

NEWS

Marbella realty is selling world's most expensive island



(ANSA) - MADRID - A small virgin paradise island in the Fiji archipelago that has been called 'Hat Island' for its shape that resembles a sombrero and has a beach of the finest white sand, is the world's most expensive island. It has been put up for sale by a Spanish real estate company based in Marbella.

The island has a 3,200 metres diameter and is made of volcano rock covered by tropical forest that is raised 314 metres from the sea level. The advertisement assures it is similar to the one portrayed in the novel 'The Lost World' by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The price is set at 56 million euro: a sum which many are prepared to pay, assures Theresa Bernabe' the 26-year-old owner of the real estate company, which for three years has been making luxury dreams come true for those who are not short of cash. All marvels offered by the 'Isla del Sombrero' are natural: being a virgin paradise, it does not have drinking water or electricity but only the possibility to open wells for fresh water. In exchange, however, the fortunate billionaire who will buy the island can boast being neighbours to actor Mel Gibson, who has an island 32 kilometres away; or to Tom Hanks, who bought the distant island which was the setting for the film 'Cast Away'. However, the distances separating the exclusive tropical retreats mean that the possibility of meeting Hollywood star neighbours are rather remote. "It is difficult to describe the magnificence of the island," Theresa Bernabe' said, "with the coast lapped by the coral barrier and the incredible shades of turquoise in the lagoon which is on the western side, where one can admire down to 80 metres a variety of tropical fish and plants of spectacular colours."

The paradise can be reached only by boat: the nearest port is 20 kilometres away. Or by helicopter or private jet, since there is enough space to build an aerodrome, or even a private 5-star resort, depending on the investment possibility of the buyer.

There have been no offers yet for the world's most expensive island, which has been on the market for a couple of weeks. But for those who cannot even dream to buy it still have the possibility of buying the world's cheapest island: "It is a virgin territory of 2,000 square metres. It is called Augra de los Reis and is in Brazil," Marbella real estate company explained. "We have received numerous offers for it."

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