

## Hamptons House Prices are Going Up, Not Down

## Using the top ten sales metric

BY <u>LAURA EULER</u> MAR 18, 2016, 1:00P



Yesterday, Reuters reported that "<u>The market for luxury homes in the Hamptons</u>, the summer playground for Wall Street's wealthiest, is losing some of its luster as financial markets limp along for a second year." The evidence for that? "The <u>average price of the 10</u> <u>most expensive homes</u> sold in this cluster of towns, villages and hamlets on Long Island's east end was \$35.5 million in 2015, 20 percent lower than the \$44.6 million recorded the year before," according to Town & Country Real Estate.

OK—but those figures are based on TEN properties total each year from 2006-2015. We're not convinced that ten properties is statistically significant. Sure, 2015 didn't really see any blockbuster headline making sales, such as Barry Rosenstein paying <u>\$147M</u> for 60 Further Lane in 2014 or Ron Baron paying \$103M back in 2007, which of course skew the averages higher. So far in 2016, the top deal has been for <u>\$110M on Lily Pond Lane in East Hampton</u>, which is almost twice the highest price of 2015, \$57.3 million for 226 Further Lane.

By the measure used by Town & Country, then, 2016 is likely to be a banner year for sales, we say. What do you think? Whither Hamptons house prices on the top end?