

EAST BAY FOR SALE IN EAST BAY

East Bay Billionaire Puts \$39 Million Home For Sale, Will Donate Proceeds to Pets

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Largest listing in Contra Costa County history

BY ADAM BRINKLOW · MAY 17, 2016, 4:19P



Pac Union/Thomas Grubba

Reportedly the most expensive home [listing](#) in the history of the East Bay, this eight bed, 16 bath, 21.5 acre estate in Alamo (Contra Costa County) hits the market for a whopping \$39 million. The estate's realtor says it took a crew of 200 three years to build it, and the owner and [Remick Associates](#) spent four years prior to that designing it.

And yet, according to the [Wall Street Journal](#), present owner David Duffield (founder of the HR company PeopleSoft) owned the place for only three years before deciding to put it on the market and invest the proceeds into an animal welfare charity named after his schnauzer, Maddie, who died 19 years ago.

The overwhelming estate was modeled on a traditional English manor house dubbed Fieldhaven. The main residence is over 20,000 square feet, including nine full bathrooms and seven half baths. If you have 16 guests over, you're covered even if they all have to use the loo at the same time.



Pac Union/Thomas Grubba

There's an aviary designed by the San Francisco Zoo's bird curator. There's a 14-seat movie theater with classic movie posters reproduced on the walls by San Francisco artists. One bathroom includes an artificial forest. There's an underground vault. The front door is five inches thick and was crafted by Austrian blacksmiths.

Still not impressed? The so-called crawlspace underneath the house, wherein you'll find the estate's control system, is over 6,100 square feet all on its own. The pantry is floored with reclaimed paving stones from Europe. The wine cellar has a circa 1620 antique fireplace, the aviary has a separate kitchen all its own, and next door to that there is a dog spa. Yes, a dog spa.



Maddie, who died in 1997.

Photo courtesy of Dave Duffield

That's not even addressing the grounds, which include a private dog park. The boulders for the many

GRID VIEW



This is less of a house so much as a particularly vivid hallucination that Charles Foster Kane might have had after a rough night. Even the rich guy from the Monopoly game is wondering what a person would do with all of this stuff. That said, the home's sale will make a lot of dogs extremely happy.

- [Fieldhaven](#) [Dana Green]
- [Dog Heaven](#) [Wall Street Journal]
- [Remick Associates](#)
- [Barbara Butler](#)

