



Birch Cross, Marchington, Uttoxeter, ST14 8NX

Uttoxeter

£550,000



Tucked into the peaceful landscape of Birch Cross, just on the edge of the village of Marchington, Christmas Cottage is a Grade II listed thatched home that dates back as far as the 1600s. From the moment you arrive, it offers the sense that it has always been here. Its thatch roof bows and ripples gently like the pages of a well-loved book. Its walls carry the quiet confidence of a building that has seen the world change and stayed standing. Inside, the rooms are full of character, shaped by the passage of time rather than design trends. Light filters through the leaded windows and dances on the old timbers, catching the glint of polished brass and the uneven edges of handmade tiles. Every corner, every turn, holds a story. There are fireplaces where winters have been warmed, including a large inglenook fireplace in the sitting room, window seats where countless hours may have passed in quiet contemplation, and beams that have borne witness to lives lived slowly and well.

The house opens generously, revealing rooms that are larger than you might expect, each one with its own identity. There is a gentle rhythm to the layout, a flow that has evolved rather than been engineered. Two staircases climb towards the bedrooms, each with views that stretch over rolling fields and open countryside. The views to the rear are especially striking - a wide and uninterrupted sweep of farmland that changes colour with the seasons and seems to go on forever.

The garden wraps around the house, a soft border between the cottage and the wild, offering a place to sit, to plant, to wander, and to gaze across that open landscape. It is a space that feels private and pretty in equal measure, with flowering borders, meandering paths, and a distinct sense of being somewhere quite special.





It is easy to imagine how this home might be enjoyed. In summer, the garden sings with bees and birds, while the thatch keeps the rooms deliciously cool. In winter, the fires are lit and the whole house seems to draw in close around you, a shelter against the wind and the world. There is a study, and other rooms offering space for quiet work and reflection. Though old, the house has been well tended and thoughtfully modernised, always with respect for what it is, never imposing on what it was.

The garden itself holds further surprises. A summer house, now boarded and extended, sits quietly amongst the trees and flowers. A fish pond glimmers beneath the sky, and a well-once hand pumped many years ago-offers a reminder of simpler times. These are the details that make Christmas Cottage not only historic but delightfully alive. Marchington itself is a village of quiet charm and good company. At its heart is the Dog and Partridge, a pub of genuine character and local acclaim. It serves excellent food and welcomes all, walkers and diners alike, with warmth and consistency. It is the sort of place that becomes an extension of home, a short walk away across the lanes. Those who love Christmas Cottage will likely not be looking for perfect lines or crisp finishes. They may not care for new builds or the stark precision of glass and chrome. Instead, they will find beauty in the thickness of the walls, in the old latch of a door, in the way the morning light falls across the floor. They will understand the charm of uneven ceilings and wonky alcoves. They will be looking for a home

