

IN BRITAIN

42 ACRES

WITHAM FRIARY, SOMERSET

Interior designer Jo Berryman first attracted attention when she opened her Cotswolds cottage The Folly. With chunky wooden beams, flagstone floors offset by brass fittings, velvet throws and French antiques, it exemplified a new kind of down-home glamour (plus a dose of MOR-rock credibility – Berryman was once married to Coldplay's guitarist). Her newest project is more earthy, in keeping with the building's alter ego as a space for mindfulness retreats. 42 Acres is owned by locals Lara Tabatnik and her brother Seth who, with Berryman's help, have transformed the Victorian manor house, surrounded by acres of woodland, into a stylish, new-age crashpad for cosmopolitan bohemians. A colour scheme of pale pink, lavender and taupe is jazzed up with Moroccan wedding blankets, Beni Ourain rugs and sheepskins. Hang out in the two mid-century-modern-style kitchens, the yoga area overlooking the terrace or the snug library, with its playful God's Own Junkyard neon sign. The whole endeavour has environmental integrity: biomass boilers, locally hewn oak tables and all that lovely land for romping around. Not for party animals, but a spot for spiritual wonderers and wanderers to recalibrate.

BOOK IT 42acres.com. From £6,000 for four nights (sleeps 24)

