Robb Report Espana – 50th Anniversary Issue



English Translation:

THE WORLD, RESIDENCES AT SEA: A HOME WITHOUT A ZIP CODE

In 1997, Norwegian shipowner Knut Kloster Jr. had an unprecedented idea: a megayacht that functions as a privately owned home and changes ports without its owner having to pack a suitcase.

Construction began in Norway in 2000, and two years later, the vessel set sail, measuring 196 meters (643 feet) in length, enough to cross oceans without losing access to ports off-limits to large cruise ships.

It has 165 residences, ranging from studios to three-bedroom homes, priced between $3.5 million and $15 million.

In 2003, the owners purchased the vessel from Kloster and his investors and, with it, the right to decide their own course. Since then, they have been the ones deciding, three years in advance, which ports to visit and how long to stay in each.

Two decades later, people from 20 countries live together on board, sharing destinations and interests that make the ship something more than a residence.

“They didn’t simply buy a ship: they took on the responsibility of preserving a way of life,” says Jessica Hoppe, President and CEO of The World, Residences at Sea.