$11.8M Kansas mansion comes with a surprising aquatic perk

The Midwest isn't exactly a hot scuba diving destination, so one scuba-loving Kansas homeowner crafted his own. The 18-acre property sits on a network of water-filled tunnels designed specifically for scuba diving, and it just hit the market for $11.8 million, making it the most expensive listing in the state.

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As first reported by the Wall Street Journal, the tunnels were carved into the property to allow the owner to dive in an outdoor pond. Accessed through a series of grottoes and pop-up holes, the tunnels lead to the pond, which the owners transformed into their own diving paradise with exotic

fish, statues and fake fossils.

Father-daughter team Gary Hosack and Katie Casey of Crown Realty are the listing agents in charge of selling the property, located just outside of Kansas City, Kansas.

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Built in 1992, the home is known as the “Spirit of Avalon” and is inspired by the English legends of King Arthur. It is, indeed, rather castle-like; it’s built of stone, with stained glass windows and wooden doors decorated with custom dragon carvings.

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Owner Lyn Shaw and her husband, who passed away unexpectedly two years ago, spent many of their years together adding to the house. They built the tunnels on a whim, as part of a dream of being able to scuba dive in their pond, where they constructed multiple waterfalls, the tallest measuring 35 feet. A two-story library was added to the house in 2002.

The property has six bedrooms, several professional kitchens, a two-story office and a library. In addition to the pond, there’s a swimming pool, a sauna, a heated garage and an outdoor wet bar. According to the Journal, Shaw is selling the house to downsize after her husband’s death.

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