

# COUNTRY LIFE

EVERY WEEK

MARCH 11, 2026

## The COUNTRY LIFE Top 100

Our who's who of architecture,  
interiors and gardening

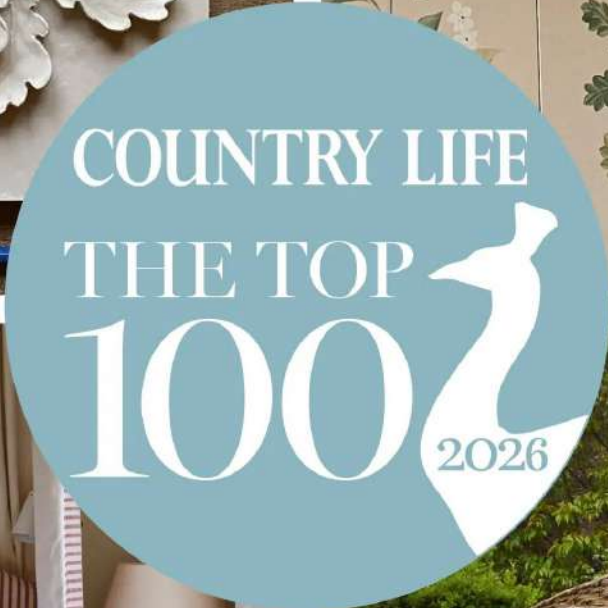
COUNTRY LIFE  
THE TOP  
100  
2026

The renaissance of Castle Howard

David Hockney on the 'infinite variety of Nature'

Plus toad SOS, the great tulip contest and very rare terriers

Clockwise from top left: Geoffrey Preston; Meg Boscawen; Jay Davey Bespoke Willows; Studio Squire



# The COUNTRY LIFE Top 100

In recent months, reports of work at Tottenham House and Conholt Park, two important Wiltshire houses restored to an exceptional standard, revealed a wealth of artisanal skills. The aptitude of British craftspeople, architects and designers for breathing new life into buildings and their settings doesn't only benefit their owners and our heritage, it also creates employment and preserves expertise. Each year, COUNTRY LIFE shines a spotlight on those practitioners with the knowledge and instincts to get it right

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recently, for one-off houses in the Classical tradition. In 2025, the practice achieved planning permission for a new country house in the vernacular tradition

of the Berkshire Downs, which will achieve Passivhaus standards of energy efficiency.

01935 83543;

[www.stuartmartinarchitects.com](http://www.stuartmartinarchitects.com)

#### Tom Turner Architects

Based in East Sussex, Tom Turner Architects specialises in the design of timeless country houses and the sensitive restoration of historic buildings. Drawing inspiration from the traditions of English architecture, from vernacular farm buildings to refined Georgian houses, the practice is known for combining elegant simplicity with a deep respect for place, craft and history. Current projects include the remodelling and extension of a historic home on the edge of the South Downs, as well as a pool house and loggia extension at a listed property in London. A finalist in the creative conservation category of the BD Architect of the Year Awards 2025, the practice received a commendation from the Traditional Architecture Group in 2025 for an extension to a 17th-century listed farmhouse.

01273 044795;

[www.tomturnerarchitects.com](http://www.tomturnerarchitects.com)

#### Yiangou Architects

For more than 40 years, this Cotswold-based practice has been designing new country houses and restoring listed buildings. Recent projects include the transformation of a Victorian villa on the banks of the River Test in Hampshire into a comfortable lodge-style property more than twice the size of its 19th-century incarnation, including a new wellbeing centre and thatched fishing hut, and a new Classical country house on an estate near Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

01285 888150; [www.yiangou.com](http://www.yiangou.com)

### Interior designers

#### Eadie & Crole

Known for elegant, understated and harmonious interiors, Eadie & Crole was founded in 2019 in Hampshire by Sophie Eade and Fi Crole. Their ability to pair subtle hues and natural textures with antiques and contemporary art is evident in London townhouses and an impressive portfolio of country-house projects. The pair has also recently launched a debut upholstered-furniture collaboration with Lorfords Contemporary, rugs with Jennifer Manners and their second fabric and wallpaper collection.

01264 738768; [www.eadieandcrole.com](http://www.eadieandcrole.com)



**An elegant bathroom designed by Cotswold-based interior designer Sean Symington, which was part of a top-to-toe restoration of a Grade II-listed townhouse in Bath**

#### Edward Bulmer

Edward Bulmer is an interior designer and architectural historian specialising in the restoration of heritage buildings. As the founder of Edward Bulmer Natural Paint, he is an exponent of environmental sustainability, moving his shop to a new address on London's Pimlico Road, SW1, in 2025. Recent work has included the revival of a long-forgotten country mansion, finishing the fitting-out of a ducal room first begun in 1830 and the first phase of the restoration of a great neo-Classical house, which had previously been given a minimalist makeover.

01544 388535;

[www.edwardbulmerinteriordesign.co.uk](http://www.edwardbulmerinteriordesign.co.uk)

#### Grenney Greig

Having previously run Veere Grenney Associates, distinguished designer Veere Grenney has partnered with long-time creative director Natasha Greig to form Grenney Greig. Interiors are rooted in the classical tradition, balanced by contemporary elegance and tailored comfort. Recent projects are a Switzerland chalet, a Singapore apartment and a London townhouse. Mr Grenney's debut online video course, *A Life in Design*, is now on Create Academy.

020-7351 7170; [www.grenneygreig.com](http://www.grenneygreig.com)

#### Guy Goodfellow

For more than two decades, Guy Goodfellow has been designing timeless interiors, →



**A bed nook designed by the London-based interior designer Philippa Thorp, who has worked all over the world, from Cap Ferrat in the south of France to Miami in the US**

great Robert Kime for several years, she set up her own studio in 2014, expertly combining a skill in creating interiors geared to the practicalities of family life with her eye for unique vintage textiles, art and antique furniture, mixed with joyful detail and sumptuous colour.

07725 818077; [www.eyreinteriors.co.uk](http://www.eyreinteriors.co.uk)

**Nina Campbell**

One of the world's most respected interior designers, Nina Campbell is admired for elegant, classic English decorating with a distinctively light, witty touch. Current projects include private residences in London, Paris, France, and Monaco, as well as the newly reopened Woolpack Inn in Hampshire and completed KYN Hurlingham care home in London SW6, with two further developments

for KYN under way. Collaborations also continue apace, including fabrics and wallpapers for Osborne & Little and the expanding Nina Campbell Home collection for Next. Nina Campbell Furniture will launch in the US this year. Her delightful shop on Pimlico Road, London SW1, offers tableware, accessories and furniture; her son, Max Konig, and daughter, Alice Deen, work alongside her.

020-7591 5797; <https://shop.ninacampbell.com>

**Oliver Laws**

With the highly experienced Guy Oliver at the helm, this Mayfair, W1-based practice specialises in elegant and timeless interiors that celebrate the beauty of bespoke craftsmanship. Discreet about his work on some

of the grandest properties in the land—and some on water, too—among his few publicised projects is a boutique luxury hotel in the centre of Florence, Italy, which is due to open in the summer.  
020-7437 8487; [www.oliverlaws.com](http://www.oliverlaws.com)

**Osborn Interiors**

Bee Osborn heads an interior architectural design practice based in London and the Cotswolds, tackling both residential and commercial projects. Her restful interiors celebrate the beauty of natural materials, such as stone, reclaimed wood, rattan and linen. Current projects include substantial homes in the UK and continued work on a luxury hotel in St Barths in the Caribbean.  
[www.osborninteriors.com](http://www.osborninteriors.com)

**Pippa Paton Design**

Pippa Paton heads a studio known for breathing new life into historic Cotswold properties, honouring their heritage and layering each home with modern comfort. Offering a full spectrum of services including interior design, architecture and project management, the Oxfordshire studio recently completed the renovation and extension of a Grade II-listed farmhouse. Ongoing projects include work to a Grade II-listed rectory and the conversion of its former stables to a light-filled apartment and art studio, and a former cart shed into a wellness centre. Mrs Paton's third book, *Twenty First Century Cotswolds Vol. III*, will be published in May.  
01865 595470; [www.pippapatondesign.co.uk](http://www.pippapatondesign.co.uk)

**Rita Konig**

A sought-after talent on both sides of the Atlantic, Rita Konig (*'The goddess of small things'*, October 8, 2025) last year opened an office in Palm Beach, Florida, US. This year, she will launch a furniture and accessories collection, Rita Konig Household Goods, and a second collection of fabrics and wallpapers with Schumacher, to accompany her debut collection that came out in 2024. Recent projects include the home of the 19th-century painter Winslow Homer on the coast of Maine, US, a house for passionate art collectors in London and a Park Avenue apartment in New York, US. A new book, about her own flat in London, will be published in 2027.  
020-3735 7280; [www.ritakonig.com](http://www.ritakonig.com)

**Sean Symington**

It has been a busy 12 months for Sean Symington, who is based in Tetbury, Gloucestershire. His ability to add character and comfort at a Tudor farmhouse he designed in Suffolk was showcased in COUNTRY LIFE (*The designer's room*, January 8, 2025). →



The multi-purpose kitchen designed by Sims Hilditch for last year's WOW!house at Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, London SW10

Other projects include the recent renovation of a home near Paris, France, the transformation of a country cottage in the Cotswolds and the revival of a country manor home in Wiltshire. He also recently collaborated on an award-winning fabric and wallpaper line with G. P. & J. Baker.

07918 080355;

[www.seansymington.com](http://www.seansymington.com)

#### Sibyl Colefax & John Fowler

Founded in the 1930s, Britain's most venerable interior-decorating firm has always been known for quintessentially English style. Led by Emma Burns and Philip Hooper, the group of seven director-decorators, including recently promoted Chloe Willis and Lucy Mayers, undertakes a diverse range of projects. The article 'Are you sitting sociably?' (COUNTRY LIFE, April 2, 2025) offered a window onto Ms Burns's skill, as demonstrated in her work at The Hurlingham Club, London SW6. Brussels Weave carpets, classic lighting and furniture, including the revival of many pieces from the archive. Partnerships with antique dealer Brownrigg and Jenna Burlingham Art complement the elegant room sets at the showroom on Pimlico Road, London SW1.

020-7493 2231; [www.sibylcofax.com](http://www.sibylcofax.com)

'She is known for characterful interiors layered with pattern, colour, antiques and contemporary pieces'

#### Sims Hilditch

Founder Emma Sims-Hilditch heads this forward-thinking studio, which is celebrated for its ability to bring a fresh eye to English country-house style (*The designer's room*, September 24, 2025). With a timeless aesthetic rooted in its Cotswolds base, this full-service studio of 40 achieved B-Corp accreditation last year, affirming its commitment to using design as a force for good, and was recognised as one of *The Sunday Times* Best Places to Work 2025. Her book *Beautifully British Interiors* (Rizzoli), written with COUNTRY LIFE's Giles Kime, is out now. Current projects include the revitalisation of a Grade I-listed Georgian townhouse in London, the pro-bono transformation of a Cotswold farm for charity Jamie's Farm and homes across the US, Europe and Hong Kong.

020-3701 9578; [www.simshilditch.com](http://www.simshilditch.com)

#### Spencer-Churchill Designs

Lecturer, author and designer Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill specialises in grand English country-house style and restoration of period properties, running her interior-design company, Woodstock Designs, close to her ancestral home at Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire. At present, she is working on several projects in Oxfordshire and the Home Counties and one in the US. Her recent book, *Blenheim: 300 Years of Life in a Palace* (Rizzoli), celebrates the history and restoration of Britain's most renowned private palace.

01993 811887;

[www.spencerchurchilldesigns.com](http://www.spencerchurchilldesigns.com)

#### Studio Squire

New entry: see page 94

#### Thorp

This London-based multidisciplinary design studio, headed by founder Philippa Thorp, was established more than 40 years ago and now works across a discreet international portfolio of private residences, estates and selected commercial projects, offering architectural, interior design, landscape and art-curation services under one roof. The studio's current projects span Monaco, Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat on the Cote d'Azur →



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