

NEWS BRIEFS

Handbags, Alibaba, cruise lines and real estate – News briefs

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Hermes handbags

By STAFF REPORTS

Today in luxury marketing:

[Moneybags: Is the frock-market the new stock-market?](#)

Handbags are big business - and for once, that doesn't refer to the fashion houses making millions from particular styles they dub to be "It". The most in-demand bag, in fact, is one you can't even purchase in a store - the Hermès Birkin, says The Independent.

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[Alibaba's Ma cancels speech after row with anti-counterfeiting group](#)

Alibaba Group Holding Ltd's chief Jack Ma has cancelled a planned speech at an anti-counterfeiting conference in the United States after the trade group behind it suspended the ecommerce giant's recently gained membership, reports Reuters.

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[A bright horizon for cruise lines as luxury sea travel surges](#)

Luxury sea travel presents significant opportunities, a senior cruise executive said, as more people choose cruise ships over traditional vacation travel, according to the Wall Street Journal.

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[Luxury real estate's new weapon: Celebrity brokers](#)

In the escalating arms race of luxury real estate, sellers have a new, not-so-secret weapon: Celebrity brokers.

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