



KINGS HEAD LANE

The Old Smithy





Lovely in every way, with generous living space, bags of character and a great location.

A stylish, detached period cottage with generous living spaces, sitting in a vibrant village with great amenities including train station, great school, shop & pubs, just a few miles outside Oxford & a swift commute to London. Lots of recent improvements including kitchen, windows, even a new roof!

Islip dates from Saxon times, with mentions in the Domesday book at which time there was already a water mill on the river Ray, which runs through the village. It is also the birthplace of Edward the Confessor, and during the Civil War Cromwell defeated the Queens Regiment on the bridge below The Old Rectory.

Today the village is immensely popular for many reasons. There's an exceptional school, Dr South's, which is over 300 years old; several popular pubs, a community shop, plus a village hall sitting next to the playground and playing fields; a rail station with easy access to London and Oxford; barely a five mile drive into Oxford; plus many lovely local walks amidst open countryside. It also sits inside the radius for fast access to the various Oxford hospitals, hence suits medical professionals particularly well.

Church Square Cottage is a thoroughly splendid character house of the type Islip is best known for. History oozes from every pore, starting with a pretty facade, sitting in the centre of the village. Period features such as a large fireplace and thick original beams, combine perfectly with stylish fittings for easy modern living. And it has been very well cared for, including new kitchen, windows and even a new roof within the last few years. Combine that with the fact that it's detached and it is a rather rare find within such a popular village.

The charm of this cottage starts at the front door, a new and high quality composite item, opening into a pretty porch that is brightly lit by windows to either side. Ahead the doorway leads into a lovely, spacious living room. It's packed with all the character we so love, from original timbers overhead to a wood burner. Charming and surprisingly practical, this room is equally perfect for cozy evenings in or entertaining friends in comfort. Windows to the front and side bring in more light than most cottages can boast, and this flatters the feeling of space still further.

- Lovely order throughout
- Huge character
- Surprisingly generous space
- 19 ft living room with fireplace
- Second reception/study
- 16 ft kitchen/breakfast room
- Shower room & bathroom
- 3 light bedrooms
- South facing garden



To the right, the second reception offers a valuable space currently used as the ideal home office (note "superfast" broadband is available). Shelves have been fitted to two sides, along with generous storage cupboards, hence the room is very efficient. Although the view back across the village and up towards the church might make work difficult to concentrate on...

Head back to the living room, and off to the rear a door hides a "box" staircase, a feature we always love, very "Narnia". Then take a right through a small hallway to the first of several bathrooms. The simple and elegant white suite with its matching tiles contrasts perfectly with the more bold wall colours, which work well in a room that is very light. And the two cupboards to the right provide generous airing cupboard/ storage space.

Back to the living room, the rear-most door takes you through to a roomy kitchen. The proportions are ideal. To one end, there is quite generous space for a table and 6 or 8 chairs, with a window behind overlooking the garden and providing great light. To the other end, the kitchen has recently been remodelled including a range cooker and wooden work surfaces. And a neat trick in doing so has been omitting eye-level cupboards altogether, which increases the feeling of space as well as light, all made possible as the utility room next to it is generously stocked with units round three sides. And as with the living room, the proportions lend themselves equally well to entertaining as day to day life.

At the top of those hidden stairs is a landing that leads to all rooms. Take a left and the first door accesses a shower room that's modern with a thermostatic system for constant temperature, and a pretty vanity unit topped off by a circular sink. Next along, the first of three bedrooms is the smallest, an ample child's room but equally useful as a spare or home office, with a timber purlin beam across the eaves reminding us of the character. Bedroom two is larger, and this time double aspect with windows to two sides, plus a double wardrobe. And, again, the ceiling hosts a timber purlin.

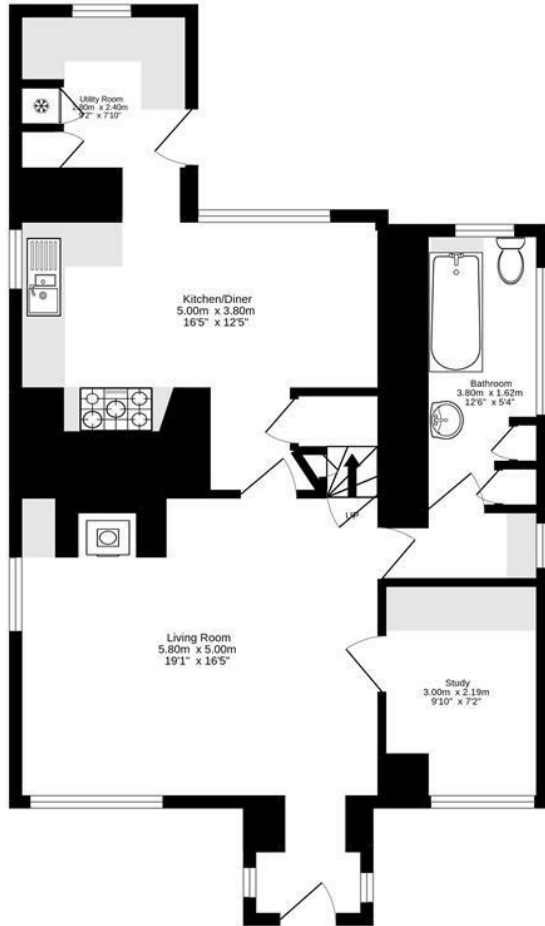
At the other end of the landing is the main bedroom. Wall and ceiling timbers continue the historic theme, giving the room a really warm and special feeling. Another double aspect room, it's the largest of the three, complete with a pair of wardrobes. The proportions are such that a large bed at one end leaves generous floor space at the other for a couple of easy chairs, or maybe a blanket chest, with room to spare.

Turning to the exterior, the house sits between Kings Head Lane and The Walk, with unrestricted parking to the front. To the right hand side a slender border contains a run of pretty plants, and here the drain pipes run into a water butt. Outside the front door, cobbles run the full width, behind which more slender borders hosts various plants. At the rear of the house, accessed from the utility room, the garden is discreet and private. Walled on all sides, looking out to South and West, it's the perfect sun trap all day long. It's also practical as the whole of the space is paved for ease of use, but with a wide and diverse array of flowers and other plants including roses and climbers, which provide a really lovely, natural patina to the surroundings. It is a classic centre village garden hence fairly compact, but for those wanting to stretch their legs more fully there are wonderful walks across the village and into farmland just a minute or so distant.

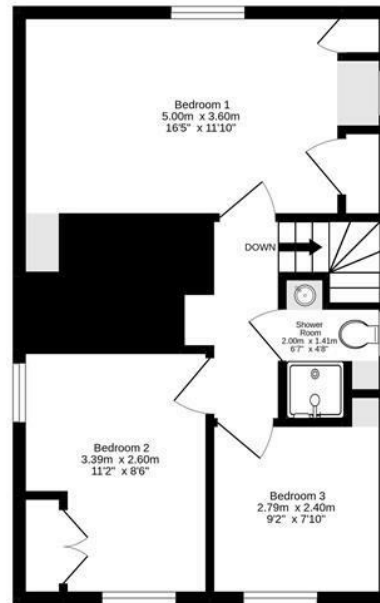




Ground Floor
59.7 sq.m. (642 sq.ft.) approx.



1st Floor
36.3 sq.m. (390 sq.ft.) approx.



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TOTAL FLOOR AREA : 95.9 sq.m. (1033 sq.ft.) approx.

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Material Information QR Code:



Energy Efficiency Rating

	Current	Potential
Very energy efficient - lower running costs		100
(92 plus) A		
(81-91) B		
(69-80) C		
(55-68) D	61	
(39-54) E		
(21-38) F		
(1-20) G		
Not energy efficient - higher running costs		
England & Wales	EU Directive 2002/91/EC	

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