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View the finest country properties on your device today.



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# A very warm welcome

In the prime country market, caution was replaced with optimism in the last few months of 2016, and momentum is building for a strong 2017. After the uncertainty surrounding the EU Referendum and the surprise vote to leave, it seems that sellers and buyers have had enough of 'wait and see' and now want to get on with their property lives.

For some, of course, turbulent times signal opportunity. And this is certainly true of international buyers

due to the weak pound. With judicious timing, 1,700 country properties in any one of 18 languages. this has amounted to around 15% discounts In addition, while we use print and digital channels to for those coming from Dollar and Euro territories showcase a selection of homes, we sell over a third or buyers from the Middle East. These buyers are of our properties off-market - if this method appeals particularly active in the most sought-after areas of to you, we'd be delighted to tell you more about how the Cotswolds, Hampshire and West Sussex.

Another factor that has in recent times put the brakes on activity above the £2m level is the rise in stamp duty across the board and the extra 3% payable on second homes or investment properties. Yet we are seeing the impact of this receding, as agents factor it into valuations and buyers come to terms with a higher tax that is now part of the cost of doing business.

Whatever the trends of the moment, a place in the country will always have its attractions. The continuing price differential between London and the countryside, the good schools, the improving rail

You can explore more than 1,700 country properties

infrastructure, the availability of superfast broadband they're all factors drawing eager buyers into the green and pleasant land beyond and toward the M25.

In this issue, as well as showcasing some of the finest prime properties currently on our books, we look at issues such as why international buyers are flocking to the UK countryside and how the charms of village life mean biggest isn't always best.

To discuss your own particular requirements, please do get in touch with our team. You can also go to

who are being attracted in ever-greater numbers knightfrank.co.uk, where you can explore more than





# London

The CALL of the COUNTRYSIDE

NOEL FLINT, Head of London Residential

It could be a deep-seated desire to return to our roots, a wish to roam a little freer or the hope of a quieter pace of life. Whatever motivates Londoners to up sticks and head for the countryside, Knight Frank has been helping to make the move a painless one for generations.

Noel Flint, Knight Frank's Head of London Residential, has smoothed the journey for a great many families over the years, and along the way he's developed a keen understanding of the many factors involved in making the decision to swap city for country.

#### TIMING IS EVERYTHING

"There's the famous Johnson quote, of course, but the truth is that few people leave London because they're tired of what the city has to offer. Moving out is usually more about what the country can give them and their family at that point in their lives. A grand house, a generous garden, good schooling and a more relaxed lifestyle are some of the most popular reasons given by those moving out."

The timing of the moves tends to follow a fairly clear pattern, says Flint. "There are two life stages that we observe more than any others. The first is when the children are reaching primary or secondary school age – so the strategy tends to be: find a good school in the countryside and settle in the area for the duration of their education. And the other is retirement – when working in town is no longer an issue it can be a chance to sell the London house and move out to a bigger home and a more rural way of life."

# 39%

39% of Londoners purchased a property between 1,000 and 2,999 sqft

#### BEING WELL-CONNECTED

For those commuting, the search is largely shaped by train timetables. Locations such as the Home Counties and the Cotswolds are popular thanks to their fast trains into town. In fact, some buyers are pleasantly surprised to discover that journey times can compare favourably to taking the tube in from South West London. And improving train lines are pushing the 'acceptable commuting distance' out all the time, so the further reaches of Hampshire, Wiltshire and Berkshire, for example, are all experiencing growth in interest from London buyers.

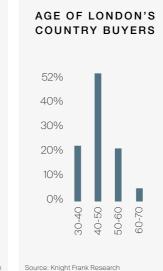
#### STAYING IN TOUCH

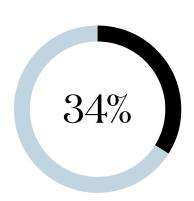
Not that everyone cuts their London ties completely, of course. Many retain a base in town, whether it's for a couple of nights a week for work, somewhere to stay when visiting friends and going to the theatre or a flat the children can use when they leave university and start work in the capital.

"It can be a very useful asset to appease those family members who are not 100% on board with leaving the bright lights and everything they have to offer," says Flint.

"And let's not forget the price differential when comparing Central London with the rest of the country. Stay close to the capital and you can go from a terraced townhouse to a detached house with grounds and a pool. Look further afield and the disparity grows – one client is about to swap a two-bed Marylebone mansion flat for a Scottish castle."





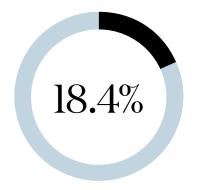


34% of Londoners buying property in the country market purchased a house with 5 bedrooms Source: Knight Frank Research 2016

#### A COMPLETE CITY & COUNTRY SERVICE

With our network of offices across London and the UK, Knight Frank offers a truly joined-up service. So as well as selling the London home, we can facilitate the country search, putting our client in touch with our teams locally to find the perfect country property. For a bespoke search, our specialist team The Buying Solution is on hand to meet the trickiest of briefs. And it doesn't stop with buying and selling, we can also help with the finer points of anything from financing to a stress-free move.

"It is a curiously English phenomenon; this pull of rural living," says Flint. "There are so many practical reasons why people do it – from space to price per square foot – but there's more to it than that. At a time when everything's moving faster and life seems to be getting busier, there's nothing quite like slowing down a little and taking a breath, and our incredibly diverse countryside is simply a wonderful place to do it."



18.4% of people aged 20-24 moved from London to South West

Source: ONS 2015

Avg exchange price paid by a London buyer in South West

£1,020,250

Source: KF 201

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# The charms of prime village life

CHRISTOPHER DEWE, Partner

Not everyone who is moving out of town is hunting for a country pile and a garden the size of their local London park. For some, the dream is a quintessential English cottage with a village community – and ideally an artisan bakery – on the doorstep.



So what is it that prompts people to choose this kind of country living over staying in town or buying the sprawling manor house? Knight Frank's Christopher Dewe believes that the answer changes depending on what stage of life his clients are at.

"A village house can be an initial rural base before selling up for good in London and buying a bigger and more remote house," he explains. "It can be a wish – often after the kids have left home – to cut down on the maintenance of a big house and swap it for somewhere that's easy to lock-up and leave. Interestingly, it can also be a staging post for those locally who are approaching retirement and ultimately want to move back to Central London."

Another factor that Dewe pinpoints is changing work patterns. He notes that as remote working increases and train journey times shrink, the country

cottage dream is becoming a viable option for more

The resulting influx has led to a corresponding change in the most popular villages, with delis and gastropubs joining the traditional butchers and corner shops. Even Michelin-starred restaurants and world-class art galleries are getting in on the act, all to meet the demands of this growing, cappuccino-hungry population.

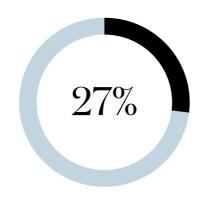
Dewe has also seen the list of locations to choose from grow in step with the market, commenting, "A decade ago, the search would have concentrated on the Cotswolds or, for those with looser ties to the capital, Devon and Cornwall. But steady price rises in these areas have seen many buyers looking elsewhere. The winners have been the likes of Dorset and Somerset, Sussex, Warwickshire, Worcestershire,

Herefordshire and Yorkshire – all counties with a good stock of picture postcard villages and most within reasonable travelling times to London."

For those not quite ready for the slower pace of village life, market towns offer a good middle ground with their rich social and cultural possibilities, Waitrose branches and faster links to town. From Sherborne to Hungerford, Winchester to Beaconsfield there are plenty of destinations offering a great choice of traditional cottage properties – either to buy or, for those wishing to test the waters first, to rent.

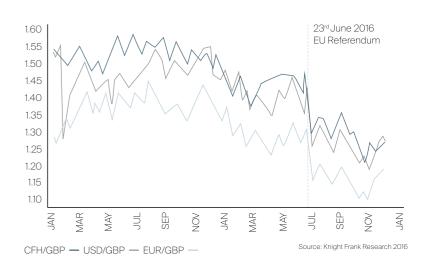
"With our offices in London and the prime country markets, we've helped some families with every stage of the country property lifecycle, from moving out to downsizing to moving back to town in retirement." says Dewe. "We've become their estate agent partners for life if you like."





27% of UHNWIs are planning to move as a result of their children's education

Source: Knight Frank Research 2016



# Cosmopolitan country living

PADDY DRING, Head of International Residential

The last decade has seen radically improved communication links, redrawing the map for international buyers seeking out the UK's finest properties. Vast technological advances together with the increased ease and frequency of flying, has resulted in those who might previously have restricted their property search to London, able to consider a wider pursuit.



What's more, prime homes in the UK have become attractive to buyers from overseas in the recent wake of the 2016 Brexit vote, as the weaker pound has advocated discounts to holders of major currencies, thus potentially offsetting recent increases in Stamp Duty Land Tax which may have previously dissuaded buyers.

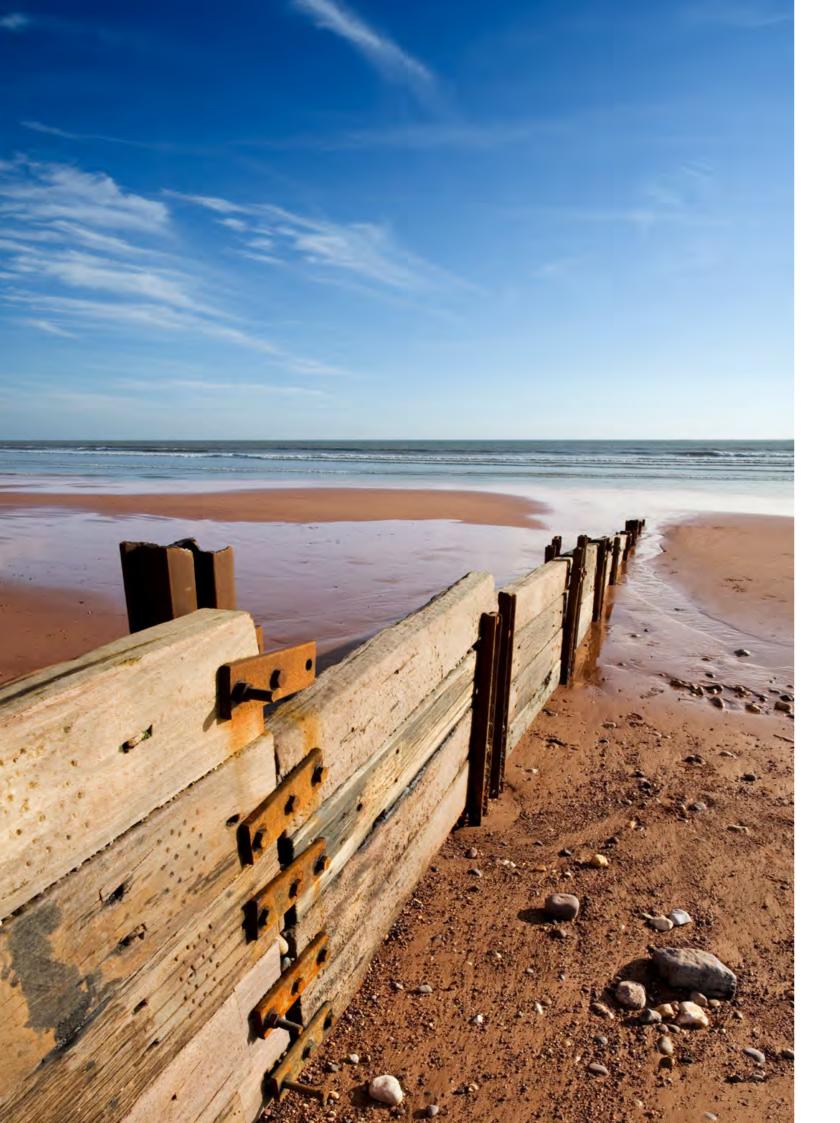
According to Knight Frank's Paddy Dring, one trending factor to shape an international client's search is schooling. "The quality of a UK education is recognised worldwide, so more often than not, this is the starting criteria. Properties situated near to well-regarded private schools are constantly in demand and command premiums as a result." This is frequently seen in the Home Counties as the area also offers easy access

to London and Heathrow – a vital link for overseas commuters, allowing international owners to be able to enjoy more time at their country home. Paddy Dring says "Ten years ago a property may have only been used for a few short stays during the year, however now it can be more easily used as a base for both work and family life, it could be occupied throughout the year."

With so many properties sold to international buyers serving as second homes, the ability to lock-up-and-leave can be an important factor. Surrey's private gated communities are sought after for this reason, as they offer accessibility yet high levels of security in equal measure.

The overall depiction is that activity from overseas buyers in the UK's prime country property market, particularly within easy reach of London, remains robust. Purchasers from the Middle East, Asia, Scandinavia and the US are some of the most active buyers and looking ahead to the rest of 2017 and beyond, we foresee the marketplace to be on stable footing as the UK continues to be recognised as an island with strong economic credentials.

"With 417 offices in 58 countries, Knight Frank is uniquely positioned to help international buyers locate their ideal home," says Dring. "And for those with their sights set on the English countryside, now is the ideal time to start the search."





## The South West

ANDREW ROME, Regional Chairman

In the prime country house market of the South West, water views are always highly prized - whether the outlook is open sea or bustling estuary, demand is high and the premium significant. These properties are closely followed on buyers' wishlists by those in unspoilt rural and village locations within easy reach of the region's main commercial centres of Bristol, Bath and Exeter.



ANDREW ROME +44 1962 677230

Salcombe, Kingsbridge and Dartmouth on the south coast and Padstow and Rock on the north coast are the South West's most established and highest-performing prime country markets, and they continued to thrive

"Their relatively small size ensures that demand outstrips supply from a large audience of buyers eager to grab their slice of sophisticated coastal living," explains Knight Frank Partner Andrew Rome.

International buyers have also become a much bigger force in this market recently, partly thanks to favourable exchange rates. Whether expats returning to the UK or non-domiciled owners, they have been purchase from abroad.

Talking about the South West region as a whole, Rome describes a prime market bouncing back from a quieter spell of activity. "This area is not immune to the uncertainty that has been affecting the property market in rest of the UK in recent months and years,

of course," he explains. "With a high proportion of properties being sold as second homes, these are very much discretionary purchases that can be put on hold if confidence ebbs out of the market due to factors such as stamp duty increases and the

Rome reports that this led to a measure of cooling at the beginning of 2016, but the last few months of the year reversed the trend and saw activity increase. It's a resurgence that is being mirrored in the transaction figures of Knight Frank offices up and down the country.

One of the keys shifts Rome has noticed is a growth in supply, as sellers who were waiting out enjoying discounts of up to 15% when funding the the turbulent political summer are now deciding that they've waited long enough. He comments, "This increase in the number of properties coming to the market is already translating into more viewings and we expect it to drive transaction numbers up steadily from the first quarter of 2017 onwards."

#### Trafalgar Barton

BRANSCOMBE



GUIDE PRICE: £2,250,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038 Listed



#### **Easterlands**

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL



GUIDE PRICE: £2,500,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038 EPC: F



#### **Gurrington House**

ASHBURTON

♦ 24.7 AC.
♠ 8
♦ 4

♦ 1.86 AC.
♦ 7
♦ 6

GUIDE PRICE: £1,975,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038 Listed



#### Lillycombe Estate

PORLOCK



GUIDE PRICE: £5,750,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038



#### The Lyndons

EXETER



ST TUDY

Listed





♦ 13.38 AC.
♦ 9
♦ 5

GUIDE PRICE: £2,950,000



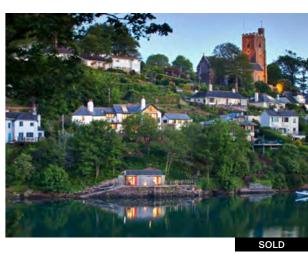
#### Nymet

NOSS MAYO



♦ 0.5 AC.
♦ 5

GUIDE PRICE: £2,300,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038



GUIDE PRICE: POA Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038 EPC: B



#### **Tremeer**

GUIDE PRICE: £2,350,000

Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038





Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038 EPC: E

Rosilian

FLUSHING



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#### Nancorras

♦ 15 AC.
♦ 4
♦ 4 ST MAWES



GUIDE PRICE: £2,250,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038



FOR SALE

#### **Chapel Point House**

PORTMELLON



GUIDE PRICE: £2,950,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038



♦ 9.56 AC.
♦ 6
♦ 5

♦ 11.99 AC.
♦ 5
♦ 3

#### Herwood

♦ 0.3 AC.
♦ 6
♦ 4 SALCOMBE



GUIDE PRICE: £2,800,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038



Machan

MANACCAN



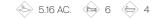


GUIDE PRICE: £2,750,000 Knight Frank Exeter +44 1392 248038



#### Waterfalls

EAST COKER



GUIDE PRICE: £2,850,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001 EPC: C



#### The Manor House

♦ 20.4 AC.
♠ 6
♠ 4 WEST STAFFORD

GUIDE PRICE: £3,500,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001 Listed



#### Chantmarle Manor

CHANTMARLE



GUIDE PRICE: £4,000,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001 Listed



#### **Gardeners Cottage**

MAPERTON



GUIDE PRICE: £2,500,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001 EPC: F



#### Wellwood Farm

BEAMINSTER







GUIDE PRICE: £2,900,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001



#### **West Hall**

LONGBURTON







GUIDE PRICE: £3,950,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001 Listed



#### Shatwell House

YARLINGTON













GUIDE PRICE: £3,000,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001

Westbrook House



GUIDE PRICE: £2,000,000 Knight Frank Sherborne +44 1935 388001 Listed



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#### **Cold Ashton Manor**

COLD ASHTON

♦ 13.61 AC.
♦ 7
♦ 4

GUIDE PRICE: £2,950,000 Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012



#### Conkwell Grange

LIMPLEY STOKE



GUIDE PRICE: £2,500,000 Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012 Listed



#### The Chantry

BRADFORD-ON-AVON



♦ 1.73 AC.
♦ 7
♦ 3

GUIDE PRICE: £2,350,000 Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012 Listed



#### **Standerwick Court**

STANDERWICK

♦ 76.46 AC.
♦ 10
♦ 7

GUIDE PRICE: £4,750,00 Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012



#### **Corston House**

CORSTON



GUIDE PRICE: £3,950,000 Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012 EPC: D



#### Newbridge House

GUIDE PRICE: £3,650,000

Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012

BATH

Listed









GUIDE PRICE: £2,000,000 Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012 EPC: E

BOX

Heleigh House



#### **Orchard House**

LIMPLEY STOKE

♦ 3.68 AC. 
♦ 5 
♦ 4

GUIDE PRICE: £1,575,000 Knight Frank Bath +44 1225 288012



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UNDER OFFER / SOLD FOR SALE

#### The Old Rectory

ROWBERROW



LITTON

EPC: F

Sherborne Farm

GUIDE PRICE: £2,000,000

Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018



♦ 21.6 AC.
♦ 9
♦ 5 DINDER

GUIDE PRICE: £4,750,000 Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018

**Dinder House** 



#### The Rib

WELLS



GUIDE PRICE: £2,000,000

Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018



GUIDE PRICE: £2,250,000 Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018



#### The Hall

GUIDE PRICE: £2,850,000

Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018

WEDMORE

Listed













FOR SALE



GUIDE PRICE: £1,950,000 Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018 Listed



#### Windrush

ABBOTS LEIGH









GUIDE PRICE: £3,450,000 Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018

**Wookey House** 

WELLS

Listed



West View House





GUIDE PRICE: £3,250,000 Knight Frank Bristol +44 1172 950018 EPC: A



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♦ 37.1 AC.
♦ 9
♦ 5



### On Your Side

From bespoke mortgage advice to accessing the best fixed-rate deals, with Knight Frank Finance you're among experts, says Managing Partner Simon Gammon.

K night Frank Finance, our mortgage broker and advisory service, was formed only nine years ago, but it's growing fast. This year, the team will arrange over £2bn of lending for our clients. We are a 'whole of market' broker, dealing with more than 140 lenders and can access the best possible deals to suit each individual's needs.

criteria. It is therefore more cru lenders and up to speed with a navigate this ever-evolving market.

At no point since the recession mortgage, due to increasing governorm.

In the post-Brexit environment, and with the recent fall in the Bank of England base rate to 0.25%, we have seen a significant upturn in borrowers reviewing their loans – even if their current ones have some time to run. Many have taken the opportunity to remortgage, taking out longer-term fixed-rate deals. This can guarantee monthly payments for five years or longer at historically low rates of close to 2.0%. For these clients, peace of mind has never been more competitive.

Our expertise and contacts help us narrow down the best deal for our clients, from those looking for bridging loans to high-net-worth individuals wanting a specialist high-value mortgage, or those raising finance to fund building a house. Although Knight Frank is usually associated with the premium property market, we are happy to help at every level, from first-time buyers to those downsizing once children have left home. We handle all types of loan requirements, from £100,000 to tens of millions.

Recently, we have seen an increase in overseas clients, attracted by the pound's fall in value against international currencies. From a tax point of view, it may be more efficient for these clients to have a mortgage than buy a property in cash. We are also seeing sharp rises in interest from wealthy foreign buyers when a significant tax change leads them to look beyond their own borders. Similarly, the uncertain global political climate has affected the number of foreign nationals looking to buy in the UK.

At Knight Frank Finance, we are experts in understanding which banks and institutions are more likely to lend to those from certain jurisdictions. For example, if you are of Russian origin, some banks are more helpful than others; if you are American, certain Swiss banks may not be keen to assist you.

The biggest change we have seen post-referendum has not been the individuals looking to borrow, however, but lenders' appetite to lend. Some banks have reduced their loan-to-value ratio, in expectation that house prices will start to fall, while others have become more conservative in their general lending

criteria. It is therefore more crucial than ever that we keep close to the lenders and up to speed with any changes so we can help our clients navigate this ever-evolving market.

At no point since the recession began has it been more difficult to get a mortgage, due to increasing government restrictions on lenders. The process has become increasingly drawn out, and a greater amount of paperwork is now required. As a result, many more buyers are turning to the broker channel for support and to ensure they are given the right advice. Through our excellent market knowledge, contacts and expertise, Knight Frank Finance can provide our clients with deals that meet all their requirements, at the best possible price.



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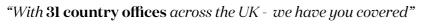
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See page 26 for other regional editions of Country View



# **WORLDWIDE**RESIDENTIAL OFFICES

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Portugal	Taiwan	USA	
Romania	Thailand		
Russia			
Spain	THE MIDDLE EAST		
Switzerland	The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia		

The United Arab Emirates

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United Kingdom

# 121 Years of Experience

We've been building our reputation for some time.

Since first opening our doors in 1896, we have become the world's largest privately-owned global property agency and consultancy. Such longevity is testament to the experience, knowledge and relationships we have developed over the years by helping people find their ideal home.



# Our Expertise

#### THERE'S A HUMAN ELEMENT IN THE WORLD OF PROPERTY THAT IS TOO EASILY OVERLOOKED.

At Knight Frank we build long-term relationships, which allow us to provide invited to contribute to the success of our business and where they're rewarded personalised, clear and considered advice on all areas of property in all key for excellence. The result is that our people are more motivated, ensuring your markets. We believe personal interaction is a crucial part of ensuring every client experience with us is the best that it can be. Together, Knight Frank and Newmark is matched to the property that suits their needs best - be it commercial or Grubb Knight Frank have a global platform of more than 14,000 people across residential. Operating in locations where our clients need us to be, we provide a 417 offices in 58 countries. Our London footprint spans across the capital with worldwide service that's locally expert and globally connected. We believe that a network of 30 London Sales and Lettings offices to ensure we have all your inspired teams naturally provide excellent and dedicated client service. Therefore, property needs covered. we've created a workplace where opinions are respected, where everyone is

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