

Orangery ideas – how to add an ultra-chic addition that will be the new heart of your home

Everything you need to know about orangery ideas, from interior design to practical insights from the experts, including planning permission and build costs...



As our homes have increasingly become a multi-functional sanctuary, orangery ideas are more popular than ever. They offer the opportunity to increase square footage with a sophisticated addition of space that can work as everything from kitchens, dining rooms, and living rooms, or all three put together.

And, while a classic orangery looks fabulous on a country property, you don't need to own a palatial pad to add this contemporary feature to your home.

'An orangery is an excellent opportunity to create extra living space within a home,' says Louise Wicksteed, Design Director for Sims Hilditch. 'The large windows break down the barrier between the inside and the outdoor space, creating an open and airy feel. Orangeries can equally be welcome additions to large, traditional homes, or smaller townhouses.'

Karen Bell, Creative Director at David Salisbury, says: 'A bespoke orangery can be designed to any style of property – a skilled designer will usually take inspiration from the architect of the existing home and design an extension that will complement its surroundings.'

Before embarking on an orangery extension, there are a number of factors to consider, including whether you will need planning permission (highly likely), how much an orangery will cost to add, and the difference between an orangery and a conservatory.

We've tapped the experts to answer all of your orangery questions below and well as some gorgeous [extension ideas](#) so you can be well-prepared when planning this special addition to any home.

WHAT IS AN ORANGERY?

'An orangery is a type of [glazed extension](#), which typically features a perimeter flat roof area with one or more lantern roofs allowing in overhead natural light,' explains Karen Bell, Creative Director, [David Salisbury](#).

'For discerning homeowners, this type of extension has been more popular in recent years due to its versatility – an orangery provides multi-functional living space, that can work equally as well as an [orangery kitchen extension](#) or living room, whilst connecting your home and garden.'

Orangery ideas are a stunning addition to any home and, whilst their use may have changed over time, their distinguishing features never fail to deliver the wow factor.

'Orangeries date back to the 17th century Renaissance gardens of Italy, a period when glass production was becoming increasingly popular,' says James Upton, Managing Director of [Westbury Garden Rooms](#).

'Orangeries were once a symbol of prestige and wealth, built on to the residences of the very wealthy in a bid to protect their fruit trees during the colder months. Residences would then provide these homegrown fruits to guests at dinner parties, when these items may well have been scarce for less wealthy people.'

He continues: 'Though their sense of luxury remains, the function of such spaces has changed considerably since the 17th century. Whilst some are still used for their original purpose, most residential orangeries are built to provide a fantastic setting for living or dining in.'

'The combination of timber, glass, and masonry gives a sense of grandeur and the glazed roof lantern built into a flat roof is a real showpiece, providing unparalleled natural light and sky views.'

ORANGERY IDEAS FOR A STYLISH ADDITION OF SPACE TO YOUR HOME

RELAX IN A COZY YET CHIC TV ROOM



(Image credit: Unique Homestays)

Channel a modern country style in an ultra-cozy orangery [living room](#). This beautiful space from [Unique Homestays](#) shows how a neutral backdrop is the perfect anchor to add rustic elements, including a log stack surround, checked throws, striped cushions, and a reclaimed wood coffee table.

The bright space also works the indoor/outdoor theme by introducing oversized plants into the interior while the glass windows and roof panels allow expansive views of the garden to flood the room.