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Dog Heaven: David Duffield's Large Bay Area Estate Seeks \$39 Million

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David Duffield's family foundation is asking \$39 million for the 21.48-acre estate that Mr. Duffield built in Alamo, Calif. Proceeds of the ...



By SARAH TILTON

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The family foundation of software executive and animal lover David Duffield is asking \$39 million for his 21.48-acre estate in Alamo, Calif., which comes with a soundproof aviary, dog park and two paw-washing stations.

If the house realizes its asking price, it will be a record for the suburb, said listing agent Dana Green of Pacific Union & Christie's International. Proceeds of the sale will benefit Maddie's Fund, a nonprofit animal welfare group that Mr. Duffield and his wife, Cheryl, started in memory of their miniature schnauzer, Maddie, who died in 1997. The Duffields have so far endowed Maddie's Fund with more than \$300 million, according to the fund's website.

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The Duffield compound is located at the base of Mount Diablo approximately 30 miles east of San Francisco. The 20,467-square-foot main house with eight bedrooms was designed in the style of an English

manor with stone walls and reclaimed wood beams. The dog spa has a bath and grooming area, and the soundproof aviary has its own prep kitchen.

In addition to four dogs and four parrots, the Duffields also have 10 children. The gated property includes a swimming pool, separate plunge pool with water slide, teen lounge with theater and a 75-foot suspension bridge leading to a tree house. The grounds include a wishing well, guesthouse, car barn and 50 wells that create a heat transfer system to heat and cool the house, the hot water and the pool.

Mr. Duffield is the co-founder and chairman of Workday as well as the [founder of PeopleSoft](#). The Duffields bought the property in 2005, relocating from their Lake Tahoe estate to be near Workday's headquarters, according to Steve Hill, treasurer for Maddie's Fund. The family has now moved back to Lake Tahoe. "Now, in his early 70s and with their children finishing up at the local Bay Area schools, Dave and Cheryl found that their hearts never really left Lake Tahoe," Mr. Hill wrote in an email.