

BRITAIN

Grand designs: the hip UK houses to book

Take a break in a house owned by an architect or interior designer

Pearl's Place

Frome, Somerset



This honey-coloured early 19th-century manor house is the former family home (and now holiday home) of the fashion and textile designer Pearl Lowe, whose love of vintage glamour is evident in the interior design. The gloriously proportioned rooms are layered in patterns and textures that combine the lace and tassels of the 1920s with a hint of 1990s gothic-rock (black bathroom, leopard print in the lounge). The house sleeps up to 14 adults and 4 children in 11 bedrooms that are unapologetically feminine: canopied French beds, floral wallpaper and countless velvet-slipper chairs. Downstairs, the capacious curved dining room is a lesson in dark florals (guests can arrange for an in-house chef to do the catering). The gardens are just as romantic, with a patio overlooking the glowing Somerset hills and a pink gypsy caravan tucked into the trees. Frome and Bruton are near by and the excellent Talbot Inn is only five minutes away.

Details From £12,500 a week for 14 adults and 4 children (01637 355808, uniquehomestays.com)