PARK&HOLIDAY HOMES FOCUS Style and simplicity

With the simplicity of a static caravan, the sophistication of a luxury lodge and the most up-to-date contempory styling, Retreat's 'I' model is a versatile design that is as much at home in rural seclusion as it is on a park.



FOCUS >> RETREAT 'I'

HOMES



Retreat caused a stir when it first came on the scene a few years ago, offering a striking contrast to traditional lodge and leisure home models. Designed by architects, who approached mobile homes from a new and different perspective, the company had an immediate effect on other manufacturers, and many of the industry's latest designs show its influence.

Last year, the rights to manufacture Retreat homes were secured by Alan Rooke and Trevor Lawson, who have established a successful business building bespoke lodges under the Lindera name. A new company, Retreat Homes (Manufacturing), was set up and the homes are now built alongside Lindera models at Kirkbride in Cumbria.

Manufacturing has continued to reflect the original Retreat philosophy, with extensive use of timber (from sustainable sources) and the avoidance of man-made materials such as plastic.

The Retreat portfolio now includes the 'I' model (one double, one single), the original 'N' (one double, one twin), the 'J2' (two doubles), the 'J3' (two doubles, one single), the Lodge 2 (two doubles), the Lodge 3 (two doubles, one twin) and the 'Z' (three doubles).

The 'I' is effectively the entry level



Retreat, though it's also aimed at those who simply have restricted plot sizes. It was specifically designed to offer the same benefits of quality and style as the 'N' model, but with the accommodation arranged in a more conventional holiday caravan way – with an end lounge, open plan to the dining area and kitchen, and a separate area at the other end of the home for the bathroom and the single and double bedrooms.

Like other Retreat homes, the 'I' is built to the BS3632 residential standard – in fact, the insulation U-values exceed both British Standard BS/EN 1647 and BS/EN 3632. It has a steel chassis, the exteriors are clad in solid timber and there are seven double-glazed floor to ceiling windows with hardwood frames, plus two patio doors to the front and end corner.

The standard design has a fully vaulted roof, but a flat roof option is available at an extra cost of £2,995. There are also alternative cladding finishes.

Though it's the smallest Retreat, there's no skimping on the fixtures and fittings, either. The interiors feature engineered oak plank flooring, wool carpets, recessed halogen lighting and stainless steel electrical sockets, while the bathroom has stainless steel fittings, deep, square, ceramic sinks and steel baths.

The kitchen, meanwhile, has Iroko hardwood worktops, Bosch kitchen appliances and bespoke kitchen units.

The standard package doesn't include furniture, as the Retreat philosophy is for customers to furnish the homes according to their own taste. Furniture packages are available, though, at an additional £3,995, and include beds, sofas, dining tables and chairs, etc.

Retreat still offers a host of other options, including oak flooring to the bedrooms, wood burning stove, sedum roof, solar panels, and so on. ■