

## III DREAMHOME



# Super Star

## Latest Homes takes a shine to four stellar homes lighting up a Bohemian Brunswick

Many will claim that Brighton's Bohemian quarter is Kemp Town but Brunswick can equally lay claim to the title. For many years The Dudley Hotel was a second home to many artists and writers, and since then the area has retained its Graham Greene-ish character with bustling mews where residents and small businesses cohabit in urban harmony.

Not something that could always be said about the Star of Brunswick pub and in particular, Vats bar. Which is why the locals are all so delighted that the pub has been bought and converted into four stunning new homes by Creative Developments.

Their aim is to create timeless contemporary homes of a high quality, modern but with a classic feel. With Star of Brunswick House they are right on target. Little of what was inside before the project started remains, perhaps one staircase. Outside, all is preserved and in keeping with the local environment. They might easily have achieved planning permission for far more units but they have instead created four very special homes.

### Clean lined, open and modern

Engaging John Turner as project architect has meant that this build incorporates some exciting ideas and clever uses of the structure. The two bedroom apartments have a great sense of space – ceilings have been opened up and beams revealed to great effect in one; in another, the kitchen has been cunningly sited and appears to float thereby retaining the full sense of the depth of the room. As much natural light as possible has been utilised and this has meant the inclusion of roof lights. Despite the architectural origins of the building the effect is clean lined, open and modern.

By that we don't mean trendy or fashion led. It is in every sense contemporary but only by using timeless design features that will neither date nor clash with individual tastes. In the town house and the duplex, stunning glass floors let light into lower rooms without losing floor space above. Although configured as a three-bedroom house, the concept is really one of versatile and flexible living space, the ground



and upper floors are clearly two suites of rooms with amazing potential. The lower floor affords a sweep of space that combines dining, cooking and living along with a pretty garden terrace. At the rear, windows are large and modern giving maximum light and certainly bring the inside outside and the outside in.

### Double delight

In the duplex apartment the living space circulates around a central stairwell. This gives the impression of it being several rooms, when in fact, it is all one. The original beer cellar's chute and doors have been glazed with a frosted pavement light, which fills that space with a summery glow, and an arched cellar has been retained to offer an attractive feature storage area, ideal as a pantry and wine store.

Each of the homes features a streamlined white Italian kitchen complete with all appliances. Living areas are fitted with plasma televisions and are cabled for BT and Sky Plus. All of the bathrooms

are modern with classic white suites and clean-lined chrome fittings and are either tiled with natural stone or Italian ceramic in plain neutral colours.

There are simply no details that could offend and the way is clear for each buyer to put their own personal imprint in place. The adage that 'less is more' is clearly and effectively demonstrated here. The joining together of architect, designer and a developer with vision has paid off. There is an obvious sense that a level of trust has been achieved between the three, that corners have not been cut and that respect has been paid to each discipline and to the building and its location.

And in terms of location, this is city living at its very best. The beach is two minutes away to the south and Western Road with its shops, bars and restaurants two minutes to the north. Parking is city centre but ask nicely and the developer may have something up his sleeve. Star of Brunswick House may well have seen the end of an era of late-night revels but it sees the start of a new age of stylish city living.