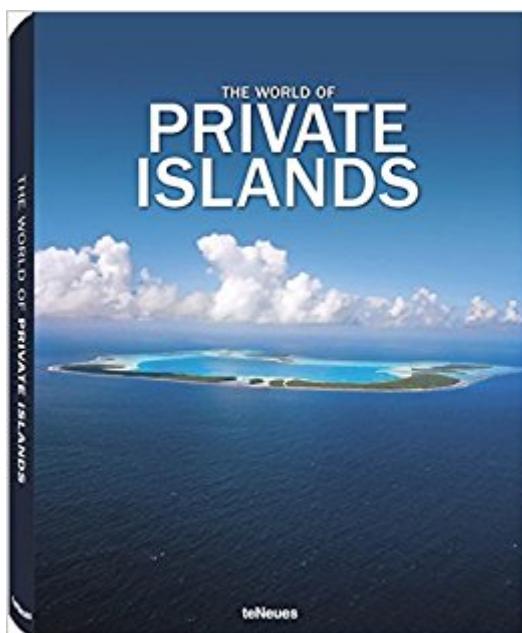


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# The World Of Private Islands (English, German, French, Spanish And Italian Edition)



## Synopsis

If you can dream it, it's out there for you. From the idealism of Moore's "Utopia" to the ease of Gauguin's "Tahiti," islands fuel the imagination. Indeed, who hasn't day-dreamed of a unique slice of paradise? Editor Farhad Vladi showcases a variety of private islands in this compelling volume, featuring everything from Canadian lake isles to Pacific atolls. Within these chapters you will discover a world of islands replete with castles in addition to more contemporary vacation properties owned by celebrities like Johnny Depp and Richard Branson. Islands, however, are not just for the wealthy; for those working with a smaller budget, prices start at a perfectly reasonable \$30,000! Lovers of nature and adventure seekers alike will be intrigued by the independence remote islands offer while more sociable types will appreciate the many beautiful resort isles.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Yearning: islands have always sparked our dreams and imagination, particularly when they are 'private.' The most beautiful private islands are revealed in this book." ~Vogue Business "Where island dreams come true, Vladis's new art book has something for everyone." ~Stern

Great book!

Every time you open the book you go somewhere new. Got this for my husband and I who love to travel we are adding some of the locations to our bucket list!

love it, great photos

This beautiful book offers a vast amount of aerial photographs and information about private islands around the world--from celebrity to residence-exclusive, to islands available for rent--each paradise has a unique geo-makeup, history, and of course, aesthetic architecture. I love travelling and the open sea, so "Private Islands" is my interpretation of an international-island-guide for the luxury tourist. There's a world map included, pinpointing where the islands are located, and section that displays all the wonderful islands with resort spots for travellers. Skorpios on the Ionian Sea is one of the prettiest in my opinion--with such pretty greenery. (We learn in the book it's owned by the billionaire Onassis family.) As an admirer of boats and lighthouse structures (and their historical appeal), I'm certainly amazed by the fact that this book showcases a total of 8 islands with lighthouses. If you're a travel-enthusiast and love photography, this book is definitely for you. Just looking at the photos and reading the history brings me to a lovely, dream-like place...with every page like relaxing on a private island itself.

The idea of a book of island pictures is enticing, exciting, and inviting. Casually flipping through the more than 200 pages and almost 100 islands, I was struck by the exotic and beautiful locations. Unfortunately, for me, this book did not live up to all those expectations. My wife, however, enjoyed the book very much. The World of Private Islands is a compilation of photographs mostly taken by Farhad Vladi with text by Martina Matthiesen. The islands are grouped by style, Islands with Lighthouses, Celebrity Islands, Atolls, etc., not geography. Each island is presented in a two page spread, with a paragraph or two in English and German. The book is large format, roughly 10 x 12, and many photographs span two pages. The paper is very heavy, the printing and binding is perfection. For a time, I enjoyed dreaming about these islands. They are beautiful and the thought of maybe going to one or two of them (the Thousand Island area is inexpensive and very accessible) was a nice dream. I'm very happy, the islands I know and love were not included in this book - they are wonderful secrets that publicity would ruin. I am predisposed to love islands - some of the more memorable times in my life were spent on beautiful secluded islands. I love Paul Theroux - somebody that is an expert at island living and an incredible author. The difficulty I have with this book is the quality of the photographs. From the introduction and photo credits, Vladi has personally taken most of these pictures. Sadly, they do not hold up well to the extra large format of this book. I have become accustom to the incredible high quality of TeNeues publishing, and the source photographs fall short. The first few seem remarkable, but then a formula shows up - an aerial view

of the island, a close up of a beach, and the equivalent of a real estate listing image of the house or resort on the island. Most of the images are grainy and soft. If I had to guess, these look like higher speed 35mm color negative film shot through a helicopter window - not the most high resolution method of photographing these incredible locations. I am being critical of the photographs; I am a photographer and have studied photographers for a very long time. My wife recognized what I said after I mentioned it to her, but did not see them as lower quality images. The other part I find difficult with this book, Vladi is the owner and founder of a company that sells and rents islands. His introductory text talks about how he has been "involved in over 2,000 island transactions and countless island lettings..." After island 30, it began to look like the book is more of an MLS real estate advertisement, than an idyllic escape to dream land. I could live with the commercial connection, if the images were more on par with National Geographic or any of the incredible photographers TeNeues has published. I guess I was expecting a book with more depth, more insight. I certainly expected higher quality photographs. If, on the other hand, I had expected something that looks like the Private Island website, or a listing of places I could rent; well this book is spectacular. As a counterpoint to my view of this book, my wife enjoyed it very much. She is an Earth Science instructor. Her first impression was, oh no, another expensive, over the top, not sustainable buying and renting of paradise. About half way through, she started adding Post-It tags to identify her favorite islands. By the time she finished the book; she had a big smile and said that this is a wonderful book. Maybe paradise hadn't been as spoiled as she first thought. The publisher provided me with a copy of this book for review. *Fresh Air Fiend: Travel Writings*

This is the perfect book for days when work is crazy or when you just need a change of pace. It's the ideal book for imagining yourself on a warm, sunny, uncrowded beach with a drink in your hand staring out over miles of turquoise water or beautiful landfalls in the distance. Or on rocky cliffs, not far from your own castle, holding a hot drink while watching the waves crash against the shore. I want to go on vacation! If only I had a gazillion dollars so I could afford to rent (or buy!) one of these luxurious islands. This large coffee table book, 12.8 x 10.1 x 1.1 inches is substantial. The pages are heavy, glossy quality stock. The photographer, Farhad Vladi is the founder and owner of the company Vladi Private Islands which the world's leading island brokerage company. He sells and rents out private islands, island-related properties and island shares around the world. Over the years, he has assembled an archive covering over 12,000 islands all over the world, probably the world's largest archive on privately-owned islands. He photographs private islands from a helicopter, like those in this book. The only thing that I thought could have been better about the photos, is that

some could have been a little higher resolution. That's not to say that they were fuzzy or anything, just that some of the little tiny details nosy people like me want to see were hard to pick out in some photographs. Considering he's flying around in a helicopter and probably taking pictures through the glass of the windshield (while moving) they were more than acceptable to me. There is a map in the front of the book showing all the destinations, some of which I had never heard of. The book was divided into sections which I liked, because he divided them up the way I would have. The sections are: Islands with Castles, Celebrity Islands, Exclusively for Rent, Islands with Charming Residences, Islands with Lighthouses, Islands with Their Own Airstrips, Atolls, Islands with Resorts, Treasure Islands, XXL Islands, XXS Islands, Lake and River Islands, Self-Sufficient Islands. My favorites were the islands with castles and the ones with the charming residences. The Ile De Costaeres in Brittany, France and the Boldt Castle on the St. Lawrence River in New York were the ones I spent the most time looking at. There's even one called Isle of Gigha in Scotland that Mick Jagger tried to buy but the 156 inhabitants beat him on the price. It's the little blurbs like this on the pages with the photos that make the book fun to read about while you're drooling over the pictures. This book would make a great gift for anyone who likes to dream. The publisher provided me with a copy of this book for review.

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