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Miami Beach Home Sells for \$75 Million, Setting Record [\[The Wall Street Journal\]](#)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Miami Beach Home Sells for \$75 Million, Setting Record

The Star Island property sits on nearly 2 waterfront acres



A house on Star Island in Miami Beach has sold for \$75 million. CREDIT: EAGLEVIEW

PHOTO: EAGLEVIEW

By [E.B. Solomont](#) [Following](#)

Updated Dec. 21, 2021 3:57 pm ET

A waterfront mansion on Miami Beach’s Star Island has sold for \$75 million, setting a Miami sales record.

The seller was Lourdes Sanjenis, a Miami physician whose late husband, Modesto Mora, bought the property for \$1.4 million in 1987, records show. The deal closed Monday, according to the local multiple listing service. The home was listed for \$80 million in August 2021, according to Zillow.

Jill Eber and Jill Hertzberg of the Jills Zeder Group of Coldwell Banker Realty represented the buyer, whose identity wasn’t disclosed. In an email, Ms. Eber said the record-breaking sale is a testament to the “ever-growing popularity” of Miami’s real-estate market.

Dr. Sanjenis didn’t respond to requests for comment. With his brothers, Dr. Mora co-founded Miami’s now-shuttered Pan American Hospital in the 1960s, according to the 2012 book “Cubans, an Epic Journey.”

[Star Island](#), a small spit of sand connected to South Beach via a causeway, has around 30 homes owned by titans of the entertainment and sports worlds.

The roughly 15,000-square-foot home is located on a 1.85-acre lot with about 200 feet of water frontage, according to the listing from Elizabeth Lima of [Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Realty](#). The home has nine bedrooms, a four-car garage and a commercial-grade generator. Ms. Lima didn’t respond to a request for comment.

The house was built in 1993, records show. “It’s highly likely that someone will want brand-new construction there,” Ms. Eber said.

The previous record in Miami-Dade County was a [\\$60 million sale](#) at Faena House in 2015, according to research and appraisal firm Miller Samuel. In [two record-breaking condo deals](#) last week, [Kayak](#) co-founder and chief executive Steve Hafner paid \$40 million for a penthouse on Fisher Island and sold a smaller unit at L’Atelier Miami Beach for \$36 million.

Miller Samuel founder Jonathan Miller said there have been a string of Miami sales hovering around \$50 million over the past two years. “All of a sudden, we have a record that’s 50% higher than the last high-water mark, which might mean Miami is giving Palm Beach some competition,” said Mr. Miller.



Star Island.

PHOTO: ANTONY KEANE ALVAREZ FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



Star Island has about 30 homes on it. VIDEO: Antony Keane Alvarez for The Wall Street Journal