Picture Perfect
Kersey | Ipswich | Suffolk
"Restoring the property was a real labour of love."
A Labour Of Love

This three-bedroom Jacobean cottage purchased by the current owners in 2004 is a charming family home that retains its classic features whilst being particularly functional with contemporary touches. The thatched property has been updated by the owners to a more environmentally friendly standard, with LED lighting throughout, discreet solar paneling on the cart-lodge and an air to water heat pump system for the central heating.

The owners tell us how they saw the opportunity that the two dilapidated barns in the grounds of the property offered and, after gaining planning permission, then converted them into a ‘5 Star’ holiday let which they called ‘Wheelwrights Cottage’. This offers a steady income whilst also offering the perfect potential to make this an ideal spot for multi-generational living. The entirely self-contained Wheelwrights cottage comprises of a bedroom with an en-suite bathroom and an open plan living area, as well as a garage which offers the potential for easy conversion to a second bedroom with an en-suite. The large living/dining room is beautifully framed by a high vaulted, beamed ceiling with a log-burner to make for a cosy and relaxing space throughout winter. Leading off from here through a doorway is the compact yet well-equipped kitchen and there is a private patio for the warmer months to the rear of the cottage.

A gravel pathway cuts through the front lawn leading up to the back entrance of the Forge, where a central entrance hall allows for access to the well-laid out ground floor of the property.

Heart Of The Home

The kitchen really is the heart of the home for this property and was entirely renovated only three years ago. A cream AGA is set against the exposed brick hearth, whilst fully fitted units tie in well with the classic features. A central island adds to the plentiful storage and cooking areas, and glass fronted cabinets in the relaxed seating area display the owners’ favourite glassware and crockery. The well thought out design has created a kitchen that is sympathetic to the property whilst adding an element of modernity.

The conservatory was added by the current owners to create a lovely dining space year-round that overlooks lush green lawns. The conservatory design ensures continuity between it and the main house, with solid wood beams and doors, exposed brick walls and underfloor heating. The conservatory leads through to the snug and living rooms, both rooms add to the traditional feel, and a wood burner adds warmth and cosiness.
The first-floor accommodates all three bedrooms. The guest bedroom has its own staircase and with double aspect windows it gets light throughout the year, last year the owner also added an en-suite WC. The main staircase leads to the master bedroom and a further third bedroom, as well as a large landing space that features plenty of storage space and an airing cupboard. Both double bedrooms access the family bathroom with a large P shaped bathtub.

Spectacular Surroundings

The residences are situated on a generous plot with open green space, as well as two, fully enclosed duck ponds with wild fowl that is gently shaded by well-established trees. In addition to a large gravel area that would be ideal for parking, there is a triple cart lodge with two roll up doors and a separate double door area which the owners find really useful for outdoor storage. Furthermore, a sun-soaked patio to the side of the house is the perfect spot for outdoor dining or enjoying a morning coffee.

Located in the peaceful village of Kersey the property benefits from being perfectly rural whilst being within easy reach of a pub with “good food, good drinks and good company” giving a centre point to the community. Additionally, Kersey Primary School is less than a mile away from the home. The owners tell us how much they enjoy the walking routes that radiate from the property, finding that it is a great place for those with dogs or those who just love rambling. There are a number of nearby villages, whilst Hadleigh town is less than 10 minutes away meaning that the property retains its countryside feel, but is still within reach of the nearby amenities.

"We were really keen to make sure that the property was as environmentally friendly as it could be."
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