

# The Lancasters

19th Century French Renaissance style made over to the luxury and opulence of the new millennium



UNDER TEN MILLION

Not every London buyer with £20,000,000 to spend wants to live in a glass and steel postmodern new build, kitted out to look like an Oxford Street nightclub, wherever the location. However, the chance to enjoy classic architecture with the best of 21st Century technology rarely arises. Fifteen Grade II listed houses, dating from the mid-19th century and facing Hyde Park on the Northside of Bayswater Road - and there probably aren't many better addresses in London - have recently come on the market.

The original fifteen have been remodelled into 77 homes, designed around the grandeur of the original architecture and interior features of the building. The Lancasters, by Northacre and Minerva, is a 'revival' building, its stucco façade having been retained, but with a completely new internal structure.

Minerva is a large commercial developer and The Lancasters is its first residential project, whilst Northacre, on the other hand, has a history of reviving and restoring 'period' buildings in London, some £1.5 billion worth, into luxury living spaces. The architect, Nilsson Architects, spent almost a year retaining the existing façade, a huge undertaking which involved underpinning the site with some 500 tonnes of steel supports, before the remaining internal structure could be demolished.

The interior design firm, Intarya, has been responsible for the individual bespoke interiors, has worked on private commissions all over the world and is currently de-

**THE DETAILS**  
**The Lancasters on Hyde Park**  
 75-89 Lancaster Gate, London W2  
 Tel: 0207 402 8822  
 thelancastershydepark.com

signing the Dubai World Trade Centre penthouses and a Royal Palace in Saudi Arabia. The opulent apartments are themed around the Grand Tour - referencing exotic influences, materials and techniques from around the world to appeal to the well-travelled. Handpainted wall-coverings; bespoke furniture; textures ranging from silk to leather, and hand-embroidered fabrics; antique mirrors, maps and suitcases; marble, zinc and oaks, all, naturally, of the highest-quality, feature throughout each residence.

If such sumptuous stylings were not enough, residents will also benefit from 24-hour concierge, providing such services as housekeeping, personal shopping and catering. The development also boasts a communal garden, valet parking in the underground car park, and a fully equipped gym with a 15 metre by 4 metre swimming pool.

The Lancasters launched on 24 June this year and has already sold over 50% of the apartments. Prices for those remaining range from £2 million to £20 million. The first phase of two-to-four bedroom apartments are on sale through Hamptons International or Savills.

## UNDER ONE MILLION

**The Lakes by Yoo**  
 4-bedroom houses from £810,000  
 Tel: 01367 250 066  
 thelakesbyyoo.com

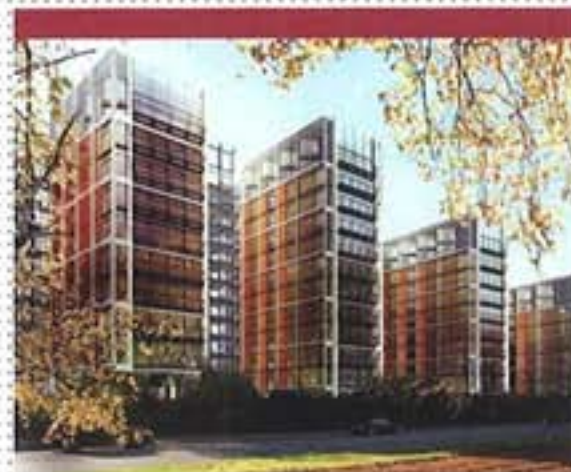


The only style is freedom. So says Parisian Phillipe Starck but anyone who sat through his TV show, Design for Life, would recognise another aphorism desperately in need of an application - much like his notoriously unsqueezable lemon squeezer. But he does build interesting homes. The Lakes by Yoo is like something out of a 70's sci-fi film,

built with an ethos to create a safe and tranquil community, where one can live near nature, and obviously in style. Eco-friendly houses are set around six lakes in 650 acres of countryside; residents are offered a range of activities including fishing, bird watching, cookery lessons and watersports. Interiors by Jade Jagger, Kelly Hoppen or Yoo Design.

## OVER ONE HUNDRED MILLION

**One Hyde Park**  
 "Most expensive property"  
 Candy and Candy  
 onehydepark.com



The two floor apartment which boasts bullet proof windows and 24hour room service from the next door Mandarin Oriental, has reportedly just been sold in the region of £140 million, making it the most expensive property in the world.

The four hexagonal towers, designed by the architects Rogers Stirck Ha-

bour + Partners, with interior styling by the Candy Brothers occupies a prime residential location in the heart of Knightsbridge. Security is provided by ex-SAS employees. The previous most expensive property was in the 8 St James Square Development, Westminster, which sold in excess of £115 million.