



Home Improvement
The World's Best Reel Estate
Felicia Paik, Forbes.com



Waterfront views are certainly an attraction for any discerning homeowner, but for the weekend fisherman, what's under the water may be the catch.

Forbes.com has canvassed properties domestically and internationally that offer some of the best fly-fishing in the world. New Hampshire's Lake Winnepesaukee in the White Mountains is famous for its salmon, bass and trout. In fact, derbies and tournaments are held there every year for anglers in search of glory. Out west in Montana and Idaho, there are ranches with private rivers and streams. Overseas, we picked properties that are located on lakes known for fishing, as well as some sprawling properties stocked with trout in Argentina and New Zealand.

None of the chosen places would qualify as roughing it. In Austria, there's a historic castle situated on the Lake Hallstatt, while in Northern Ireland we've picked a private island. In Colorado, at the Two Rivers Ranch, you might live in a barn, but it's one that's been completely renovated with cathedral ceilings and a 19th-century fireplace.

Here is the list, by location:

[Colorado](#)

[Idaho](#)

[Montana](#)

[New Hampshire](#)

[Argentina](#)

[Austria](#)

[Belgium](#)

[Canada](#)

[New Zealand](#)

[Northern Ireland](#)

Colorado

Steamboat Springs, \$7.4 million



Courtesy of Tim Murphy and Colorado Group Realty

Located at the confluence of the Elk and Yampa rivers, this 71-acre ranch offers some of the best fly-fishing in the region. The property has a 3,650-square-foot barn. The barn's second-story loft, measuring 1,800 square feet, offers the living area; the ground level houses the horse stalls and tack room. There is a separate 3,000-square-foot entertainment studio with an exercise room and a sleeping loft. Troy Brookshire at Colorado Group Realty has the listing.

Meeker, \$4 million



For the last ten years, the 2,825-acre Elk Creek Lodge has been a fly-fishing and big-game hunting resort. Located in the White River Valley, the resort offers 20 miles of fly-fishing. There are five 35-acre homesites available for purchase at \$4,000,000 each. Hall and Hall Real Estate in Bozeman, Mont., has the listing.

Idaho

Carey, \$3 million



Located in south central Idaho and a 40-minute drive from Sun Valley, this 2,220-acre ranch offers 2.5 miles on the Little Wood River. You can fish for rainbow and brook trout averaging 12 inches to 14 inches. Hall and Hall Real Estate in Bozeman, Mont., has the listing.

Montana

Madison Valley Ranch, \$2.25 million



This 14-acre property is located within a 264-acre wildlife preserve on the Madison River.

New Hampshire

Wolfeboro, \$1.6 million



This 1915 Dutch Colonial house called Loon Lodge is located on Lake Winnepesaukee. The two-acre property has 318 feet on the lake. There is a 2,500-square-foot, five-bedroom house as well as a boathouse and a dock. Carol Bush at Maxfield Real Estate in Wolfeboro has the listing.

Argentina

El Bolson, \$13.5 million



The Argentinian economy may be floating upside down, but rainbow trout and salmon are in abundance at La Esperanza, a 45,000-acre property in the southern Andes. It is a two-hour flight from Buenos Aires and 25 miles southwest of the town of El Bolson. La Esperanza is located in a region known as Patagonia, which runs from the Argentine Atlantic to the Chilean Pacific. There are three guest cabins and a 2,300-foot airstrip. Hall and Hall Real Estate in Bozeman, Mont., has the listing.

Austria

Hallstatt, \$3.5 million



This 74-acre property is located about 40 miles from Salzburg on a peninsula overlooking Lake Hallstatt. Built during the Middle Ages, Castle Grub was renovated in the 19th century by an ambassador to the Russian czar. The living space sprawls over three floors and 7,500 square feet. There are four bedrooms in the restored villa, plus a three-bedroom lake house. Stiller & Hohla in Salzburg has the listing.

Belgium

Brussels, \$2.2 million



This five-bedroom, 3,200-square-foot house is located on Lake Genval. It's located near the city center of Brussels and has easy access to central train stations offering connections to London and Paris. Immobiliere Le Lion in Brussels has the listing.

Canada

British Columbia, \$840,000



The 150-acre Salmon River Ranch has salmon, trout and steelhead in its own river. The property is located 10 miles from the town of Salmon Arm near the Rocky Mountains. There is a 5,800-square-foot, four-bedroom house plus a full barn. Premier Canadian Properties in Vancouver has the listing.

British Columbia, \$2.95 million



The 2,500-acre Springfield Ranch is located near Williams Lake. The ranch is a commercial operation with 500 cows, 100 heifers, 32 bulls and 12 horses. Trout swim in a stream bordering the property. There are four homes on the property. Premier Canadian Properties in Vancouver has the listing.

New Zealand

South Island, \$3.1 million



The Hurunui River flows through Eskead Station, a 140-year New Zealand ranching station. It offers trout fishing in deep canyon pools to fast flowing streams. The ranch is located about 90 miles from Christchurch. There is a four-bedroom main residence and separate staff quarters. Hall and Hall Real Estate in Bozeman, Mont., has the listing.

Northern Ireland

Enniskillen, \$1.3 million



Inishrath Island is situated in the far west of Northern Ireland in the heart of the Ulster lakelands, which are visited by anglers from the world over. The island is located 300 yards from the mainland and is accessible by boat and by landing craft from its own pier. The 21-acre property features a Victorian-style home with eight bedrooms. Ganly Walters in Dublin has the listing.