South Carolina’s Most Expensive Home Just Had Its Price Cut by 30%

by Tiffani Sherman

Even with a recent price cut from $25 million to $17.5 million, the historic 2,510-acre Twickenham plantation near Yemassee is still the most expensive home in South Carolina.

The huge property near Interstate Highway 95 dates to the 1730s and has been featured in Southern Living magazine.

Initially listed in October 2018, the property had its price cut by 30% on Jan. 9.

“The owner just said, ‘let’s drop the price and see if we can get it sold,’” says listing agent CJ Brown. “He owns a lot of different properties around the country, and they’re spending more time at some of the other properties right now."

The land was once a rice plantation and has more than a mile of frontage on the Combahee River in the ACE Basin in coastal South Carolina. In addition to a manor home, there are two historic guesthouses, a horse barn, stables, and storage barns.

It’s centrally located as well—about 20 minutes from Beaufort, SC, 50 minutes from Charleston, SC, and an hour from Savannah, GA. “When you’re on the plantation, it feels like you’re a million miles from everywhere, but you’re pretty close to the best of everything,” says Brown.

The plantation dates to 1732, when King George II of England created a grant for the property, and Walter Izard assembled the property in 1733.

“IT feels like you step back into an earlier time when you enter the property,” Brown explains. “The live oaks are massive with the canopy around the house, and it just feels like you’re stepping back in the 1700s. You almost expect to see a wagon. It’s like you’re going back into a time machine and into a snapshot of what life was like back then.”
The main plantation house was built by Maj. John Screven in 1878 in a two-story, Federal style. It has four bedrooms and 3.5 baths. While maintaining the home’s history and period-appropriate furnishings, the current owners put the place through an extensive remodel, which was completed in 2018.

There’s now a chef’s kitchen with high-end appliances, modern bathrooms, and expansive living spaces. Many of the rooms overlook gardens designed by Robert Marvin and Douglas Duany, landscape architects who did work at Augusta National Golf Club and Sea Pines Resort.

Not far from the main house are two guesthouses and a manager’s house.

“There’s one two-bedroom guesthouse that’s adjacent to the main house that has a large kitchen and living room in the center, and it divides the house,” Brown says. “The bedrooms are on either side, and they’re identical. The bathrooms are exquisite.”

The other guesthouse is a single story with one bedroom, a kitchen, and dining and living rooms. The manager’s house is similar.

The fields are in working order for growing crops and also provide areas for world-class waterfowl hunting.

“This is simply the best. It has the best hunting, the best sporting opportunities, the best accommodations, the best location,” Brown says. “It’s just the pinnacle of sporting pursuits in the Southeast.”

Quail, whitetail deer, ducks, and turkeys are abundant on the property. There’s also a dock with private boat access to the Combahee River and a 3,300-foot grass airstrip, which could be expanded to 5,000 feet.

“The perfect buyer really would be someone with the love of the outdoors and, of course, South Carolina history, early American history, and someone who really enjoys duck hunting and quail hunting,” Brown says. “It's probably one of the more attractive and appealing properties that I've ever been on. I mean, it's just absolutely magnificent.”

Photos by Jon Kohler