filmmaker coaxed the actor out of retirement and into the role of a retired jewel thief named John Robie — "The Cat" — in *To Catch A Thief*. Six decades later, you'd have to be as sly as Grant's character if you wanted to pounce on the leading man's former abode. After multiple offers, the home sold in just 32 days for \$3.4 million, marking a record high for the exclusive Movie Colony neighborhood, which was once a hideaway for Hollywood's brightest stars.

Represented by Eric Lavey, Mike Patakas and Maria Patakas of The Agency, the stunning Spanish retreat is as rich in architectural pedigree as it is Hollywood history. In addition to hosting Hitchcock — who visited so often Grant built him his own guest wing, aptly named The Alfred Hitchcock Casita — the house served as a haven for industry superstars looking to escape the limelight and soak in the desert sun. If walls could talk, Las Palomas' would carry the voices of Howard Hughes, Katharine Hepburn, Frank Sinatra, Grace Kelly, and Sophia Loren.

Built in 1930 by architect John Byers, an early pioneer of Spanish Colonial revival style in Southern California, the estate is an exact replica of a 19th-century Spanish Andalusian farmhouse. Settled on over an acre-and-a-half of lushly landscaped terrain, the two-story stunner features vaulted ceilings with exposed wood beams and a series of French doors leading to the surrounding gardens. Although extensively restored, special care was taken to preserve many of its original elements, such as terracotta floor tiles, wood-burning fireplaces, colorful art deco bathroom tiles, and custom cabinetry. A massive great room boasts 40-foot ceilings and the master suite includes a fireplace and balcony.

The idyllic grounds showcase manicured lawns and majestic gardens, with 80-year-old eucalyptus trees, palms, agave, meandering bougainvillea, and an array of citrus, date, fig, Japanese plum, and pomegranate trees that bloom year round. With a massive swimming pool and spa set against a backdrop of the San Jacinto Mountains, it's the perfect place for entertaining the new wave of Hollywood elite.



# PALM SPRINGS IS ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA.

650 TACHEVAH DRIVE | *Historic Movie Colony*

\$4,400,000

9 BEDROOMS | 12 BATHROOMS | 9,445 SQ FT | 34,848 SQ FT LOT

Situated within the Movie Colony, this mid-century modern home is the largest of its kind in Palm Springs, sitting at nearly 10,000 SF. Designed by modernist pioneer Howard Lapham, the home draws inspiration from the desert landscape with floor-to-ceiling glass sliders opening to mountain views. Modern finishes and luxuries include terrazzo floors, cooling automatic sun shades, Leviton lighting, chef's kitchen, 2-bedroom guest house, as well as a 50-foot long pool and private covered patio.



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