



#### INSIDE KNOWLEDGE

Lucie Hirst and Delphine Colombo.  
Left: Cheyne Walk  
Below: The Old Courthouse

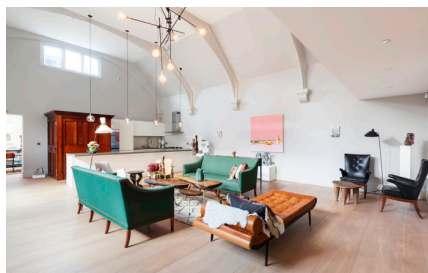
## THE DREAM TEAM

**Delphine Colombo and Lucie Hirst, operating as an independent boutique buying agency Colombo Hirst, source prime properties for private clients across the capital**

Property is the biggest investment we make in life, so why shouldn't the purchase process be commensurately enjoyable?

This is the fresh, modern philosophy of Delphine Colombo and Lucie Hirst who, as boutique buying agents Colombo Hirst, find residential properties for time-pressed clients. Let them help you find your perfect home, and in return you'll get their experience, their contacts (alerting them to properties not even on the market), their negotiation skills and hard work, all with a personal touch. With more than 20 years' combined experience, the glamorous pair act only for buyers. They take time to understand your needs, then hand-hold you through curated viewings to the day of completion, when they inspect the property before any money changes hands to ensure all goes smoothly.

A property search agent used to be the preserve of the higher-end property buyers, but Colombo Hirst's adaptable boutique approach is of immense value to people searching for anything from a dream one-



bedroom flat to a glamorous £35million house. It could be an overseas buyer seeking a new-build investment apartment in Shoreditch or a Chelsea resident needing a rental property for a large family while their home undergoes a basement renovation.

Vogue Advertisement Director Sophie Markwick and her partner wanted to move before the birth of their first baby. 'Buying a new house seemed like a totally overwhelming task with both of us having full-time jobs that don't allow time for viewings during working hours. We were unsure even of the areas we wanted to focus our search on,' she says. 'The

Colombo Hirst ladies came to our rescue; they were professional, efficient and utterly accommodating of every request we made or challenge we presented.'

Delphine and Lucie previewed properties across different areas of London, reducing 60 potential houses to two. 'We took Sophie to view them in a chauffeur-driven car so we could talk, without the stress of parking, and it was a truly pleasurable morning,' says Lucie. When it came to choosing between the two, Colombo Hirst provided invaluable advice, helping Sophie to make an informed choice and steer away from bad decisions.

The finding is one thing. Once you've settled on your dream home or rental, Colombo Hirst will also negotiate the best possible price and terms, and liaise with lawyers, surveyors and mortgage brokers. That's gold-star service.

*For further information, please visit [colombohirst.com](http://colombohirst.com), call +44 (0) 7730 987377 or email [info@colombohirst.com](mailto:info@colombohirst.com)*