## TRAVEL CURATOR

## WORTH TRAVELING FOR



With the new live action Barbie movie out July 21, we've been collectively riding the (Malibu) wave of Barbie-mania all summer. Whether it's bubblegum pink Barbie ice cream at your go-to restaurant for dessert, a Barbie-pink <a href="mailto:swimsuit">swimsuit</a> for sale online, a Barbie hair-do by your stylist, or simply endless discussions about which Barbie you prefer and how many accessories you own, the obsessive reflecting on Barbie-dom hasn't let up – and we don't expect it to stop anytime soon.

People love Barbies because these iconic dolls can be whoever we want them to be – from astronomers to artists. We don't know about *your* Barbie, but *our* Barbie likes to travel. We have all the Barbie travel accessories: the <u>suitcases</u>, the high heels, the Cosmo-hued camper, the convertible, and the right outfits to match the exotic destination (Hello, pink beret and pink poodle for that Barbie on <u>holiday in Paris!</u>). Likewise, we love the dream houses, a Barbie essential that first hit the market in 1962 with a cardboard studio apartment that cost a mere \$4.22. For the next six decades the dream houses became more elaborate ranging from chic A-frames to cool condos to multi-story plastic Victorian mansions. By far, the most festive toy Barbie abode is Malibu Barbie's sprawling beachside dream house, a cotton candy-colored fantasyland, sure to be a part of the upcoming film.

While we know we can't fit our human bodies into a toy Barbie villa, the good news is that we can further channel Barbie this summer (and beyond) in a Barbie-inspired, people-sized house at a "Vacation Barbie" destination of your choice. Read on to find a Barbie-esque dream house worthy of your personal Barbie flair.

## STYLISH BEACH HAVEN



Courtesy of Airbnb

Known for its gin clear waters and sugary sand, The Crystal Coast stretches for some 80 miles in North Carolina's Southern Outer Banks. More earthy than Malibu, this unpretentiously beautiful place is where Barbie likes to go to relax with a good book and her closest allies. Naturally, she's Barbie, so she still wants to gadabout in style. Enter: Sunshine Estates, a Pink Champagne-colored sanctuary that vaunts an extravaganza of multi-level decks overlooking the ocean. An enormous pool, gas grill and loungers invite lazy outdoor repose. Or, chill indoors in any of eight airy bedrooms. Don't miss the cinema room, perfect for late night popcorn parties.

## **EMERALD ISLE WONDER**



Courtesy of K Energy

On North Carolina's Emerald Island Beach, <u>Prince of Tides</u>, as pink as a flamingo, lords over the beachscape, just minutes from Emerald Isle' town center. Its luxurious 5,200-square-feet encompasses seven bedrooms, seven and a half bathrooms, a heated, oceanside pool, a slew of Adirondack chairs, elegant common areas, and a party kitchen. Equipped with an elevator, the house also features a handicapaccessible bedroom and bath.