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HOUSES BY THE SEA



Thames & Hudson



Burma, Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia; to the south by the Antarctic Ocean; and to the west by Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. The southern part of the Indian Ocean features an anti-clockwise system of currents which drives the South Equatorial Current.

The Caribbean Sea

The Caribbean Sea is situated to the east of Central America and south-east of the Gulf of Mexico, in the Atlantic Ocean. Covering an area of approximately 1,940,000 sq km (750,000 sq miles), it is at its narrowest along the Windward Islands, at its easternmost boundary, and at its widest between Panama

and Cuba. The Caribbean has been a busy route of travel and transport for several hundred years, but the opening of the Panama canal in the early 20th century transformed it into one of the great ship highways of the world.

Sun, Sea and Sand

A wide variety of materials have been used

to build the houses in this section, including stone, wood and concrete. The windows tend to be large to take full advantage of the

beautiful sea views and warm weather. The architecture often contains numerous local references, and in countries such as Mexico the walls are commonly painted in earth tones.

The sumptuous, beautifully maintained garden of Mocabito Art Villa, Bali, has wonderful views out over the ocean. It contains lily ponds and a swimming pool.



Morabito Art Villa, Bali, Indonesia

The indigenous art exhibited in the grounds perfectly complements the luxuriant vegetation of the tropical garden, transforming it into an oasis of relaxation and calm.

Built and furnished by the French architect and jewelry designer Pascal Morabito, this villa on the west coast of Bali overlooks the bay of Kuta and Jimbaran. Combining contemporary style and traditional heritage, it is set in the heart of a one-hectare (2.5 acres) park dotted with palm, coconut and frangipani trees

– a green expanse that fronts the Indian Ocean for some 150 m (500 ft).

With its private garden and panoramic views of the sea, the villa is a veritable haven of peace. It is home to a vast collection of contemporary and indigenous Indonesian art, which is displayed around the park and inside the various buildings.



Pascal Morabito



Pascal Morabito is extremely versatile. He studied architecture but is active in a wide range of fields, including jewelry design, china, crystal and glassware, fine watches, perfumes, cosmetics, leather goods, fashion, accessories, interior design, home furnishings, sculpture, architecture, photography, well-being and lifestyle. The indigenous art collection on display at the Balinese villa reflects his passion for archaeology. Just as an archaeologist casts light on the lives of our forebears, Morabito opens a dialogue with the past by presenting ancient artefacts in a highly contemporary setting.



00109 Views of the
seafront (top) and the
Canopy suite (bottom),
which has two private
swimming pools.

00058888 Inspired by
traditional architecture,
the Majapahit suite is
a house with a private
garden, decorated in
a typically Indonesian
style. Lush vegetation
surrounds the modern
and traditional
architecture to create a
harmonious whole.

The main house has a living
area – the so-called ‘Bale’
– comprising a large reception
room, dining room with wood-
burning stove, kitchen, bar, home
cinema, library, and a large terrace
which opens onto the garden, the
swimming pool and the sea. The
Bolare suite, which is on the first

floor, looks out over the sea. The
Canopy suite is situated above the
large living area. The Majapahit
suite is a house with a private
garden. Guest quarters are housed
under a thatched roof, a rare feature
in modern architecture. Finally,
nestled among the trees is a spa
with sea views.

MORABITO ART VILLA,
BALI, INDONESIA





The park boasts antique sculptures, a spa and a children's tree house. One of the suites has a large outdoor bathtub (opposite below), a hollowed-out rock from the island of Java. The wooden floor is in keeping with the natural surroundings.

From materials such as wood, stone, bronze and thatch to the warm decor and natural light, everything has been designed with nature – the architect's source of inspiration – in mind. The impeccably manicured tropical garden wraps around the various buildings and sets off the blend of modern and traditional design. The exterior spaces include seating

areas, tree houses, pathways and ponds as well as a unique 'tree spa': water cascades from a tree trunk into a hollowed-out rock and transforms it into a relaxing bath.

The stone constructions and sculptures, swept by the sea breezes and salty air, seem to melt into their environment. Every aspect of the design suggests luxury, peace and pleasure.

