

A house with a mews and spa

This Belgravia mansion mixes heritage with modern comforts

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This six-bedroom property is in Chester Square in Belgravia, London

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If you want to relocate to a totally refurbished grade II listed home in Chester Square, Belgravia, you could pay £30 million for the house once owned by Margaret Thatcher. If you feel this is a bit steep, another residence is for sale at £29.5 million. However, if you would like to save a little more, you could consider the property that came on to the market last week. It has six bedrooms and the essential mews, but the price tag through Savills Private Office is £24.95 million. Ben and Nick Wilson, the bosses of Residence One, the business that bought 70 Chester Square and masterminded its restoration, say that the valuation “is in line with reality. We didn’t want to take the mickey.”



The house is on the market for £24.95 million

The Wilson brothers are equally direct about their scheme for the property, which they bought as a wreck in 2015 and restored with their in-house squad of joinery and decor experts. As Ben puts it: “We’ve designed a home for a family.” The brothers have succeeded in this aim, producing a property that’s elegant, combining smoky greys and metallic tones, but not in a stultifying way. The heritage of the house, built in 1835, is also evident — sometimes the only trace of history left after a Belgravia makeover is the off-white stucco façade.

The good sense of the original developer of the house was a help in the Wilsons’ endeavour. The grand staircase was made of more expensive stone, not of wood, so did not need to be replaced. When you climb the stairs to the lateral spaces that have been created by linking the main house to the mews behind, you feel a connection to the previous residents.



The owners have created an elegant interior by combining smoky greys and metallic tones

The house also offers different areas in which to congregate, entertain or be alone. There is a kitchen with cosy chairs and a table for family suppers, and a formal dining room, with an ante room. In the evening you can chill in the TV room, stroll into the adjoining study to work, or invite a crowd for formal drinks in the sitting room.

In the summer you can sit on the roof terrace or the courtyard terrace, or take the air in the private square gardens. In the winter, after a workout in the basement gym, you could relax in the hot tub. This mix of accommodation should be a draw to the Americans house-hunting in central London, who will also enjoy the prospect of a bargain (everything is relative).



The formal dining room, which is used for entertaining