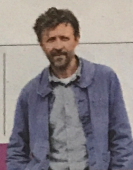


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Home



Move over, Surrey

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WORLD AFFAIRS

Q We've decided to put our Portuguese home on the market and are considering listing it online, bypassing agents and their fees. Any words of advice? *M Formby, by email*

A Although there are costs for using a "for sale by owner" property forum – such as magnoliaproperty.co.uk (from £15 a month), rightmove.co.uk (£29-£99 a month) and the-viewing.com (from £588 flat fee) – there is no commission to pay.

However you decide to market your home, though, you still need to decide on the asking price, and make sure you have all the documentation required in Portugal in order, including relevant deeds, registration and tax certificates. Resolve any legal issues with the property, such as illegal extensions or inheritances that have not been finalised.

As always, photographs give the best first impression, so make sure they emphasise the best features, including facades, views and pool, if you have one. Keep your description succinct and accurate, though have information such as the total cost of utility bills and flight timetables handy for when you engage with potential buyers. You will also need to make sure you – or someone else – can be there to open up the house and conduct viewings.

With thanks to judicaregroup.com and the-viewing.com

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