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Palisades Adjacent—And Room for Horses

People move to Pacific Palisades for a multitude of reasons: the world-renowned location, the views of the Pacific Ocean, the casual elegance, and the family-friendliness. Yet rarely does a property with equestrian facilities come on market, which is why horse lovers are embracing neighboring Topanga to fulfill that need.

“We are seeing Palisadians looking to areas like Topanga for both their primary and secondary residences because they can continue to meet their lifestyle expectation in a nearby location, but with acres of land that are difficult to find and considerably more expensive in the in the Palisades,” said Anthony Marguleas, broker/owner and president of Pacific Palisades-based Amalfi Estates, an independent real estate company. “Especially for those seeking equestrian facilities, there are a number of places in Topanga that fit the bill beautifully.”

Hacienda Libelula, at 1529 Will Geer in Topanga, which is co-listed by Marguleas and fellow seasoned Amalfi Estates agent Jaime Estes, is just such an example. This 6.5-acre estate just minutes from PCH is the epitome of the upscale equestrian offering, with beautifully landscaped grounds including multiple garden areas, a 35-foot waterfall

and world-class equestrian facilities typically not found on the Westside: an Olympic-size dressage arena, a German horse exerciser, 10 stalls, nine corrals, a round pen, two barns, and tack and feed rooms.

The five-bedroom, 4,700-sq.-ft. gated Tuscan villa boasts panoramic mountain views and a whole host of desired features, such as commercial-grade solar panels that allow the home’s owners to sell back electricity and a new 600-ft. private well that makes water cost-free.

Inside, vaulted brick ceilings, imported Italian kitchen tile, French pavers from Provence, and centuries-old, hand-hewn doors, beams and cabinetry—some salvaged from the demolition of grand South American haciendas—give the home a sense of authenticity and history.

Mother Nature also provides inspiration here. The property’s magical pinnacle rock formation, a mass of white sandstone covering a portion of the land adjacent to the waterfall, has played host to Bob Dylan, Joan Baez and Neil Young—not to mention the Chumash Indians who, legend has it, used to gather here to soak in the creative forces of the site.

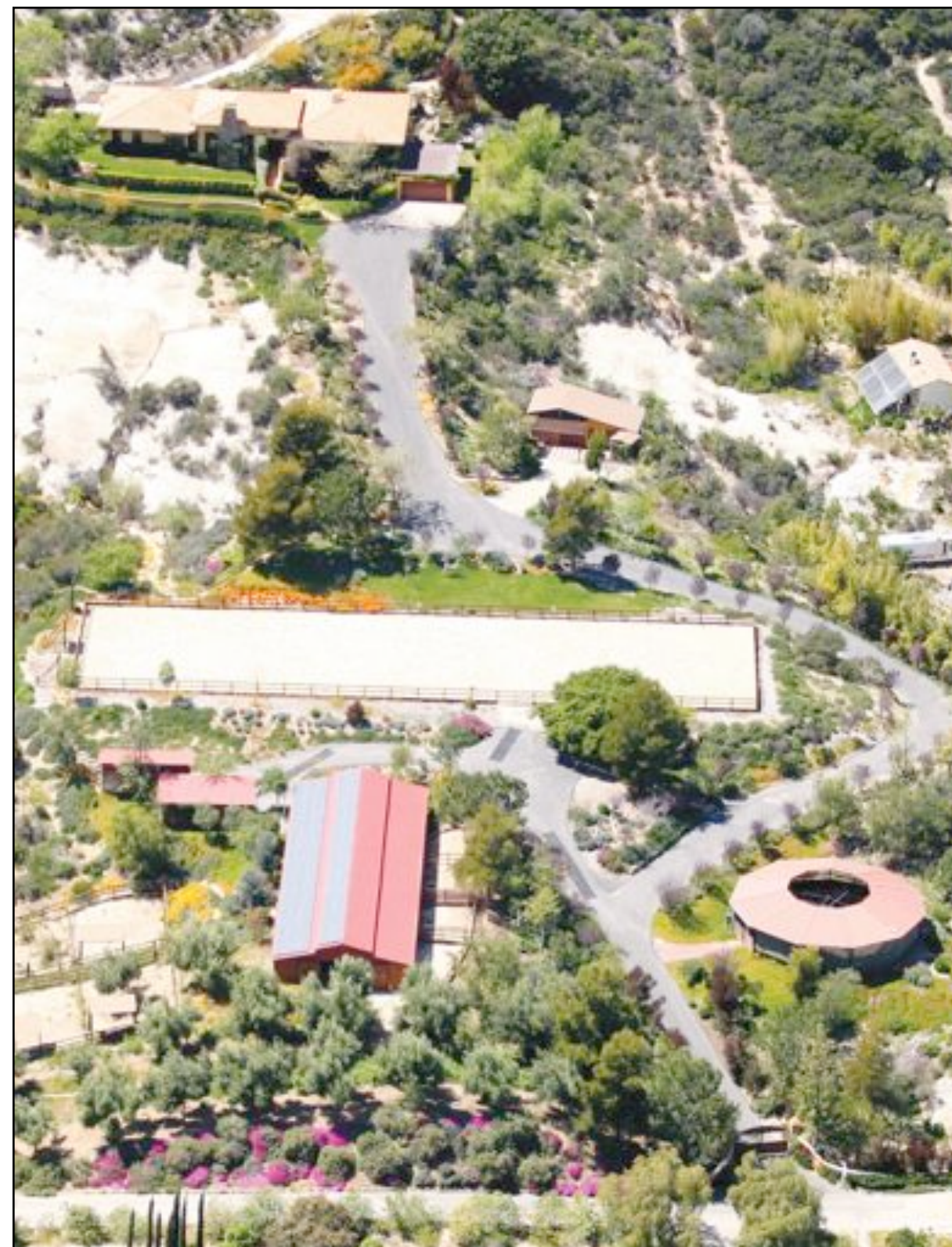
“This house really hits on so many levels,” said Marguleas, a

real estate expert and enthusiast who has made his home in Pacific Palisades for 15 years and has been providing exclusive representation to both buyers and sellers since 1995. “From the location, which Westsiders love because it keeps them close to everything while providing a country-like atmosphere that is seemingly a world away, to the numerous amenities and design elements throughout, to the incredible grounds and their piece of celebrity lore, and, of course, those equestrian facilities, it really is a remarkable property.”

Equestrian properties of this magnitude are indeed rare in Southern California, and those that are offered are often clustered in outlying areas—Ventura County, Santa Clarita, Burbank. Comparable properties in Malibu that become available are typically priced in the \$20 million to \$25 million range.

“Horse lovers just can’t find anything like this, with this level of facilities, anywhere around here, and especially for the price,” Marguleas said.

Hacienda Libelula is priced at \$4,199,000. Please visit www.1529willgeerrd.com. For more information about Amalfi Estates, call (310) 293-9280, e-mail am@LAestatehomes.com.



Above: This aerial shows most of the 6.5-acre Hacienda Libelula equestrian estate in Topanga, which includes nine horse corrals, an Olympic-size dressage arena and two barns, plus the five-bedroom home.



Left: Reclaimed beams and a handcrafted fireplace/mantel are just two of the custom features that distinguish the home’s living room.