



Bubbling over

Take the plunge this winter in a cottage with a hot tub attached, says **Susan d'Arcy**

Stars above, a glass of bubbly in hand and your mates, family or significant other wallowing beside you in just their bathing suit (and maybe a woolly hat). Is there a more luxurious way to spend a winter evening? We don't think so, which is why we've found a dozen British self-catering cottages with steaming baths outside the door. Get the hot chocolate ready for after.

CORNWALL
SLEEPS 2

NORFOLK
SLEEPS 2

There are two bikes parked outside Pine Lodge Cottage,

so you can explore the wintry pathways around Stratton Strawless, safe in the knowledge that a bubbling bath awaits back at base.

This is a hi-tech pad, so once any cycling aches have been soothed, get stuck into your stash of romcoms on the 60in wall-mounted television with surround sound and Blu-ray in the open-plan living room, or under the covers — the kingsize bed has a built-in TV. *Three nights from £405, a week from £554; norfolkcottages.co.uk*

CONWY
SLEEPS 2

ISLAY
SLEEPS 2-4

The island's windswept beaches, wild heathlands and eight whisky distilleries provide tempting distractions, but you'll happily head back to **Coillabus**, two stylish eco-lodges overlooking the Oa peninsula. Each has a double-height open-plan living room with Ercol furniture, a woodburner and underfloor heating. For extra wow factor, they have al fresco hot tubs fed by spring water, with front-row seats should the northern lights oblige.

Three nights from £750, a week from £994; i-escape.com

ANGUS
SLEEPS 2