

3 of the best Houses in need of updating

Snap up a great historic property that's ripe for modernisation



▲ Original Thirties features

Trevone is an Arts & Crafts-style house above Cornwall's St Ives Bay, with sea views, large gardens, four bedrooms and fireplaces with original decorated tiles. £699,950, Berwick & Berwick (01736 799 090; berwickandberwick.co.uk)



▲ Courtyard garden

Combe Cottage on the edge of Sundridge near Sevenoaks in Kent is in a good commutable spot in a traditional village. There are four bedrooms and two living rooms. £415,000, Jackson-Stops & Staff (01732 740 600; jackson-stops.co.uk)



▲ Grade II listed

Manor Farm House near Dundry, Somerset, would make an impressive family home. It has three large reception rooms, five double bedrooms, convertible attic rooms, a cellar and outbuildings in grounds of nearly three acres. £650,000, Savills (0117 933 5800; savills.co.uk)



MORE FOR LESS

If you want your home-buying budget to stretch further, try East Anglia where average prices are between 9 and 12 per cent below the 2007 peak, according to research from Savills. Currently on the market is Ingleborough Mill near King's Lynn in Norfolk. The old mill house has 10 bedrooms plus outbuildings, which gives it plenty of potential uses. Guide price £550,000. Fine & Country (01553 769 100; fineandcountry.com).

PROPERTY

Plots, wrecks and locations to inspire you

Words Cherry Maslen



Highland hideaway

If you were inspired by Indi and Rebecca Waterstone's Isle of Skye eco house from the last TV series (*GDM*, February 2013), find a croft or cottage for a break in the Highlands and Islands at cottageguide.co.uk/highlands or walkhighlands.co.uk. Newly built is Skyfall – nothing to do with Mr Bond, but named for the way the clouds are reflected in the still waters of Loch Ewe, in Wester Ross near Ullapool. The timber-clad eco hideaway, with wood burner and hot tub, can be rented from £595 for three nights: skyfall.uniquehomestays.com.

News for renters

The north-south property gap could be narrowing, at least as far as renting is concerned, according to independent estate agents' network Move With Us. The north-east of England had the highest rent rises in the last quarter of 2012; good news for anyone investing in buy-to-lets. If you're renting between houses, however, Yorkshire (Leeds Arcade pictured left) is still one of the cheapest places in the country. Find out more at movewithus.co.uk.

