

Local Legal Services
Channel Islands



Ogier

We deliver
targeted,
pragmatic advice
with absolute
clarity.

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Proud of what we do

Today Ogier exists in 13 international locations, but we're proud of our roots as a Channel Islands success story.

This is a firm that prides itself on originality. We were the first offshore law firm to go transatlantic, and the first to open in China and Luxembourg.

But we haven't forgotten where we got our first start – as a Channel Islands firm, helping islanders and businesses with local legal issues.

We're still doing that business today, helping people to buy houses, helping start-up businesses get on their feet, and advising firms on how to take advantage of opportunity, manage challenges and mitigate risk.

Ogier's Local Legal Services team covers property, employment and regulatory law. We work with clients who are buying or selling a business, entering into a joint venture or restructuring, as well as advising on day to day issues from financing and corporate governance to contracts.

In Guernsey our commercial property team formed at the end of 2015, and is led by one of the island's most experienced property lawyers, Martyn Baudains.

In the past two years alone, the firm was named the Offshore Law Firm of the Year by Chambers Europe, Hedgeweek Global Awards, WealthBriefing and the Alpha Awards, following similar awards from The Lawyer and STEP the previous year.



Best Offshore Law Firm
WealthBriefing European Awards 2023



Law Firm of the Year -
Guernsey and Jersey
Citywealth IFC Awards 2023



Law Firm of the Year -
Litigation
Citywealth IFC Awards 2023



Offshore Law Firm of the
Year
The Lawyer Awards 2019



Offshore Firm of the Year
Chambers HNW Awards 2022



Offshore Firm of the Year
Privateclient Excellence Awards 2022

Commercial property

Our property team is well known for executing some of the largest and most complex commercial transactions with accuracy and speed.

 Ogier have a pan Channel Island Commercial Property department that has all the resources and talent needed to invest and develop in the Channel Islands. Legal 500 UK, Guernsey, Commercial property, 2021

 Leading team in Jersey: commercial, responsive, helpful, problem solving. Legal 500 UK, Jersey, Commercial property, 2021

We provide a responsive, constructive and commercially aware client service for large and small businesses.

We work for local landlords, tenants, developers and financiers as well as institutional investors of international repute. We also handle a wide range of local residential transactions ranging from the purchase and sale of the most valuable and prestigious properties in the islands to flats and starter homes.

Our expertise goes beyond transactional work – our team has strong expertise in all local elements of Planning, Construction and Environmental law, including health and safety requirements. We are regularly called on to give advice to developers and landowners, providing a clear, responsive and commercially minded service that enables clients to take advantage of opportunities and mitigate risks.

Our team has also advised firms relocating to the Channel Islands or expanding their operations to Jersey and Guernsey on finding suitable premises.

Our services include:

- Commercial investment acquisitions and sales
- Commercial leases
- Construction and Planning advice
- Development, sales and lettings of large scale commercial and residential projects
- Health and Safety and environmental regulatory advice
- Joint ventures
- Licensing law advice
- Property aspects of company acquisitions and insolvencies
- Property disputes and insolvency issues, including building disputes, lease dilapidations, planning appeals, realising security over real property
- Property securitisation
- Residential sales and purchases, particularly high-value residential conveyancing
- Secured lending over real estate

Liberation Group

Ogier assisted Macfarlanes LLP in advising Caledonia Investments plc on its £118 million acquisition of The Liberation Group, the Channel Islands' market leading pub, restaurant and drinks business.



The legal elements to this deal demanded co-operation across jurisdictions and over a wide field of legal areas ranging from corporate to liquor licensing.

This deal perfectly demonstrates the strength that we bring to complex and cross-jurisdictional matters.

Jonathan Hughes,
Partner

Ogier fielded a multi-jurisdictional team providing advice and assistance on the laws of Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney in a range of areas including corporate, finance, property, employment, pensions, planning, liquor licensing and competition.


The Liberation Group has 94 managed and tenanted pubs in the Channel Islands and south west of England, two award-winning breweries (Liberation Brewery which produces Liberation Ale, and Butcombe Brewery which produces Butcombe Bitter) and three drinks distribution businesses.

£118m

The value of the deal

Relocation services

Our specialist teams can advise on every aspect of relocating to the Channel Islands, whether for a family or for a business.

 They are large enough to cope with work levels, but not too big to lose their personal touch.
Chambers UK, Guernsey, Property, 2021

 An approachable, friendly and experienced team.
Legal 500 UK, Jersey, Commercial property, 2020

The process of moving offshore demands specialist advice, which is why our relocation teams are called in to assist on the residency process, wealth structuring, and buying property – as well as being able to guide clients to trusted contacts in the property, tax and banking fields for expert bespoke advice.


Navigating through the process of moving offshore requires expertise in the residency process itself, the process of finding and buying (and often extending or adapting) a property, and in terms of wealth structuring advice. Ogier's specialist relocation teams offer a discreet, knowledgeable and proactive service to navigate through the unfamiliar process and deliver the bespoke outcome that fulfils and surpasses our clients' expectations.

Our team deals with property, planning and construction matters from the residential and commercial sectors, and has experience on projects worth millions of pounds.

Our services include:

- Property, Planning and Construction
- Private Client and Trusts
- Estate Planning
- Wills and Probate
- Employment
- Advice on personal and business legal implications of relocation
- Applications to secure residence in the Channel Islands
- Helping make 'settling in' connections
- Local tax guidance
- Options for residence
- Property purchases and projects
- Relocation of dependent relatives
- Retaining rights of residence
- Restrictions on property ownership
- Intellectual property
- Regulatory, compliance and policy development and implementation
- Corporate restructuring and reorganisation



 Our services to relocating families, individuals and firms goes beyond basic conveyancing - we advise on finding a property, and work with clients to introduce them to our trusted networks of local suppliers and professionals.

Corporate law

Our international reputation is built on first-class corporate services to clients - we bring the same levels of quality to bear on local commercial work.

 They display a keen understanding of what is most important to clients and are very accommodating of challenging and tight deadlines.
Chambers UK, Jersey, Corporate and Finance, 2021

 Very approachable and responsive team that covers the spectrum of Guernsey corporate law issues.
Legal 500 UK, Guernsey, Corporate Law, 2021

Local businesses are the engine room of the Channel Islands' economy.

With nine international offices and a diverse practice, Ogier is used to working for multinational corporations. But our heart is in the Channel Islands and we've never taken our focus away from the local market.

We have a particular focus in acting for sellers and buyers in major local M&A transactions - and we have specialists with significant experience in M&A deals that are property-rich or within the financial services sector.

Whether it's a family business, an entrepreneurial start-up or the local arm of a larger operation, what businesses need to thrive in an ever-changing economy are trusted advisors who understand how to take advantage of opportunity, manage challenges and mitigate risk.

Our services include:

- Contract law advice
- Competition law
- Capital markets
- Corporate advisory and compliance
- Corporate restructuring
- Intellectual property
- Data Protection, including GDPR guidance
- Mergers and acquisitions, takeovers and disposals
- Listings

Randgold Resources

Ogier advised on the \$22.5 billion merger between Randgold Resources and Barrick Gold creating the world's biggest gold mining company.



For major natural resources companies operating across international borders and timezones, international structuring including Jersey vehicles is frequently used, and our corporate law team has significant experience in advising on matters relating to ongoing corporate administration and M&A activity.

Raulin Amy,
Partner

The merger – effected by way of a Jersey Scheme of Arrangement – brings together two of the world's biggest mining firms, and creates a new market leader in gold mining.

An Ogier team advised Randgold, a long-standing client of the firm, on the Jersey law aspects of the merger alongside Norton Rose Fulbright in London and New York.

The new group owns gold mines and deposits including the Kibali mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Cortez mine in Nevada.

\$22.5 bn

The value of the deal

Employment law

Our Employment team has a reputation for delivering professional yet friendly advice with the ability to translate complex legal material into practical guidance.

 They are professional, quick to respond and human in their responses. Chambers UK, Jersey, Employment Law, 2021

 I believe the level of knowledge was second to none in any instance. Legal 500 UK, Guernsey, Employment Law, 2021

We provide a full range of contentious and non-contentious employment law advice which includes guidance for HR teams on local employment law, including legal developments across the Channel Islands.


This includes advice on work and housing regulations and immigration issues, as well as on claims (or potential claims) around employee health and safety and fatal accidents, and advice on anti discrimination legislation in Jersey.

We regularly conduct tailored training sessions for HR staff and other employees on changes and updates to relevant legislation. We also advise businesses on issues related to employing staff in Jersey and Guernsey for the first time.

Our services include:

- Contracts of employment, policies and procedures
- Drafting and enforcement of restrictive covenants
- Discrimination law training
- Employment aspects of acquisitions and disposals
- Health and safety and fatal accident claims
- Redundancy and termination
- Training programmes covering issues faced by businesses, e.g. employment law and HR issues
- Work and housing regulations and immigration issues


Helen Ruelle
Director of Local Legal Services


 A powerhouse on employment law who is respected within the local business community. Client feedback



Dispute Resolution

We provide a full range of Dispute Resolution services from litigation to arbitration.

 Ogier has an incredible breadth of experience across disciplines with top people in every substantive area. They excel in client service and responsiveness.
Legal 500 UK, Guernsey, Dispute Resolution, 2021

 Ogier's dispute resolution team inspires confidence – a number of talented individuals give reassurance that the matter is in extremely safe hands.
Legal 500 UK, Jersey, Dispute Resolution, 2021

We advise and represent clients in a wide range of contentious matters in Jersey and Guernsey. These can range from company commercial disputes through to property, contentious wills and trusts and financial claims, including those involving insolvency proceedings. Our advocates appear before the Royal Court regularly and we are also experienced in alternative forms of resolution such as mediation, arbitration and expert determination. Our Dispute Resolution team is equally renowned for its work offering guidance and support to clients in relation to contentious regulatory matters.

We also help clients meet regulatory requirements when setting up and undertaking businesses in the islands. Our highly regarded local expertise, together with our long established and trusted reputation, enables us to give clients pragmatic and commercial regulatory advice.

Our services include:

- Commercial disputes including fraud and asset tracing claims, freezing and other injunctions and enforcement of foreign judgements
- Corporate disputes
- Claims against directors, shareholder disputes, malpractice and professional negligence
- Contentious trusts
- Breach of trust claims, administrative applications, claims by and against beneficiaries and trustees and protectors, Hastings Bass applications
- Insolvency and restructuring
- Winding up and cross-border insolvency applications, restructuring applications, liquidation, negligence and partnership disputes
- Financial services disputes including funds, banking and insurance claims and claims by investors and creditors
- Regulatory advice
- Contentious and non-contentious offshore restructuring and regulatory matters, often in conjunction with onshore counsel and other professional services providers
- Alternative dispute resolution, arbitration and mediation

Mathew Newman
Partner





Clients have full trust in his
exceptional judgement.
Chambers UK, 2023



Trusts Advisory Group

The strength of our team lies in the quality of our lawyers, who include some of the most respected names in the field, and who deliver a discreet, expert and professional service.

 They are excellent. They have real depth and breadth across the team. Chambers UK, Jersey, Trusts, 2021

 A powerhouse team. They provide invaluable advice on high-value matters. Chambers Global, Guernsey, Trusts, 2020

Ogier's Trusts Advisory Group draws together some of the most highly respected advisers in the offshore private client world from different disciplines and locations to provide a seamless contentious and non-contentious advisory service which also includes relevant corporate support.

Our Private Wealth team advises trustees, private banks and ultra high net worth clients on the lifecycle of trusts from establishment, restructuring and administration to succession planning. We have in-depth knowledge of trusts and foundations, enabling us to provide flexible and practical guidance on choosing the most effective jurisdiction. The team combines with our corporate specialists to provide commercially focused corporate advice regarding companies that underlie trust structures or on new investments structures as they arise.

The Trusts Advisory Group draws together contentious and non-contentious trust practitioners.

Our services include:

- Charitable and non-charitable purpose trusts
- Corporate advice to underlying structures
- Contentious trusts
- Employee benefit trusts
- Estate planning
- Family Office
- Guernsey and Jersey foundations
- Trust establishment and advice
- Philanthropic structures
- Private trust companies
- Regulatory

 Client-friendly, super responsive private client expert on the island. Chambers High-Net-Worth Guide, 2022



Planning and Construction

Matters relating to Planning and Construction in Jersey and Guernsey are high value and complex, so clients need access to legal advice that is thorough, detailed and practical.



Professional yet approachable, with an ability to focus on the key issues, they have excellent knowledge of the intricacies of the local market.

Chambers UK, Jersey, Property, 2020

Our team has strong expertise in all local elements of planning, construction and environmental law, including health and safety requirements.

We are regularly called on to give advice to developers and landowners, providing a clear, responsive and commercially-minded service that enables clients to take advantage of opportunities and mitigate risks.

We specialise in advising clients through the pre-application, application and appeals process, delivering targeted and pragmatic advice that is based in thorough and detailed knowledge of the law relating to property and Planning in both Jersey and Guernsey.

Our services include:


- Advice on change of use applications on land
- Construction and Planning advice
- Development, sales and lettings of large scale commercial and residential projects
- Health and Safety and environmental regulatory advice
- Planning appeals advice and representation
- Property disputes and insolvency issues, including building disputes, lease dilapidations, realising security over real property

 Has a way of explaining legal matters in simplistic terms that we can understand and provides really good guidance on how we should address matters. Chambers UK, 2022



Probate and estates

Clients need specialist guidance to satisfy the requirements of Jersey and Guernsey's nuanced laws in respect of wills, probate and estates.

 in depth knowledge of Jersey law and wide experience in international probate matters.

Client feedback, Jersey, Probate

 A very knowledgeable team providing an efficient service. Legal 500 UK, Guernsey, Employment, 2021

With an acute understanding of the needs of private individuals and their advisers at what can be a difficult time, we focus on providing a direct and efficient service.


We assist Jersey and Guernsey based clients with the administration of Jersey estates and international clients where Jersey assets form part of a wider estate.

We also deal with the registration of Court of Protection Orders and Worldwide Affidavits.

Our teams have significant experience in matters relating to curators and tutelles in Jersey and to Guardianships in Guernsey.

Our services include:

- Advising on all aspects of guardianships, including appointments and acting as a guardian.
- Assisting with the Personal Estate of a Jersey or Guernsey domiciled deceased
- Assisting with the Personal Estate of a non-Jersey or Guernsey domiciled deceased
- Curatorships
- Estate administration
- Registration of Wills of Jersey and Guernsey Real Estate, registration of Powers of Attorney
- Rights and duties of trustees, executors and beneficiaries
- Will drafting and witnessing

 Always happy to help,
always smiling, courteous and
friendly, I have nothing but
good things to say
about Henry.
Client feedback



Residential property

We handle a wide range of local residential transactions from the purchase and sale of the most valuable properties in the islands, to flats and starter homes.



Ogier's team are unique as they make us feel like we are their only client with their immediate availability, retained knowledge of the case and proactive resolution options.

Legal 500 UK, Guernsey, Property, 2021



A pleasure to deal with and extremely efficient.

Chambers UK, Jersey, Property, 2020

Our residential property team across Jersey and Guernsey is highly recommended by local agents, banks and the people we have helped to buy, sell and finance their property.

Our team of lawyers, conveyancers and paralegals includes some of the most experienced specialists in the Channel Islands property sector, and we have the resources to support you if and when your transaction hits a complication.

Our property law team is the only one to be ranked in the top tier by the leading independent legal directory Chambers and Partners.

Our services include:

- Applications to develop or extend residential property
- Conveyancing from the smallest to the largest residential properties
- Development, sales and lettings of large scale commercial and residential projects
- Planning appeals
- Property disputes



Martyn Baudains is “Mr Property” in Guernsey. If he doesn’t know something, it doesn’t exist. A very reliable and thorough legal expert, but with savvy local non-legal market knowledge. Legal 500 UK, 2023



Our Jersey team



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Ogier is a professional services firm. We have three divisions:

Legal: practical advice on BVI, Cayman, Guernsey, Irish, Jersey and Luxembourg law.

Corporate and Fiduciary: corporate administration services with a strong reputation in governance and regulatory compliance.

Consulting: independent guidance on regulatory compliance.

Our network of locations also includes Beijing, Dubai, Hong Kong, London, Shanghai, Singapore and Tokyo. Regulatory information can be found at ogier.com.

ogier.com