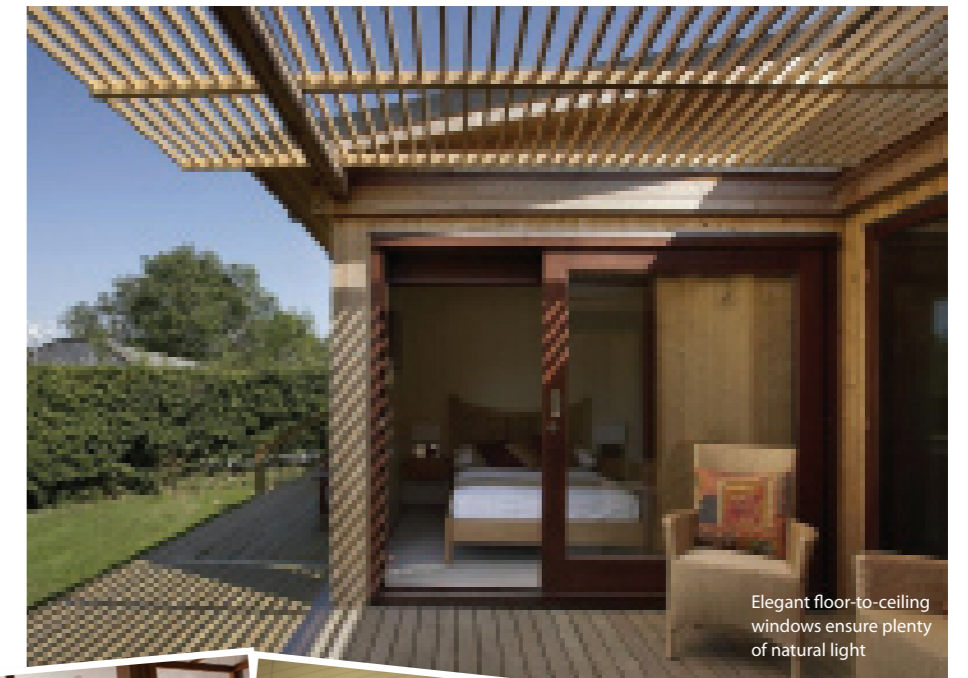




RETREAT TO THE FUTURE OF LODGE LIFE

Forget your preconceptions and discover an alternative approach to the holiday home



Elegant floor-to-ceiling windows ensure plenty of natural light



Retreat lodges are environmentally friendly. All the homes are built with timber, a sustainable resource

Retreat Homes was the brainchild of London-based architects Buckley Gray Yeoman; it was created after they were challenged to design a new concept of holiday home lodge living. The result was nothing like the preconceived idea of a holiday home. Its modern and cutting-edge design caused quite a stir within the holiday home industry. Many critics dismissed this radical reinvention of the mobile home, thinking it was 'too modern' for the industry. How wrong they were; The Retreat simply pushed the boundaries, capturing the public's eye for high quality, innovative, architectural design.

Since its launch, the market has seen a dramatic influx of similar lodges with modern styling but none feature the complex architectural elements which distinguish The Retreat from others. These elements require exact finishing and expert skills to complete the lodge to the high standards a Retreat client would expect. Gone are the plastic finishes and thin walls and in came the first sustainable, ecological lodge. A lodge with the environment in mind, before climate and energy saving became a headline issue; this clearly put The Retreat ahead of its time.

Sensitive to the environment

The Retreat is extensively built from timber, from sustainable sources, because it is the world's most sustainable, and arguably most beautiful, building material. There are no faux finishes. Where there is wood, there is solid timber. Where there are windows,

they have floor-to-ceiling glass. Natural light floods into every room, with each window designed to allow fresh air movement and help eliminate stale air build up. Hardwood frames complete the natural finish, helping retain heat and absorb sound.

The Retreat was one of the first manufacturers to produce a flat roof model; the design was pushed further with the feature of a unique private decked courtyard unheard of in a holiday caravan. The Retreat has now moved forward pushing the boundaries of design even further. Not only do they give customers more flexibility when creating their interior layout but clients have even more scope, as they now create a wholly unique bespoke retreat. This lodge can be designed from scratch with their in-house design team, allowing clients to create a uniquely personal home to match their aspirations.

Your personal space

One client who did just that purchased a plot on an exclusive development in Hawkshead, Lake District. Not only did they want to find a weekend bolt hole but also to utilise the lodge as an investment property by renting it in the weeks when it was not occupied. With this in mind, they began the design process with the footprint of a two-bedroom Lodge 2 Model, extending it to 42ft x 22ft. This created ample space in every room without the need to compromise. The entrance was created via a private boot room with drying space for outdoor gear. From here you enter the light,

contemporary, open plan lounge, dining room and kitchen. You can understand why this lodge is called The Retreat. You feel relaxed as soon as you enter. With masses of natural light flooding through the feature triangular windows on the end of the lounge area, they couldn't have created a more relaxing peaceful interior to escape to. The kitchen was uniquely designed to the client's specification, with stainless steel Belfast sink and a mixture of timber and silestone worktops to add

A lodge can be designed from scratch with Retreat's in-house team, allowing clients to create a uniquely personal space

a little luxury and durability. To make those winter nights even cosier, a log-burning stove has been fitted central to this space so it can be enjoyed from any part of the room.

Form and function in harmony

There are two double bedrooms, both with king size beds and built-in storage space. Every aspect of modern day living has been considered within this careful design. Although the floor-length windows continue in the bedrooms, careful consideration has been given to their position and even satin glass has

been used for the upmost privacy within the bathrooms. The bathroom and en-suite feature granite worktops, modern fittings and Italian marble tiles specifically chosen by the client.

They decided to market their lodge via Heart of The Lakes, which specialises in premier self-catering accommodation within the Lake District. When the lodge was reviewed they were very impressed with the quality. On the website they say: 'If you are looking for something very special and just a little bit different, this is the property for you. A superb blend of modern day living and comfort in an idyllic location in the centre of the Lakes. We have never seen a lodge of this quality and style before, and are sure that it will be a hit with all our holiday guests.'

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.retreathomes.co.uk or call 016973 52033 for a brochure.
To stay in a Retreat Home, log onto www.ribblesdalepark.co.uk or www.heartofthelakes.co.uk (property ref: Latterbarrow).

