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Stylish modern homes at Meridian Row in Lewes from Creative Developments page 14

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BOLDLY BIJOU

A fine contemporary terrace of new homes in Lewes from Creative Developments. Photographs: Charlotte Macpherson

In the '50s and '60s local authorities pulled down millions of terraced homes and built modern high rise blocks. Few would disagree that, while many of the terraces were sium dwellings and no longer suitable for occupation, the high rise was no substitute for the communities engendered by the terraces.

Now Creative Developments have, once again, rethought the terrace concept, and in doing so have created a set of strikingly attractive new homes in Lewes called Meridian Row.

Formerly the site of a pub called the Meridian which had seen better times, Creative Developments purchased the land and applied for planning to create five modern homes. In fact, the Greenwich Meridian runs through one end of the site so appropriately the development has been dubbed Meridian Row.

In planning a row of new houses in a historic town like Lewes many criteria have to be met. For a while, building was halted for an archaeological survey and all along the way consultation with planners and conservationists has been matched with talking to the neighbours and local residents.

The result is hugely successful and surprisingly modern. Where the company had expected them to demand that they build a row of faux period cottages the requirements were very different. Building lines had to be respected, yes, and a great deal of effort was made to find a sympathetically coloured brick from a local company and to also make a lime mortar that would also blend into the local environment. In fact, the local authorities have been very enthusiastic about this being a sympathetically modern build in every way.

"The design is well considered and stylish, using quality materials in a clever way"

That extends way beyond the external appearance. Creative Developments have included many of their excellent ideas and ideals when creating this range of two and three bedroom homes. They understand the need for green credentials but do it in a positive way and not by simply paying lip-service to them. Solar panels will provide hot water and the building far exceed legislative requirements for being eco-friendly.

They equally embrace the ideals of style and luxury and each home has a stunning Italian kitchen and beautifully fitted and tiled bathrooms and en-suite facilities. Their eye for detail extends

to oak railled staircases and an almost sculptural feel to the stairs as they rise to the upper floor. And on the upper floor the rooms rise into the roof space of the properties creating a sense of real space and light and leaving space to for platform beds should they be desired.

To the rear, each property has its own outdoor space, an extension in many senses of the stylish open plan look of the ground floor. There are four two bedroom homes and one larger three bedroom property. Each has a purpose designed utility room and ground floor WC, and that room also acts as a central hub for all the modern utilities. And throughout the development great thought has been given to every item, including excellent storage.

Technically the spec is high but at the end of the day what you want to know is how a home feels. Well Meridian Row feels good, there are no short-cuts or bodged ideas here, the design is well considered and stylish, using quality materials in a clever way that sits comfortably in this historic setting. The windows are double glazed but far bigger than one might expect in a terrace and as such let in huge amounts of light. The palette of colours has been kept neutral but not in a drab way, there is a feeling of warmth, a sense that the most has been made of the space and that modernity has not been sacrificed to conservation nor conservation lost to modernity.



LOCATION Meridian Row,
Western Road, Lewes BN7 1RS
GUIDE PRICE Prices from
£289,950 to £339,950 Freehold

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