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'season'

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and aqua treatments

How to choose  
**EXACTLY**  
the right spa  
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# 102 sizzling

IDEAS FOR SUMMER!

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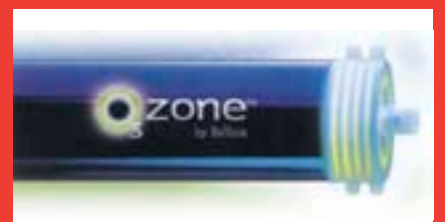
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experience*



# Canadian Spa ...a revitalising experience



- Spas
- Hot tubs
- Swim Spas
- Gazebos



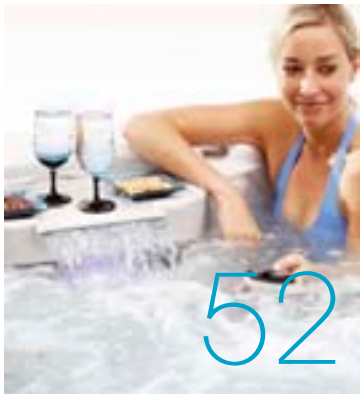
Win a portable  
hot tub!

Win a Haliburton  
portable hot tub from  
Canadian Spa  
...see front cover  
flap for details





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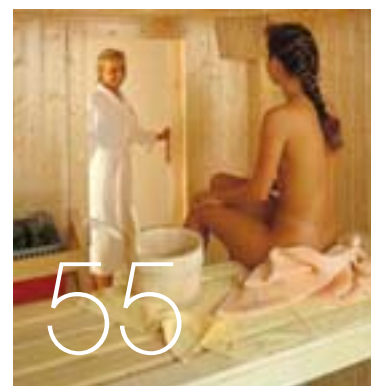
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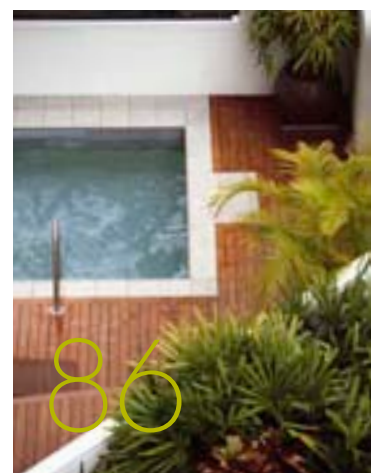
**Angela West** chats to celebrity **Judge Jules** to find out how he enjoys his private pool lifestyle in Ibiza.



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“You'll be rewarded with the perfect venue for partying the night away or enjoying a lazy weekend”

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WELCOME

# editor's LETTER

Hello,

At long last summer is here, my favourite time of year to enjoy sunbathing, al fresco dining and a bottle of wine with friends and loved ones. We've been working hard to bring you the summer edition of What Pool & Hot Tub magazine – your consumer guide to outdoor pool living.



Whether you already own a swimming pool or hot tub or are currently thinking of getting one, we've got loads of practical advice for choosing the best models available. Read our buyers guides and articles for top tips about choosing the right pool or spa for you, whether a hot tub can add value to your property, pool maintenance and much more. We take an in-depth look at swim spas, the latest technology in hot tubs, saunas and other related leisure items.

As well as all this, the issue is also packed with info about summer living – from BBQs to bikinis and picnic ideas to pool products. Discover how to create a stunning pool area through landscaping, how pool and spa owning doesn't have to consume a lot of energy and the benefits of hydrotherapy. Not to mention the latest fashion accessories and styles for lounging by the pool and sun care advice, and we also took time to chat to celebrity DJ Judge Jules and other A-listers to find out how they enjoy their summers by the pool.

Finally, don't forget to enter our fab competition where you could possibly win an amazing spa from Canadian Spas, worth £2,995!

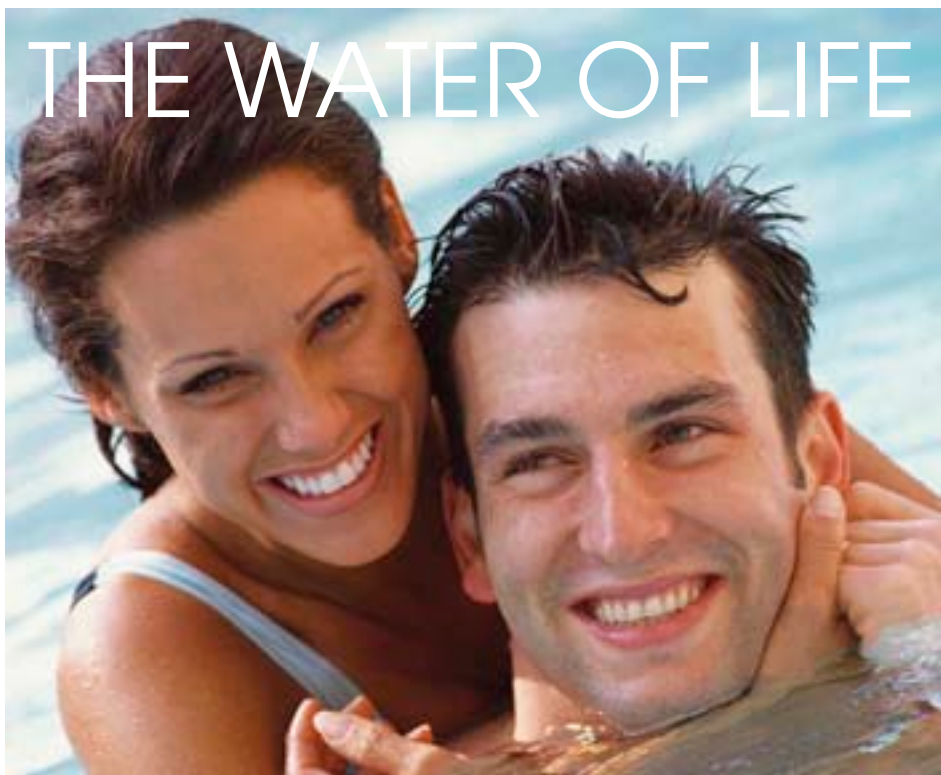
So relax on a lounge outside with a glass of something cool, fire up the barbie and start reading. Have a great summer!

Natasha



# emporium

What's hot and what's not in the world of water leisure



Hydrotherapy is a unique way to relax the body and mind from the effects of the stress of day-to-day life. Spa pools not only release the tension from the muscles, but also help the mind relax completely. Hydrotherapy can also offer some relief to those suffering from stress,

arthritis, back and neck pain, joint pain and other illnesses. Marquis Spas, distributed by Golden Coast Ltd, offer a variety of spas to relax and soothe stress.

■ Tel: 01271 378100  
■ [www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com)



## Wrap Up Warm

Keep baby warm on the beach and in the water while they are learning to swim with this sun protection neoprene baby wrap from Blooming Marvellous. Protective against 50+ UPF, it has velcro fastenings to make it easy to put on. Available in small, medium and large, it costs £25.99.

■ Tel: 0845 458 7400  
■ [www.bloomingmarvellous.co.uk](http://www.bloomingmarvellous.co.uk)



## Free Swimming Lessons for Babies

As part of an exciting new initiative to promote the benefits of swimming, Swimming Teachers' Association (STA) has teamed up with Mothercare to offer parents free STARFISH baby swimming sessions this summer. Roger Millward, Chief Executive of STA says: "Although children won't be co-ordinated enough to learn to swim properly until they are two or three, parents can help them to feel confident and relaxed in the water and make swimming a fun way to exercise. The baby swimming sessions will help to make the water a safe and happy environment for very young children, and will also allow parents to feel assured that they are giving their children truly valuable life skills." Parents will be eligible for free STARFISH swimming lessons when they buy any wetsuit (£19.99), swim jacket (£26.99) or float suit (£24.99) from Mothercare carrying the STARFISH promotional tag. The offer ends 17th August 2007.

■ [www.starfishswimming.org](http://www.starfishswimming.org)  
■ [www.mothercare.com](http://www.mothercare.com)



## Light Fantastic

Solar lighting for the home and garden makes great sense as it is fast and easy to install with no wires and electricity costs, as well as saving valuable energy. Brighten up your pool for a party with these practical stainless steel solar deck lights, priced £30 from Next. It also keeps things safer around the pool edge.

■ Tel: 0844 844 8333  
 ■ [www.next.co.uk](http://www.next.co.uk)



## Water Fun for Kids

Interactive water features are making young children's first experiences of swimming a whole lot more fun. New equipment has been added to the toddlers' pool at Hatfield Swim Centre. The water features include a frog, a snake and a fish, all of which squirt water when buttons are pushed or handles turned, plus a rainbow slide. A spokesman for Finesse Leisure Partnership, which manages the swim centre, said: "The equipment has already proved a huge success."



Titanic Spa, in west Yorkshire, is the UK's first Eco-Spa. It boasts an eco-friendly salt-regulated swimming pool. This salt water chlorination makes it kinder, not only to the bathers, but also the environment. All of the water used for

the treatments come from the spa's private bore hole that provides the spa with pure Yorkshire water.

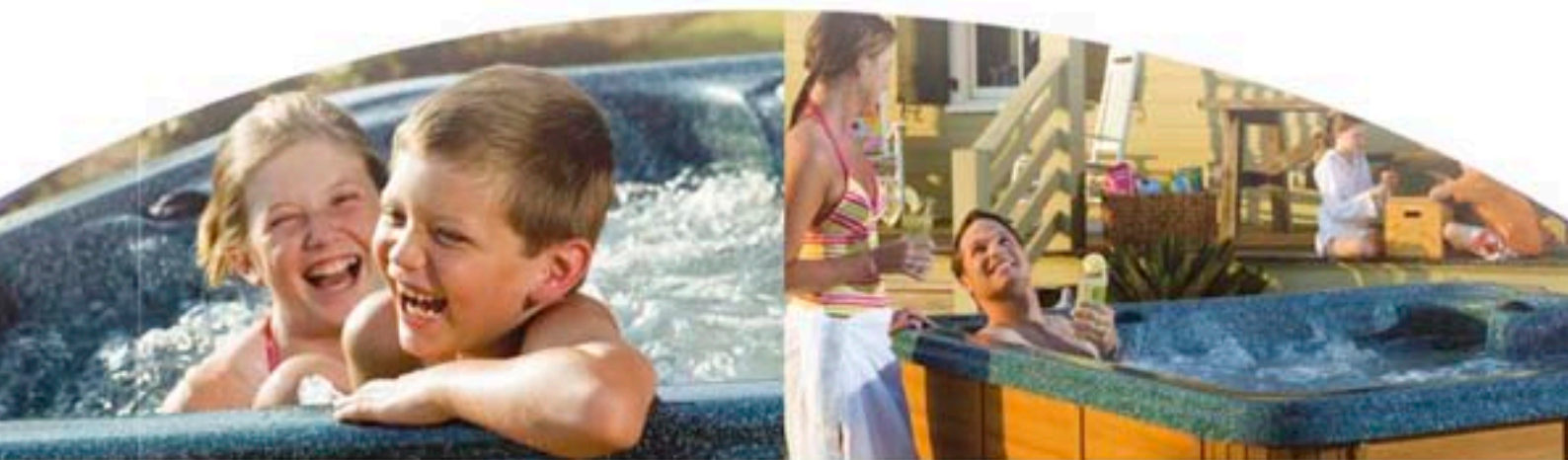
■ Tel: 0845 410 3333  
 ■ [www.titanicspa.com](http://www.titanicspa.com)



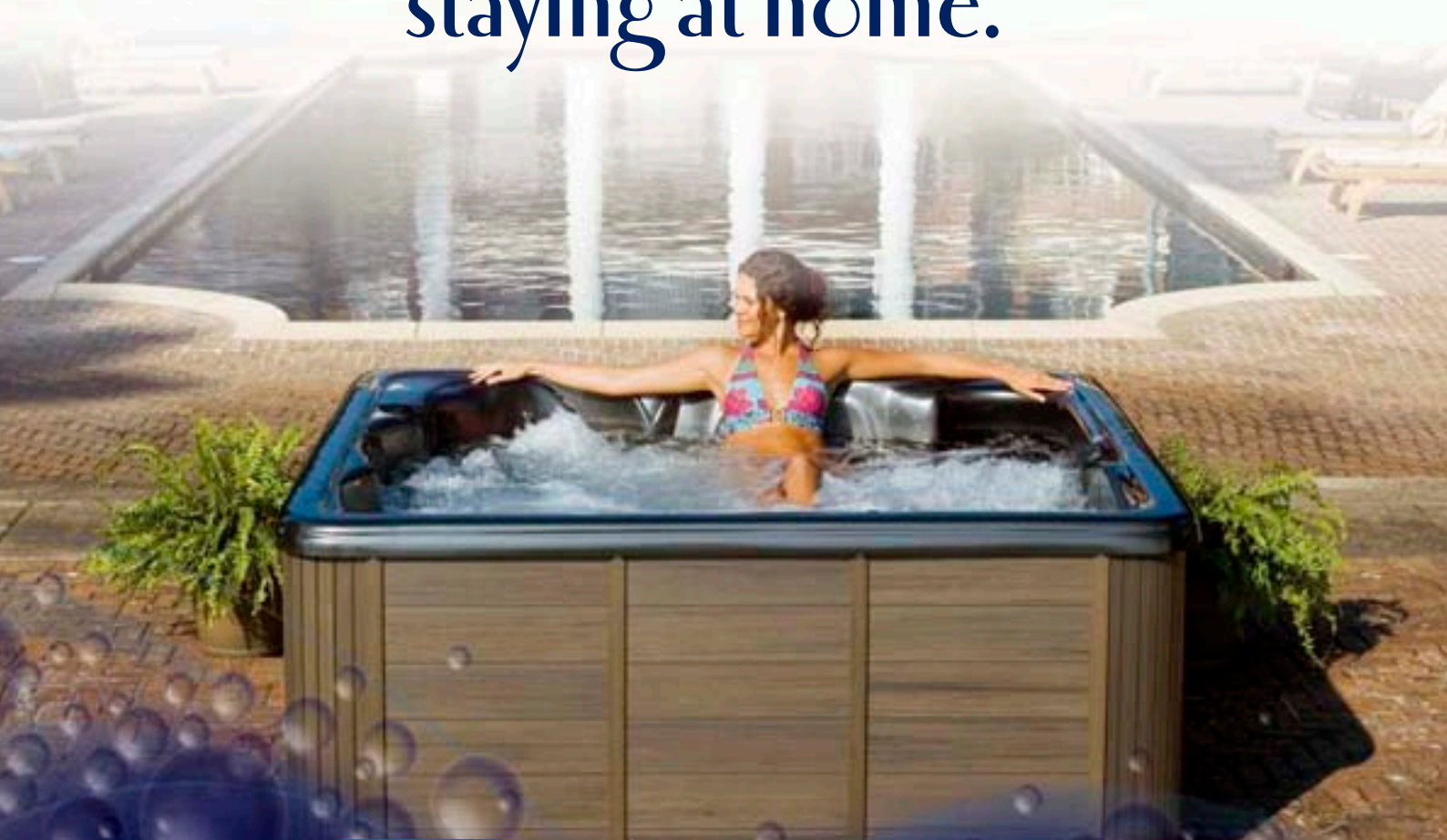
## PASSING ON THE OLYMPIC TORCH

An initiative to get 8–12 year olds introduced to the Olympic sports of swimming, water polo, diving and synchronised swimming is under way. School children in London were among the first to experience a splash of the Olympics when the Oceans of Fun event was launched. The event, run by Athens swimming medallist Steve Parry, Thames Water and GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), is designed to inspire a new generation to follow a healthy and active lifestyle. As the 2008 and 2012 games approach, hundreds of 8–12 year olds

will also learn about life saving and water safety, as well as mix with Olympic stars. Steve Parry, who set up Total Swimming after his medal winning performance in 2004 commented; "Hosting the 2012 Olympic Games will undoubtedly have a massive impact on the next generation of young hopefuls. We are trying to get them excited now so that some of them might be in the frame for success in 2016 and beyond. The emphasis, though, is fun, health and a memorable day at the pool."



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## Hot and Steamy

Many people develop a fondness for sauna and steam bathing at their local Leisure Centre or Health Club. All too often though, this experience cannot be enjoyed by the whole family since most venues have separate male and female facilities or operate single sex sessions on alternate days or within particular opening hours. Installing a home sauna enables families to bathe together whenever they want to, without any restrictions. Many people extend their home to include this type of facility, others make use of a spare room or part of the garage and some elect to have a purpose built outdoor facility in the garden. As a manufacturer, Viking Saunas Ltd can custom build to exactly suit a customer's requirements rather than rely on stock sizes which may not entirely meet the client's needs.

■ Tel: 01257 427019  
 ■ [www.viking-saunas.co.uk](http://www.viking-saunas.co.uk)



## Beach Babe

Show off in this gorgeous tankini from Long Tall Sally. Sizes are available in 10-20, with 34", 36" and 38" leg lengths available on selected styles. Priced at £22.

■ Tel: 0870 990 6885  
 ■ [www.longtallsally.com](http://www.longtallsally.com)

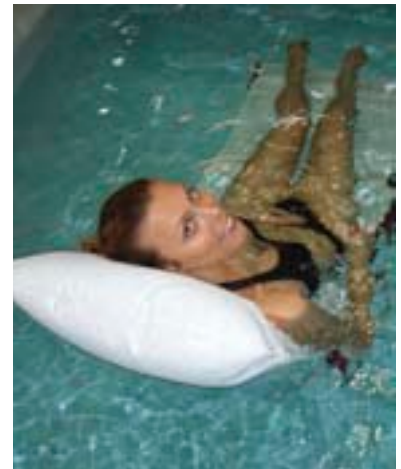


The Sea-Hammock allows the user to keep their body in the water and their head out of it. © Use-It-More

# SNOOZE TIME

The Sea-Hammock from Use-It-More is an aquatic deck chair/lounger which you can use in the pool and in the sea. Unlike other pool chairs, this one lets you get your whole body into the water, which is ideal if you want to get out of the wind or the baking sun, or if you suffer from various aches and pain which benefit enormously from soaking in warm water for long periods. It's very easy to get onto and you can change your body position from laying to sitting just by moving your body weight. You can also exercise gently in the hammock, rocking up and down, stretching and doing trunk curls. It costs £95.

■ Tel: 01206 242020  
 ■ [www.use-it-more](http://www.use-it-more)



## Energy-Efficient Pools

With the latest revelations from the government's draft Climate Change Bill that Carbon Emissions need to be reduced by 60% by 2050, and that future governments that do not stick to stringent targets could be liable for prosecution, the world is turning to take a closer look at carbon footprints and energy efficiency.

Gordon Brown has called for homeowners to take control of their energy efficiency, and that home and environmental improvements can save households up to £5 a week. What can homeowners do to make their homes

more energy efficient? Polypool is the only company in the UK to manufacture environmentally friendly energy efficient swimming pools. Unique to the UK, Polypools use a unique insulated panel construction with steel faces, so the walls act as a thermal barrier to trap the heat in the pool, as well as stopping the cold from outside penetrating into the pool thereby extracting the heat out. The steel faces prevent any vapour or moisture from penetrating into the pool.

■ Tel: 01489 890800  
 ■ [www.polypool.co.uk](http://www.polypool.co.uk)



## BUTLINS SPA EXPERIENCE

Gone is the cheesy image of the old Butlins – now you can even experience hydrotherapy at one of the resorts. New at Butlins at Skegness is The Spa Experience. For just £20 guests get a three-hour experience which includes enjoying the hydrotherapy pool, crystal steam room, essence-injected sauna, cold bucket drench,

Atlantic storm shower and swimming pool. Guests are also supplied with a robe and towel for their stay and also receive a gift of towelling slippers and spa bag, plus tea and coffee.

■ Tel: 0870 242 1999  
 ■ [www.butlins.com](http://www.butlins.com)

## RUB THE GENIE

Certikin International is proud to announce the launch of one of the world's first direct fired gas condensing pool heaters – the Genie, suitable for indoor or outdoor use. The super efficient Genie range delivers a staggering 97 per cent efficiency compared to 78 per cent for standard direct fired pool heaters. Running costs can be reduced by up to 20 per cent. There are two sizes in the range: the Genie 35 has an input 35.5 kw and delivers 34.5kw output whilst the Genie 50 has a 51 kw input delivering 49.5kw output and both have 24 volt controls.

■ Tel: 01993 778855  
 ■ [www.certikin.co.uk](http://www.certikin.co.uk)



## Take Away

If you have a small garden or want to take your spa with you when you move home then the QuatroSpa from RotoSpa UK Limited is perfect. This portable spa weighs only 150kg and can be rolled, lifted or slid into just about any space. It is also durable and economical due to its insulated construction, and is available in a choice of colours and specifications.

■ Tel: 0121 351 2585  
 ■ [www.rotospa.co.uk](http://www.rotospa.co.uk)



## Historic Baths Refurb Plans Revealed

Plans to restore and transform one of London's much-loved Victorian baths into a 21st century leisure centre are currently being considered. The £25.3 million refurbishment of Kentish Town Sports Centre (North London), including designs, consultation results and budget, is under discussion by Camden Council's executive. The detailed designs show how all three swimming pools could be retained and much of the buildings' Victorian heritage restored. Dr Ian Dungavell, Director of the Victorian Society and a frequent swimmer at Kentish Town Sports Centre before it closed in February, said: "This is one of the best buildings in Camden, built at public expense to improve public health. We still need it today. Refurbishment will allow us and our children to continue to appreciate its beauty and to enjoy its facilities for generations to come."



Make the most of balmy evenings with a light supper outside or a big family lunch. This Capri Garden set costs £325 from Next. The white large teak parasol is £60.

■ Tel: 0844 844 8333  
 ■ [www.next.co.uk](http://www.next.co.uk)

A family of six people is relaxing in a large, white hot tub with a wooden-grain exterior. The hot tub is situated on a patio overlooking a scenic valley with rolling hills and trees under a warm, golden sunset sky. The family consists of a man, a woman, and four children, all appearing to be in swimwear and enjoying the water. The hot tub has several jets and a control panel on the side.

# Sunday Lunch With The Family

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# SWIMMING LESSONS

School children are being encouraged to learn to swim in one of Torbay's best pools... thanks to a new initiative by the Riviera International Centre. The Centre is set to offer a special package to local schools that will encourage them to use the Waves pool on a weekly basis to help their pupils to learn to swim. Jacquie Lovett, senior swimming instructor, explained that many schools were not fortunate enough to have their own swimming facilities and needed to rely on public swimming pools. "We have had a lot of interest shown by schools about using Waves Leisure Pool on a permanent basis and decided we would like to encourage this by allowing them to use our pool an hour a week for up to a year."

The new initiative coincides with the announcement that Torquay-based Spa Life, which specialises in spas and hot tubs, has agreed to sponsor the Centre's swimming teachers' uniforms for the fifth year.



## Protect Yourself

Make sure your children keep their cool with Sposh Sun Protection two piece sets from Kids Kaper. Fantastically comfortable, stylish, and with UPF 50+ sun protection, these t-shirt and short sets can be worn as swimwear or clothing. In sizes from 3-6 months up to 13-14 years, they cost £39.99.

■ Tel: 0845 045 0685  
 ■ [www.kids-kaper.co.uk](http://www.kids-kaper.co.uk)



## GOLDEN COAST MAKE WISHES COME TRUE



Make-A-Wish volunteer Val Cottrell and Andi Cole, Project Manager for MillAquia, with Michael and his brother Scott in the spa.

Marquis Spa UK distributor Golden Coast and MillAquia made a wish come true for 16 year old Michael Bowrey

from Plymouth during the Easter holidays with the installation of a spa from Make-A-Wish Foundation®

UK, the charity that grants wishes to children and young people fighting life-threatening illnesses. Michael lives with Microcephaly, a neurological condition that leaves him with severely limited movement and communication, but now he is able to convey his delight as he enjoys the warm energised water of his new spa. The spa was supplied at a subsidised price by Golden Coast and supported by their south-west dealer MillAquia of Exeter who installed the spa in a specially prepared area in Michael's garden. The wish was generously sponsored by the Santa fe chain of New Mexican restaurants by donating 10p for every dish ordered from their children's menu. Said Jamie Adams, Managing Director of Golden Coast: "Golden Coast & Marquis Spas are delighted to be part of making wishes come true. Ours is the easy part, it's the children involved who are the real heroes."

# YOUR OWN SELF CLEAN POOL – ALL IN A WEEK!

From start to finish it's possible to change your home and lifestyle with a one piece pool dropped into a hole in your garden. And it's self cleaning! So you've decided you'd like a swimming pool. And as with most things you'd like it quickly – and so would the kids. The answer is now much easier than you think – with a quality one piece pool, factory made, dropped into your garden ready in a week.

The all in one pool comes designed with everything you need – steps, a sloping floor, swimouts, seats and perimeter grip rails-all in the original mould.

Compass Pools and Multiforma are two companies offering one piece pools which are literally 'ready to go'.

An added benefit is that a one-piece pool can come with its own self cleaning system.

Research shows consumers are reluctant to complete the purchase of the swimming pool they crave because of the concerns about how to keep the new pool clean.


With Compass Pools it's not a problem – thanks to patented composite pool technology. The company has developed the only one piece self cleaning pool available in the UK where several nozzles, strategically positioned across their pools, rise from the floor at pre-set intervals. Jets of water shoot out at high-pressure across the pool floor and walls, cleaning and sweeping away debris. The company describes this function as a 'pool which cleans itself'.

Multiforma, who have been producing one piece pools since 1972, believe that cost constraints don't allow time for the daily upkeep and maintenance that pools other than fibreglass need – and that's what the attraction is. So if you are being tempted to add a luxurious high quality low maintenance, easy to keep clean pool then the answer comes all in one!


- Compass Pools**  
 ■ Tel 0208 959 8688  
 ■ [www.compasspools.co.uk](http://www.compasspools.co.uk)
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 ■ Tel 01273 846855  
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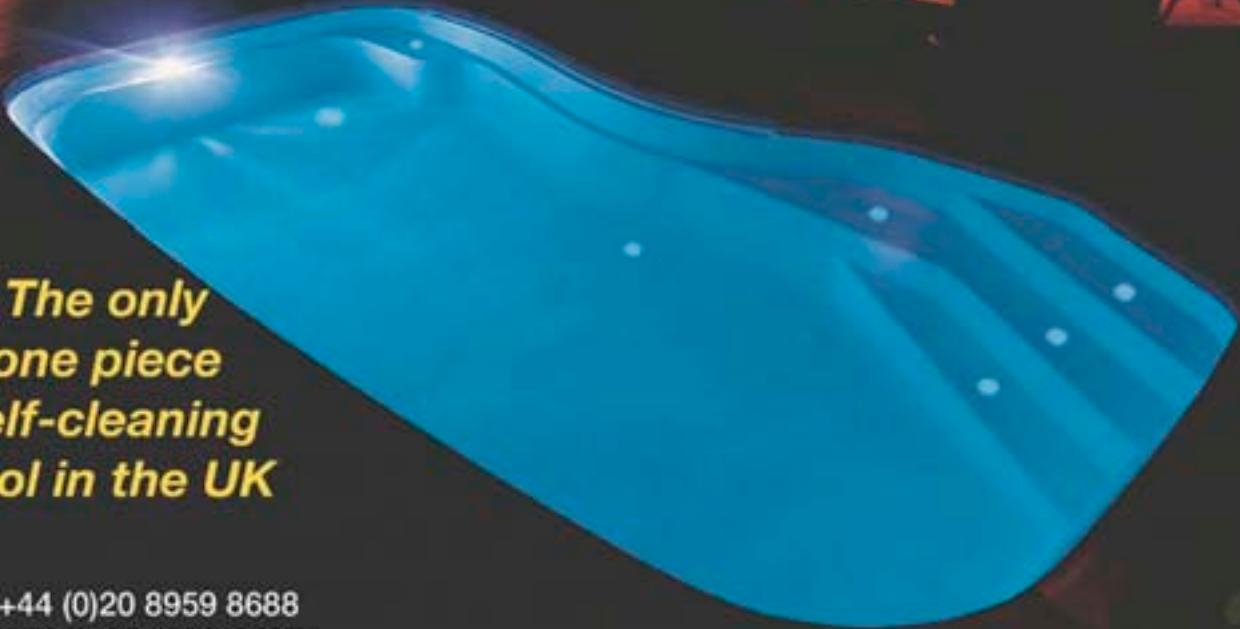


The pool is lowered by crane into place: the finished perfect pool. © Multiforma



Leading the world in composite pool technology





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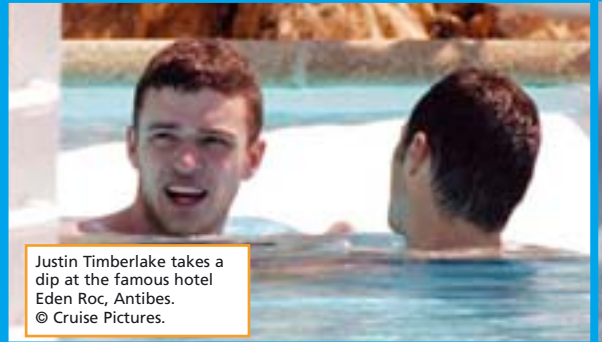
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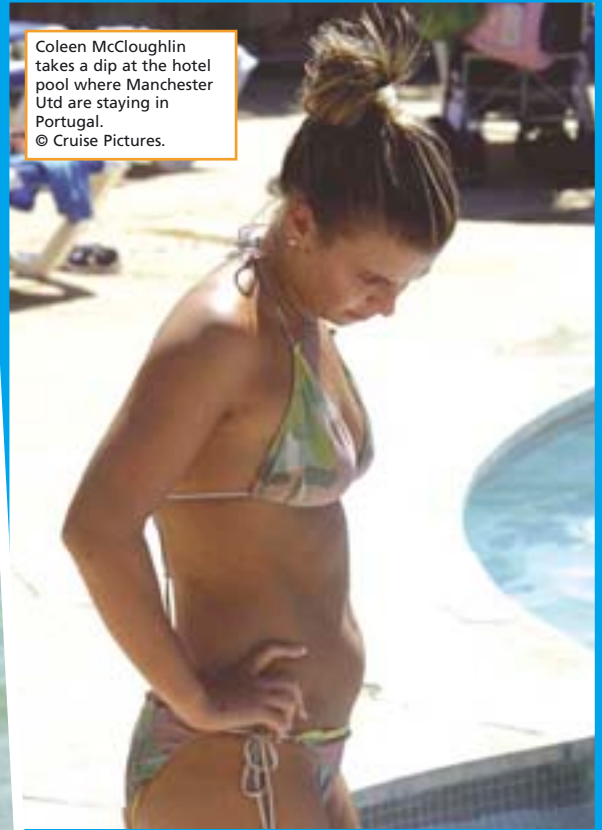
## CELEBRITY WATERBABIES



David Beckham makes a nice sight coming out of the sea. © Cruise Pictures.



Justin Timberlake takes a dip at the famous hotel Eden Roc, Antibes. © Cruise Pictures.



Coleen McCloughlin takes a dip at the hotel pool where Manchester Utd are staying in Portugal. © Cruise Pictures.

# Star WATERBABIES

It's not often that you see a celeb catch a tube – it's generally a limo or private jet – but some well-known watersport addicts like nothing better than that feeling of freedom when they're making a splash out on the waves.

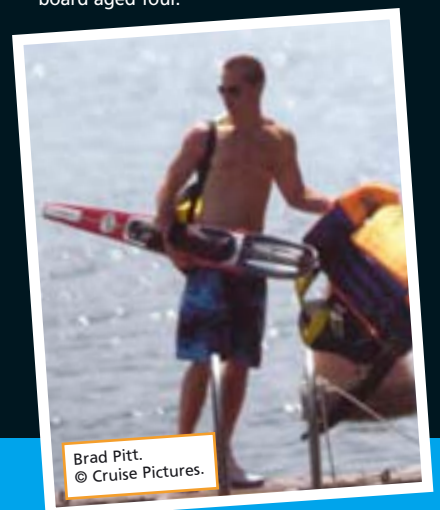
## SURFING CELEBS

Seeking some celebrity surf action? Head for **Hawaii's** favourable climatic conditions and quality waves. With her trademark blonde hair and blue eyes, self-described 'adventurous' **Cameron Diaz** is the ultimate surf babe and while filming 'Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle', Cam learned enough surfing skills to do her own wave riding in that famous sequence and despite breaking her nose on her 31st birthday during a surfing mishap off Waikiki Beach, absolutely adores the sport. **Kate Bosworth** filmed surf flick 'Blue Crush' on the north shore of Oahu, where King of the New Wave, **Jack Johnson**, who has surfed since he could practically walk and says his first love is the sea, grew up.

**Rachel Griffiths** likes being at one with the big blue and **Minnie Driver** and Hollywood hunks **Keanu Reeves** and **Sean Penn** are also big surfing fans. **Kevin Bacon** makes for Malibu while, with more secret surf spots than you can shake your board at, **Heath Ledger** and **Joseph Fiennes** head down under to Australia. During the production of 'Lord of the Rings' in New Zealand, surfing became a popular pastime among the cast and crew, with **Orlando Bloom** and **Viggo Mortenson** among those carving the waves. And what did **Tom Cruise** get

up to while filming 'The Last Samurai' there? You guessed it... shooting the curl in between shooting scenes.

Originally from Devon, homegrown **Joss Stone** is the epitome of hippy-chick surf chic and a true waterbaby. Sexy salsa singer **Ricky Martin's** been livin' la vida loca on the ocean since he learned to surf in Puerto Rico as a child and tennis ace **Mark Philippoussis** has been hooked since catching his first wave in L.A. **Adam Brody**, of 'The O.C.' fame, is a Californian surfer dude teen for real, while 'The Fast and the Furious' star, **Paul Walker** was an early starter, first getting the feel for a body board aged four.



Brad Pitt. © Cruise Pictures.



Jenson Button jetskiing in Mallorca. © Cruise Pictures.



Enrique Iglesias and girlfriend Anna Kournikova jetskiing in St. Barts in the French West Indies. © Cruise Pictures.



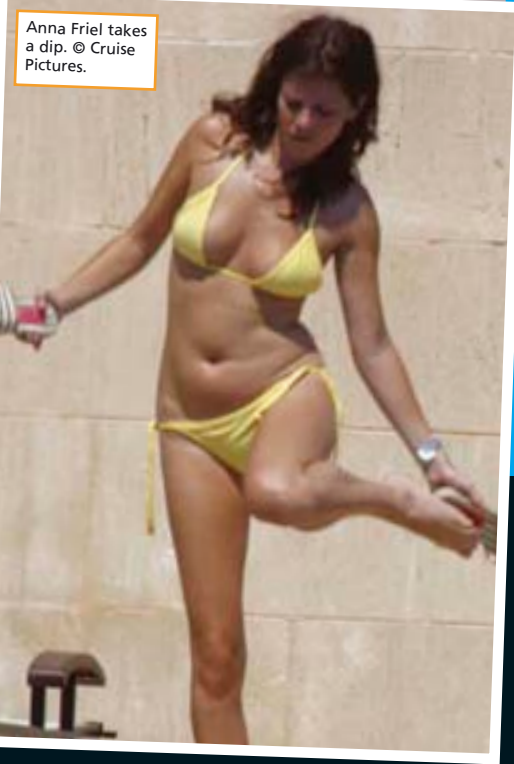
Kevin Bacon loves to ride the waves in Malibu. © Cruise Pictures.



Puff Daddy adores the water. © Cruise Pictures.



Ex-Eastenders Sid Owen and Dean Gaffney in Mallorca. © Cruise Pictures.



Anna Friel takes a dip. © Cruise Pictures.



Cliff Richard loves the water. © Cruise Pictures.



Wayne Rooney relaxing. © Cruise Pictures.

**JETSKIING CELEBS**

Making waves on jetskis... the stars can't get enough of it! **Jenson Button** chooses the crystal-clear waters surrounding Mallorca, while **Bryan McFadden** was spotted having some jetski fun on Australia's Gold Coast. You're practically guaranteed to spot a jetskiing star off the coast of **Barbados**, where any celeb worth their paparazzi's been seduced by the sun-drenched, picture perfect beaches... **Michael Owen**, **Wayne Rooney** and fiancée **Coleen McCloughlin** included.

**Enrique Iglesias** and girlfriend **Anna Kournikova** jump aboard in St. Barts in the French West Indies: "I like all watersports, especially surfing and windsurfing," he tells me. "It's good exercise and relaxing at the same time. When I'm out there on the water, I can disconnect and just forget about everything else. As a kid, I loved to spend the summer at the beach in Marbella with my brother. Later, I liked to windsurf in Key Biscane in Miami and other spots in Florida. A place I recently discovered for surfing is Los Cabos in Mexico..it kind of reminds me of Marbella."

Put on the map by **Brigitte Bardot** in the '50s, the French Riviera's most fashionable hotspot, St. Tropez has attracted the A-list for decades. Resident Brigitte's neighbours nowadays include **Joan Collins**, **George Michael** and **Ivana Trump**: "It's my home from home. I'm a water baby... put me beside the water and I'm in and out," she tells me. "I

love to sail, parasail, jetski and swim all day... it's paradise!" Hip-hop star, **Diddy** got into a spot of bother with the water police when caught jetskiing too close to the shores here. Offering watersports galore, it's private beach clubs a-go-go on Pampelonne Bay, with **the Beckhams**, **Beyoncé** and **Naomi Campbell** among the famous faces seen messing around on boats and splashing about on jetskis.

**OTHER WATERSPORTS**

Oscar-winning actress, **Hilary Swank**, adores river-rafting and sea-kayaking. **Keanu Reeves** once splashed out £200,000 on a 10-day retreat in Australia for 30 famous friends, including **Jennifer Aniston** and **Drew Barrymore**, where white-water rafting was among the daily activities. So whether you're in Hawaii, Mallorca or Down Under, don your Dolce star-spotting shades... that adrenaline-seeker over there might just be somebody famous! ■

Hot, new British actor, **Adam Leese** tells me he's a true adrenaline addict: "I've always been an adrenaline junkie ever since I tried to make my own bungee jump from the climbing frame when I was seven! I still have the scar to prove it!" he says. "I then started skating and luckily, living near the sea, this progressed into surfing, which I still try to do as regularly as possible."

**WATERSKIING CELEBS**

For a slice of la Dolce Vita, stars head to Italy to show off their water-skiing skills. **Brad Pitt** was spied practising outside his pal, **George Clooney's** luxury villa on the banks of Lake Como, while **Rob Lowe** chose celeb-magnet Costa Smeralda on the Sardinian coast. Model **Caprice** also loves water-skiing and Spanish heartthrob **Antonio Banderas** is passionate about competitive watersports, taking to the water around Marbella and Puerto Banús, a perennial favourite for high-profile stars like **Mariah Carey**, who loves jetskiing and scuba diving here.

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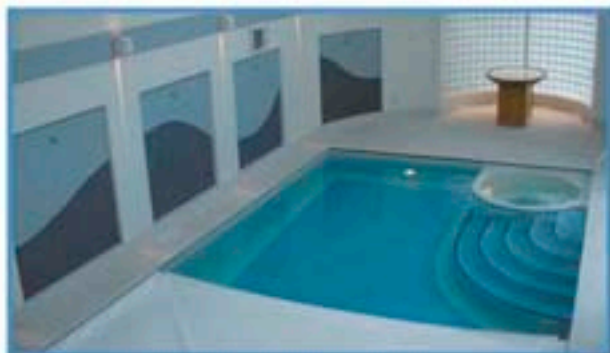


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Michael Douglas' Mallorca luxury estate S'Estaca. © Cruise Pictures.



## CELEBRITY POOLS



Suzi Quatro's swimming pool. Image courtesy of www.bendinat.com. Suzi's official website: www.suziquatro.com



Carol Drinkwater loves swimming and relaxing at her idyllic Provençal property. You can order copies of Carol's 'The Illustrated Olive Harvest' by calling 01903 828503. © The Illustrated Olive Farm.



Nell McAndrew relaxes in Tenerife. © Cruise Pictures.

# CELEBRITY POOLS

Celebrities may live an exciting and glamorous lifestyle, but even they need quality time out to wind down and relax. **Angela West** gives an insight to a celebrity waterworld.

They're famous for having fun in the sun and when it starts to hot up, stars like nothing better than to cool off with a dip in a high-class hotel pool or enjoy the exclusivity of their own private pool away from the prying eyes of the public and paparazzi. So where do they head to get away from it all?

Oozing glitz and glamour, Cannes on the Côte d'Azur attracts the A-list all year-round. When the famous Film Festival's in full swing, Hollywood's here in force. Star stopovers include the legendary Hotel Martinez where celebs sip champagne by the pool, the majestic Carlton, where **Grace Kelly**, **Elton John** and **Michael Jackson** have stayed, the hot Hôtel du Cap or elegant Eden Roc, a favourite for **Liz Taylor** and **Justin Timberlake**, spied cooling off in the pool during the May festival.

Private villas with pools come at a premium at this star-studded time of the year but some well-known names have wisely bought their very own slice of the south of France. On discovering her now famous, early 20th-century olive farm 'Appassionata', actress-turned-author **Carol Drinkwater** finally found her dream house by the sea that she'd been searching

for for almost a decade. With ten acres of grounds, the farm boasts around 300 ancient and junior olive trees, along with lemon, orange, cherry, almond and fig trees... and to top it all, a beautiful, Art Deco pool: "It's situated on a lovely hillside punctuated with drystone walls, overlooking the bay of Cannes." Provence is a source of inspiration for Carol, who works on her books at her home and, along with the olive farming, she has many favourite pastimes at her idyllic Provençal property: "I like to swim, read in the garden, walk the land, stare at the sea." She keeps her mind alert with regular swimming breaks throughout the day: "To keep my muscles active, I stop work to swim, stroll about the garden, gather fresh veggies and salads for our meals."

TV presenter, **Angela Rippon**, has a small pad in a complex in Juan-les-Pins, further along the Côte: "It has beautiful gardens, a pool and tennis courts – everything I need when I'm ready to 'chill out' from my work," she tells me. "My most favourite pastimes here are sitting on my terrace with a good book, pottering in my small terrace garden, before spending the afternoon by the pool, then meeting

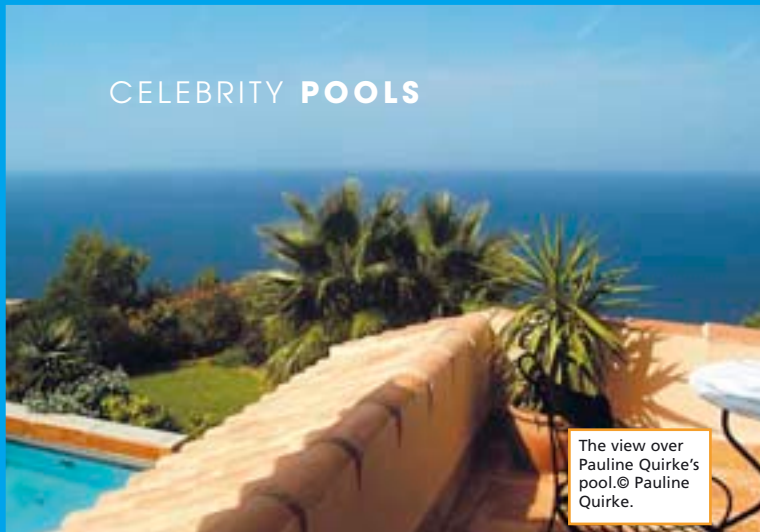
friends for dinner. It's my 'bolt hole' and my escape route to sanity and relaxation!"

BT Chairman, **Sir Christopher Bland** has many favourite pastimes at his 13th-century chateau in Gascony: "I enjoy a breakfast of fresh croissants followed by swimming, playing boules, reading under the trees and then lunch by the pool. In the words of Baudelaire, it's 'Calme, luxe et volupté'." >>> 18



Jonny Wilkinson in Mallorca. © Cruise Pictures.

## CELEBRITY POOLS



The view over Pauline Quirke's pool. © Pauline Quirke.



Tim Brooke-Taylor loves his private pool and villa in Portugal. © Tim Brooke-Taylor.



Actress Pauline Quirke adores her secluded cliff-top villa in Mallorca. © Pauline Quirke.



Micheal Owen loves the sea. © Cruise Pictures.



Nick Hancock in Mallorca. © Cruise Pictures.

►► An age-old playground for the rich 'n' famous, owning a property on the idyllic island of Mallorca's something of a status symbol, with **Claudia Schiffer**, **Michael Douglas** and **Catherine Zeta-Jones** among the luxury holiday-homeowners. The island's cosmopolitan capital, Palma, boasts the newly-restored Puro Hotel and its PuroBeach 'lifestyle-concept-hangout-by-the-sea' is the summer spot where stars can be spotted lazing around or chilling out in the pool.

Rock chick, **Suzi Quatro**, has a hideaway on a new development in Bendinat, offering wonderful sea views: "You can see the water and the mountains. I like to swim, sunbathe, read and go to the port and drink my coffee with the English morning paper – this is my ritual. I enjoy reading or playing yahtzee by the pool, interrupted by some swimming. I can't just lay there – I have to get in that pool!"

Birds of a Feather star **Pauline Quirke** also has a holiday 'nest' on the island, complete with a beautiful, private pool. Situated on a secluded cliff top in Cap Roig, Llucmajor, near the picturesque village of Cala Pi, the villa affords uninterrupted views from the terraces down to the sparkling Med, over the bay of Palma to the city's imposing Gothic Cathedral. "It's so beautiful, I still can't believe it's ours!" she tells me. "The perfect day is just having our friends and all the kids round ours swimming, eating, drinking and talking rubbish as we watch the sun go down over

the bay. For me, it's just pure relaxing, eating, enjoying our friends, the villa and its views."

With world-famous superclubs and an undisputed reputation as Europe's clubbing capital, **Paris Hilton** and **Diddy** are among the glitterati and fashionista favouring Mallorca's sister island, Ibiza. Even superstar DJs rave about benefits of water therapy: "I love being on the water", the world-famous Pete Tong tells me. "I have an old farmhouse in the countryside in Ibiza, where I love relaxing by the pool, enjoying the late afternoon/early evening sun.. my favourite time."

**Sir Cliff** spends his 'Summer Holiday' at his Portuguese pad and the exclusive area of Quinta do Lago, the 'Beverly Hills' of the Algarve, is the place to spot a star. The list of high-profile celebs attracted to this elite playground goes on-and-on... Madonna's a regular, **Trevor McDonald** too, while the exclusive Hotel Quinta do Lago has **David Beckham**, **Princess Caroline of Monaco** and **Pavarotti** on its guestlist. The deluxe beach resort has holiday homes belonging to **Alan Shearer**, **Frank Warren**, **Rubens Barichello**, **Gareth Southgate**, **Paul Ince** and **Michael Owen**, who purchased **Ayrton Senna's** £2million villa.

When he's training here, **Wayne Rooney's** fiancée, **Coleen McCloughlin** spends time hanging out at hip hotel pools in between shopping trips. Comedian, **Jimmy Tarbuck** loves visiting his Quinta do Lago home: "I've had some wonderful times here and some funny times, too," he tells me.

A sizzling hotspot for familiar faces, laid-

back Lisbon boasts numerous, luxurious hotels for stars after some 5-star r&r, such as Four Seasons Hotel Ritz and Hotelis Heritage Lisboa. The Lapa Palace is frequented by international aristocracy (suites have hosted the **Queen** and **President Bush**) as well as **Tina Turner**, **Cher**, **Robin Williams** and **Catherine Deneuve**, while **Tony Blair** and **Bill Clinton** have stayed at the Pestana Palace.

The Valverde and Quinta Verde developments are luxury holiday havens for **Ronan Keating** and **Steven Gerrard**: "I own a villa and come here every year to relax with my family and friends. I try to visit as often as I can," he tells me.

Goodies star, **Tim Brooke-Taylor** owns a beautiful four-bedroom villa, overlooking the beach at Meia Praia, near the pretty town of Lagos: "Nobody overlooks us and swimming in the pool you feel you're in a lovely, private garden. I love lapping up the sun here."

If you're enjoying some quality pool-time at a 5\* hotel, you never know, you may end up sipping cocktails on a sunbed beside a star. So slap on the St. Tropez, dive in and enjoy a star dip! ■

### Get the Celebrity Lifestyle

● Pauline Quirke's villa can be rented via Parker & Palmer exclusive villa rentals: [www.palmerparker.com/sv/house?name=roig](http://www.palmerparker.com/sv/house?name=roig)

● Tim Brooke-Taylor's villa can be rented via The Hamptons International: Tel: (+351) 282 789 336 / (+351) 282 782 716. [www.hamptons-portugal.com](http://www.hamptons-portugal.com) Email: [portugal\\_lettings@hamptons-int.com](mailto:portugal_lettings@hamptons-int.com)



TV presenter Angela Rippon bargain spotting in Italy and France. © Reef TV.

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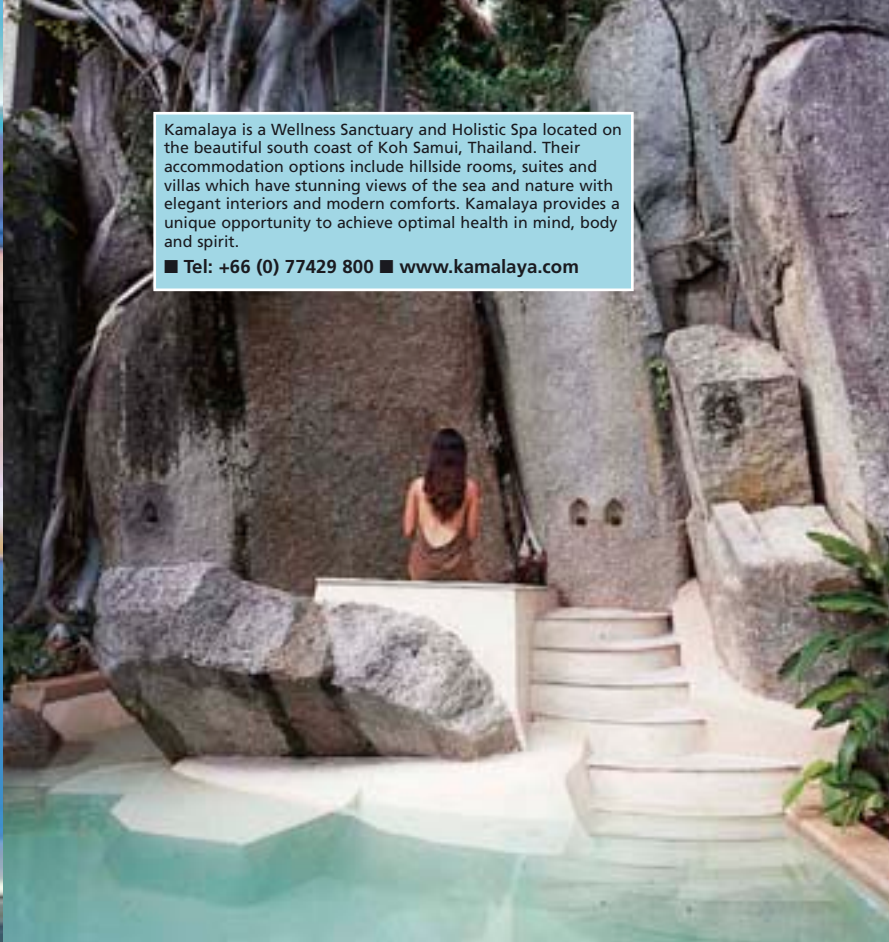
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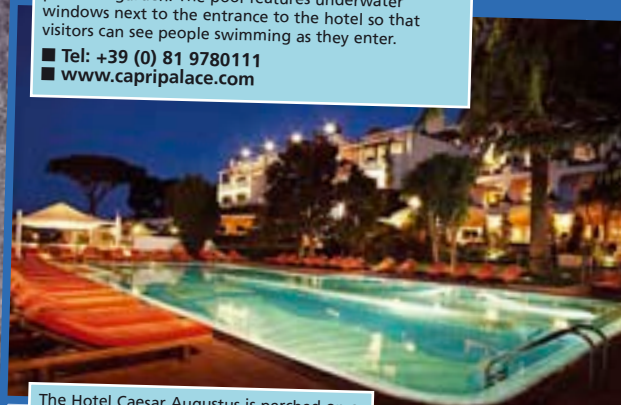
■ Tel: 01721 725300  
■ [www.stobocastle.co.uk](http://www.stobocastle.co.uk)

Take a look at these ultra-glam pools to inspire your own stunning designs!




Kamalaya is a Wellness Sanctuary and Holistic Spa located on the beautiful south coast of Koh Samui, Thailand. Their accommodation options include hillside rooms, suites and villas which have stunning views of the sea and nature with elegant interiors and modern comforts. Kamalaya provides a unique opportunity to achieve optimal health in mind, body and spirit.

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Capri Palace Hotel & Spa in Capri, Italy, is a magnificent hotel. Situated in Anacapri, it boasts 79 luxurious rooms and suites, some with their own private heated pool and garden. The pool features underwater windows next to the entrance to the hotel so that visitors can see people swimming as they enter.

■ Tel: +39 (0) 81 9780111  
■ [www.capripalace.com](http://www.capripalace.com)




The Hotel Caesar Augustus is perched on a cliff 1000 feet above the sea in Capri, Italy. This luxury hotel offers breathtaking views over the Bay of Naples. The cascading infinity swimming pool is also amazing.

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■ Tel: +39 (0) 81 986111  
■ [www.mezzatorre.it](http://www.mezzatorre.it)



Situated on the eastern coast of Lanzarote, Sands Beach Villas is a luxurious five-star resort hotel with a prime ocean-front location. Its facilities include seven swimming pools, six wading pools, a private ocean-fed lagoon and private and public beaches.

■ Tel: 0800 032 4254  
■ [www.ghotw.com](http://www.ghotw.com)



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# COVERING UP

Pool Cover SA in Belgium sold at first directly into the UK for several years, then recently supplied Eureka Pool Covers Ltd for its 4 years of its existence. Since March 2005, we no longer supply Eureka and now sell direct from the Belgian factory via our UK distributor, Chris Elliot and his team.

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# WHAT'S the right POOL FOR YOU?

Party space or private escape? Summer fun or regular exercise? Feature fountain or infinity edge? With temperatures seemingly ever rising, the United Kingdom is no longer such an odd country in which to install an outdoor pool. Gone are the days of kidney-shaped pools with a deep end, a shallow end and a diving board if you were lucky. Advances in technology mean that pools are now available in a number of different materials, to suit the large and small purse alike, which is why more and more people are cooling off in the hot summer months, splashing about in the privacy of their own back garden. But which pool is right for you?

## Who benefits?

The choice of pools available today can seem overwhelming, but the first step to choosing your perfect pool is to consider who will use it and for what purpose. Will you need to keep an eye on the children playing or do you have a private corner of the garden in mind for a luxury spa? Will your new pool include a decorative water feature that you'd like to view from your house or do you think of it as functional – a place for swimming laps? Do you intend to use the area around your swimming pool for entertaining? Will you provide changing facilities beside the pool? While these all-important questions need to be carefully considered, the layout of your garden and how much you are prepared to spend may ultimately dictate the size, shape and location of your new pool.

## What Type?

There are two main types of pool to consider – above-ground and submerged – and each has its own merits. Perhaps you see yourself moving house in a few years so would like a pool you can take with you, or maybe you don't want the extra mess and expense of shifting tonnes of earth. In this case, an above-ground pool could be the one for you. On the other hand, perhaps you don't want to be constrained by a 'packaged' pool design, or you see a pool as a way of adding value to your property. Either way, there'll be a pool that's sure to suit your needs. ➤➤ 24

By Michelle Hogg

The Prôteus Céramica pool kit range is available from Golden Coast. This system uses a unique chassis of self-supporting pre-engineered steel panels and special buttresses that simply bolt together.

■ Tel: 01271 378100  
■ [www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com)

## RIGHT POOL FOR YOU

One of the latest designs from Swimtek, the fibreglass Buccaneer comes with a separate spa area with seating for up to five people.

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■ [www.swimtek.co.uk](http://www.swimtek.co.uk)



The versatile Skypool can be quick to install. It is as tough as a traditional concrete pool, but it will also withstand ground movement and resist extreme temperatures. Kits start at around £7,000 and include filtration system, pump and all fittings.

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The 'Swimmer Polymer' panel system liner pool is exclusive to Golden Coast in the UK. The system is manufactured from lightweight non-corrosive polymer wall sections. Unique pre-engineered curved panels are available to enable a variety of pool shapes to be created.

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### Inflatable Pool

In recent years, the development of heavy gauge PVC has opened up the above-ground swimming pool market, with easy-to-assemble inflatable pools available to buy relatively cheaply online. Two manufacturers dominate the market – Intex and Bestway, and examples of both can be seen at [www.justsportandleisure.com](http://www.justsportandleisure.com) (Tel: 0870230063) and [www.poolstore.co.uk](http://www.poolstore.co.uk) (Tel: 0845 128 4373). With models ranging from a shallow, 30"-deep pool with a 10-foot diameter typically retailing at £80 to a 48"-deep pool with an 18-foot diameter for £395, it's easy to see why many take a step up from a paddling pool to something deeper and more spacious. Most models are supplied in kit form, containing everything you'll need to set up your pool. Simply inflate the ring around the top of the pool and then fill the pool with water. The inflatable ring acts as a float to ensure that the top of the pool stays above the level of the water at all times. However, it's important to remember that these pools are not just large paddling pools, and are not designed to be emptied and refilled on a regular basis – you'll find that most are supplied with simple filters and electric pumps to clean and circulate the water.

### Metal Frame and Splasher Pools

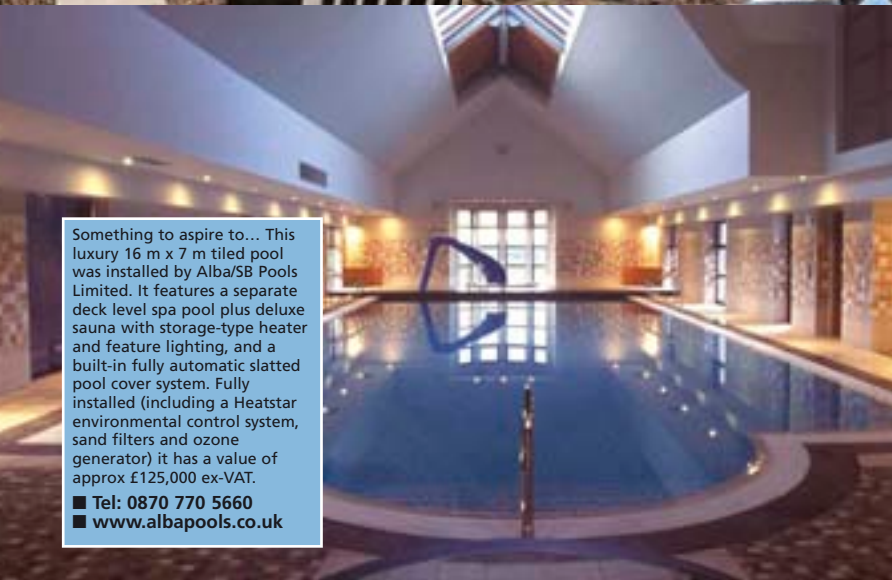
Metal frame pools usually comprise a one-piece liner that hangs from a tubular metal frame, while splasher pools are of a basic metal wall construction. These pools are very easy to put together, requiring just a few basic tools, and come in a variety of different qualities and sizes, along with the basic filtration equipment. Take a look at [www.splashandrelax.co.uk](http://www.splashandrelax.co.uk) (Tel: 0800 032 4537), where you'll find examples of both – metal frame pools start from £119.99 and splasher pools from £239. While these pools are easy to put up and to take down, making them perfect for seasonal use, they are unlikely to last much beyond ten years. Still, from as little as £12 per year over ten years (excluding maintenance), they represent pretty good value for money.

### Rigid-walled Pool

A more robust option is the rigid-walled pool. Held firmly together by wall panels made from galvanised steel or timber, and with a metal, wooden or resin top deck, this is the closest you'll get to a submerged pool in terms of volume of water and long pool life (about 35 years) without needing the expense and mess of digging a hole. Typical rigid-walled pools can be erected by a competent DIYer (with a couple of handy mates) in a weekend, and with decking and clever landscaping, this type of pool can be made very attractive. There are several manufacturers to choose from in this category. Plastica make an attractive octagonal pool from Scandinavian redwood. It comes in six different sizes with prices starting from £2,778 on [www.gardenadventure.co.uk](http://www.gardenadventure.co.uk). The knowledgeable

Something to aspire to... This luxury 16 m x 7 m tiled pool was installed by Alba/SB Pools Limited. It features a separate deck level spa pool plus deluxe sauna with storage-type heater and feature lighting, and a built-in fully automatic slatted pool cover system. Fully installed (including a Heatstar environmental control system, sand filters and ozone generator) it has a value of approx £125,000 ex-VAT.

■ Tel: 0870 770 5660  
■ [www.albapools.co.uk](http://www.albapools.co.uk)



The Dimension One Aquatic Fitness System (AFS) is an amazing aquatic exercise machine that provides fun, fitness and relaxation for the entire family. As well as using it to swim, it can be used to walk, run, stretch, row, strength train and more. The AFS combines the benefits of a fitness centre with the rejuvenation benefits of home hydrotherapy.

■ [www.d1spas.com](http://www.d1spas.com)



Chris Brindle ([www.use-it-more.com](http://www.use-it-more.com); Tel: 01206 242020) offers good discounts on Doughboy products, with a 52"-deep, 12-foot diameter Sierra Falls Standard Kit at £995 to the luxury Whispers Super Kit at £2,170. One of the largest models – a 32-foot by 16-foot oval – can be purchased for just over £4,000.

## Submerged Pools

It's now when design comes into its own, so think again about who will be using the pool. If competitive swimming is your aim, then you'll need a straight length of about 25 m in order to train effectively unless you have a counter-current machine to swim against. You could purchase a purpose-built swim spa or, alternatively, retro-fit an 'over-the-wall' or 'through-the-wall' Badu-Jet unit to a conventional pool. A pool designed with family and friends in mind should have a large shallow area, but think carefully about the deep end – you don't want any accidents caused by the misuse of a diving board.

## Vinyl Liner

While a submerged pool will generally be more costly than an above-ground pool, a pool with a vinyl liner is still an affordable option for a seasoned DIYer, with the possibility of working with a contractor for the trickier parts of the job. By doing it yourself, you could potentially save more than £5,000, but since vinyl liners are prone to rips and tears, don't expect this type of pool to last a lifetime (you may get 7–10 years of use before a replacement liner is needed). Once the hole has been dug, support walls typically made from aluminium, steel, fibreglass or pressure-treated wood are put into place around the walls, and the ground is made smooth and flat with a layer of sand. The liner is laid into the hole and secured with coping before the pool is filled. A 20-foot by 12-foot rectangular DIY pool kit by Kafko can be bought from [www.worldofpools.com](http://www.worldofpools.com) for £4,800 and could be installed in about a week. The Skypool package is new to the market, and a starter kit can be purchased for around £7,000. The galvanised steel panels mean that your pool can be almost any shape or size you want, and the higher price is said to be reflected in the superior quality. The pool can be purchased in a variety of different colours – even an ultra-modern black. Visit [www.skypoolresidential.astralpool.com/eng](http://www.skypoolresidential.astralpool.com/eng) or call Astral UK (Tel: 01329 514000) for a list of dealers.

## Fibreglass Shells

Another popular DIY option is a complete fibreglass shell. This tough material is smooth to the touch, can be moulded into practically any shape and comes in a variety of different colours. Prices vary according to the size and design of the pool, but whatever shell you choose, it will be delivered in one piece – all you have to do is pop it in the hole! (Obviously, you must ensure that there is enough space for the delivery crane to drive the shell up to the hole.) Once the shell is level in the hole, it can be filled with water, while at the same time the sides should be packed with sand

to stop them from bulging. Finally, a layer of concrete around the top edge keeps the shell in place. Maintenance costs are said to be low, with algae simply brushing off the walls. Swimtek ([www.swimtek.co.uk](http://www.swimtek.co.uk); Tel: 01263 768848) is one of the leading manufacturers and suppliers of fibreglass pools in the UK. The shells are ready plumbed with all the necessary fittings, and Swimtek will actually connect the pumps, filters and heaters as part of their DIY package. Prices start from £11,000.

Alternatively, Golden Coast ([www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com); Tel: 01271 378100) offer two 'kit pools' as a real alternative to traditional tiled concrete pools. For a self-build or professional installation there is the 'Swimmer Polymer' panel system liner pool, manufactured from lightweight non-corrosive polymer wall sections whilst, requiring professional installation but with over 25,000 pool installations world-wide to its name, the Prôteus Céramica pool kit range uses a unique chassis of steel panels that simply bolt together.

## Customised In-ground

If you've let your imagination run wild, then a customised pool with a liner or concrete finish will enable you to realise your dream since the materials can be shaped to your detailed specification. Since this type of pool is generally considered a permanent fixture, it's worth employing a professional contractor to give you expert advice as well as peace of mind. The cost of installation will vary according to the size of pool, complexity of design, accessibility of the site, materials used, etc, but expect to pay anything from £25,000 upwards (excluding excavation). There are various ways to construct this type of pool: a layer of concrete (gunite or shotcrete) sprayed into a reinforced framework of steel; single concrete block or twin block construction with steel reinforced bars and wet cement poured to fill the cavity; and panel pools commonly made from stainless or galvanised steel. Nigel Taylor from Alba/SB Pools Ltd ([www.albapools.co.uk](http://www.albapools.co.uk); Tel: 0870 770 5660) will guide you through the selection process from design to the type of finish you require. The company even offers stainless steel pools – 'the ultimate in style, strength and function'!

## Choosing a Contractor

- Even if you are an advanced DIYer and plan to do all/most of the work yourself, it is still recommended that you seek advice from an accredited contractor.

- Aim to enlist a competent, professional, experienced contractor at the earliest stages of planning your pool. He or she will be able to discuss in detail the pros and cons of different designs and materials, and will be able to give you a clear idea of cost.

- Rather than putting a pin in a local directory, visit [www.spata.co.uk](http://www.spata.co.uk). The Swimming Pool and Associated Trades Association (SPATA) vets its members before membership, ensuring that their methods and workmanship adhere to strict working standards.

- Try to obtain at least three estimates in writing, making sure that you're given a breakdown of all the costs.

- Once you've chosen your contractor, make sure he or she has up-to-date insurance, in the unfortunate event that your property is damaged during the construction of your pool.

## Additional Costs

Whatever type of pool you choose, heating and maintenance costs will rear their ugly heads sooner or later. The figure will obviously depend on the size and location of the pool and products chosen to maintain it, but expect to pay between £500 and £1,000 a year including heating costs. In these energy conscious times, give consideration to buying a heat pump when you purchase the pool rather than a conventional electric heater, and ask about how well the floor, walls and surface of your pool will be insulated! Since algae is not too fussy about where it grows, it's important to remember that above-ground pools require the same chemical treatments as permanently installed pools if the water's to be fit for bathing. As for other extras... have you considered a water slide? Or how about fibreglass lighting? A spa might be nice, or what about that fountain... the list goes on! ■

# Taking the Plunge

## CHOOSING A SPA

So you have made the decision to buy a hot tub. But a little bit of research reveals a wealth of varieties, all with different optional extras and technology. How do you know which is the spa for you? When choosing a hot tub you need to think about your lifestyle and how your spa will best fit in with your life. Here are the questions you should be asking yourself before you commit to anything.

### BEFORE YOU GO

#### What do I want to use the hot tub for?

People generally buy a spa for two reasons; relaxation, e.g. hydrotherapy and social activities. The reason that you are buying your spa for will tell you which features you should be looking for in a hot tub. If you want it for relaxation or health issues, then you will be looking for one with massage jets and

adjustable water pressure, whereas if you want something friends and family can enjoy, then you may be considering an entertainment tub complete with TV, DVD player and so on. On the other hand if you have fitness in mind a swim spa, or exercise pool, may be what you require.

#### What is my budget?

You need to decide on a budget from the beginning. Do a little research to find out ballpark figures then see how much you can afford to spend. Your spa should suit your lifestyle and your budget. Make sure that whatever you look at represents good value for money, won't be too expensive to run, and will be easy to maintain. Jason Smith, Dealer Co-Ordinator for hot tub manufacturer RotoSpa UK Limited, also warns to look out for hidden extras. Says Jason, "Remember to bear in mind the added costs that may be incurred such as crane hire and electrical upgrades. These costs may be quite high and so you should build them into your agreed family budget."



**How many people will use it?**

Which members of the family and/or friends will be using it on a regular basis? Always add an extra one to your initial number and remember that when news spreads about your new acquisition you will suddenly become very popular! Says Danielle Millward, Product Manager at Jacuzzi Hot Tubs, "I would recommend that you consider the seating capacity of the hot tub as, although you may think they only require a hot tub for two people, in reality it is a social product and more people may want to get in the hot tub from time to time." Keep in mind, however, that you are buying it for yourself – not your friends.

**How often will it be used?**

Contrary to popular belief, a spa needn't be restricted to summer use. You can enjoy your spa 365 days a year, night and day if you like. You will need to consider the sun, shade and wind patterns in each of the different seasons and, of course, privacy. You may want a spa enclosure, which can make an attractive garden feature in its own right. Or you might want a roof to shelter from rain or provide shade in summer. Consider glass windbreaks, perfect for stargazing.

**Should it be outside?**

For the most part, the hot tub is thought of as an outdoor product, usually sited on a patio or built into a timber deck. Many companies selling tubs also sell timber gazebos and log cabins to shelter the users. A spa can be installed indoors or outdoors, although most are installed outdoors, even in cold weather climates. If you want an indoor hot tub the three main considerations are: will it fit through the door, is the structural strength of the flooring adequate and will de-humidification be required.

**How much space do you have?**

Think about how big your garden is. Consider whether you want the spa to be the focal point of the garden, or tucked away in an enclosure at the bottom of the garden. Landscaping and plants around the hot tub can create a more natural effect.

end of that time you will know whether the seating and jet arrangements are comfortable.

**What is the seating like?**

Check that the seats provide comfortable support. You should be sitting upright comfortably, not half lying down like in the bath. When sitting in any seat, the water should reach above shoulder level. If it does not, you will get cold very quickly if it is outside and you will not get full hydrotherapeutic value. Does the depth of water suit all members of the family? If not consider another design with graduated seating.

**Is it comfortable and easy to use?**

Are the controls within easy reach and are they easy to operate? Make sure that all members of the family will be able to use it with ease. Pay attention to the hydrotherapy aspects. Is the massage what you would have hoped to experience? Can you divert the flow of water to specific seats to increase/decrease pressure without turning off jets?

**Is it easy to maintain?**

Ask the seller how easy it is to maintain, how much it will cost to run and to guarantee clean water. Have a look at the insides to see how well-designed the plumbing is. Maintenance takes about five minutes a day, and slightly longer once a week – basically, you need to check the pH levels of the water using a simple test kit and correct the water balance when necessary. A chemical guide and instructions should be part of your installation and any good company should spend considerable time explaining how to look after your spa in detail. The high temperatures of spa pools means they are more at risk from bacterial diseases and so must be properly maintained and have an appropriate filtration system fitted such a fine sand, chlorine and ozone filter.

**What else do I need?**

As well as the high water temperature, it is also important to keep the area surrounding the spa warm with an environmental control system, such as the Premier Air Handling Unit from Heritage Pools. This will not only help to regulate the environmental surrounding to ensure bather comfort but can also help to maintain and increase the longevity of the spa and spa building.

**Can I take it with me if I move?**

The choice is yours, selling a property with a hot tub can add thousands to your selling price, also a property with a hot tub can add the desire and excitement every new property should offer. If you are an existing hot tub owner, this is a perfect opportunity to upgrade. On the other hand if you wish to take the spa with you, check with the dealer that they have the correct equipment to move it in the future. If you do want to take it, the Riviera range of spas from Certikin International, for example, are portable spas so they are easy to move. >>> 28

**Do's & Don'ts**

- Do...**  
Consider the whole family. Are there enough seats? Can all members of the family physically remove the cover without help? If not, consider a cover lifter.
- Do...**  
Check that the seats provide comfortable support. See if you can relax your head onto pillows and they are comfortable.
- Do...**  
Lots of research first and discuss any queries with the salesperson. Never buy until completely satisfied. Contact BISHTA (the British and Irish Spa and Hot Tub Association), [www.bishta.co.uk](http://www.bishta.co.uk), for advice.
- Don't...**  
Buy any spa without 'wet testing' it first.
- Don't...**  
Forget lighting. Most of the time you will spend in the hot tub will be at night, so insist on seeing the spa running in a dark room or at night.
- Don't...**  
Forget the added costs of installing and maintaining a spa when deciding on a budget.

**WHEN YOU ARE THERE**

**What is like when I try it?**

Make sure you 'wet test' a spa before purchasing. This means getting into a spa with water in it. After all you wouldn't buy a car without test driving it, would you? Some reputable spa dealers maintain filled demonstration models just for this purpose. Now is the time to ask any questions as well. "Remember that your spa should be built to last a lifetime," says Jason. "Take the time to wet test your chosen spa and maybe hire one before buying. Ask your dealer if all the parts in the spa are CE-approved and that spares are readily available." Stay in the spa with the jets on for at least 15 minutes. At the

# COOL your jets



Don't know your whirlpool from your dual rotator? Here are the basic jets available and what they do.

**Volcano jet:** A large jet that's positioned at the bottom of the tub and aimed upward for a water effect that's similar to a volcano erupting.

**Whirlpool jet:** This large jet is placed out of the way of the seating area and is designed to create a large rushing water effect at the perimeter of the tub. It should always be positioned midway into the tub so you can manoeuvre your body and massage a specific area. It provides a tremendous amount of pressure in a concentrated

region. It's also a diverter jet, meaning it diverts pressure from other jets, resulting in the same type of whirlpool action found in a physical therapist's office. This form of hydrotherapy can be very beneficial for those who have sprains or muscular injuries.

**Whirly jet:** This small jet produces two surprisingly powerful streams of water in a tight, rotating formation. The massage action is similar to someone taking his or her thumb, applying pressure, and then massaging in a circular motion.

**Ozone jet:** This specialty jet is unique from all others as it is part of the hot tub's filtration system. When an Ozonator is installed, the ozone is introduced into the water through this jet, helping to sanitize the tub. The ozone will appear as a stream of small bubbles and will be active during heating and filtration cycles.

**Adjustable jet:** This jet can be easily turned on and off by twisting the plastic rim around the jet. This allows you to adjust which jets are receiving the water flow and, thus, personalise your hydrotherapy experience.

**Neck jet:** These are installed in pairs above the water line and are angled to provide targeted massage action to your neck and shoulder region.

**Power massage jet:** This large jet rotates a large stream of water through several nozzles, producing a powerful massage experience over a large area. It is generally used for your lower back.

**Dual rotator jet:** A medium-size jet that contains two powerful nozzles that rotates in a circular pattern, massaging an area the size of your hand.

**Directional jet:** This is a jet where the nozzle may be moved, positioning the stream of water as you desire.

**Swirl jet:** This jet's single nozzle swirls the water around in a circular pattern, providing an overall massage in a wide area.

**Pulsing jet:** The pulsing jet's two nozzles rotate to provide a pulsing massage motion that's great at helping to relax your tight muscles.

**Power dual roto jet:** This powerful jet offers you the best of all worlds with two powerful rotating nozzles that can be adjusted to multiple massage patterns. >>> 31

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SUNDANCE POOLS manufacture a wide range of high quality fibreglass swimming pools. These are particularly quick and easy to install being a single shell. As well as the pool itself we also provide all the equipment you need for a complete package. We offer a nationwide delivery service.



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E mail: sales@sundancepools.co.uk

www.sundancepools.co.uk

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These Hot Tubs come with Corona Discharge Ozone, Maintenance Free Cabinet, Locking Folding Lid and Two Tier Steps.



2



1

## CHOOSING A SPA

# hot tub HEAVEN



3

**1** The Riviera Penta portable spa from Certikin International has four seats and one lounger and comes with 21 water jets and 16 air jets. The spa comes with an intelligent and well-thought out hydrotherapy concept. It leads you through eight fine-tuned whirling phases with alternating stronger and weaker intensities.  
**■ Tel: 01993 778855**  
**■ www.certikin.co.uk**

**2** The flagship model of Marquis Spas, the Epic provides the ultimate hydrotherapeutic experience through a combination of interactive therapy stations, 57 jets, and advanced controls. It has extra legroom, an oversized, barrier-free footwell, and strategically placed hand grips for stretching and aiding movement. The Epic's open, multi-level seating for six or seven features a combination of reclined and upright seats. With 15 active jets, the roomy deep therapy seat achieves unparalleled massage control with a combination of back jets. Marquis Spas are distributed by Golden Coast Ltd.  
**■ Tel: 01271 378100**  
**■ www.goldenc.com**



4

**3** The J-400 series from Jacuzzi Hot Tubs seat 6-7 adults in seats moulded to support the body, showcase a dramatic new curved profile and provide padded headrests that move up and down to accommodate different body heights. To add to the peaceful feeling there are night-time coloured lights which glow from the waterfalls and new underwater lights. The series also features a unique cascading coloured waterfall, upgraded remote AquaSound Audio system and PowerPro IX jets which combine maximum airflow with bright LED lighting. The two models are ozone-ready too, giving purer water with fewer chemicals by using ozone. Each model comes complete with a fully insulated, sturdy, locking cover which keeps the heat in and debris out.  
**■ Tel: 01782 717275**  
**■ www.jacuzzi.co.uk**

**4** The Mirage Spa is from the Fantasy range at Splash Spas. It incorporates a circular open interior, spacious foot well, a turbo whirlpool jet and a no-jet cool down seat for relaxing. It also boasts top-side controls for temperature, lighting and water flow pressure, interchangeable jets, a top-loading filter and locking thermal insulating hard cover. It is priced at £2,099.  
**■ Tel: 01420 520030**  
**■ www.splashspas.co.uk**

**5** This barrel hot tub from Heritage Pools is easy to install as it is freestanding, as opposed to sunken or fixed place (which is where a spa installation is actually constructed and tiled). It has seating inside and heated water jets. Prices start from £5,000. Heritage offer a complete design, build and finish service.  
**■ Tel: 01483 235858**  
**■ www.heritagepools.co.uk**

**6** The Orlando Spa Dome from Certikin International offers protection against strong winds, rain, leaves and debris, providing the user with the luxury of bathing at any time all year round. They also offer the added feature of being totally lockable which is fantastic news if there are children or pets in the household. It has a height of 2.3m and an outside diameter of 4.11m and consists of two polycarbonate panels: wall and door panels and an upper domelike air shaft panel.  
**■ Tel: 01993 778855**  
**■ www.certikin.co.uk**

**7** Never buy a hot tub without 'wet testing' it first. Bamber Leisure, in East Anglia, has the largest display of hot tubs, pools and saunas in the UK. Simply make an appointment to visit the showroom any time between 5pm-9pm, any day of the week - just don't forget your costume!  
**■ Tel: 01945 585946**  
**■ www.bamberleisure.co.uk**



5



6



7

# al fresco DINING

Food somehow tastes much nicer when eaten outdoors. Whether you are having an impromptu get together, a fresh lunch in the sun or a full-blown dinner party, grab a fork and get tasting!



© The National BBQ Association



## Chill Out

Perfect for a picnic, keep food cool with this stylish Ella Doran Cooler Bag, £15 from John Lewis. Don't forget to chill the plonk with the matching Wine Cooler Bag, £9.

■ Tel: 08456 049 049  
■ [www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)

## Teddy Bear's Picnic

Whether you are going on a picnic, to an outdoor concert or simply relaxing on your lawn, then a flask is ideal for hot drinks without having to go and put the kettle on. This pretty floral flask from Cargo is a snip at just £9.99.

■ Tel: 08700 112 119  
■ [www.cargohomeshop.com](http://www.cargohomeshop.com)



## 5 of the best... PICNIC HAMPERS



**1** Pink dot picnic box for four, £49 from The Pier.

■ Tel: 0845 609 1234  
■ [www.pier.co.uk](http://www.pier.co.uk)



**2** Regatta Picnic basket for two, £99 from Mzuko.

■ Tel: 01225 872880  
■ [www.mzuko.com](http://www.mzuko.com)

**3** Picnic hamper for four, £50 from Poshprezzies.



■ Tel: 08702 367 367  
■ [www.poshprezzies.co.uk](http://www.poshprezzies.co.uk)



### A Little Tipple

There's nothing nicer than relaxing into a sunlounger with a chilled glass of vino. If you fancy something ripe and peachy to go with your al fresco dining, then Rosemount Estate Diamond Label Chardonnay, £7.49 goes down a treat. This Australian white, with its unique diamond-shaped bottle, is generous and soft with full ripe tropical flavours folded into a creamy backdrop. Perfect with rich meat dishes, seafood and salads.

■ Tel: 020 8843 8400  
 ■ www.rosemountestate.co.uk



### Taste the Difference

Plenty of water is one of the secrets to clear skin, higher energy levels and weight loss. People who don't drink enough water are five times more likely to get a blocked nose or sore throat than those who keep well-hydrated. But only one in six of us drink the recommended two litres of water every day. For a more convenient way to enjoy fresh filtered water straight from the tap, try the BRITA water filter tap, which is available in a range of three models.

■ Tel: 0845 0770 035  
 ■ www.britafiltertaps.co.uk



**4** Picnic hamper for four, £50 from Debenhams.

■ Tel: 0870 124 2412  
 ■ www.debenhams.com



**5** Pink Hawaiian picnic hamper for four, £39.95 from Dotcomgiftshop.

■ Tel: 0208 746 2473  
 ■ www.dotcomgiftshop.com



OUTDOOR FOOD

© iStockphoto.com (MaxFX)

## COCKTAIL HOUR

The term 'cocktail' was originally coined more than 200 years ago, allegedly after a local bar in New York ran out of stirrers and resorted to using a cock's tail feathers to stir the drink. Cocktail expert Xavier Padovani has five top tips for mixing the perfect cocktail.

- 1 Firstly, you need good quality ingredients, fresh products, good quality ice (double frozen) and a well balanced formula/recipe.
- 2 The key is to get all your ingredients to work a bit like the pieces of a puzzle. All the ingredients must be able to fit together and deliver a good balance, sweet/sour, sharpness, alcohol level.
- 3 The dilution, or 'the shake' is also very important. Depending on the cocktail and the ingredients you will need to adapt the shake so that you get a final solution which should be diluted properly.
- 4 Glassware is as important as a good cocktail is, after all, a visual and sensory experience!
- 5 Finally don't forget the garnish that should further enhance the savours of the cocktail.

### Trend Spotter

With the arrival of six whisky bars in London and the capital's first whisky sommelier – Jamie Forbes, The Whisky Rooms at Bumpkin – whisky is the new spirit of choice with the in-crowd and A-list celebs. For a new twist on an old favourite, try adding whisky for a cocktail with a kick.



#### Monkey Mojito

##### Ingredients:

- Ice
- 50ml Monkey Shoulder whisky
- 20ml lime juice
- 15ml gomme syrup or 3 sugar cubes
- 12 mint leaves, eight roughly broken apart
- Lime wedge
- Angostura Bitters
- Ginger ale

##### Method:

Place ice in a drinks shaker then add in the whisky, eight broken up mint sprigs, lime juice, a dash of Angostura Bitters and syrup or sugar. Shake well and serve over ice in a high ball glass. Top up with ginger ale. Garnish with a sprig of mint and a lime wedge.

Recipe and image courtesy of Monkey Shoulder whisky

# HOT STUFF

Summer is here and everyone loves a really good barbeque. No longer can we expect black sausages which are pink in the middle, nowadays barbecued food means sophisticated recipes which are not only exciting, but healthy too. Some are calling it 'Gastro Alfresco', we call it delicious. So fire up the barbie, chuck us another tinny and get sizzling!

## Barbies are good for you!

According to the National BBQ Association, barbecues have many health advantages. For the majority, barbies are an emotional trigger, creating feelings of well-being and a desire for warmer, more relaxed climes. For many families the weekly BBQ is also the one time when the families actually have the time to sit down, relax, catch up and enjoy both each others' company and the healthy grill-fest. [www.nationalbbq.co.uk](http://www.nationalbbq.co.uk)



## The Big Debate: Charcoal or Gas?

**When cooking on the barbie, the biggest choice to make is whether to use a gas or charcoal version.**

### CHARCOAL

**PRO:** Charcoal BBQs are preferred by the traditionalists. Some claim that the food tastes better cooked over hot coals and many feel that building and maintaining the fire is all part of the fun.

**CON:** They require a little more preparation and extra cleaning.

### GAS

**PRO:** Gas BBQs are stylish and modern. They are easy to operate, offer precision cooking and are excellent if you are cooking for a big group.

**CON:** You don't get the same smoky taste with the food.

The Outback TRG3301 Barbecue costs £199 from Next. Featuring a 60cm x 50cm cooking area, three cast iron burners, two porcelain coated cast iron grills, integral spark rotary igniton and an easy clean drip tray, this smart BBQ comes on a smart-looking timber trolley.

■ Tel: 0844 844 8333  
■ [www.next.co.uk](http://www.next.co.uk)



The Grilltech Space Grill 600, the ultimate charcoal barbecue, is constructed from top-quality 4mm steel with a built-in wooden chopping board and tool rack. After you've eaten, the stainless steel cooking grills slide out and the grill converts into a brazier, perfect for keeping you warm into the evening. It costs £219.

■ Tel: 01254 820478  
■ [www.silvnutmeg.com](http://www.silvnutmeg.com)



**"Al fresco cooking and dining puts people in the right mood, food appears to taste better and cooking is more like playing"**



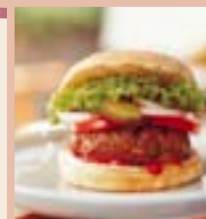
Antony Worrall Thompson

## Antony's Top BBQ Tips

- If you have a kettle barbecue, try cooking with the lid down so that the food is permeated with a gorgeous smoky flavour.
- If cooking on charcoal, you must light the barbecue well in advance, a good half an hour before you want to start cooking. Lining the bottom of the charcoal tray with foil helps to reflect the heat upwards.
- Don't try to move your barbie once lit. Always have someone keeping an eye on it, and keep all young children well away.

## Antony Worrall Thompson's All-American Burger

No barbecue is complete without a classic beef burger. Cooking the onion first will give the burger a much better flavour and prevent the burger from going black.



### Makes 6

- 15g unsalted butter
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped garlic
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1kg finely minced lean beef
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 1 teaspoon chilli sauce
- 6 soft white burger buns, split and lightly chargrilled
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 In a small frying pan, melt the butter and gently fry the onion, garlic, oregano and cumin until the onion is translucent and softened. Allow to cool then transfer to a large bowl and mix with the minced beef, olive oil, parsley and chilli sauce. Work with your hands to create a blended mixture but do not overwork it.

2 Form the mixture into six 'burgers', and chargrill them on the barbecue – for medium rare, 4–5 minutes each side, 6–8 minutes each side for well-done.

3 Fill the buns with burgers and garnishes of your choice. To garnish, choose from torn lettuce leaves, thinly sliced onion rings, thinly sliced pickled gherkins, tomato ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise.

Extracted from *Barbecues and Grilling* by Antony Worrall Thompson and Jane Sutherland (Kyle Cathie, £14.99) with photography by David Matheson. Readers can buy a copy for the special price of £12 (inc p+p) by calling 01903 828503 and quoting ref. KC WPH/BBQ or email: [mailorders@lbsltd.co.uk](mailto:mailorders@lbsltd.co.uk)





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## POOL PARTY



# Pool party

©iStockphoto.com (Leeuwitje)

If you are lucky enough to own a swimming pool, then there is no excuse not to have as many parties as you can! Pools are very social items and it is much more fun to have loads of friends round to share it with.

All you need are some fun items such as inflatable rings and balls, a BBQ, some decent tunes on the stereo, a couple of loungers and bingo – you have a pool party! Set up the children with a private play area all of their own, near to the adults of course and well away from open water. Then when the sun starts to go in, simply turn on the fairy lights, grab some rugs and make the party last all evening too!

### Cool Down

After all that fun in the pool make sure everyone is rinsed off before eating with this attractive copper garden shower from Little Book of Furniture. Eco friendly and easy to set up, all it needs is a standard hose attachment. It is priced £75.

■ Tel: 0207 247 4445  
■ [www.littlebookoffurniture.com](http://www.littlebookoffurniture.com)



### Eat Up

These melamine plastic bowls, nest of six, cost £34.99. Measuring cups are £4.99 and the measuring spoons set is £4.99. Picnic food cover costs £9.99. All items are from Cargo.

■ Tel: 08700 112 119  
■ [www.cargohomeshop.com](http://www.cargohomeshop.com)





John Lewis Fiji rectangular table £295, armchair £105, circular parasol £95, base £45, lantern £5  
 ■ Tel: 08456 049 049 ■ www.johnlewis.com

## LIGHT SHOW

As the evening draws in, brighten up the night and create a colourful display with some pretty lights. Here is our choice of the best night lights around.



● These delicate pagoda-shaped tealights from Plumo are simply stunning in pop art colours made from metal. Available in fuchsia, blue, green, red, yellow. They cost £6.00.

■ Tel: 0870 241 3590  
 ■ www.plumo.com

● Costing a little more at £49.35 but well worth it, this beautiful Zenit frosted torch from Mzuko can be placed in the ground or wall mounted. Made from frosted glass and metal, it is useful for both summer or winter.

■ Tel: 01225 872880  
 ■ www.mzuko.com



● Add a splash of colour to the dining table or around the pool with these glass garden candle lanterns from The Contemporary Home Limited. They cost £12.99 for a set of six.

■ Tel: 02392 469400  
 ■ www.tch.net

● For an ancient Greek-style atmosphere in the garden, flaming torches will keep you warm as well as scare off the mozzies. The Hotspot Olympic Torch from Mode costs £30.

■ Tel: 0870 2403606  
 ■ www.mode.co.uk



### Beer Time

Fill this Grilltech Cooler with ice, load it up with beer and wine, light the barbecue, and your outdoor party is ready to go. Available from silvernutmeg.com, priced £179.

■ Tel: 01254 820478  
 ■ www.silvernutmeg.com



### Laying the Table

Bright colourful plastic cutlery, like this 12-piece 99p set from Woolworths, is fun, easily replaceable and bright so it can be found when dropped by youngsters!

■ Tel: 0870 411 7112  
 ■ www.woolworths.co.uk





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## Just Dreaming

### SPLURGE

The Fatboy Hammock from Home Temptations (below right) is the ultimate in big hammocks! Available in a range of colours from black to lime to orange or turquoise, it costs £275.

■ Tel: 0870 428 0958  
 ■ www.hometemptations.com

### SAVE

This simple hammock seat from John Lewis (below) is a real bargain at just £10.

■ Tel: 08456 049049  
 ■ www.johnlewis.com



# Please be SEATED

Ensuring there are enough seats to go around is key for a relaxed party, picnic or dinner. We've scoured the shops to find the best recliners from both ends of the market.



## Lounge Lizard

### SPLURGE

This Monaco lounger (above) is from Barlow Tyrie Limited. It features folding arms and a pull-out tray and costs £890.

■ Tel: 01376 557600 ■ www.teak.com

### SAVE

This mesh lounger from Next (below) is just £20. Available in black, red, saffron and fuchsia. The red floral patterned lounger is also £20.

■ Tel: 0844 844 8333 ■ www.next.co.uk



## Outdoor Dining

### SPLURGE

Nothing is more elegant for an intimate swoiree than these Montreux square table and chairs in slate from Pavilion Rattan (right). The table is £250, the glass top is £100, the chairs are £150 and the outdoor pads for the chairs are £50.

■ Tel: 01623 847030  
 ■ www.pavilionrattan.co.uk



### SAVE

These cute Bistro table and chairs look just as good as more expensive sets but only cost £10 for the chair and £20 for the table. Available from Matalan.  
 ■ www.matalan.co.uk



# KIDS' Corner

Set aside a corner of the garden – preferably away from the pool – to create a children's paradise, away from the nosey adults. Supplied with fancy dress costumes, cakes and toys, you won't be able to drag them away from the party!

## Petal Power

Fancy dress parties are a great way to keep kids entertained. Little girls will love to be a fluttery fairy with this baby woodland fairy dress from Igloo. For sizes 12+ months. Priced at £20.

■ Tel: 0207 354 7300  
■ www.iglookids.co.uk



## Tea Party

Give little ones somewhere to hide and dream with this beautiful Pavillion Willow play tent from Helbent Designs. Complete with frills, detachable curtains and matching appliquéd floor quilt, the tent is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. It even comes with a storage bag. It is priced at £290.

■ Tel: 0208 133 1795  
■ www.helbentdesigns.co.uk

## Hang Out the Flags

Add a splash of summer fun all year round with this colourful bunting, available in pink or blue. It can be personalised with a name or message, perfect for a special celebration. It costs £19.50 from Aspen & Brown.

■ Tel: 0845 371 1171  
■ www.aspenandbrown.com



## Swing Low

Suspended from either a tree or the circular stand, the Ostarra swing from Fletcher and Myburgh is the ultimate swing for two. Nestled inside you can escape the elements and really curl up in its beaten copper walls. Set one up in the garden for hours of fun. It costs a whopping £6,000 but doubles as a work of art for the garden.

■ Tel: 01420 588008  
■ www.fletcherandmyburgh.co.uk

## Puppet Master

While the adults relax, just one person can keep all the kids entertained with this fun puppet theatre. Made from appliquéd and embroidered cotton, it includes two backdrops, pirates and castle, stage door side entrance, light aluminium frame and a storage bag. It costs £185.

■ Tel: 0208 133 1795  
■ www.helbentdesigns.co.uk



# POLYPOOL



Polypool manufactures the world's most advanced heat-retaining pool system. In the UK's Climate, Polypool understands that anyone looking to invest in a pool, indoors or outdoors, will need to maximise its use. That's why Polypool has developed and patented its own unique system of heat retaining panels, guaranteeing unbelievable energy savings while sustaining warm water temperatures.

The Polypool is based on the simple principle of physics: that heat will flow naturally from a warm body to a cold one. Traditional concrete shell or block-work swimming pools dissipate heat from the bottom and walls into the ground, this is because the thermal properties of concrete will allow the transfer of heat. The warmer the pool the more heat will be lost into the ground.

A Polypool on the other hand retains the heat within the water through an insulating closed-cell system made of Polyurethane injection panels, which prevents the constant 10-degree temperature of the surrounding soil from extracting the heat out. During warmer months, the average temperature of a south facing Polypool stands at about 28 to 30 degrees centigrade (with just a solar cover on the top). When compared with a conventional pool, a Polypool can reduce the heat lost through the pool walls by 98%.

With the addition of a solar cover, it is common that the water in a Polypool requires little or no heating at all. This takes away the cost of heating a pool

altogether in very warm weather, or reduces it to as little as £1 per day. Even if the owner is not sensitive to energy bills, the heat saving is especially relevant with the government's latest eco drive!

A Polypool is not just energy efficient, it is also extremely simple to construct. Built of lightweight panels and a unique patented interlocking mechanism, the panels slide and secure into place making Polypool the perfect choice for DIY Projects.

An aboveground Polypool is equally similar to construct and can easily be installed in 2 days. With its hard shell it is not susceptible to puncture and Aboveground Polypools are perfect for transporting when you move house, or for winter storage. All panels on Polypools are pre-plumbed in the factory with the skimmers, inlets, vacuum point and lights included if required.

Polypool technology cannot be found in any other pool as it has unique heat retaining patent, however the costs are comparable to less eco-friendly alternatives.

Polypools are extremely versatile and available in a wide variety of shapes, lengths and depths. A comprehensive technical support package with every DIY Polypool system is provided to enable the customer to self-build or employ a local building contractor to install it. This package is a turnkey solution to any indoor or outdoor, domestic or commercial swimming pool project.

The combination of lower running costs and ease of installation makes

Polypool the number one choice for both professional and DIY customers.

In keeping with its strong eco-friendly credentials, the company also supplies eclear, a natural freshwater oxygen pool purification process which is 100% Chlorine free. By using oxygen to purify the water it is possible to have a clean pool without exposing swimmers to chlorine. The eclear system effectively means that family and friends are swimming in drinking quality water.




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# SUNDANCE SPAS

For more than 27 years, Sundance Spas Inc, the world's largest manufacturer of acrylic hot tubs, has perfected the spa experience. Sundance Spas Inc. is devoted to improving health and lifestyles through its hydrotherapy benefits, including stress relief, health restoration and the creation of an environment for balanced living. Sundance Spas, Inc. offers portable domestic hot tubs, including a complete line of accessories, available through 750 specialty retail locations in more than 80 countries worldwide. Sundance Spas UK Ltd, the importation and distribution outlet for Sundance Spas' products in the UK is now in its 12th year of existence and is the longest established distributor of hot tubs in the UK, with 30 showrooms nationwide where consumers can see the range in the flesh

and even wet-test the unique massage benefits of Sundance Spas first hand.

Sundance Spas is the most sought after and respected brand in the world. With an enviable and unmatched reputation for quality, innovation, cutting edge technology, unique design, energy efficiency, comfort and ergonomics, and unrivalled tangible hydrotherapy benefits, Sundance Spas have won more independent industry awards than any other manufacturer, including the most number of Consumer's Digest Best Buys, and was the first hot tub company to be awarded the ISO9001 quality mark. Sundance are also the first and only manufacturer to have produced a hydrotherapy spa, the AquaJet, licenced for sale to physicians and physiotherapists in the United States. Sundance are also responsible for being the first company to



introduce innovations to the market place which go on to become industry standard. They were the first company to introduce recessed jets, solid state controls, under cabinet ozone, rotating jets, to name but a few and, more latterly and exclusively to Sundance, MicroClean Filtration technology and Fluidix jet technologies. MicroClean filtration technology filters out material down to as small as 1 micron in filter elements which never require cleaning giving the cleanest and easiest to maintain spa on the market, and Fluidix jet technology delivers jets with rotating and oscillating jet streams, but with no moving parts, so that in hard water areas the jets cannot calcify and stop working. 2007 saw the introduction of the iPod docking station to 880 Series spas fitted with the exclusive SunSound stereo system; the only Apple endorsed iPod compatible product in the spa market.

To make your appointment for your wet-test at your nearest Sundance showroom, log on to the Sundance website at [www.sundance-spas.co.uk](http://www.sundance-spas.co.uk) or call us on 0800 146106.



## Sundance Spas

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Swim spas offer numerous health benefits, including weight management, pain relief and cardiovascular exercise.

■ Tel: 01264 850001  
■ www.summitleisure.co.uk

SWIM SPAS

# SWIM In vogue and trendy By Lisa Regan *spas*

Having your own pool, with instant access and nobody to get in your way while swimming, should be a successful way to achieving fitness, and yet so often that's just not the case. Swimming short laps is tiresome, and UK winters are enough to halt your regime for months. So it's just not practical to use a home pool for a daily workout – and almost unthinkable that it could play a part in competitive training. Right?

Except that's no longer necessarily true. The advent of 'swim spas' has revolutionised home aqua fitness, with even committed triathletes undergoing their gruelling training regime in the comfort of their own pool. A huge range of people are following the trend for home workouts and installing low-cost pools that can be taken with them if they move house.

The unique concept of a dual-benefit fitness and relaxation pool hit the UK around four years ago, although swim spas were first manufactured in the mid-1990s. The appeal of a hot tub combined with a counter-current swimming lane allows a vigorous workout followed by a hydrotherapy wind-down session, both at comfortable (and independently controlled) temperatures. And of course, it can still be used to splash around with the kids!

The swim spa is a compact pool, usually between 2 and 5 metres long,

with a spa seating area set at one end. The truly innovative feature is the use of swim jets to create a counter-current. Swimming against this current is the equivalent of running on a treadmill; no more tiresome turns at the end of each lap, and no more straying out of lane.

## What does a swim spa comprise?

- Generally speaking, swim spas incorporate the following features:
- Hot tub (seating 2-6 adults although some have room for up to 9 people) with hydromassage jets
- Swimming lane with front and optional side jets in V or W formation
- Stepped end for access
- Hand rail (above counter-current to allow aqua aerobics)
- Underwater lighting
- Fully insulated heavy-duty lid

"These pools have become hugely popular over the last year or so," says Natasha Rogers, Manager at HotSpring, Enfield. "Now everyone wants them. People who have tried them at the gym or on holiday realise that they're actually



Chef and triathlete Jean-Christophe Novelli uses his HotSpring Riptide swim spa for competitive training. Picture courtesy of Ardent Creative.

■ Tel: 0800 085 8880  
■ www.hotspring.co.uk

an affordable option for their own home." Because the pool is foam-insulated around the main shell, it is much more energy efficient than a standard pool. The lid is fully thermal so that 24-hour heating is possible. The Riptide model, exclusive to HotSpring, can be run at 32° for an average of £1.40 per day, with an hour's use daily. HotSpring suggest that for an estimated £500 per year you can choose to buy gym membership and incur travel costs, journey time and share the facilities – or you can run your own pool and swim at your leisure.

Fitness swimming is just one of the options available. The constant and controllable temperature ensures that the pool can be kept warm enough for a splash-around with the children, and used year-round to teach small ones to swim without the end-of-session shivering that may put them off entering the >>> 44

## SWIM SPAS

►► water the next time. Turn the thermostat down a fraction and use the pool for aqua aerobics; turn on the countercurrent and walk, run or strength train using the water's buoyancy for low-impact workouts.

"Our whole family use it, and our two and a half-year old son absolutely loves it. It's just a fantastic addition to the garden, and helps to make use of the garden all year round. We used ours all through Christmas and New Year!" enthuses Isobel Rickards, Director of Elite Spas Ltd.

Choosing the right model for your requirements may well depend on the hot tub features in the different options. Several on the market incorporate seating and massaging jets in the main pool area, with separate temperature controls for that section only. Others do require a quick hop over a partition to reach the spa area; often though these have the capacity to seat more people. Aquamonde offers a range of swim spas which include both 'single body of water' types and 'dual body of water types' where the spa section is separate from the swimming section. Models start from £14,800.

Says Paul Harrison, from Aquamonde Lifestyle Ltd, "With a swim spa you can enjoy all the benefits of a full sized pool at a fraction of the cost and in a fraction of the space. Less water, less heating, less chemicals all adds up to an affordable, convenient home health-centre to be enjoyed all year."

### You do the maths:

#### Gym membership (with pool)

- Spirit Gyms Yearly membership £518  
Monthly direct debit membership x 12 (including £15 admin charge) £591
- Virgin Active Health Clubs Yearly membership up to £1720 (London area, including £100 joining fee)
- David Lloyd Monthly direct debit membership x 12 (including £120 joining fee) £1080

#### Swim spa

- Suggested cost of installation from £16k
- Typical heating cost £10-20 per week (dependent on thermostat setting)
- Yearly outlay £500-£1000



A swim spa is an attractive addition to your home, and can be taken with you if you move house.

■ Tel: 0870 766 1894  
■ [www.elitehottubs.co.uk/swim\\_spas.html](http://www.elitehottubs.co.uk/swim_spas.html)



Swim spas can be housed in a new extension or conservatory as well as outside on a patio or decking.

■ Tel: 01264 850001  
■ [www.summitleisure.co.uk](http://www.summitleisure.co.uk)

Of course, it's easy to swallow the sales speak. Chances are you're logging on right now to find your nearest showroom. But are they really all they're hyped up to be, or is it just another passing vogue? Some might feel the world of celebdom is a good indicator of what's going to be gone tomorrow despite it being very much 'wow' today – but internationally-renowned chef Jean-Christophe Novelli is determined to make even more use of his swim spa after using it latterly in his training for the Michelob ULTRA London Triathlon.

"My Olympic exercise pool certainly helped me to improve my overall stamina and fitness levels. Swimming against the high-power jets let me find a rhythm that wouldn't be possible where laps are necessary. An added bonus was being able to train in my back garden!"

His only regret is that he didn't get it earlier: "As soon as I get home I am going to devise a training programme for next year which will certainly include my exercise pool!"

And are there options for those of you who already own a standard pool? According to Chris Brindle of use-it-more.com, an above-ground pool can be converted at a cost of £5,000-6,000. With the addition of a pack-away enclosure (for all-year round shelter), vertical-side insulation, heat pump, hot

tub features and Badu-jet to create a counter-current, you can achieve the swim-spa effect and use your pool for several more months per year.

That truly seems to be one of the most desirable benefits of the swim spa experience. Swimming all year round in your own garden in the UK has until now been an expensive exercise in the UK. The message from the retailers is clear: the combination of reduced cost, small size and 'best of all worlds' approach to fitness, fun and relaxation is what has prompted the boom in swim spa sales. If you want to stay cool in your pool, stay warm – all year round! ■



Swimming against the counter current allows maximum fitness training in just a small amount of space.

■ Tel: 01723 865777  
■ [www.aquamonde.co.uk](http://www.aquamonde.co.uk)

### Swim spas offer numerous health benefits:

**Cardiovascular exercise** – low-impact but high energy output

**Weight management** – suitable for all weights and fitness levels

**Sleep enhancement** – exercise and warm water combined can enhance sleep quality

**Pain relief** – arthritis and back-pain sufferers in particular notice improvements through spa massage and water-based exercise

# SPA CREST HOT TUBS

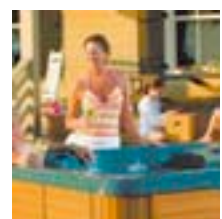
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# Upmarket PROPERTY

In an ever competitive housing market, it's the features that make that extra memorable difference and convey to potential purchasers a message about lifestyle that are increasingly coming under the spotlight. And as the demand for hot tubs and spas increases from all sectors of the buying public, so this reflects in their list of 'must-haves' when choosing a property.

No longer exclusively the domain of the super-rich, a quality hot tub in a log cabin has become an affordable luxury, and demand is high – even among those living in the chilly north of the country. Yvonne Robertson has been running Carwhinley Spas and Log Buildings in Cumbria with her husband Darryl for a year and a half, and says that business is booming. "The majority of our customers are ordinary, hardworking people," she said. "This year there's been more interest than last and we expect next year to be even busier. People are more aware and more interested than ever before and hot tubs have become the latest home accessory."

As affordability fuels demand, there are even reports that some property companies have begun fitting hot tubs as standard into new developments. Certainly estate agents and consumers alike are unanimous in agreeing that a quality installation can increase a property's saleability. Richard Stronach,

valuer for agents H&H King, says that the message given out is clear. "Having a hot tub or equivalent indicates a high-stack property – in other words, it's in a high-value area, it has privacy, space and is of a better standard than average," he said. "It indicates that the property has been properly done up and had money spent on it. And although they may not show it, people are quietly impressed."

At the higher end of the market, purchasers can afford to make their impressions clear from the outset and are more specific in their requirements. Beyond a certain threshold, features such as pools, jacuzzis and steam rooms not only indicate even more strongly the value of the property but are conspicuous by their absence. Helen Budgen of Humberts said. "There's no doubt that an outdoor water leisure feature adds value, for example, if it's a splendid wonderful installation with an entertainment area. And at the £1m plus level you would expect it – it's part of the tennis court and pool lifestyle."

Rob Godfrey from Bidwells, the largest independent UK firm of property consultants outside London, agrees. "Swimming pools are regarded as a positive selling feature and sought-after additions, especially in the mid-upper sector, and indoor pools hold a premium," he said. "We

“Swimming pools are regarded as a positive selling feature and sought-after additions”

We all know that conservatories and garden rooms add value to a property – now it seems it’s the turn of leisure features like swim spas and hot tubs to make a splash. Elizabeth Hulme reports.



have a substantial house currently on the market at £1.25m with an indoor pool. I’d say that even though it may have cost a couple of hundred thousand to build, it has uplifted the overall value of the property by about £100k.”

The penchant for outdoor pools, though, is still strong, and with the change in attitude towards ‘green’ values and technology, it isn’t surprising that the demand for eco pools, or natural swimming pools, is booming. Clear Water Revival is a Bristol-based company of ecological engineers established at the beginning of 2006 and is harnessing the interest in the renaissance of water gardens, swimming in natural waters and the restoration of aquatic habitats in England. The natural swimming pool combines a conventional pool and a naturally functioning wetland, creating a clean and chemical-free environment for swimming and a wildlife attraction for the garden. With the initial cost similar to that of building a conventional pool, advantages include low maintenance, passive solar heating and the year-round beauty of a water garden.

Clear Water Revival’s co-director David Nettleton believes that these type of pools have the potential to increase a property’s value even more than traditional pools. “Some people may be put off by the health and safety issues that go with owning a

normal pool,” he said. “As well as being free of chemicals, natural swimming pools have more safety features, for example, a shallow slope leading in instead of a drop into deep water.”

Natural pools are also about creating beautiful spaces, with a bespoke, rustic design which blends into and enhancing the scheme of the garden. David says that because of their very recent appearance in the UK, their impact on property values is still hard to assess, but that aesthetics are key. “They give the impression of something of a lot more valuable than your conventional artificial pool,” he said. “Natural pools have been going strong in Austria for the last 20 years and have only really emerged over here from about 2001. And, after all, our climate isn’t that different from Austria. When the property market has a chance to see more working examples, it’ll really take off.”

For those seeking to buy a holiday home which they may visit only occasionally, a property which is already equipped with the means for a watery wind-down has added appeal. Helen Budgen added: “Weekenders from London love the idea of getting somewhere which has a swim spa or hot tub – they can escape the stress, get there, then just chill out straight away with their own at home rather than having to go out to public pool.” >>> 49

**Main and Above:** This substantial house is on sale for £1.25m with Bidwells in Northampton, which estimates that the high-spec indoor pool has lifted the overall value of the property by £100k. Image courtesy of Bidwells

**Below:** A hot tub area boosts a property by giving it another room that can be used all year round. Image courtesy of Dimension One Spas.



Heritage pools are one of the UK's leading installers of shotcrete pool shells. The company is able to trace its roots back to 1965 and was one of the first companies to utilise the sprayed concrete process in the UK.

We pride ourselves on the fact that all of the works- construction, rendering and tiling, filtration and heating insulation are carried out by our own personnel, thereby ensuring that the quality of their finished product is maintained throughout.

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➤➤ While valuers and surveyors may still be hesitant to commit themselves to a general consensus about pinpointing additional value, one such hot tub enthusiast and business owner has no such qualms. Catherine Smalley and her husband Mark moved from Leicestershire two years ago to open Lakeland Spas near Carlisle. The couple's progress was featured on Channel Four's Relocation Relocation as millions tuned in to watch them agonise over where to set up their fledgling spa business when the show was aired in January last year. The pair's home, which had an outdoor hot tub they had installed five years earlier, was valued in preparation for the move.

Catherine said: "We'd had a hot tub at the house we lived in before and when we came to sell it we'd added the tub as a separate deal. But when it came to the final negotiations, the purchaser offered the full asking price but then wanted the hot tub included. We said to ourselves that if we were ever in that situation again, we'd do better than that."

This time around, three agents valued the Smalley's house at £475k and all advised them to offer the spa separately. However, this time the couple would not be swayed. "We didn't want to mess about again," said Catherine. "We decided to add £20k to the price and see what happened." What did happen caught them – and their estate agent – completely by surprise. "We got the full asking price from four purchasers within a week," said Catherine. "And the people who actually bought it had never had a hot tub before! We'd had the tub for five years, and we reckon we made an extra £12k on the overall deal."

Catherine thinks that estate agents aren't committing themselves to adding specific values for these types of features because they are still not that common. She added: "I'd advise anyone to do what we did – just be confident. A hot tub in a cabin in the garden is virtually another room that you can use all year round. Once you've got someone looking round your house, sell them the lifestyle that goes with it – the benefits, the convenience. And it's already there – it's a small amount of extra money compared with the house price and outweighs all the hassle of getting one."



### What the experts say

- Do it properly! Don't economise on heating, tiling, finish, etc – you don't want to give prospective vendors the impression that they're walking into their local public swimming baths.
- Situate an outside pool or tub in landscaped surrounds so it looks good, not plonked in the middle of the lawn.
- Give a hot tub a gazebo or a cabin to make an instant impact and catch the buyer's eye straight away.
- Don't have the garden dominated by a hot tub area otherwise it will make it less sellable for 75% of the market.
- Make a hot tub or pool one of the separate feature areas of the garden
- Dress a hot tub up like the rest of the house if you're selling – make sure the water is warm and crystal clear.

Consumers and estate agents alike remain united about the 'wow' factor that hot tubs, swimspas and pools bring to a property, infinitely enhancing its attractiveness and saleability. And increasingly, it seems, if there isn't one there, there ought to be. Hot tub owner Nadine Sutor from Cumbria has the final word. She and her husband are looking to move into a house next door to her elderly mother, leaving her outdoor tub and gazebo behind. "The house we've seen is lovely but at the moment it doesn't have a hot tub," she said. "But the garden is big enough. If there were no room for one, I wouldn't be moving there." ■

#### Clockwise from top:

The combination of aesthetics and ecology is one of the main attractions of an eco-pool. © Water Revival.


People are becoming increasingly interested in properties which have hot tubs or the space to put them. © Dimension One Spas.

A natural swimming pool may boost the value of a property more than a conventional one. © Clear Water Revival.



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Technology has transformed the role of the hot tub. **Tom Cropper** looks at the latest developments to hit the market.



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TECHNO WIZARD



Give an inch and they'll take a mile; it's a motto hot tub manufacturers know all too well.

No sooner do they come up with one exciting new innovation than their customers are demanding more. The result is an industry that's evolving at a frantic pace; one in which new innovations are forever struggling to stay ahead of expectations.

Kevin Sanger of Elite Hot Tubs has seen these changes from the front line. "Hot tubs have been evolving very quickly in terms of technology in the last five years," he says. "It's like comparing an old car from 30 years ago with one today. That gives you an idea of the leap in technology we've seen."

Among the new developments to hit the market recently are improvements in water massage technology, in-tub lighting, stereos and even DVD plasma screens, but that's nothing as to the kind of wonders that are on the horizon.

"We're now looking at things like interactive controls whereby you can check on the state of your hot tub from your mobile phone," he explains. "There is even the possibility to control lighting from your hot tub."

Our perception of hot tubs is evolving as rapidly as the technology. From simply a place in which to relax and have a good time, they could soon become the central hub of any outdoor party, acting not only as a place for people to have a soak, but also playing music, controlling lighting and generally setting the tone for the entire outdoor space. I haven't found one that can run the barbecue yet, but rest assured – it exists out there somewhere.

## Sound and Vision

Increasingly hot tubs offer a complete sensory experience, taking in sight, sound and sensation, the addition of integrated waterfalls and lighting systems transforming them from purely functional items into centre pieces for a garden design.

Waterfalls and mini fountains create soothing background music of running water. The Illusion Spa from Splash Spas, for example, includes a waterfall feature with soothing sounds and a delightful visual effect. It is adjustable for a full stream or you can shut it off completely.

Meanwhile in-pool lights put on spectacular displays, especially at night. You don't need to worry about the dangers of combining electricity with water; increasingly effective LED technology makes it possible to achieve

stunning effects in perfect safety.

A good example is Jacuzzi's J-400 hot tub which uses light and movement of water to the maximum effect. Waterfalls offer the sound of moving water while jets, with coloured LED lights, produce a marvellous champagne bubbles effect. More colourful LEDs are positioned beneath the surface and behind waterfalls, to complete a somewhat other worldly effect.

The J 400 also includes a patented 'Aquasound' stereo system which uses waterproof speakers embedded in the bodywork of the hot tub to pipe through a selection of tunes. It points to a progressive trend to try and bring the creature comforts of the living room into the garden spa. Just sit back, grab a drink and relax to the sounds of your favourite tunes. Marquis spas, on the other hand, feature a Soundsations™ audio system and enable the user to control the spa's sound from anywhere with the optional Dolphin remote. Some even have speakers which send vibrations through the seat so you can actually feel the music.

Others have gone a step further, incorporating a waterproofed plasma screen so you can enjoy TV and DVDs while relaxing in the water. Prices for this are around £7,000 which does not push it too far beyond the reach of many people, but the real zenith can be found with Catalina spas who recently unveiled their show stopping Theatre Spa. Seating around 11 people gathered around a plasma screen at the far end of tub, this is a unique way to enjoy movies. LED lights, waterfalls and targeted water jets complete the package of absolute luxury.

## Swimming Lessons

One of the quickest growing sectors of the market is in swim spas. To some it

might seem akin to blasphemy to interrupt a relaxing soak with something as vulgar as physical exercise, but to others it is simply a natural extension.

Swimming has been proved to be one of the most effective forms of exercise available, building up muscles and improving aerobic capacity with minimal stress on bones and joints. For those who have always lusted over a swimming pool, but have never had enough space, a swim spa seems to be the perfect answer.

Castle Hot Tubs use a patented 'Exerswim' propulsion system in their H2X swim spas to create a superior swimming experience. A special propeller creates a wider, deeper, current while easy to use digital controls help you control the speed of the flow and the water temperature to your own personal tastes.

Other models contain a separate spa compartment to help you recover in comfort, perhaps with a nice drink.

Recent growth in this area has been extravagant as Kevin Sanger confirms. "Last year we sold around 25 swim spas," he explains. "This year we've already sold 16. The market for swim spas is almost doubling annually and could soon be a massive market sector."

## Water Movement

To find the most important technological developments, however, we have to look beneath the surface. Manufacturers are sinking vast resources into making water move in new and exciting ways that feel nice and maximise these benefits by targeting the right areas in the right way. Powerful, but gentle jets target individual muscles and pressure points such as the back and neck soothing aches and pains. Foot-wells can ease painful feet while cluster jets target specific points on the body. >> 52

## TECHNO WIZARD



The Illusion Spa is from the Fantasy range at Splash Spas. Comfortably seating four, it features a deep bucket chair complete with rotating back jets and a waterfall feature. It costs £1,999.

■ Tel: 01420 520030  
■ [www.splashspas.co.uk](http://www.splashspas.co.uk)

### CONTACTS

**Castle Hot Tubs**  
[www.castlehottubs.co.uk](http://www.castlehottubs.co.uk)  
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**Catalina Spas**  
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01980 611 555

**Jacuzzi**  
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01400 283 565

**Sundance Spas**  
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**Elite Hot Tubs**  
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### Accessorise This

Sometimes it's the extras that make life that little bit sweeter. Wireless technology comes into the spa with a remote control with which you can change your music choices or vary the temperature of the water and the settings of the pump.

However, you might still have to leave your seat to get nourishment, so how about some drinks holders which clip onto the edge of the hot tub so your glass of wine is never far from reach? Alternatively you could go the whole hog with a spa caddy as offered by Sundance spas which attaches the rim of any hot tub and acts as a side tray on which you can place towels, drinks and food.



Soothing Waterfall feature and in-spa remote controls are available on many Marquis spas. Marquis Spas are distributed by Golden Coast Ltd.

■ Tel: 01271 378100  
■ [www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com)

### Tip Tips: Get the most out of your technology

- Choose one with full foam insulation. This could cut energy bills by around half.
- A model with a sealed heating element will last longer
- Leave the circulation system running so you have clean water whenever you need it

►► The health benefits of this have been well documented. They have been used to relieve sports injuries and arthritis as well as mitigating the worst effects of stress and improve sleep quality.

Taking it one step further, some spas have incorporated powerful magnets in the seats to ease pressure points on the necks and joints. This may seem like new age science fiction, but there are those who swear by these systems and believe they have been integral components in recovery from serious injury.

### Easy Does It

For all the bells and whistles available in modern hot tubs, sometimes it's the simpler things that keep people happy.

"Most people just want to bathe for comfort," says Charles Farr of Catalina Spas, "so we're concentrating on providing better hydrotherapy options. People are mostly interested in back up services, reliability and peace of mind. They want confidence in knowing they are dealing with people who have been in the business for a long time and will still be around in the future."

Quality is all important and the standard, in terms of construction and durability, has reached quite staggering levels, among the best suppliers. Modern models are made from touch impact resistant materials, which withstand the worst that the elements can throw at it without losing their looks.

Operation is made simple thanks to digital panels which put full system control at your fingertips from monitoring water quality to varying temperature to your tastes. Some also offer remote controls so you can get everything set up to perfection before you even climb into the tub. This can be taken out much further as wireless technology begins to infiltrate every part of our lives. So-called intelligent homes already exist in which ever appliance, including the hot tub can be controlled from a central unit somewhere in the house. You may even be able to send instructions or monitor your hot tub while you're at work, a handy way to set it up ready for your return.

The pace of development is certainly staggering, but the main reasons for buying a hot tub have not changed. Quality and reliability are all uppermost in the minds of the customers and though they may be dazzled by glamorous add-ons, the biggest sellers will always be those that offer the best pure bathing experience. ■

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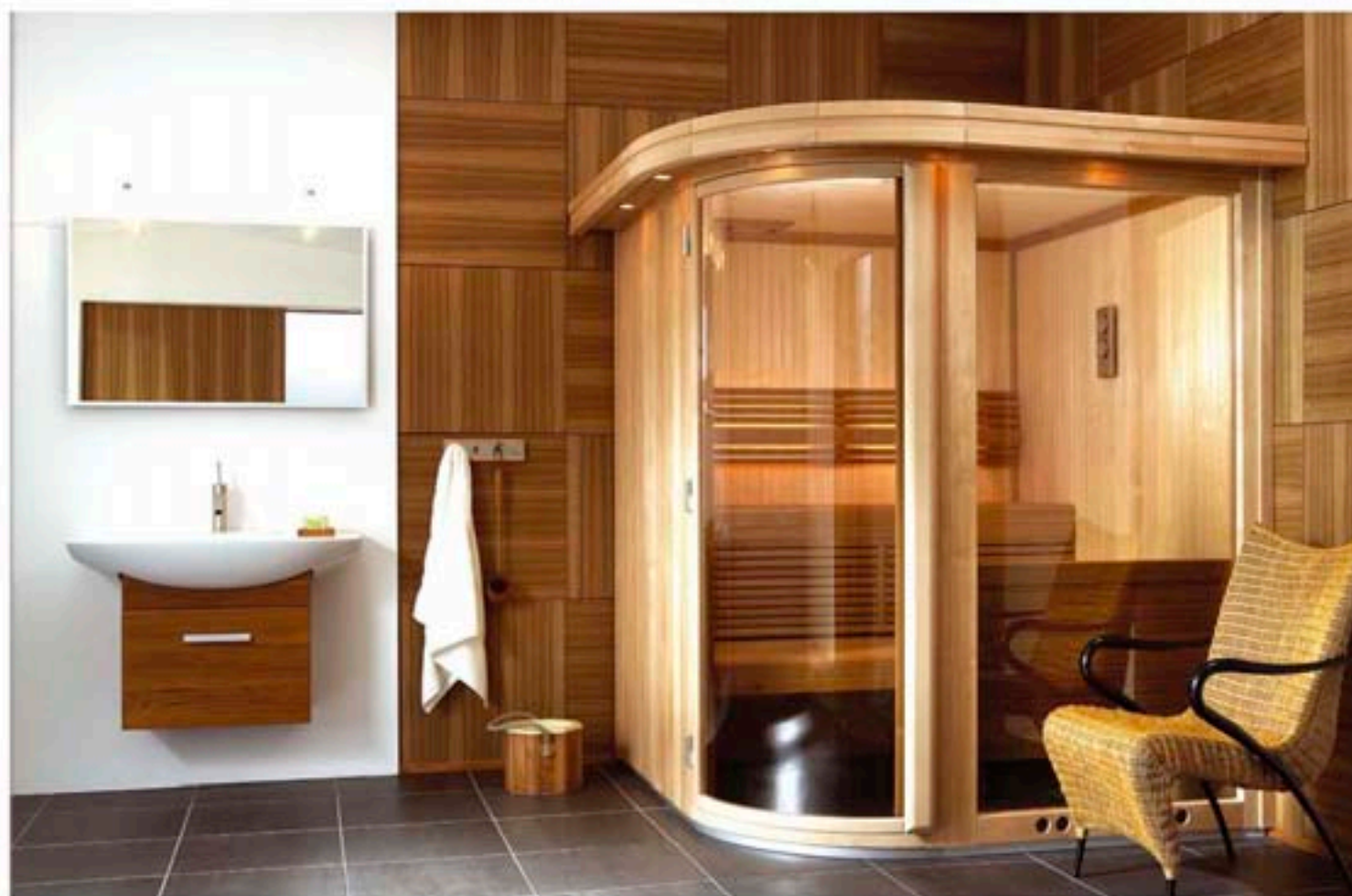
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# Saunas

## THE BARE NAKED TRUTH

Always wanted to own a sauna but let someone put you off? Don't let common misconceptions get your temperature rising, discover the low down with **Lorna Bareham's** true or false guide



Originating from Finland, saunas have been part Scandinavians' daily life for thousands of years. While many Brits have now too discovered the benefits of a home sauna, some have reservations, often for the wrong reasons...

### Saunas are bad for your health

**FALSE**

In fact, quite the opposite! Saunas have long been renowned for their healing properties. Not only do they provide the perfect environment to relax after a stressful day at work, they also offer a whole host of health benefits. According to Tylo Sauna's, specialists in the field, saunas boost your complexion, improve blood circulation and, by encouraging the body to release endorphins, create an all round feel-good factor. They may also help to alleviate pain and improve joint mobility for those with arthritis and rheumatism. Most people can enjoy a sauna, however, if you are pregnant, suffer from high blood pressure, heart problems or any other medical condition; always check with your GP before use.

### Saunas make your muscles tighten up

**FALSE**

Adrian Glover from Viking Saunas, says "The heat actually relaxes the muscles and can relieve the symptoms of a cold or flu, aches and pains etc."

### Saunas will burn a hole in your pocket

**FALSE**

Despite what you may think, saunas are not expensive to run. "The rate will obviously vary depending on size and heater power," explains Andre Knight of Splash Spas, "but the average running cost of a sauna is approximately 20p to 30p an hour."

### You can have a sauna every day

**TRUE**

If you are in good health, you can bathe in a sauna as often as you like. "Enjoying a sauna is a personal thing," says Andre Knight of Splash Spas. He adds,

"you should always listen to your body and do as you feel best. For first timers, we would suggest staying in for a few minutes, depending on the temperature." Adrian Glover, says, "On leaving it is best to take a cool or cold shower to help close the pores then relax for a while until the body has cooled and a feeling of complete relaxation is achieved. If desired, the bather can then return to the sauna and repeat the process."

### Saunas take up a lot of space

**FALSE**

Saunas can be very compact in design. The smallest in the Helo range ([www.helo.co.uk](http://www.helo.co.uk)) measures just 134cm x 109cm – about the space of a wardrobe!

### You have to be nude in a sauna

**FALSE**

Whether you wish to enjoy a sauna in the buff, prefer to wear a towel or bathing suit, it really doesn't matter; the important thing is that you feel comfortable. The wooden benches in a sauna can feel hot against the skin, so it's best to have a towel to sit on, and another to mop your brow.

### Saunas make you thirsty

**TRUE**

The intense heat causes the body to perspire excessively, so it's important to drink plenty of water before, during and after a sauna in order to avoid dehydration.

### Saunas are high maintenance

**FALSE**

Saunas require very little maintenance says Graham Kelsey of Summit Leisure, "Apart from the obvious routine cleaning of the floor and benches, saunas need little attention."

### Saunas are dangerous

**FALSE**

"Providing your sauna is properly installed by a professional, there should be no danger in its use," explains Graham Kelsey. "While heaters are installed with a protective rail, children should always be supervised." ■

ABOVE: Splash Spas  
BELOW: Viking Saunas



## CONTACTS

### ■ Tylo Saunas

Tel: 01271 378100  
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### ■ Splash Spas

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### ■ Summit Leisure

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### ■ Drom UK

Tel: 08450 255 444.  
[www.dromuk.com](http://www.dromuk.com)

### ■ Viking Saunas

Tel: 01257 427019.  
[www.viking-saunas.co.uk](http://www.viking-saunas.co.uk)



# POOLED resources

Does pool and spa owning have to consume a lot of energy? **Hal Norman** investigates.



Owning a swimming pool or spa gives us an opportunity to relax in some luxury in the privacy of our own homes. For many of us, chilling out in some warm water is the ideal way to forget the stresses of the working week and problems at home. However, global warming and climate change have made water and fossil fuels increasingly valuable resources so is it possible to soak in the pool without a nagging doubt at the back of your mind that your ostensibly harmless pleasure is somehow contributing to the destruction of the planet?

The answer, according to Brian Andrews, Managing Director of Heritage Pools Ltd, can be yes. He explains: "You can make many green choices in the design of an ordinary swimming pool or spa that can help reduce the resulting carbon footprint from the pool." Most pools are heated by oil or gas but this can be supplemented by solar power.

There are a number of companies offering a solar-powered solution to the problem of heating the pool. For outdoor pools Powertech Solar Ltd sell OKU solar panels which absorb solar energy through a large surface area made of black high molecular polyethylene. Water passing through the panel is heated and pumped back into the pool. So, how

many panels will you need? Technical Manager Andy Clark explains: "The number of OKU panels you need depends on the square metreage of the pool. Fifty per cent of the pool square area is used to calculate the quantity of panel absorber area needed. For example a 10 x 5m pool requires twenty-four OKU panels." The panels can be easily mounted on a roof, a fence or even on the lawn.

When linked to an existing pool pump the reduction in water pressure is minimal. There are also few worries about maintenance as the panels are resistant to swimming pool water and temperature-resistant from -50°C to 115°C.

The company also offers the more expensive option of solar vacuum tube collectors which are suitable for heating both indoor and outdoor pools via a heat exchanger. Another attraction of this option is that it can be incorporated into the domestic heating system, thus defraying the total cost.

Another company working in this area is Riomay, who reckon on supplying six 3 x 1 m solar panels for a 10 x 5 m pool holding 75 m<sup>3</sup> of water. This should supply 10800 kW of heat annually, enabling the pool to be used for about eight months in every year. At a relatively small extra cost >>> 58

ABOVE: Riomay solar heating panels are amongst the most versatile as they can be placed at an angle on a roof, flat or vertical on a flank wall.

■ Tel: 01323 648641  
■ [www.riomay.com](http://www.riomay.com)

MAIN: The Apricus solar vacuum tube collector from Powertech Solar Ltd is a solar vacuum tube collector, used for heating indoor or outdoor pools via a heat exchanger. It can also be incorporated into the home's domestic hot water system to make it more cost effective.

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►► the solar panels can be rigged up to supply hot water to the house, although the tank will probably have to be replaced by a solar thermal dual heat exchanger tank. The system will automatically switch to conventional power if there is not enough solar power. Riomay also offer to make your solar panels an attractive garden feature by hiding them within the confines of a pergola.

While changes can be made to an existing pool, if you are having a new pool constructed there are a number of things you can do. A darker tile will draw more heat into the pool and a transparent cover will allow sunlight to heat the pool when not in use. A thermal bubble cover will raise a pool's temperature a few degrees. Installing insulation in the pool walls and floor will also conserve heat and reduce bills. Another option is to install ground source heat pumps, where a 60 m hole is bored into the ground to tap into the natural thermal currents that exist at that depth.

For hot tubs a company called Eco Spas recovers the heat lost from the spa pump to heat the tub. Unlike many hot tubs which are made of a single acrylic shell mounted in a wooden or metal cabinet, the Eco Spas are moulded in one-piece constructions. The shell of the tub is fully insulated with foam to reduce the heat loss and also to reduce the amount of electricity required.

### Humidity

Humidity can be an issue for indoor pools. Unchecked, it can cause damage as the water vapour gets into the walls and ceilings. One solution is provided by Calorex, based near London, who supply swimming pool dehumidifiers which recover and recycle the latent energy provided by humidity to provide heat for the water.

### Water consumption

In these days of hosepipe bans water consumption is a big issue. Of course, even the smallest swimming pool uses a great deal of water so how can you enjoy a pool or spa without risking becoming a social pariah? Fortunately, a solution is at hand. A company called Dripool supply automatic pool covers and an eco pool tank recycling system so that you need never have to worry about drought. Very simply, this consists of a 5000 l storage tank and a pump. The pump collects rainwater from the pool cover which then passes into the tank where it is then sterilised, ready to be returned to the pool when required. There is no need to worry about the supply of water as there is enough annual rainfall even in the south of England to fill the tank.

### Keeping the pool clean

Historically, acid, or most commonly, chlorine, have been regarded as the most effective way to keep the pool walls and floor free of algae. However, the chemicals are potentially health hazards— particularly to asthma sufferers and



those of us with sensitive skin – they are expensive and they are abrasive to the tiles. One environmentally friendly solution is to install ionisers which starve the algae of oxygen, thus destroying them before they damage the pool. While it is still necessary to use chlorine, the amount required is reduced by up to ninety per cent. As well as the environmental benefit there is a significant cost benefit in reducing chlorine use. What's more, the pump will last longer because it will not corrode at the same rate as when significant amounts of chlorine are being used. Furthermore, chlorinated water must be drained away whereas the water from a purified pool can be recycled into the garden to stimulate plant growth.

There are also proprietary products on the market. For example, EcoOne offers a spa treatment, the EcoOne Monthly Spa Treatment, that it claims will stabilise the alkalinity and pH of the water, eliminate scum lines and foam, itching and rashes and help to alleviate dry skin by reducing the overall chemical use. The ingredients used in the spa treatment include coconut, mineral and botanical extracts, all of which are biodegradable.

### Off the planet

At the far end of the scale of environmentally friendliness there are companies such as Gartenart which offer natural swimming pools, also known as swimming ponds. The pool looks like a garden pond but the water is clear and pure enough for swimming. In the middle is a deep swimming area and this is surrounded by a shallow area planted with flora designed to purify the water. The process of cleaning is therefore biological and natural, rather than chemical. The company also believes the biological process to be more effective at cleaning the water than chlorine. To be effective the pool requires the planting area to be the same size as the swimming area. One potential drawback of this system is that adding a heated system is not recommended. However, the plants will act as a natural solar panel so the water will not be as cold as you might fear. ■



TOP: For a home pool, having solar heating panels installed is easy because it is discreet, unlikely to upset the neighbours and cost effective. Riomay solar heating panels can also be used as an architectural feature or creative garden pergola.

■ Tel: 01323 648641  
■ [www.riomay.com](http://www.riomay.com)

ABOVE: Powertech Solar Ltd sell solar/air source heat pump products which take the heat out of the ambient and, through a reverse refrigeration process, provide energy to heat the water via a heat exchanger. Prices available on application.

■ Tel: 01202 890234  
■ [www.powertech-solar.com](http://www.powertech-solar.com)

### CONTACTS

■ **Heritage Pools:**  
Tel: 01483 235858.  
[www.heritagepools.co.uk](http://www.heritagepools.co.uk)

■ **Powertech Solar:**  
Tel: 01202 890 234.  
[www.solar.org.uk](http://www.solar.org.uk)

■ **Riomay:**  
Tel: 01323 648641.  
[www.riomay.com](http://www.riomay.com)

■ **Gartenart:**  
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■ **Dripool:**  
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[www.dripool.co.uk](http://www.dripool.co.uk)

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## ECOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS

Of interest to all **pool owners**, PoolSan offers an **effective, ecological and chlorine-free** alternative to maintain your pool...

PoolSan UK offers a new product that could change the way many people purify and maintain their swimming pools, and is equally effective for public and private amenities. PoolSan is a unique product that is chlorine-free, hypoallergenic, odourless – and lasts up to three times longer than other chlorine-based products. Its purifying qualities allow pool owners to enjoy the experience of chemical-free purified water, eliminating the sufferance of burning eyes, dried-out hair, wrinkled skin; or any irritating effects to those who suffer from conditions such as asthma, psoriasis and eczema.

PoolSan promotes sparkling crystal clear water that is environmentally and user-friendly, controlling and eliminating levels of bacteria, algae and fungi. Quite simply, this is one of the easiest pool cleansing products on the market today.

In an age where we must all be environmentally responsible, products such as PoolSan are a welcome arrival on the scene. No wonder then, to find that it is affiliated to the Water Development Program (WDP) an officially UK-registered initiative, which has been set up to bring to market a unique series of products that offer environmentally friendly, biological and non-chemical

solutions to the contaminated water problem affecting so much of the developed and developing world ([www.waterdevelopmentprogram.org](http://www.waterdevelopmentprogram.org)).

### PoolSan – The benefits

- Chlorine-free
- Ozone, environmentally and user-friendly
- Hypoallergenic – does not cause eye irritations, ear infections, asthmatic attacks, inflame psoriasis, eczema or other skin irritations
- Odourless – no more chlorine smells or residue
- Physically softer water
- Promotes sparkling crystal clear water
- Non-corrosive – prevents scaling of pipes
- Non-toxic
- Controls bacteria, algae and fungi
- Pool ready-for-use 15mins after dosage
- Proven in long-term trials and tested by the Health Protection Agency, London
- Lasts up to 3 times longer than chlorine!

### How does it work?

PoolSan is a saturated complex ionic aqueous solution containing copper, silver, zinc, aluminium and gold. The microscopic action of these natural mineral ions with the algae and bacteria are twofold. First, the algae and bacteria in the water are destroyed through a change in their

enzyme processes as the ions break down their DNA structures and cell walls. Secondly, all the charged particles flock together so they can be trapped by a filter. The ions maintain stability in the water until they are used up by this process.

### Contact us

For further information about PoolSan and our range of products please see our website [www.poolsanuk.com](http://www.poolsanuk.com) or call us direct on +44 (0) 20 7749 9699.

PoolSan UK has a global network of Sub Distributors, to find your local PoolSan supplier or if you are interested in becoming a PoolSan Sub Distributor visit our website [www.poolsanuk.com](http://www.poolsanuk.com) for more information.





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## HEALING POWERS

Spa pools are specifically designed for relaxation and therapy rather than swimming. The traditional whirlpool or hot tub has been around for many years but modern versions have introduced innovative new features designed to heighten the relaxation experience or to provide targeted therapeutic relief. There are various ways in which these spas cure all manner of ills.

### Hot and Cold

Everyone knows the sweet relief of sinking into a hot bath to relieve tiredness and relax your muscles – well hot tubs work in the same way. The use of water temperature to relax the body is known as hydrothermal therapy. It is not a modern phenomenon; the ancient Greeks took therapeutic baths and water is an important ingredient in the traditional Chinese and Native American healing systems. Generally, heat quiets and soothes the body, slowing down the activity of internal organs. In this way, a hot shower can make a tense person feel less anxious and stressed. Cold, in contrast, stimulates and invigorates, increasing internal activity. A tired and stressed out person would benefit from a warm shower or bath followed by a short, invigorating cold shower to help stimulate body and mind. Spa pools are kept at a higher temperature (around 30°C) than swimming pools as people are more likely to get cold, as they are not moving around. The higher temperature ensures a more comfortable leisure experience for the user.

#### How it works...

Hydrotherapy exploits the body's reaction to the sensations of extreme hot and cold. The combination of moving water, as well as the increased temperature, stimulates the nerves carrying impulses felt at the skin deeper into the body, where they are instrumental in stimulating the immune system, influencing the production of stress hormones, invigorating the circulation and digestion, encouraging blood flow, and lessening pain sensitivity. ►► 62

#### Pay attention...

- Elderly people and young children may be prone to exhaustion by too much heat and should avoid long full body hot treatments.
- The high temperatures of hot tubs mean they are more at risk from bacterial diseases and so must be properly maintained at all times.

# TAKING the waters

Charlotte Church recently hit the headlines when she bought a hot tub for boyfriend Gavin Henson. Rugby player Henson will no doubt use it to relax in after a hard match. But do hot tubs have actual magical healing powers or is it just a pleasant sensation?

## HEALING POWERS



The Aqua Sana spas at Center Parcs offers various aquatic multi sensory experiences, such as an aqua meditation room, an ice fountain and multi-sensory showers.

■ Tel: 08700 673030  
■ [www.centerparcs.co.uk](http://www.centerparcs.co.uk)

### And Relax...

The National Sleep Foundation suggests that spa use aids a good night's sleep. This could be because of the swirling whirlpools and powerful jets which massage, relax and soothe muscles. Water jet massage utilises jets of warm water in circular motions to massage the body from head to toe. Water jet massage therapy is so effective that it is regularly used by professional athletes and in the treatment of paralytic patients. Air jets can be strategically placed around the spa pool to offer a therapeutic massage to the lower body and back as the bather relaxes. Different jets target various areas of the body for different effects, such as the neck, back, legs and calf area. Choose from a powerful, deep massage for large muscle groups or ingeniously placed jets for a perfectly focused massage. Air jets can also be used to provide a resistance for the purpose of exercise in a small pool.

#### How it works...

When you submerge yourself in a bath, a pool, or a whirlpool, you experience a kind of weightlessness. Your body is relieved from the constant pull of gravity. Water also has a hydrostatic effect. It has a massage-like feeling as the water gently kneads your body. Water, in motion, stimulates touch receptors on the skin, boosting blood circulation and releasing tight muscles. Water jet massage improves the functioning of the neuromuscular system. The continuous circular massage from warm jets of water activates the metabolism and loosens up stiff muscles. The heat from the water soothes the muscles and stimulates the flow blood, giving a boost to the circulatory system. The controlled pressure of water which is applied all over the body also acts as a form of acupuncture.

#### Pay attention...

- If your intentions are to use your hot tub or spa for therapeutic purposes, it is advisable to consult with your doctor first in case there are any health concerns.

### Special Effects

Today's spas now offer a variety of multi-sensory experiences for the hot tub user, designed to make your experience as extra special as possible. Brian Andrews, Managing Director of Heritage Pools who have designed and installed pools for many luxurious hotels and spas, comments, "When people ask us how they can create a spa pool that offers total relaxation and distraction from everyday life, they are often surprised by the amount of features on offer that go beyond the everyday whirlpool."

#### How it works...

The current generation of hot tubs include mod cons such as underwater sound and lighting through fibre optics or spotlights, to soothe and help you unwind, special atmospheric effects such as rising mists and waterfalls to transform your spa into a tropical paradise and bubbles and effervescent water. Installing spa side controls allows you to choose the speed and force of the bubbles so the spa pool can be gently bubbling away or evoking a more uplifting and refreshing feeling with a stronger setting.

#### Pay attention...

- Look for a low-voltage system which produces a night light for evening use to make entering and exiting the spa safer. An automatic switch-off for lights is a good feature to have.

The J-200 range from Jacuzzi Spa Division feature LED underwater lighting as standard and contain five different types of jets: the diverter, luxury jet, micro jet, euro jet and the pulsator jet.

■ Tel: 01782 718002  
■ [www.jacuzzi.co.uk](http://www.jacuzzi.co.uk)



Bespoke hydrotherapy spa pools, also known as Vitality Pools, start from £30,000 from Heritage Pools.

■ Tel: 01483 235858.  
■ [www.heritagepools.co.uk](http://www.heritagepools.co.uk)

### Aches and Pains

Hydrotherapy can offer some relief to those suffering from a variety of illnesses, including:

- **Arthritis** – hydrotherapy treatments are very helpful in managing chronic conditions such as osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis. The warmth increases circulation, and also reduces muscle-spasms, helping to relieve pain. Excess fluid in joints and limbs passes into the bloodstream, which is particularly beneficial to those with inflammatory arthritis.
- **Back and neck pain** – Those with or prone to chronic backaches may benefit from alternating hot and cold jets.
- **Joint pain** – the main thrust of hydrotherapy is to rid the body of the toxins that are thought to be causing the joint pain and inflammation.
- **Stress** – the more the water is in motion, higher is its stress-relieving benefits. Water seems to have special powers in getting rid of stress and rejuvenating our body. It affects the skin and muscles. It calms the lungs, heart, stomach, and endocrine system by stimulating nerve reflexes on the spinal cord.
- **Sport injuries** – water jet massage therapy is widely used by professional trainers to help athletes recover from fatigue. It can also be used to enhance neuromuscular capacity when used in conjunction with strength training.
- **Paralysis** – water jet massage is also used to treat certain cases of paralysis of the limbs. The invigorating effect of the water jets helps strengthen weakened muscles and energise deadened nerves.

**Caution: Hydrotherapy may not be suitable for people with heart problems, women who are pregnant or anyone with abnormally high or low blood pressure. Always consult a doctor if unsure.**

Hydrotherapy is a unique way to relax the body and mind from the effects of the stress of day-to-day life. The combination of hot water and pressure, not only releases the tension from the muscles, but also helps the mind relax completely. What more reason do you need to buy a hot tub?! ■

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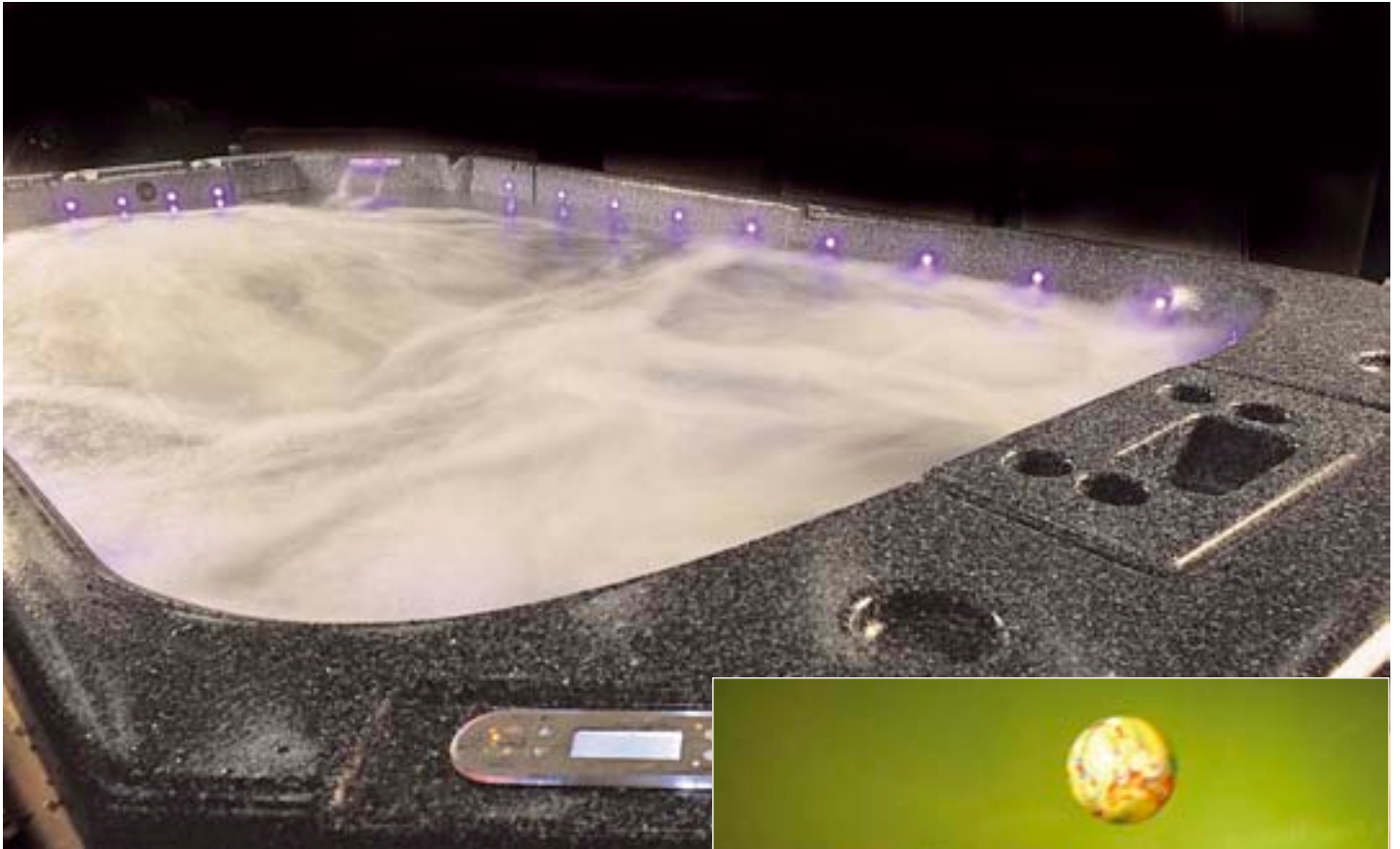
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**[www.arcticspas.co.uk](http://www.arcticspas.co.uk)**

The NEW Swim spa from Canadian Spa Company. Ideal for aquatic exercise



# Swimming against the tide with the NEW Swim spa



## Aquatic exercise

Aquatic exercise is rapidly growing in popularity across the country. Unlike other swim spas, our swim spa has a large, flat, deep floor with no hidden obstacles. With 5 motors it has the power to provide anything from a gentle flow to a rolling torrent for serious workouts, ideal for a wide range of activities.

You can jog in place against a gentle current. Or with the current off, you can experience the benefits of resistance training and range of motion exercises. Thanks to our great design, you can now enjoy the full-body effects of aquatic exercise with timesaving convenience in the privacy of your own home.





# THREE OF THE BEST

If you are interested in a quality timber wooden pool, an all-in-one piece pool or getting the most of all year round swimming with a pool enclosure then here's the place to start.

**E**asy Pools UK Ltd, based in Keymer in West Sussex, represents a trio of top brands when it comes to swimming pools and pool enclosures in the UK.

The company distributes Arqualand Pool Enclosures, Piscinelle Timber Garden Pools and Multiforma one piece fibre glass swimming pools nationwide.

## Arqualand

Arqualand swimming pool enclosures are the most technically advanced and versatile on the market.

We all know that the weather can be unpredictable in Britain and this seriously reduces the use of your pool throughout the year. But there is an answer. You can take control of the weather with an Arqualand pool enclosure and enjoy your swimming – come rain, snow or shine!

Putting pool facilities under cover is a realistic, affordable and stunning

solution to coping with unpredictable weather through seasons. It means that you can swim when you want – making it easy to plan and keep to your leisure timetable.

Supplied with a ten year guarantee and approved under the latest 2005 EU safety regulations, all Arqualand enclosures are individually designed and range in size from small to 100ft wide - and any length.

All slide panels are made from unbreakable plate poly carbonate, which



are all 2 metres wide. They are moveable and lockable and with these important side opening windows, which on those lovely summer days may be pushed up into the roof to a height of six feet, making access between the garden and pool seamless.

If you prefer a telescopic building, then Arqualand can supply you with this too.

## Piscinelle

Whether for a house or cottage, a town garden or terrace everyone can install a Piscinelle. If you have been put off by installing a pool because of disruption to your garden then Piscinelle is the answer. It's fully engineered designs makes it adaptable to all kinds of ground – flat or sloping, clay or rock.

Piscinelle are the undisputed leaders in the field of timber garden pools. Pioneers in their field, they are constantly ahead of rivals in design,

quality and safety. Major design features include one piece hardwood coping and the patented single stainless steel technical box which simultaneously controls the pool water inlets, skimmer, lights, vacuum facilities and counter current swimming systems without having to penetrate the pool lining.

The treated timber and stainless steel fittings supplied as standard with the pool, takes quality to a new level.

There are five different shaped models to choose from. With sizes ranging from 3.5 metres to 14.5 metres, most of the pools in the range are easily constructed in a day. In fact the longest part of assembling a Piscinelle pool is the time taken to watch the pool fill up with water!

### Multiforma Pools

Fibre glass Multiforma Pools are manufactured from the same high tech resins and manufacturing techniques as ocean going yachts so you can be assured of the quality of the materials.

Easy to install, the pool arrives already fitted with all the equipment needed e.g. underwater lights, vacuum point, skimmers, together with pump and filter. In fact it's so easy to install you can do it yourself.

#### So what are the real benefits of fibreglass for you?

Extensive surveys have proven that fibreglass pools have the lowest maintenance and upkeep of any type of pool. The maintenance free life span offers another bonus.

The pool arrives as a seamless one piece moulding which gives the best assurance against leaks over any other pool as there are no joints or seams.

Fibreglass has a luxurious smooth finish and because its impervious, bacteria and algae have nowhere to gain a foothold.

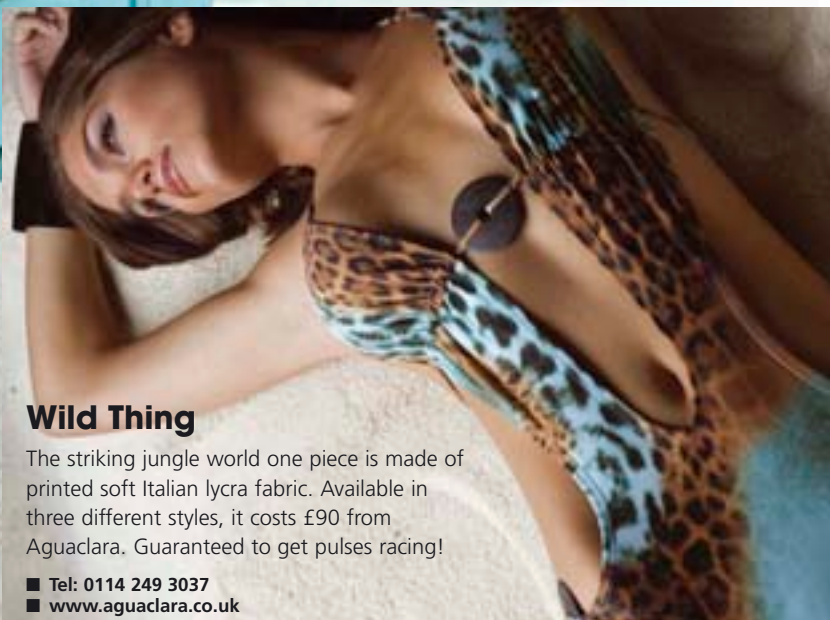
Fibreglass is flexible enough to absorb normal ground movement, unlike concrete based pools There is no repairing resurfacing or re tiling – ever!



For more information of Arqualand, Piscinelle or Multiforma pools telephone 01273 846855 or visit our website at [www.swimpools.co.uk](http://www.swimpools.co.uk)

# Sizzling

When lounging beside a gorgeous luxury pool you need to make sure you look a million dollars too. Take a look at the best in sexy poolside fashion and accessories this summer.



## Wild Thing

The striking jungle world one piece is made of printed soft Italian lycra fabric. Available in three different styles, it costs £90 from Aguaclara. Guaranteed to get pulses racing!

■ Tel: 0114 249 3037  
■ [www.aguaclara.co.uk](http://www.aguaclara.co.uk)

## Tropical Sun

Bright and pretty, this tropical bikini from Bay Trading Company is ultra fashionable.

It costs an affordable £12.99 so you can spend extra on some gorgeous flip flops.

Accessorise with a bright coloured cocktail.

■ Tel: 01707 823 508  
■ [www.baytrading.com](http://www.baytrading.com)

## Sultry Summer

You will wow everyone with this fantastic Zig Zag bikini. Part of the Butterfly By Matthew Williamson collection at Debenhams, the bikini top costs £18 and the bottoms are £16.

■ Tel: 08445 61 61 61  
■ [www.debenhams.com](http://www.debenhams.com)



# Style

## Long and Leggy

For those who are a little shy about about baring all, this gorgeous printed swimsuit is perfect for covering the areas you may want to hide and accentuating other parts. Available from Long Tall Sally, it comes in extra long leg lengths. Priced at £27, the crinkle scarf is £15.

■ Tel: 0870 990 6885  
■ www.longtallsally.com



## ULTIMATE ACCESSORIES

Every bikini or swimsuit needs a good accessory. Check out our pick of the best.

### Shimmering Starlet

Keep your cool with this beautiful kaftan from Additions Direct. Featuring sequin beading detail and a tie front, it costs £27. The sequin halter bikini in gold costs £20.

■ Tel: 0870 413 5000  
■ www.additionsdirect.co.uk



### Fab Feet

Protect your tootsies with a pair of stylish diamanté pink jelly sandals from Holster. Priced £25, they are available in clear, smokey black, solid black, chocolate, bronze, pink and turquoise.

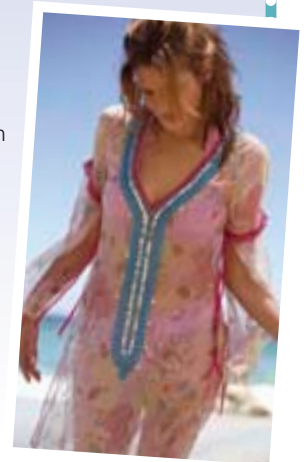
■ Tel: 01428 642324  
■ www.beachfactory.com



### Flower Power

Cover up in the heat with this stunning jewelled floral kaftan from Tie Rack. It costs £24.99.

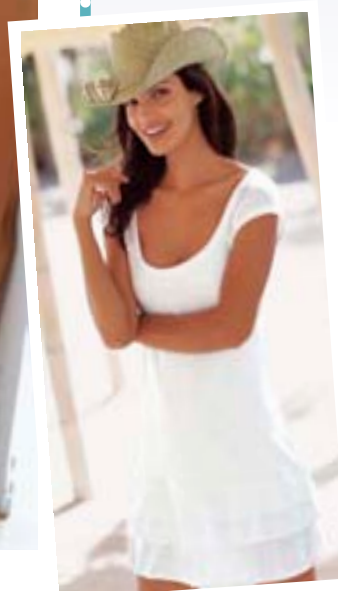
■ Tel: 020 8230 2333  
■ www.tie-rack.com



### Go Cowboy

Protect your hair from the sun's rays with a stylish stetson. With a shell flower trim, this straw hat costs just £10 from Next. The Ruffle T-Shirt dress is £17.

■ Tel: 0844 844 8333  
■ www.next.co.uk



## Diva Style

Make a splash with this cool Diva bikini from Triumph International. With a halter tie, the bikini features elegant black/white pinstripes. The brief has a narrow belt at the front, trimmed with a silver-look buckle. It costs £47.

■ Tel: 01793 722200  
■ www.triumph.com



KIDS **STUFF**

# CHILD'S

# play



Childrenswear from Debenhams. Left: Pinapple striped towelling dress, ages 3-8 years, £14/16. Right: Butterfly by Matthew Williamson embroidered bikini top (part of set), ages 3-8 years, £14/16, embroidered skirt £12/14.

■ Tel: 08445 61 61 61 ■ [www.debenhams.com](http://www.debenhams.com)

There are a whole host of funky children's clothing and accessories available on the market currently. See what you can find to make sure your child is the most fashionable for miles!

### Little Fashionista

Cover up in the most high fashion way ever with this funky salsa spot dress, £20 from Monsoon. Accessorise with a matching hat and strings of oversized beads for a look that would give Kate Moss a run for her money!

■ Tel: 0207 313 3000  
■ [www.monsoon.co.uk](http://www.monsoon.co.uk)

➤➤ 73



Boys swimwear from Ladybird at Woolworths. Trunks from £3, for 1-10 years.

■ Tel: 0870 411 7112  
■ [www.woolworths.co.uk](http://www.woolworths.co.uk)



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or visit our website: [www.aquatrac.co.uk](http://www.aquatrac.co.uk)**

# Palintest Pool Testing Products

## Leading the way in water analysis

PALINTEST ARE SPECIALISTS IN WATER TESTING, and have a wide range of products for both home and professional pool maintenance.

The testing kits are based on the world famous Palintest system of water testing. Simple-to-use test equipment, and reagents in a tablet form, mean rapid, reliable results can be obtained by all users – with or without previous experience in water analysis. This is why the Palintest system has been used for over 40 years, and is the choice of many drinking water utility companies around the world.

The range of pool testing products covers everything from sophisticated instruments used in public pools and spas, to simple and affordable home test kits using visual methods.

### Pooltest Strips

Palintest's new test strips provide a quick and easy method of estimating basic pool and spa chemistry. Simple to use for the occasional user, the test strips are waved gently in the pool water for 5 seconds and then compared with the colour chart on the bottle after a further 15 seconds. Palintest test strips are available in two varieties – One for chlorine users and one for bromine users. Both types also measure pH and alkalinity.

### Pooltester Kits

The Pooltester kits offer a range of tests for the private pool or spa owner, including Chlorine, pH, and alkalinity. They are simple to use - just dip the Pooltester block into the pool to fill with water, add the test tablets and then compare the colours. The Pooltester blocks are manufactured in durable clear polyacrylate and have long-lasting printed colour standards.

### Cool Pooltester

The new Cool Pooltester brings the photometer technology used in Palintest's professional pool equipment within the reach of the home user for the first time. Using safe reagents, and with a digital readout, the Cool Pooltester allows home users to read results directly instead of relying on interpretation of colour charts.

Again tests are easy to perform. A reagent tablet is mixed with the water sample and the test tube with sample is placed in the instrument. The test is selected from the menu and measurement is carried out electronically at the touch of a button. The concentration of the chemical in the water is then shown on the LCD display. Four versions of the Cool Pooltester are available to cover the essential needs of the home pool or spa owner, and to allow monitoring of the key pool chemical parameters.



### Buy online

Our entire range of products is available for purchase at your convenience from our website. The website also contains much more information on our entire range. Go to [www.palintest.com](http://www.palintest.com) and click on Pool & Spa Testing.

Palintest Ltd, Kingsway, Team Valley, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, NE11 0NS tel: 0191 491 0808 fax 0191 482 5372 email [sales@palintest.com](mailto:sales@palintest.com) [www.palintest.com](http://www.palintest.com)

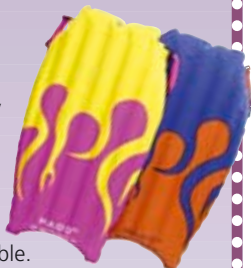
# POOL PARTY

You will never get the kids out of the water with this dazzling array of items to make the pool party go with a bang!

## Go Boogie

This fun inflatable Boogie Board is available from Crazy About Gadgets, priced £19.95. Made from tough rubber coated in soft nylon, the Inflatable Boogie Board is both lightweight and durable. Comes with pump and mesh carry bag.

■ Tel: 0870 766 2702  
 ■ [www.crazyaboutgadgets.com](http://www.crazyaboutgadgets.com)



## Music Man

Kids will love this fantastic waterproof speaker system in the pool. The innovative

iSound Music Showcase from iWorld is resistant to common chemicals such as shampoo, sea water and soap. The polycarbonate body and rubber bumper make it virtually unbreakable, scratch and shock-proof. It costs £69.99.

■ Tel: 020 8408 1259  
 ■ [www.iWorld.co.uk](http://www.iWorld.co.uk)



## Set and Match

This seven-piece beach game set will keep children occupied for hours. Available from Poshprezzies, it costs £35 and contains a frisbee, inflatable beach ball, kite, wooden beach ball, chess, ludo bats and catch gloves.

■ Tel: 08702 367 367  
 ■ [www.poshprezzies.co.uk](http://www.poshprezzies.co.uk)

## Lazy Days

There is nothing nicer than floating in the pool, cooling off from the boiling hot sun. This water fun swim ring is just £1.99 from Woolworths.

■ Tel: 0870 411 7112  
 ■ [www.woolworths.co.uk](http://www.woolworths.co.uk)



## In the Swim

It is best to introduce children to being in the water from as early an age as possible to ensure their safety around the water. There are plenty of products around to aid learning to swim, from armbands to floats. These UV Float Suits (right) are great for kids who need confidence and sun protection in the water. With removable floats allowing more freedom in the water as your child gains confidence, it leaves a UV protective suit once all floats are removed. For younger children, the JoJo Baby Swim Float (above) is an integral shaped baby seat, attached to two interconnecting inflatable rings with safety valves. Suitable from 0-24mths. The float suits are available in blue and pink, costing £29. Baby swim floats are £13. Both products from JoJo Maman Bébé.

■ Tel: 0870 241 0560  
 ■ [www.jojomamanbebe.co.uk](http://www.jojomamanbebe.co.uk)



## Splash Time

Just because kids are playing in the pool doesn't mean they can't be fashionable. See the adorable selection of girls' swimwear from adams kids to see what we mean. The girl on the right wears a blue dip dye swimsuit, from £10. The girl on the left wears a turquoise butterfly swimsuit, from £8.

■ Tel: 0500 330040  
 ■ [www.adams.co.uk](http://www.adams.co.uk)

# SUNsmart

Everyone loves summer but it is important to remember that excess sun exposure can cause health problems. Enjoy yourself outdoors but always make sure you stay safe in the sunshine.

©iStockphoto.com (Amanda Rohde)

## Stay Safe

Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the UK and the UK death rate from skin cancer is now one and a half times that of Australia. The British Association of Dermatologists estimate that there are at least 100,000 new cases of skin cancer annually in the UK, but in as many as four out of five cases, skin cancer is a preventable disease. People at most risk have fair skin, lots of moles or freckles or a family history of skin cancer. SunSmart is the UK's national skin cancer prevention campaign. Visit [www.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org) for more information.

To enjoy the sun safely, follow the SunSmart messages:

- **S**pend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm
- **M**ake sure you never burn
- **A**im to cover up with a hat, t-shirt and sunglasses
- **R**emember to take extra care with children
- **T**hen use factor 15+ sunscreen or higher



## Man Talk

British men are still not getting the message when it comes to skin cancer according to new research. A survey\* of 1200 adult men revealed a staggering 13.5 million British men are failing to buy sun cream every year, 65 per cent of men rely on their wives or girlfriends to buy it for them. The poll, carried out by the British Skin Foundation, found that, alarmingly, one in ten men don't believe skin cancer is linked to sun exposure and only 8% of men apply sun protection when on a beach in the UK. This means that 92% of men – over 20 million – are not protected from the sun when on UK beaches. This summer the British Skin Foundation is launching the Skin Cancer Appeal and they aim to raise £200,000 by next autumn. Visit [www.britishskinfoundation.org.uk](http://www.britishskinfoundation.org.uk) for more details.

## Tried & Tested Sun Creams

Face with Advanced Triple Protection from Soltan at Boots, £7.49

"With SPF 50+ this is definitely a heavy duty protection from the sun and could be why it feels a little heavy when applied. However its anti-ageing properties are definitely an advantage, it is water resistant and it has a nice smell."



7/10

SPF Cellular Protection Sun Cream from The Organic Pharmacy, £29.95

"This is an organic sun cream so it doesn't contain all the usual nasties, making it ideal for all the family including babies and those with sensitive skin. SPF 18, it is a bit pricier than the others, but contains rose hip, shea butter and apricot oil which leaves skin feeling hydrated and nourished."



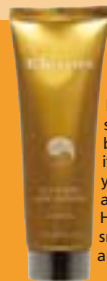
7/10



2 in 1 Sunscreen with Natural Insect Repellent from SolarSafe, £8.99

"This SPF 30 lotion is waterproof and sweat proof, protects from both UVA and UVB rays, plus it repels insects, so perfect for a beach holiday. It does need reapplying quite frequently but overall good value for money."

9/10



Body Glow High Protection from Elemis, £18.00

"This is a very light cream which leaves skin feeling wonderfully smooth, probably due to the ginkgo biloba extract and jojoba oil. However it is so light at SPF 15 it does make you wonder if it is actually working. Having said that, it smells like oranges and feels great."

8/10

\*Over 1200 British adults took part in the survey conducted by Onepoll.com, a global market research site – April 2007.

Skin cancer does not just affect the elderly; melanoma is one of the biggest killers in the 20 to 40 age group.

The British Skin Foundation

## Check Up

Keeping little ones safe in the sun is everyone's first priority, particularly as they are so vulnerable. SolarSafe UV Monitor Wristband is a new and unique sun monitor, that enables you to see at a glance your family's exposure to harmful UV radiation. The wristband also acts as an identification band in case you and your child become separated. Coat the band with the same sunscreen as applied to you and your family, appropriate for your skin types. The band will change colour when exposed to sun light, and further colour changes warn to re-apply sunscreen or seek shade. Wear it for the day then throw it away. SolarSafe costs £4.99.

■ Tel: 0845 257 2744  
■ [www.solarsafe.com](http://www.solarsafe.com)

## Cover Up

This adorable children's green master poncho, £15 from Next, is perfect for keeping kids covered up in the sun in a fun way. Also available in bumblebee, kitten and pony.



■ Tel: 0844 844 8333  
■ [www.next.co.uk](http://www.next.co.uk)

## Cool Dude

Protect your child's eyes with sunglasses which are not only safe, but also fashionable. These silver and red sunglasses cost just £1 from Ladybird at Woolworths. The three-piece shirt, t-shirt and shorts set for 1-10 years costs from £9 (t-shirt not shown).

■ Tel: 0870 411 7112  
■ [www.woolworths.co.uk](http://www.woolworths.co.uk)



# PALINTEST

Leading the way  
in water analysis

Palintest are specialists in water testing, and have a wide range of products for both home and professional pool maintenance.

The testing kits are based on the world famous Palintest system of water testing. Simple-to-use test equipment, and reagents in a tablet form, mean rapid, reliable results can be obtained by all users – with or without previous experience in water analysis. This is why the Palintest system has been used for over 40 years, and is the choice of many drinking water utility companies around the world.

The range of pool testing products covers everything from sophisticated instruments used in public pools and spas, to simple and affordable home test kits using visual methods.

## Test Strips

Palintest's new test strips provide a quick and easy method of estimating basic pool and spa chemistry. Simple to use for the occasional user, the test strips are waved gently in the pool water for 5 seconds and then compared with the colour chart on the bottle after a further 15 seconds. Palintest test strips are available in two varieties – One for chlorine users and one for bromine users. Both types also measure pH and alkalinity.



## Pooltester Kits

The Pooltester kits offer a range of tests for the private pool or spa owner, including Chlorine, pH, and alkalinity. They are simple to use - just dip the Pooltester block into the pool to fill with water, add the test tablets and then compare the colours. The Pooltester blocks are manufactured in durable clear polyacrylate and have long-lasting printed colour standards.



## Cool Pooltester

The new Cool Pooltester brings the photometer technology used in Palintest's professional pool equipment within the reach of the home user for the first time. Using safe reagents, and with a digital readout, the Cool Pooltester allows home users to read results directly instead of relying on interpretation of colour charts.

Again tests are easy to perform. A reagent tablet is mixed with the water sample and the test tube with sample is placed in the instrument. The test



is selected from the menu and measurement is carried out electronically at the touch of a button. The concentration of the chemical in the water is then shown on the LCD display. Four versions of the Cool Pooltester are available to cover the essential needs of the home pool or spa owner, and to allow monitoring of the key pool chemical parameters.

## Buy online

Our entire range of products is available for purchase at your convenience from our website. The website also contains much more information on our entire range. Go to [www.palintest.com](http://www.palintest.com) and click on Pool & Spa Testing.

**Palintest®**  
Leading the way in water analysis

**Palintest Ltd,  
Kingsway, Team Valley,  
Gateshead,  
Tyne and Wear, NE11 0NS**

Tel: 0191 491 0808

Fax: 0191 482 5372

Email: [sales@palintest.com](mailto:sales@palintest.com)

[www.palintest.com](http://www.palintest.com)

## HEALTH FITNESS

For treating many common ailments, water healing is one of the oldest, safest and cheapest methods.

# WATER works

Marquis Spas feature Tri-Zone Therapy, for a phenomenal hydrotherapeutic experience. The Epic spa features 25 distinct therapeutic combinations to provide a tailor-made massage to suit individual needs. Marquis Spas are distributed by Golden Coast Ltd

■ Tel: 01271 378100  
■ [www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com)

BELOW: The ultimate in home pool luxury, the ergonomically designed hydromassage lounger from Astral UK has strategically placed air jets for a relaxing massage while you simply lie back and enjoy it.

Manufactured in high quality stainless steel, the lounger can be built in to the side wall of the pool or freestanding, with handrails. Prices start at just over £2,000.

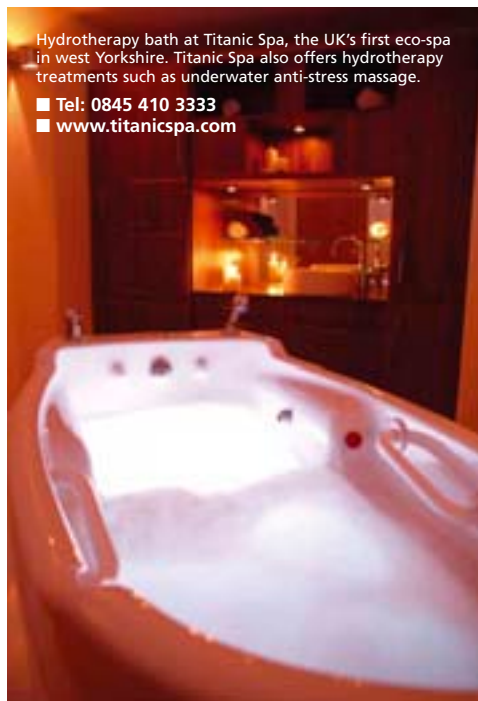
■ Tel: 01329 514000  
■ [www.astralpool.com](http://www.astralpool.com)

There has been a lot of talk about hydrotherapy in health and fitness circles more recently. But what exactly is it? Hydrotherapy is a therapeutic whole-body treatment that involves moving and exercising in water. The benefits of this type of therapy have been extolled since the Ancient Greeks and Romans used the warm bubbling water of natural spas to relax and tone the body. It is especially popular in Europe where there are numerous health spas and health facilities for all types of 'water cures', many in majestic surroundings with panoramic views of lakes and mountains.



Hydrotherapy bath at Titanic Spa, the UK's first eco-spa in west Yorkshire. Titanic Spa also offers hydrotherapy treatments such as underwater anti-stress massage.

■ Tel: 0845 410 3333  
■ [www.titanicspa.com](http://www.titanicspa.com)



Hydrotherapy is proven to be a highly effective form of natural therapy which works by stimulating the endorphins which in turn helps you to control pain and alleviate tension. The benefits of hydrotherapy include pain relief, removal of tension, sore muscles and aching joints, stimulation of the body, improved circulation and sounder, more restful sleep. The focus of hydrotherapy is to rid the body of toxins that may be causing joint pain and inflammation. Hydrotherapy treatments are also helpful in managing chronic conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. Doctors often prescribe a course of hydrotherapy as part of a treatment programme. It is also used by athletes to improve and maintain their general health and fitness, and by others as part of a healthy whole-body routine.

Hydrotherapy pools are usually different from ordinary pools – the temperature, pressure and movement of water is controlled and changed according to who's using the pool, and why. The hydrobath works by releasing millions of large bubbles, which relaxes your muscular tension and helps to reduce swollen joints giving you increased mobility and more importantly lessens your pain. The hydrobath also releases very fine bubbles, this has a soothing tranquil effect on your body which helps relieve your stress and tension.

### Enjoy Hydrotherapy

So how can you enjoy this medical marvel at home? Firstly, you can buy yourself a hydrotherapy bath and enjoy hydrotherapy any time you like. If your budget doesn't stretch to that however, there are other ways to enjoy this therapy. There are options which allow existing items to be turned into a massager, such as the bath or swimming pool.

# Water-based exercise

There are lots of advantages of doing exercise in water. Water provides a gentle resistance to your movements which helps to improve strength and muscle tone. It is also buoyant and supports your body while it moves, which makes it safer and more comfortable, particularly for people who have weight or joint problems, or who are disabled in some way. There are lots of ways that you can benefit from exercising in water, from treading water to playing waterpolo.

## In the Swim

The most obvious way to enjoy water is swimming. It's a healthy activity which can be enjoyed by anyone and will last for a lifetime. The health benefits of swimming are almost unmatched by most any other sport as it works your whole body, improving cardiovascular conditioning, muscle strength, endurance, posture, and flexibility all at the same time. Your cardiovascular system in particular benefits because swimming improves your body's use of oxygen without overworking your heart. There is also a low risk for swimming injuries because there's no stress on your bones, joints or connective tissues due to buoyancy and the fact that you weigh less in water. If you're looking for a safe daily workout routine, swimming is ideal because you can rigorously work out with a reduced chance of swimming injuries. Many athletes supplement their training with swimming.

Swimming pools are increasingly attracting attention from older individuals. Brian Andrews, Managing Director of Heritage Pools, the UK's leading pool contractor (Tel: 01483 235858. [www.heritagepools.co.uk](http://www.heritagepools.co.uk)) says swimming pools are ideal for the older market especially. "Aside from the relaxation aspects, swimming pools also provide an excellent means of low impact exercise, ideal for older individuals. Water allows for a greater freedom of movement and so is perfect for those with restricted mobility, joint problems and conditions

such as arthritis" commented Andrews. Heritage Pools suggest elderly clients consider a shallower depth than standard pools and look to include perimeter rails and easy access walk-in steps or even a hoist for those with severe restricted mobility. "Swimming pools designed the elderly may also need to run at a slightly warmer temperature (around 31°C/32°C) as elderly bodies lose heat quicker and users will tend to move around slightly less in the water" commented Andrews "as a result, the pools may require more specific chemical dosing as higher temperatures lead to a greater risk of water-borne diseases."

## Fun and Games

There are many other ways to keep fit in a swimming pool apart from swimming. Why not try a game of water netball, waterpolo, diving or synchronised swimming.

If you love the water go a bit more adventurous and try rowing, canoeing, kayaking, surfing, windsurfing, waterskiing or diving. These are all great ways to get fit and have fun at the same time! >>> 79



Swimming is a great way for families to have fun together. Splash World at Butlins even offers water slides for hours of amusement.

■ Tel: 0870 242 1999  
■ [www.butlins.com](http://www.butlins.com)

## Top of the Class

Fitness classes such as aquatone are great exercise too. Here are some examples of aquatic classes:

- Yoqua is the latest fusion concept from the US. Promising all the benefits of land-based yoga i.e. improved strength and flexibility but more importantly a healthy spine, moving the workout into the pool leads to a much more sensory and pleasurable



experience. The buoyancy lends support to the body, allowing for greater stretches and the resistance of the water enhances the toning effects.

Contact Ragdale Hall Health Hydro Spa in Leicestershire on 01664 434831 or visit [www.ragdalahall.co.uk](http://www.ragdalahall.co.uk) for details of classes.

- Becoming popular in the UK, Hydro-Tone is the latest fitness craze from the USA. A form of aqua aerobics which uses hand-held Hydro-Bells and foot-worn Hydro-Boots, the exercise is low impact and stimulates and stretches muscle groups as no other exercise can. Contact The Riverside Club in Chiswick on 0208 987 1800 for details of classes.

- Aqua aerobics is more low-impact than land-based aerobics but is still a fun way to work out which can take the drudgery out of your routine exercise schedule. It is an excellent way to burn off fat and build strength and aerobic capacity. In fact, water aerobics is known to benefit persons suffering from arthritis and multiple sclerosis. Find out how you can get a total body workout without breaking into a sweat! Contact your local swimming pool or gym for details of classes.



# CHLORINE FREE SWIMMING POOL TREATMENT

*Environmentally & Eco Friendly*

- Chlorine Free
- Lasts up to three times longer than chlorine
- Proven in long term trials and tested by the Health Protection Agency in London
- Complies with BSI code of practice PAS39:2003 Management of Public Swimming Pools
- Complies with PWTAG 1999 guidelines for Swimming Pool Water Treatment and Quality Standards
- Destroys all algae, bacteria and fungi
- Pool ready for use 15mins after dosage
- Odorless - no more chlorine smell or residues
- Hypo-Allergenic - does not cause eye or skin irritations, ear infections and asthmatic attacks
- Non Toxic when ingested in swimming pool water
- Promotes softer, sparkling blue, crystal clear water



PoolSan UK Ltd  
The Clergy House  
Mark Street  
London  
EC2A 4ER  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7749 9699  
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7613 4804

  
**PoolSan**  
www.poolsanuk.com

# Treat Yourself

For a real experience, try these deeply relaxing water-based spa treatments and activities to soothe your soul and invigorate your body.

## Floatation

Floatation is a deeply-relaxing body treatment that allows you to experience total weightlessness. Unlike floating in the ocean or pool, where you need to contribute physically to staying afloat, this spa treatment allows you complete weightless relaxation. Lights, sounds and variations in temperature create a soothing sensory experience. The most common type is wet floatation, for example dead sea, mineral, aromatherapeutic or herbal floatation. The various minerals do different things for you and your skin; they might be detoxing, softening, sensuous, depending on what's being added. With dry floatation you don't have to get wet. Instead, you are cocooned in a kind of plastic blanket, which is itself full of water.

### Try it for yourself...

Float, London's premier floatation and well being centre, offers four individually designed floatation suites, as well as a range of complementary therapies. Try the Cherry Blossom room for a special relaxing out-of-body feeling. From £30 per treatment.

■ Tel: 020 7727 7133  
■ [www.float.co.uk](http://www.float.co.uk)



## Thalassotherapy



Thalassotherapy, from the Greek word for 'sea', refers to a variety of treatments that use seawater and seaweed, each designed to tone, moisturise and revitalise the body and skin, and in many cases to improve circulation. Other marine and ocean derivatives feature in thalassotherapy, too, including algae, mud and sand. Treatment can be in the form of mud baths, underwater showers, hydro-massage, aromatherapy and seaweed, mud and algae wraps. Although most of these treatments are available in UK spas, why not combine a holiday abroad in Greece, France and Spain with a spa session? The Centre de Thalassotherapie Thalgo La Baule in France, for example, is the ideal place for introducing you to the benefits of seawater.

■ Visit [www.lucienbarriere.com](http://www.lucienbarriere.com) for more details.

### Try it for yourself...

Champneys Henlow features an impressive state-of-the-art thalassotherapy pool and Thalasso Active sessions (25 mins) which combine specific exercises with the hydrotherapy jets to give you a more toning and revitalising workout while reaping the health and beauty benefits of the water. Thalassotherapy Wellbeing breaks are available in all Champneys resorts, from £109.95 per day.

■ Tel: 08703 300 300  
■ [www.champneys.co.uk](http://www.champneys.co.uk)

## Hydrotherapy

Being immersed, buoyant or massaged in water can relieve our bodies in a variety of different ways, and hydrotherapy can help with many physical and emotional complaints.

### Try it for yourself...



The Ickworth Hotel's Aquae Sulis Spa offer a Sulis 75, hydrotherapy bath with full body massage in your own private hydrotherapy pool. The 75-minute, total body pampering treatment consists of a gentle body polish, soak in the hydrotherapy bath then a therapeutic water massage. It costs £60.

■ Tel: 01284 735350  
■ [www.ickworthhotel.co.uk](http://www.ickworthhotel.co.uk)

## Aqua Meditation

Any treatment which uses water, steam, mud or a sauna can be used to relax and refresh you. The use of lights, heat extremes, sounds and other sensory experiences all add to the experience and allow you to meditate and feel more at peace. The experiences which can aid these can include a mud rasul, an aqua exfoliation table, steam showers, an aqua meditation chamber and much more. Sit for a while in the steam room or sauna before a massage so that your muscles are relaxed and ready.

### Try it for yourself...

The Aqua Sana spas at Center Parcs offers various aquatic multi sensory experiences, including an aqua meditation room, a Balinese multi steam bath, a Greek herbal bath sauna, an ice fountain, an Indian blossom steam room, Japanese salt bath, laconium, Roman sauna, multi-sensory showers, reflexology footbaths, spa pool, Turkish hammam and Tyrolean Sauna.

■ Tel: 08700 673030  
■ [www.centerparcs.co.uk](http://www.centerparcs.co.uk)



# KEEP IT CLEAN

**Natasha Reed** investigates the best cleaning products and treatments for your pool or spa

© Golden Coast

Water treatment and pool maintenance are vital for a swimming pool or hot tub which is healthy for the user and free from harmful bacteria and viruses. Although the maintenance of swimming pool water can appear complicated and difficult, all it takes is a little time and regular attention to keep it clean, bug free and safe.

Ask your pool installer for advice on additional equipment to make the chores easier. Some even provide a full maintenance service contract and do it for you. Alternatively it may be worth paying for a weekly maintenance service from a pool contractor. If you want to do it yourself, it should take you no more than half an hour per week to test the water and clean it. Cloudy, unpleasant smelling water, limescale build-up and deposits of dirt and grime are the most common problems experienced but, with a little TLC, cleaning and maintenance should be relatively simple.



## Cleaning Checklist

After the winter, you will need to clean your pool thoroughly for the summer season. Make sure you have followed all these steps for pristine pool water.

- Remove debris from pool cover and clean the water
- Remove loose debris with a hose or cover clean and brush
- Clean pool surrounds with water or a specialist solution
- Brush pool walls with a pool brush
- Check circulation system (pump and filter) – clean the filter once a year
- Superchlorinate or oxidise
- Test water balance – check pH balance, total alkalinity and calcium hardness
- Clean the waterline with tile cleaner to get rid of greasy tidemarks
- Make sure testing equipment works
- Buy chemicals

## 3 of the best...

### POOL COVERS

A pool cover will keep the water clean when not in use and improves safety for children too.



**1** The Astral UK Capcir fully automatic pool cover is ideal for installation in existing pools up to 5m x 11m. On both in ground and above ground models, the winding shaft is installed outside the pool and fixed on the deck. Prices start at approximately £5,500. For details of your nearest Capcir dealer, please contact Astral UK.

■ Tel: 01329 514 000  
■ [www.astralpool.com](http://www.astralpool.com)



**2** As the Roll Sun Cover is made to the exact pool measurements on an individual basis, there is no standard price. As a guide however: a Roll Sun Cover to fit a rectangular 10m x 5m pool with a roman end will cost £6,615.

■ Tel: 01271 378 100  
■ [www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com)



**3** The Roll Sun cover system can be 'locked' into position to improve safety for children under five, meeting the French European specification for mandatory pool covers. The Roll Sun is distributed by Golden Coast Limited.

■ Tel: 01271 378 100  
■ [www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com)

### Get Tested

The Certikin PC9in1 pool tester is designed to deliver the most accurate, reliable and consistent results to control and manage swimming pool quality. The single button selection of pre-programmed tests, combined with on-screen instructions, makes the PC9in1 ideal for operators of all levels. Langelier or balanced water calculations are often neglected as they are seen as a complex formula with many variables but the PC9in1 has a calculator button that will calculate the Balanced Water Index for you. The kit contains the PC9in1 Photometer, a reagent for all 9 parameters, mains adaptor, rechargeable batteries, computer to Photometer cable, three test vials, a crushing rod and instruction manual.

■ Tel: 01993 778855 ■ [www.certikin.co.uk](http://www.certikin.co.uk)



### Froggy Style

Having a frog in a swimming pool is the last most owners want to see but in reality, it can be a blessing in disguise! The FROG 'water treatment centre', exclusively distributed by Golden Coast, allows a controlled flow of water to pass through its unique reservoir of activated minerals, reducing the need for chlorine to an absolute minimum. Firstly, it filters the pool water to keep it pure and fresh, making it feel 'softer' and giving it a crystal clear sparkle; secondly, it removes bacteria and prevents algae growth; and thirdly it helps keep the pool's water pH balanced by acting as a neutraliser. Installed as an in-line cleaners within the plant room with no need for extra plumbing, the FROG uses no electricity. With a six-month life span (a season's use for an outdoor pool), the reservoir is easily removed and replaced by simply unscrewing the top of the unit.

■ Tel: 01271 378100 ■ [www.goldenc.com](http://www.goldenc.com)



## SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

With alarming frequency chlorine related health threats are hitting our headlines, and when, on occasion, chlorine is not being linked to cancer it is responsible for irritation of the eyes, serious breathing problems and painful skin conditions. But what can we do? Despite the negative publicity, chlorine was considered the best water sanitiser in the world until recently. However there are a range of products available which are chlorine-reduced.



Aquafinesse (UK) Ltd offers The Aquafinesse Pool Puck system, an all-in-one tablet especially designed to lower the need for chlorine levels in swimming pools by more than 50% with proven effects. The Puck removes bio films (the sticky substance around the walls and in the pipework where bacteria breed, feed and colonise), thus substantially reducing the bacteria count and, therefore, the less bacteria there is, the less chlorine. Aquafinesse Pool Puck comes in three different bucket sizes to cater for all categories of swimming pools.

■ [www.poolpuck.com](http://www.poolpuck.com)

Eco Smarte is a 100% chlorine-free swimming pool and spa purifying system, available from Aquasafe Bristol Ltd. Fitting all spas and pools, it claims to prevent burning eyes, exclude the toxic smell, be safe to hair and perms (no more green hair!), extend equipment life, exceed drinking water standards and be environmentally safe.

■ Tel: 01179 566 694  
■ [www.aquasafe90.com](http://www.aquasafe90.com)



### Ask the Expert

If you are unsure about any element of looking after your swimming pool or spa, a good book to turn to is The Ultimate Guide to Pool Maintenance, third edition (McGraw-Hill, £19.99) written by leading pool and spa expert Terry Tamminen. It contains everything you need to know about how a pool works, types of pools and spas, plumbing systems, pumps and motors, filters, heaters and cleaning and servicing. There is also a great section on being aware of the environment. We've got five to give away to lucky readers.

Just email [sally\\_ashworth@mcgraw-hill.com](mailto:sally_ashworth@mcgraw-hill.com) with your address for a chance to win



# SPA TIME

When concentrating on water maintenance, don't forget your hot tub. Cleanliness is essential in spas where high water temperatures provide the ideal environment for bacteria to develop.



## On Your Guard

The SpaGuard® range, brought to you by BioLab, a world-leading manufacturer of water treatment products, provides a variety of innovative products to help keep your spa or hot tub a safe bathing environment. With easy to use packaging, including visual strips to assist dosing and application, using SpaGuard® products makes maintenance easy and can help you create the perfect spa. SpaGuard® products ensure bather safety by maintaining 24-hour bacteria killing. The comprehensive range of SpaGuard® products are created for essential and optimum bather and equipment protection.

■ Tel: 01242 820969  
 ■ [www.spaguard.co.uk](http://www.spaguard.co.uk)

## CONTACTS

The Swimming Pool and Allied Trades Association (SPATA) have a set of standards which ensure healthy pool water. Handbooks are available to buy from  
 ■ [www.spata.co.uk](http://www.spata.co.uk)  
 ■ Call 01264 356210

The British and Irish Spa and Hot Tub Association (BISHTA) offer advice about essential home routines for domestic portable spa owners on their website,  
 ■ [www.bishta.co.uk](http://www.bishta.co.uk)  
 ■ Call 01264 356211  
 for more information.



Splash Spas exclusively distribute and sell the ecoONE range to keep hot tubs clean.

■ Tel: 01420 520030  
 ■ [www.splashspas.co.uk](http://www.splashspas.co.uk)

© Marquis Spas



## Water Conditioning

Hot tub owners are constantly on the look out for a better way of sanitising their water which don't involve environmentally



harmful chemicals and traditional chlorine-based hot tub sanitisers which have a tendency to dry out the skin and increase the chance of skin allergies. Splash Spas offer a new water treatment product from the USA, called ecoONE. Developed specifically for use in hot tub water, it is an all natural treatment system relying on the natural ability of enzymes to break down bacteria in spa water and which contains no chlorine or other harsh chemicals. Furthermore, all components of ecoONE are biodegradable and environmentally safe.

■ Tel: 01420 520030  
 ■ [www.splashspas.co.uk](http://www.splashspas.co.uk)

## SPA-rkling Cleaning

For those with a spa there is a 'SPA FROG', distributed by Golden Coast, incorporating two individual canisters. One contains the same mineral mix as present in the reservoir, whilst the other releases a measured dose of chlorine to keep the water clean at all times. Designed to float in the water when the spa

is not in use, the FROG can be used in any make of spa, with the same system now being incorporated into some makes of spas as an automatic cleansing device.

■ Tel: 01271 378100  
 ■ [www.goldencost.com](http://www.goldencost.com)





## Everything it takes for great spa care...

A hot soak in a spa relaxes tired muscles, promotes circulation & helps relieve mental stress.

With SpaGuard, a world leading range of spa treatment products, regular maintenance is easy

**Biolab**

SpaGuard products keep your spa water clear & comfortable and protected from bacteria.

To find out the name of your local SpaGuard dealer call now on 01242 820301 or visit [www.spaguard](http://www.spaguard)



**SpaGuard.**

# ECO POOL TANKS<sup>ST9</sup>

## Why is the **Eco Pool Tank** recycling system necessary?

In the politically correct, Alice in Wonderland state we now find ourselves in, it is more than likely that the pool owner will become vilified for wasting water in the very near future. With the introduction of an **Eco Pool Tank** recycling system, you can ensure water shortages and drought orders never impact on the day to day running of your swimming pool.

## What is an **Eco Tank Pool** recycling system?

The **Eco Pool Tank** consists of a 5,000 litre tank and a pool cover pump that enables rainwater to be collected from the pool cover; passed into the tank where it is sterilised, ready to be returned to the pool when required.

It is interesting to note that Met office statistics for 2005 show that even in the South East, almost twice the amount of water needed to maintain your pool can be collected using this unique method.

Available through your DRIPPOOL dealer



**WANT TO MAKE YOUR POOL SELF SUSTAINING ?**

**ARE YOU AFRAID TO TOP UP YOUR POOL ?**

3 Westwood Court, Brunel Road, Totton, Hampshire, SO40 3WX  
Tel: 023 8066 3131 Fax: 023 8066 3232 [www.ecopooltanks.co.uk](http://www.ecopooltanks.co.uk)

## WATER CONTROL MADE SIMPLE...

### **AquaSafe90** **Eco-friendly 90 Day** **Water Care Formula**

- 100% bio-based completely bio-degradable and non-toxic
- FREE from chlorine or bromine toxicity
- FREE from itching, rashes & burning eyes
- FREE from daily maintenance and testing

**Join the Revolution in Hot Tub Water Treatment**



### **BACTERIA** **TEST STRIPS**

**A revolutionary way to test ANY pool and spa for harmful bacteria in less than 20 minutes**

- Detects harmful bacteria
- Immediate results
- Simple to use
- Accurate and reliable

**RAPID BACTERIA TEST FOR POOLS AND SPAS**



### **100% Chlorine-Free** **Spa & Swimming Pool** **Purifying System!**



**FITS ALL SPAS AND POOLS**

- No more expensive chemicals, burning eyes or toxic chlorine smell
- Safe to hair & perms
- Extends equipment life
- Exceeds drinking water standards
- Environmentally safe

*Like swimming in Mountain Spring Water!*



**AQUA**<sup>TM</sup>  
**SAFE** 90

[sales@aquasafe90.com](mailto:sales@aquasafe90.com)  
0117 956 6694

[www.aquasafe90.com](http://www.aquasafe90.com)



UK Pool Covers sell safety nets which keeps youngsters off the pool. The principle of the net system, adopted worldwide, is to retain the child at the water's edge, by allowing the arms and legs to go through and not the head or torso.

■ Tel: 01242 870134  
 ■ [www.pool-safety.co.uk](http://www.pool-safety.co.uk)

# LITTLE FISH, BIG POND

Children love to swim and a home pool will provide them with endless fun. However, creating a safe environment for them to play in is of utmost importance. **Lorna Bareham** investigates how to make sure your pool is a place of pleasure, not worry.

## Safety First

Most youngsters enjoy splashing around in the water and, under constant supervision; a home pool is a great place for them to swim. However, as any parent knows, you only have to take your eyes off them for a second and they are up to mischief! This is why, it's crucial to take preventative measures to help ensure their safety. Robin Norriss, Managing Director of Astral UK, one of the country's largest pool companies, says safety in and around the pool should be the number one priority. "If you are building a new pool, plan safety measures in at the design stage," he advises.

## Preventative Measures

So what measures are available for keeping pools safe? There are plenty of products, including video cameras, infrared beams and physical barriers,

such as fences and gates. Tony Pass is the founder of UK Pool Covers, who specialise in safety systems for pools. Tony advises against relying on just one measure however, as all of them have drawbacks. He says, "Video cameras are useful devices but you will also need someone there to monitor the screen, so they are limited. Infrared beams are good perimeter devices but can be 'false alarmed' by cats, dogs etc. You might gain a couple of seconds – if you're around to hear it – as the child is not yet in the water. Physical barriers such as a fence can help, but remember that kids will just jump over it if a ball goes in. They can also be unsightly and impractical."

Robin agrees, "Don't rely on just one product to make your pool "safe". At the very least you need a good quality safety cover, a fence or barrier to keep the pool

area separate from the rest of the garden and a sensor alarm, preferably one which sounds inside the house or as part of your home security system."

## Warning Bells

There are a variety of alarms on the market currently, designed to go off if a child falls into the water. Says Tony, "Whilst alarms are useful, they should only be used as a secondary system as, by the time you hear it, the child is already in the water and it may be too late. Also, alarms are easily set off by wind and rain, creating a public nuisance and so some pool owners choose to disable them, rendering them useless. Alarms generally don't work under a bubble cover either. If you are going to use an alarm, a sonar alarm is the best bet."

## Laws & Regulations

Stringent safety regulations regarding home pools were recently introduced in France, and it is likely that Britain will adopt similar laws in the near future. Under the new act, French pool owners must either enclose their pool or install a proper safety cover. Astral Pool's Capric pool cover is one such product that complies with the new French laws. The above ground, automatic cover is easy to install on an existing pool and hardwearing.

"Safety has to be a main priority regarding a home swimming pool," agrees Jamie Adam of Golden Coast Limited. "Whilst safety is taken as given in terms of making sure children are supervised when in the water, the same is not always the case when the pool is not used." It is for this reason that there are a range of 'safety' pool covers on the market. The 'Roll Sun' cover system available from Golden Coast is designed with safety in mind. Used in conjunction with optional locking clamps, the cover once extended, can be 'locked' into position to improve safety for children under five, meeting the French European specification for mandatory pool covers. In the end, however, it is important to remember that, whilst fences and covers can offer some protection against children drowning in pools, there is no substitute for active and constant supervision of children around any type of open water. Says Tony, "Spend wisely on safety measures for your pool and there will be no need to be afraid of the water." ■

# GRAND *designs*

A well laid out garden can transform the way you use your pool. **Paul Wagland** runs through the options

As a way of entertaining friends and family a swimming pool or hot tub is hard to beat, but to throw the perfect pool-side bash you'll need to go a few steps further. Even if your fingers are decidedly non-green, take the time to spruce-up the rest of the garden and you'll be rewarded with the perfect venue for partying the night away or enjoying a lazy weekend.

When planning your makeover, start with the edges of your pool and work outwards, but try and keep a single theme in mind so that the finished garden comes together as a whole. Minimalist, tropical and Mediterranean styles are particularly well matched to this kind of design, but the possibilities are only limited by your imagination.

In my opinion, water should be bordered by hard landscaping almost without exception. While you may dream of jumping barefoot from the hot tub onto a soft green lawn, or of exotic plants trailing their leaves in the water as you swim, the practicalities are somewhat different. Plants tend to shed leaves, while soil and water make a messy combination to which you really don't want to expose your expensive water filtration system. >>> 88

Few materials work better with water than paving. Easy to keep clean, the right choice of stone also offers good grip to bare-footed swimmers.



© iStockphoto.com (Steven Miric)



Pool enclosures don't need to be the focal point of the garden; surround with trees and landscaped borders for a natural look. Wooden pool enclosure from Elite Hot Tubs.

“You'll be rewarded with the perfect venue for partying the night away or enjoying a lazy weekend”

© iStockphoto.com (David Freund)

# NOT JUST A SHOCK!

## **SUPERFAST SUPER-SANITISER** **THIS SEASON'S SUPER-WATER-SAVER**

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Keep plants in contained areas for natural beauty that doesn't shed on the decking.

That's not to say you have few options when it comes to laying out your garden – there are hundreds of paving and decking products to choose from and if you can't do without plants then why not grow them in containers, where their growth and location can be controlled?

Many gardeners look for a balance between low maintenance and high visual appeal, and modern garden design has grown to reflect this. A patio or deck will obviously be fairly trouble-free, but you can minimise work elsewhere by using a light-excluding mulch to suppress weeds. Avoid lawns, which require hours of work every week through the summer months, and choose perennial plants (which live for many years) rather than annuals (which only last for one and will soon need replacing).

### Stone Me

While good quality paving can be expensive, there are few materials that work better with water; the clean, formal lines counterbalancing the changeable nature of a pool or fountain. Easy to keep clean, the right choice of stone also offers good grip to bare-footed swimmers.

A well-designed patio can extend the living space of a house into the outdoors; tailor-made for eating out and relaxing in the fresh air. The location and design is crucial to its success so, as with all large projects, it pays to take your time at the design stage. Consider how you will use the area and how often – if it's mostly for entertaining is it close enough to the kitchen and is there a direct route between the two? If you have private relaxation in mind, then can the site be overlooked by neighbours or passers-by? If it's only for occasional use then does it disrupt your view of the existing garden from the house? Quite apart from these considerations are the more basic aspects of exposure to the elements. Take a few days to observe how long and at what

times the site is in the sun, and how you will shelter it from the wind. A little patience now will pay dividends.

### Hit The Deck

Timber surfaces can make a beautiful and long-lasting contribution to many gardens, and can be used in much the same way as paving to extend your living space. Building a deck is also a comparatively low-cost way of landscaping an area and will take years of abuse with only the most basic maintenance. This is not to say that you should skimp on the budget – cheap materials can lead to a cheap-looking end result so go for the best timber and fixings you can afford.

Although wood is a natural material, the uniform look of decking is far from organic. This allows you to play with the contrast between the clean lines of the deck and the more random form of surrounding planting. Allow the two to mingle by using creeping plants and overhanging branches.

### Power Plant

If acres of stone and timber don't fit with your idea of a paradise garden, don't despair. Once the permanent structures are in place you can begin to add planting. Use herbs such as rosemary, thyme and mint around an entertaining area and they will release their scent every time you brush past. You can even pick a few handfuls to add to your barbecue.

While it's not advisable to create flower beds too close to a pool, you can certainly use plants in containers – ideally finished with gravel or slate chippings to keep the compost in place. These will be a highly visible part of your design, so don't cut corners. Seek out pots that match the style of your garden and remember that plants will do best in larger containers. ■

### TOP FIVE architectural plants

**Agave** – Requiring full sun and well-drained soil, agaves often do well in containers on a hot patio.

**Bamboo** – There are many types to choose from, including some with striking black stems. Best kept in a pot as can be very invasive.

**Canna Lily** – The large, exotic leaves and spectacular flowers are a winning combination. They may need winter protection in colder areas.

**Tree Fern** – Surely the ultimate for a tropical feel. Now widely available, these plants require some shade and a sheltered position.

**Eucalyptus** – An excellent option for the low-maintenance garden, and an easy way to give your garden a sense of chic elegance.

### Design Ideas

- Location is the most important aspect of hard landscape design – get this right and the rest will fall into place.
- Decking and paving can be made to fit any shape, but avoid very sharp angles as they cause problems with mobility.
- Use balustrades to define edges and protect flower beds. Any railings around water must be well built.
- Changes in level add heaps of interest, particularly in an otherwise flat garden.
- Pay attention to textures and finishes around water – good grip in all conditions is vital.



Hard landscaping is ideal for surrounding pools to avoid leaves and soil entering the water. Soften the look with plants in containers.

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# Covering UP!



Main picture: A touch of French style and elegance. This telescopic pool cover from Arqualand is 20 metres x 10 metres and covers the whole length of the pool and includes at the far end a covered dining area by the pool. Top: sliding doors offer easy access when the pool is covered. Bottom - the telescope compacts easily to allow the pool to be fully open air.

If you have a pool or are thinking about getting one, then a pool cover is the way to extend its use all year round.

**The good news is that it's summer.**

The swimming pool is being used, people are swimming, diving, jumping in and having a great time. Just what a swimming pool should be all about.

But what happens when the summer is over? Memories of hot sunny days are lost and there's nothing which looks sadder or nostalgic for long summer days than an unwelcoming cold, unused swimming pool.

The simple concept of extending the life of a swimming pool from four months to nine months a year is one which is attracting the urgent attention of swimming pool owners all over the country.

The answer is high quality pool enclosures – permanent covers, fixed or telescopic – over swimming pools which completely change the emphasis from an outdoor seasonal pool to an all year round opportunity which can be used 12 months a year.

*What Pools* spoke to three of the leading pool cover experts whose companies have been taking the message out to customers who are looking to make better use of their pools.

Estelle Michaels, Graham Kelsey and Chris Elliot have a few things in common but one overriding view they share is that if you have made an investment into building a pool then it makes sense to get full value from your investment by putting a cover over it.

Chris Elliot from **Pool Cover Ltd** says: "If you have a swimming pool you've already made a large investment. It surely makes sense in our climate in the UK to make the maximum you can out of it and make the pool available for use for as many months in the year as you can."

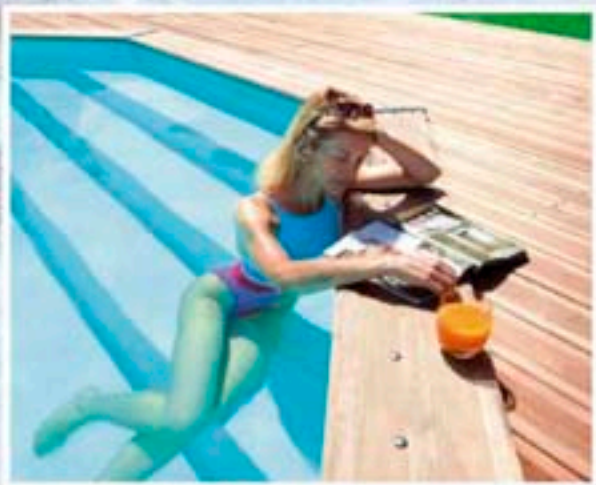
"We had a customer who is in his 80s who does forty lengths a day – and now he does it all year round. Without the cover on his pool he wouldn't be able to do that. Just think how his life has changed." >>> 93

“Make the pool available for use for as many months in the year as you can”

# An Affordable Dream

## Piscinelle Garden Pools

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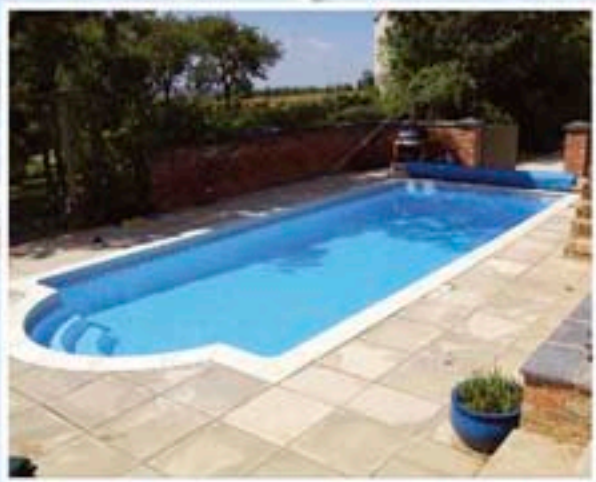
## Arqualand Pool Enclosures

A pool enclosure ensures you can swim all year, any time of day. Freestanding or attached to an existing wall. Fixed or telescopic designs, Patented, weatherproof, energy efficient, choice of colours. All side window sections open up by sliding them into the roof to provide unimpeded access from pool to garden along both sides of the building. Arqualand 10-year guarantee. Sizes from 16ft to 98ft wide and 20ft to 100ft plus long. See picture gallery at [www.arqualand.co.uk](http://www.arqualand.co.uk)



## Multiforma Fibreglass Pools

**Why are fibreglass pools better?** One-piece construction, no seams or joints, therefore leakproof. Hygienic, ultra smooth finish with real mosaic tile border. Pools are delivered complete, fully fitted with skimmer and light. The kit includes pump, filter and pipework with full instructions. Builder or DIY installation within days instead of months. Less time, less money, less disruption to your garden. Factory 10-year guarantee. Sizes from 18ft to 36ft. Multiforma have manufactured 30,000+ pools since 1972. Detailed brochure available. See website [www.swimpools.co.uk](http://www.swimpools.co.uk)



For detailed information and brochures nationwide, please contact  
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His view is the market for pool covers needs to be flexible and full of options. Telescopic pools are now attracting more interest than ever. They allow the flexibility of enclosing the pool during the winter or opening up during the warmer months.

"The huge advantage is that the telescopic pool covers are cheaper than the conventional fixed building and also protect the pool from dirt and debris.

The buildings are made to measure and if you are looking at the telescopic option there's no such thing really as a price list but low buildings cost typically between £12,000 to £19,000 with the price range going up to £40,000."

Graham Kelsey from **Summit Leisure** says that when customers start looking at investing in a pool they are already anticipating that the weather is going to be a problem. "We do a lot of enclosures for existing pools but now they are also a part of the initial thought process about what people want when considering a pool."

He says the combination of making use of the pool 12 months a year, the savings on energy bills, chemicals and cleaning bills is making the option of covering a pool a hugely attractive option. Summit Leisure market the Algarve pool enclosure



### How much and is it worth it?

Costs for pool covers tend to be very specific to the size and location of your pool. It will also depend on whether you want a sliding telescopic pool or a permanent fixture but prices start at £12,000 and can rise to £40,000 but the average cost will be £18,000 to £20,000. For that you are almost guaranteed all year round use of the pool, lower chemical cleaning costs and energy savings.

range – four models based on a roof shape. Individual customer specification is crucial.

"The way the covers are made allows us to offer customers with every option dealing with the most difficult of shapes.

There are no ground rails and can be free standing or fitted against a wall with perhaps extra doors."

Estelle Michaels of **Arqualand** has built her company's beliefs with the opportunity for customers to be more creative in opening up to "inside to outside options" for gardens and pools.

It's an exciting option as Arqualand covers are now being used for tea rooms, swimming pools, elegant restaurants, meeting rooms, even classrooms and conservatories.

"We are being asked for more creative covers and can provide what the public is looking for with the ability of offering widths of covers up to 30 metres."

It can be a case of the bigger the better but she stresses that the concept of a pool cover is one which is appealing to pool owners who want to make use of their investment.

"It's a wonderful option to take the 'indoors – outdoors'." ■



Above:  
The Algarve pool enclosure from Summit Leisure offers opportunity for innovation when it comes to covering a pool.  
Bottom left:  
a fully retracted enclosure from Pool Cover International leaving the pool with the full "outdoor effect"

### CONTACTS

- **Arqualand**  
Tel: 01273 846855.  
[www.arqualand.co.uk](http://www.arqualand.co.uk)
- **Pool Cover International**  
Tel: 018223 275333  
[www.poolcover.co.uk](http://www.poolcover.co.uk)
- **Summit Leisure**  
Tel: 01264 850001  
[www.summitleisure.co.uk](http://www.summitleisure.co.uk)

# REACHING THE SUMMIT

Summit Leisure are the UK Distributors for the Algarve Retractable Pool Enclosure and the US Spa range of Spas and Swim Spas.

Summit has a 30-year history in the UK Pool and Spa Industry. It has been majoring on the distribution of these two manufacturers' products for nearly ten years. They have established a design and specification service for both products and have experienced, factory trained installation teams who install all over the UK.

The Algarve Retractable Pool Enclosure is manufactured by Safetech in Toulouse, France. Safetech have established themselves as one of Europe's market leaders. This has been achieved by developing an extremely strong, reliable, easy to use and attractive structure. The main design features are, the enclosure doesn't require ground rails to run on, has toughened safety glass glazing and a unique guiding mechanism that ensures the building stays in line when opened and closed. There are several model designs in the range plus, there is the ability to fabricate to special designs.



The Algarve Retractable Enclosure can span up to 22 metres so there is the ability to cover large commercial pools as well as domestic.

Summit have represented USSPA in the UK for a number of years. USSPA are a Czech based manufacturer producing high spec, innovatively designed spas and SwimSpas. The ethos of the whole product range is to promote elite quality, style and reliability. Each spa offers seating configurations which provide a different and variable massage. Most models have two loungers which is unusual. The Orion model is the only round spa available with a lounge seat. Both spas and the swimspas have acrylic shells, available in a selection of colours, which carry a 25 year guarantee. The shells are foam backed for insulation. In ground or above ground installation is possible. Above ground units are supplied in a Thermowood cabinet. Thermowood is heat treated softwood which carries a natural durability classification grade 2 which is a level equal to Western Red Cedar and European Oak.

Summit are based near Marlborough in Wiltshire. Conveniently situated for easy access to the M4, M3 and A34. Their showroom offers customers the opportunity to see the complete spa range, try a Swim Spa and see several models of the Algarve Enclosures.



**SUMMIT**  
Leisure

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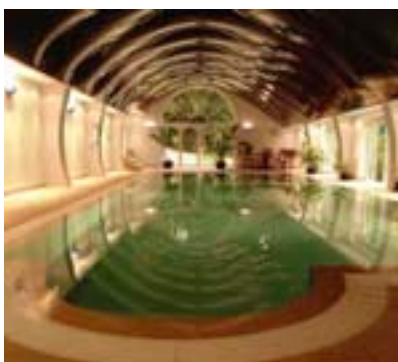
# STRETCHING THE IMAGINATION

## Star Lit Ceilings

Unique designs can easily be created using the bespoke properties that Barrisol offers. Curved, domed or flat ceilings will often be complemented by fibre optic lighting, to interpret night time or sky lit effects without compromising the ceilings vapour barrier properties.

## Unique Curves

Barrisol Stretch Ceilings offer a fantastic opportunity to create clean and cool or loud and colourful ceiling features, with the additional ability to form diverse shapes including curved, barrel vaulted or waved designs. The Barrisol system is ideally suited to pool environments as the material is unaffected by chlorine or sulphur laden atmospheres, providing an impermeable vapour barrier.



## Contemporary Matt White Finish

The use of Matt White Barrisol material in the application above achieved a superb effect, offering both an excellent acoustic solution that can assist in dealing with noise reverberation problems which often occur in pool environments, but the flawless finish is effectively maintenance free does not crack or flake and comes with a 10 year guarantee

## Reflective Lacquer Finish

The stunning installation shown on the right indicates the outstanding effects achieved using the glossy Lacquer finish, which not only gives the impression of added height to the pool hall due to the mirrored effect, but also will also introduce a sense of entertainment and interest in the pool environment. With over 250 different colours and finishes Barrisol can satisfy even the most unique and contemporary designs.



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# REVITALISING EXPERIENCES

The Canadian Spa Company is a name that is synonymous with quality, reliability, and impeccable customer care. The reasons are many and complex... the result is simple. Happy customers that enthusiastically refer more business to us than any other source.

Our company mission statement says it all:

**Our vision is to continue to be a caring viable community driven company.**

**Improving our customer's quality of life by delivering unique products and outstanding customer care.**

**Our pride of reputation ensures peace of mind and continuous commitment to our customers.**

The secret to our success is control... of components, production, distribution and even the after sales care. You see, unlike almost every other spa company in the UK, when we entered the UK market over 10 years ago we did not simply find a distributor to sell and service our spas, we came here ourselves, with our families, our expertise, and our commitment, and made the UK our home. When you buy a Canadian Spa Company spa you don't just become a customer, you become part of a family.

Our commitment to you the customer is absolute. Our in-house UK based support teams ensure that when you need us, we are there, with a no quibble guarantee that puts us miles ahead of the competition. Our quality extends beyond our products to include our service,

administration, our eco-friendly stance on the environment. To ensure consistency, we maintain an ISO 9001:2000 rating attainable by only the best of the best. Our manufacturing systems use the best components from the largest manufactures in the world, and our rigorous testing and quality checks ensure that we provide you a truly "revitalising experience". At the Canadian Spa Company we build to a standard only imagined by most companies and we stand behind our products with one of the best guarantees in the industry.

What this means to you as a customer is that you can buy with confidence from any of over 1000 locations across the UK and be confident in the knowledge that not only do you have the support of your local distributor but also the back up support of the manufacturer based here in the UK instead of on another continent. It also means that by cutting out the import distributor you can save thousands of pounds off the price of your spa. No gimmicks. No nonsense. Just great products to you at great prices with the piece of mind that only comes with buying the best.

It's no wonder that all of the largest groups of companies selling spas in the UK and Europe including Homebase, Wickes, and QVCall choose the Canadian



Spa Company as their supplier of spas, and no wonder that we sell more spas from customer referrals than from any other source.

Canadian Spa Companies' global strategy is to be a part of the markets we serve, by integrating into the communities and meeting local needs and expectations and by providing a hands on approach to local markets. As our customers support us, we support the communities we work in through our sponsorship of youth sporting programs across the UK. To date we have invested over £100,000 back into local community sporting programs and we are always on the look out for more opportunities to give back.

## A revitalising experience

When ever something great comes along, somebody always tries to make it better. At Canadian Spa Company, we don't make changes to our spas for the sake of making changes. One of the main criteria we employ when improving our product is asking the question "does this change fundamentally improve the product?" Our patented technology and components are designed for function, we are not interested in the latest fads and gimmicks, What we are interested in is providing a truly revitalising experience through great hydrotherapy, massage therapy, chronotherapy, aromatherapy, and skin therapy.



We engineer our spas using the latest advances in fluid dynamics. We consult with the leading specialists in reflexology, ergonomics, acupressure and sports massage therapy for great performance and efficient systems with massive amounts of power. Power that is available at the touch of a button to provide great high pressure deep muscle massage. Of course we also make all of our jets adjustable so you can turn them down to a gentle flow for more relaxed massage. We use the latest plasma cell cleaning technology to purify your water to the highest standards with much lower power and chemical consumption. We use heated air blowers that inject billions of super heated air bubbles into the water in concentrated bursts, to exfoliate your skin and dilate your blood vessels. This increases blood flow to help repair and revitalise damaged organs and tissue for healthy young looking skin. We also offer you the option of putting scented beads or essential oils into the heated air system through our hot air aromatherapy injection system to incorporate the benefits of aromatherapy into your relaxation session. Our spas also allow you to redirect the heated air blower and inject it into the water stream to turbo charge the massage jets creating a torrent of swirling, pulsating water for

the ultimate in stress busting body massage. There have been some great advances made to our spas in the 20 years we have been building them. There are a lot of entertainment spas out there but we insist on taking it further, we design our spas to create a truly revitalising experience.



### **Aqua trainer swim spas**

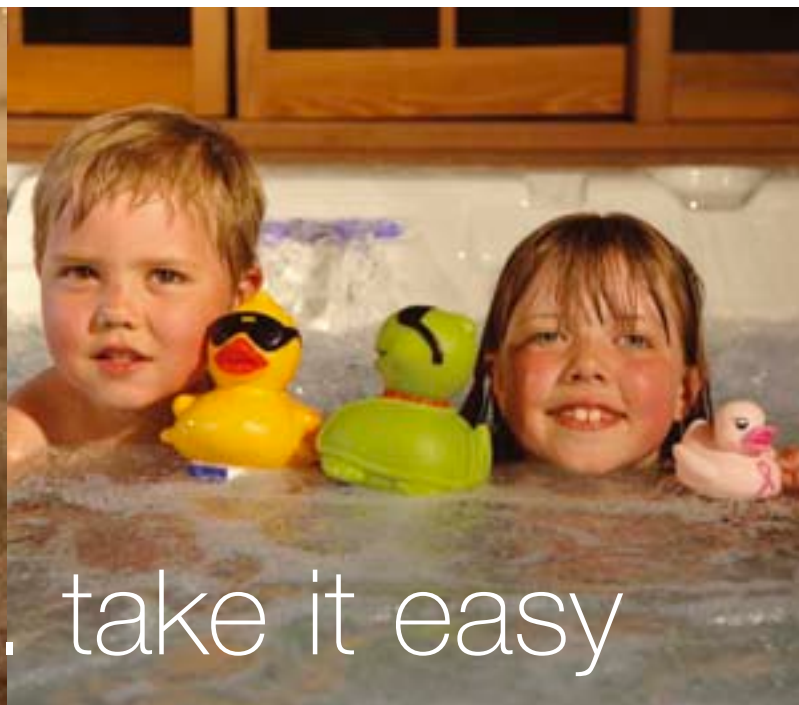
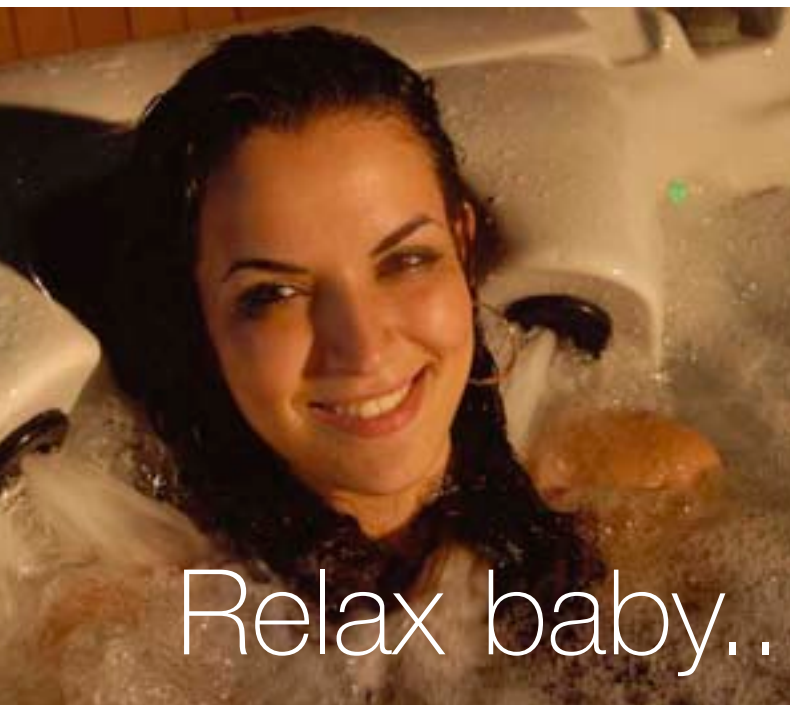
For the ultimate in aqua training the Canadian Spa Company swim spa features 5 pumps. At over 4 feet deep and fourteen feet long our swim spa is a true aqua trainer. The system is designed to do away with pesky ropes, pulleys and bungee cords by providing enough true flow water pressure to do all your resistance training. The swim spa uses the resistance of the water flow which is adjustable from a small rolling flow to a massive torrent provided by up to 3 high flow pumps. With our 5 jet system you can use all or part of the main swim pump and engage successive pumps for higher levels of fitness right up to our pro-flow rate that will keep experienced swimmers challenged. From swimming to rowing to low impact walking, aerobics, and arm and leg exercises the Canadian Spa Company swim spa is a true aqua trainer.



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## ECOSMARTE

### 100% Chlorine-Free Spa & Swimming Pool Purifying System!

The ECOsmarte technology has no toxic discharges, requires no replacement parts for at least three years and has demonstrated substantial savings on chemicals, water and electricity. The technology is proven and the residential and commercial applications are brought to you by the leading developer of non-salt, non-chemical water technology.

Using the traditional chemical maintenance of your pool, the mere bleaching of hair, drying out of the skin and the burning of the eyes should alert you to the health and environmental risks associated with chemically treated water - ECOsmarte provides you with a chlorine-free and salt-free alternative for water treatment today.

ECOsmarte offers the only method that can sanitize swimming pools without chemicals. The system saves on electrical usage from reduced filtration, with a 100% Chlorine-Free system savings will continue by eliminating all chemical expenses.

**The ECOsmarte Pool System requires no regular chemicals to sanitize your pool.**



**AquaSafe Bristol Ltd**  
**32A Downend Road**  
**Downend**  
**Bristol BS16 5UJ**

Tel: 0117 956 6694  
 Fax: 0117 302 6793  
 Email: [sales@aquasafe90.com](mailto:sales@aquasafe90.com)  
 Website: [www.aquasafe90.com](http://www.aquasafe90.com)

# WATER CONTROL MADE SIMPLE!

AquaSafe supply a number of products to maintain a clear, clean and fresh Spa or Swimming Pool without using harsh chemicals. Whether you have a Spa or Swimming Pool, AquaSafe have the answer with revolutionary approaches to purifying and testing, that gives the clearest, cleanest water imaginable - The Natural Way!

## AQUASAFE 90

### Chemical FREE - Maintenance FREE

This remarkable Product keeps your water clean, sparkling bright and fresh with no harsh chemicals or irritating odours. These powerful yet gentle cleansers remove contaminants to eliminate unsightly scum and foam and prevents scale or mineral deposits from forming.

Forget the shower after use, as AquaSafe 90 leaves your skin feeling clean, soft and velvety smooth. With no corrosive chemicals in AquaSafe 90 to cause rust, stains or tainted water, your pump, filter, heater and every part of your Spa in contact with the water will look better and last longer.

- 100% bio-based, all natural Seaweed Enzymes
- FREE from Chlorine or Bromine toxicity - completely

- bio-degradable and non-toxic to the environment
- FREE from itching, rashes, dry skin & burning eyes
- FREE from daily maintenance and testing - NO more test kits!
- FREE from chemical smells
- Save water, don't waste a valuable asset
- Drain your spa water directly onto your lawn or garden!

## RAPID BACTERIA TEST FOR POOLS AND SPAS

**A revolutionary way to test any pool or spa for harmful bacteria.**

The AquaSafe Bacteria Test Strip is an antibody based rapid test, that detects Pseudomonas, Aeromonas, E.coli, Shigella, species of Salmonella, Enterobacter, Klebsiella, and many other coliform and non-coliform Bacteria in swimming pools and spas - in less than 20 mins. The Test has all the accuracy and reliability of a lab test in a disposable strip and requires no instrumentation or user training.

- Home testing kit
- Detects harmful bacteria
- Accurate and reliable
- Immediate results
- Simple to use

# Looking to buy a

Almost all these companies offering hot tubs, sell through their own dealer networks across the UK.

## MAINLAND LEISURE LTD

Grosvenor Garden Centre  
Wrexham Road  
Belgrave, Chester CH4 9EB  
E-mail: [info@fourwindsspas.co.uk](mailto:info@fourwindsspas.co.uk)  
Tel: 01244 678 855  
[www.mainlandleisure.com](http://www.mainlandleisure.com)

Mainland Leisure Ltd is the UK distributor for Four Winds Spas, an American manufacturing company renowned for quality, service and cutting edge design. There are currently five models in the range, with seating capacity ranging from three to six.

## AEGEAN SPAS

Solo House  
The Courtyard  
London Road  
Horsham  
W. Sussex  
RH12 1AT  
Tel: 0800 783 7834  
[www.aegeanspas.co.uk](http://www.aegeanspas.co.uk)

Aegean Spas supplies leading American hot tub brands to the UK. Brands include Master Spas, Easy Spas, Down East Spas and Rock Pool.

## LA SPAS

Ronald House  
Clayhill Ind. Park  
Cheshire CH64 3RU  
E-mail: [info@laspas.co.uk](mailto:info@laspas.co.uk)  
Tel: 0151 336 3417  
[www.laspas.co.uk](http://www.laspas.co.uk)

Celebrating over 30 years in the industry, LA Spas are renowned for high quality, custom featured hot tubs. Their Quadrant Therapy System uses strategically placed jets in specific seats to focus on primary muscle groups in the body.



## MAAX

600 Cameron Road  
Ste-Marie (Quebec)  
Canada  
G6E 1B2  
Tel: 1-888-957-7816  
[www.elitespas.com](http://www.elitespas.com)

Elite Spas from the Canadian manufacturer MAAX, are carefully engineered for long term durability and efficiency. Strategically positioned and fully adjustable jets deliver the most beneficial massage.

## SPAFORM UK LTD

Spa House  
Walton Road, Farlington, Portsmouth  
Hampshire PO6 1TB  
Tel: 02392 313131  
[www.spaform.co.uk](http://www.spaform.co.uk)

Spaform is Europe's largest spa manufacturer offering a variety of portable, architectural and hybrid designs. All spas feature specifically designed fibre glass reinforcement exclusive to Spaform.

## HYDROSPA

Tel: 0207 023 4966  
E-mail: [joe@hydrospaeu.com](mailto:joe@hydrospaeu.com)  
[www.hydrospa.uk.com](http://www.hydrospa.uk.com)

There are three series in the Hydrospa range: Sterling Leisure, Mark III and Fitness. Hydrospa pumps produce high water volume at a lower pressure for a soothing, deep penetrating massage. Their two-inch wet end and sweep ninety-degree turns enable greater velocity and whisper-quiet water delivery.



## GULF COAST SPAS

11620 54th St N.  
Clearwater  
FL 33760

Manufactured in Florida, Gulf Coast Spas utilise manifold plumbing systems, high performance ERP 7 HP pumps and a wide range of jets to ensure the ultimate hydrotherapeutic experience. Special features include one-touch controls and ThermaZone barrier insulation.



## ROTOSPA

Email: [info@rotospa.co.uk](mailto:info@rotospa.co.uk)  
Tel: 0121 351 2585  
[www.rotospa.co.uk](http://www.rotospa.co.uk)

Specialists in portable spas, Rotospa's designs are purpose built and engineered for the reality of daily use. The tough integrated molding and low maintenance exterior finish ensure it looks good for years to come.



## EMERALD SPAS

Units 1 & 2 Hawthorn Industrial Park  
Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 1QD

E-mail: [info@emeraldspa.co.uk](mailto:info@emeraldspa.co.uk)  
Tel: 01200 424 888  
[www.emeraldspa.co.uk](http://www.emeraldspa.co.uk)

Headquartered in Kentwood, Michigan, Emerald Spas are built with an emphasis on quality and trouble-free operation. The MassageAir Therapy System employs unique High-Performance Jet Select technology which mixes water and air to provide optimum hydrotherapy.

## JACUZZI UK

Silverdale Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Staffordshire, ST5 6EL

Tel: 01782 717175  
[jacuzzi@jacuzziuk.com](mailto:jacuzzi@jacuzziuk.com)  
[www.jacuzzipremium.co.uk](http://www.jacuzzipremium.co.uk)

Jacuzzi has become the world's most recognized and largest selling brand of jetted/whirlpool baths and spas. The J-400 collection features a stunning WaterColour waterfall. Graceful curves present a contemporary spa profile, and a natural backdrop for cascading water and light.

## MASTER SPAS

2 Hale Lane, Mill Hill  
London NW7 3NX

Tel: 0800 783 7834  
[www.masterspas.co.uk](http://www.masterspas.co.uk)

With 28 years' experience, Master Spas are renowned for their innovative therapeutic designs and highly advanced insulation, filtration and heating systems. With up to 90 jets on some models, Master Spas offer everything from the full-body massage, to concentrated neck and shoulder relief, to lounge and cool-down seats.



## ARCTIC SPAS LTD

Unit 2, Hartlebury Trading Estate  
Hartlebury, Worcester DY10 4JB

Email: [info@arcticspas.co.uk](mailto:info@arcticspas.co.uk)  
Tel: 0800 085 6383  
[www.arcticspas.co.uk](http://www.arcticspas.co.uk)

Engineered for ultimate performance, even in the harshest climates, Arctic Spas is one of the world's leading spa manufacturers. Arctic Spas supply two hot tub lines: Arctic Hot Tubs and Coyote Hut Tubs. Each Arctic Spa comes with their Premier Heatlock Insulation system, designed to minimize heat loss and to maximize energy efficiency.

## FREEFLOW SPAS UK

AS & MS Agency, 3 Friends Walk  
Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4EA

[anthony@freeflowspas.co.uk](mailto:anthony@freeflowspas.co.uk)  
Tel: 01799 524 271  
[www.freeflowspas.co.uk](http://www.freeflowspas.co.uk)

Freeflow have an enduring tradition of producing innovative and cost-effective spas. Featuring a highly durable unicast shell, Freeflow spas are virtually impervious to the elements. The walls of each spa are completely filled with polyurethane insulation to provide maximum efficiency and strength.

## CANADIAN SPA CO

Canada House, Gatwick Road  
Crawley, West Sussex  
United Kingdom RH10 9RE

E-mail: [sales@canadianspacompany.com](mailto:sales@canadianspacompany.com)  
Tel: 01293 522 266  
[www.canadianspacompany.com](http://www.canadianspacompany.com)

Canadian Spas use only the finest quality components from quadruple layer shells and top-of-the-line Balboa digital control systems, to the highest pressure therapy massage systems currently available.

# HOTTUB? Here's who's on the market

To find the nearest dealer to you contact the company's website for a full dealer list



**HYDROPOOL SPAS**  
London Road, Felbridge  
East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 2RQ  
E-mail: [enquiries@hydropoolspas.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hydropoolspas.co.uk)  
Tel: 01342 311 000  
[www.hydropoolspas.co.uk](http://www.hydropoolspas.co.uk)

**Hydropool Spas**  
Hydropool Spas is one of the UK's largest established spa suppliers. Hydropool Spas utilise a unique, dual-pressurised filtration system that is the most advanced in the industry combining surface and footwell filtration & cleaning.

**SBS SPAS**  
Unit 301, Old Barn Farm Road  
Woolsbridge Industrial Park  
Three Legged Cross  
Dorset BH21 6SP  
Email: [sales@sbs-spas.co.uk](mailto:sales@sbs-spas.co.uk)  
Tel: 0800 389 2392  
[www.sbs-spas.co.uk](http://www.sbs-spas.co.uk)

SBS supply an impressive selection of leading hot tubs brands including: @home Hot Tubs, Reflections Hot Tubs, The Bay Collection and Swim Spas.

**ARTESIAN SPAS**  
Artesian House, Silk Road  
Quest Park, Wheatley Hall Rd  
Doncaster, South Yorkshire  
DN2 4LJ  
Tel: 0845 230 7727  
[www.artesianspas.co.uk](http://www.artesianspas.co.uk)

Artesian Spas is the manufacturer of four unique lines of spas and hot tubs. The Platinum Class by Artesian is the company's most upper-end line, offering DirectFlow pump and plumbing system and individual topside controls for every seat.



**CATALINA SPAS**  
Downs Farm, Gomeldon  
Salisbury, SP4 6JZ  
E-mail: [Sales@catalinaspas.co.uk](mailto:Sales@catalinaspas.co.uk)  
Tel: 01980 611 555  
[www.catalinaspas.co.uk](http://www.catalinaspas.co.uk)

Crafted from the highest quality materials, Catalina Spas use precisely positioned jets to ease away tensions and heighten senses. Directed towards the pressure points used in reflexology and acupuncture their Flexiflo System and new Blaster and Storm Jets can provide a controllable, personalised massage.

**SOFTUB LTD**  
243 Berechurch Hall Road  
Colchester  
Essex  
Tel: 01206 546 403  
[www.softub.co.uk](http://www.softub.co.uk)

Softub Ltd is the sole UK distributor for Softub. Unlike other portable spas, the Softub is constructed from soft material with no preformed contours, allowing for an unlimited range of sitting and reclining positions.

**HOTSPRING**  
2 East Court, South Bristol Trade Park  
Winterstoke Road Bristol  
BS3 2LD  
Tel: 0117 934 1670  
[www.hotspring.co.uk](http://www.hotspring.co.uk)

HotSpring Spas is a leading spa retailer in the UK with showrooms across the country. A total of five lines make up the HotSpring collection including HotSpring, Sanum, Hotspot and Solana. HotSpring also supply a luxury range of spa buildings and an exclusive line of Riptide exercise pools and swim spas.



**COAST SPAS**  
6315-202 St Langley, BC  
Canada V2Y 1N1  
[international@coastspas.com](mailto:international@coastspas.com)  
[www.coastspas.com](http://www.coastspas.com)

With over 20 models of hot tubs available in over 65 configurations, Coast has a hot tub for every lifestyle and budget. The company is best known for its efforts to build leading market-driven hot tubs such as the Mirage Home Theatre Spa with retractable LCD screen and DVD player and The BOSS wireless remote command center.

**MISTRAL HOT TUBS EUROPE**  
[www.mistralhottubs.com](http://www.mistralhottubs.com)  
UK dealer sales  
[info@mistralhottubs.com](mailto:info@mistralhottubs.com)  
Tel: 077944 33450

Mistral spas are the makers say better suited to the UK climate. Safety design includes internal steps, non-slip surfaces. This reduces running costs since Mistral say they are made for Arctic conditions in northern Canada. They are 40" deep so you sit in the water to your neck and not to your chest as in other tubs.

**SARATOGA SPAS**  
132 London Road  
Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2AJ  
Tel: 01635 551 662  
E-mail: [info@saratoga-spa.co.uk](mailto:info@saratoga-spa.co.uk)  
[www.saratoga-spa.co.uk](http://www.saratoga-spa.co.uk)

Saratoga spas offer a wide range of models with something to suit all budgets. The spas' intricate jet network enables you to personalize your massage by zone and intensity. Multiple bathers can adjust the intensity location and style of water flow to suit their own needs without imposing them on others.



**SUNDANCE SPAS UK**  
8 The Markham Centre, Station Road  
Theale RG7 4PE  
[sales@sundance-spas.co.uk](mailto:sales@sundance-spas.co.uk)  
Tel: 01189 304000  
[www.sundance-spas.co.uk](http://www.sundance-spas.co.uk)

Headquartered in Chino, California, Sundance Spas is recognized internationally for advanced technology, superior design and innovation in hydrotherapeutic massage. Every spa is precisely designed with quality features: powerful jets, ergonomically designed seating, and easy-to-use controls.

**LEISURERITE UK LTD**  
Unit 2, The Quion Estate  
Marlborough Road, Lancing Business Park  
West Sussex BN15 8AD  
[info@leisurerite.co.uk](mailto:info@leisurerite.co.uk)  
Tel: 0870 240 1534  
[www.leisurerite.co.uk](http://www.leisurerite.co.uk)

Leisurite, New Zealand's leading spa pool manufacturer is distributed in the UK via Leisurite UK Ltd. Each spa is ergonomically design for maximum comfort. The jets are strategically placed at certain pressure points of the body.

**GOLDEN COAST LTD**  
Fishleigh Road, Roundswell Com. Park (W)  
Barnstaple EX31 3UA  
E-mail: [marquis@goldenc.com](mailto:marquis@goldenc.com)  
Tel: 01271 378 100  
[www.goldencoast.co.uk](http://www.goldencoast.co.uk)

Golden Coast is the exclusive UK distributor of Marquis spas and hot tubs. Marquis is mainly concerned with offering creative and innovative designs that provide the ultimate soaking experience, are cost-efficient, and require the least amount of maintenance. The SmartClean Filtration System automatically filters any residue after each hot tub use.

**H2O SPAS**  
23 Ferringham Lane, Ferring  
Worthing, Sussex BN12 5NB  
Email: [sales@h2ospas.co.uk](mailto:sales@h2ospas.co.uk)  
Tel: 0845 0212140  
[www.h2ospas.co.uk](http://www.h2ospas.co.uk)

Manufactured in Canada, H2O Spas are renowned for high quality. Each spa model contains seats of varying depths and size, built 101cm deep. This allows the upper body to be fully immersed in the warm therapeutic water, a feature essential to year-round spa enjoyment in colder climates.

**AQUAMONDE LIFESTYLE LTD**  
8 Farfield, Wykeham  
Scarborough, North Yorkshire YO13 9QD  
E-mail: [contact@aquamonde.co.uk](mailto:contact@aquamonde.co.uk)  
Tel: 01723 865777  
[www.aquamonde.co.uk](http://www.aquamonde.co.uk)

Aquamonde Lifestyle offer two leading spa ranges: Aquamonde and Diamonte. Aquamonde Spas are built in Belgium and offer technical innovation, including being the only non-commercial tub to offer UVC. Diamante Spas are built in California; with features including marine quality CD/Radios, multiple LED lighting, illuminated waterfalls and advanced massage jets

**SPA CREST EUROPE**  
Unit 1 JGB investment Park  
Stephens Way Goose Green  
Wigan WN3 6PG  
E-mail: [admin@spacrest-europe.com](mailto:admin@spacrest-europe.com)  
Tel: 01942 233 211  
[www.spacrest-europe.com](http://www.spacrest-europe.com)

Spa Crest Europe provides a range of hot tubs to suit all budgets. The two ranges (Spa Crest and Vision Hot Tubs) are hand crafted in USA, by Spa Crest Manufacturing Inc. Standard features on Spa Crest models include stainless steel jets and LED underwater lighting whilst Vision Hot Tubs are designed with perimeter LED lighting and chrome jets.



### Toronto Spa

The new 2006 Toronto LE edition is a six-person hot tub that includes a High-Back Loungers with over 25 standard features that are essential in the production of a top of the line spa. With a 28 jet system, twin filters, Microban shell, and our exclusive slo-flow hydra pure water treatment system, this spa is fantastic value for the money. The ergonomic seating makes your experience more enjoyable as you relax in the world of Hydrotherapy.

### Filter Cleaner Wand

Make cleaning your filter cartridge easy and faster with this hand held cartridge filter cleaner.

- Quick and Easy.
- No messy spray-back.
- Substantially decreases water wastage.
- Handy on/off switch.
- Cleans 8 pleats at a time in one simple action.
- 8 fan nozzles each spray a wide, high-pressure radius to flush and clean both sides if all 8 pleats in one single downward stroke.
- Suitable for use on pool or spa cartridge filters
- Simply attach to a garden hose and flick the switch.



### Canadian Spa Company

Canada House  
 Gatwick Road  
 Crawley  
 West Sussex  
 RH10 9RE

■ Tel: 01293 522266  
 ■ [www.canadianspacompany.com](http://www.canadianspacompany.com)



### CRS1 - Bottom Mount Cover Lifter

- Foot assist eliminates the need for expensive shocks
- Mounts directly to the spa OR can be mounted with optional under-spa brackets with no holes to drill in the skirt!
- Made of black powder-coated steel
- Fits up to 8' Spas
- Requires 12"-18" clearance
- Limited Lifetime Warranty



### Victoria Spa

The Victoria is an all seater with 7 deep seats and a foot dome complete with volcano jet for the most intense foot and calf massage available. This spa is a favourite for those who like to entertain, it comes with 52 jets, Twin pumps and heated air blower, and aromatherapy system as well as a standard feature list that puts more expensive spas to shame. This spa not only looks good but gives the most powerful massage available today through its complement of spinning pulsation and directional storm jets, each jet can be controlled with a quick twist of the outer ring.



### Clear Choice Spa Prep

This is added to your existing water and left in for at least five days. It cleans out the spa and plumbing to remove the unwanted chemical, organic, metal and mineral build up in your spa or hot tub. This treatment also conditions your spa plumbing and equipment for prolonged life.



### Clear Choice Spa Water Treatment

Clear Choice Spa Water Treatment. For an average size spa add 35 drops of water treatment per week. This contains natural soaps, which break down organic waste to a smaller size to allow faster natural oxidation. This product also contains a special nutrient food source, which sustains healthy bacteria. The final ingredient is a blend of enzymes and coenzymes that rapidly start natural oxidation and self-purification of your spa water.



Introducing Clear Choice UK. 100% chemical free all natural enzyme based water treatment for your spa or hot tub.

- Established in the USA, Canada and New Zealand for over 10 years.
- Not only does it get rid of all your toxic chemicals it is a 1 step maintenance
- No water testing required.
- Environmentally friendly and uses less water due to water changes only required every 6-12 months.
- This product is hypoallergenic. Imagine no more eye irritation, no more dry skin and hair and it is as kind to you and your body as natural spring water.
- Prolongs your spa and equipment life.



### Clear Choice Spa Pre Filter

This product attaches to your hose when filling removing heavy metals and balancing your water.



### Clear Choice Starter Kit.

Clear Choice Starter Kit. This kit contains all the above items plus a fine micron boot for additional filtration. The products in this kit will be all you need for non-toxic chemical free water treatment for 8-12 months.

#### Clear Choice UK

- Tel: 01752 346652  
07855 745 666
- [www.clearchoiceuk.co.uk](http://www.clearchoiceuk.co.uk)



### Oasis

A quality 5-6 Person Hottub. At incredible value. Our entry level tub that has great features:

- 5 Seats Plus One Recliner
- 2 Speed Pump
- 3 KW Heater
- Ozone
- Blower
- Aromatherapy
- Balboa 501 Controller

Made with a depth of 775mm to fit through those tight gateways



### Sahara Premier

Our best selling tub at the top end of the 2 metre range. Packed with features:

- 4 Seats Plus Two Recliners
- 42 Jets
- 24 Hour Circulation Pump
- 2 Boost Pumps
- 3 KW Heater
- Ozone
- Blower
- Aromatherapy
- Balboa GL2000 Controller

Stylish and powerful also available with music

### Leisurerite Uk Ltd

Unit 2 The Quoin Estate  
Marlborough Road  
Lancing  
West Sussex  
BN15 8AD

■ Tel: 0870 2401534 or 0845 HOTTUBS  
■ [www.leisurerite.co.uk](http://www.leisurerite.co.uk)



### Opal Deluxe

A luxurious tub that's fully loaded on specification but made to accommodate a smaller family or where space is at a premium:

- 2 Seats Plus One Recliner
- 24 Hour Circulation Pump
- 2 Boost Pumps
- 3 KW Heater
- Ozone
- Blower
- Aromatherapy
- Balboa GL2000 Controller

This is a high performance tub.



### Manhattan

Our flagship. The ultimate hottub experience with hydrotherapy perfection.

- 4 Seats Plus Two recliners
- 84 Stainless Steel Jets
- 24 Hour Circulation Pump
- 3 Boost Pumps
- 3 KW Heater
- Ozone
- Blower
- CD Player
- Aromatherapy
- LED Lighting & 2 Waterfalls
- Balboa GL8000 Controller

A large 2.3 metre square tub with the lot!



### R-Can Ozone Units

The latest generation of ozone units and installation kits:

- High quality stainless steel units
- Unaffected by moisture, ideal for spas
- Retrofit into most spas
- Full spares service
- Lamp change alarm
- Venturi kits for pools & spas

These units are an ideal upgrade for any spa.



### KK Water Softeners

Having created a wonderful pool or spa in your home, why not upgrade the house by fitting a water softener. Softened water will transform the way your skin, hair and clothes feel by reducing scale and scum. You may notice cleaning the bath or shower is no longer a chore, just a quick wipe will do.



### Platinum UV Units

The latest generation of pool UV units packed with features:

- CFD designed stainless steel chamber
- High efficiency lamp
- LCD display of UV levels
- Diagnostic check on start-up
- Plain English auto fault finding
- Alarm connections

Whatever size pool we have a unit to fit.



### KK Water Filters

Now that the pool has a chemical-free UV sanitiser fitted, your bath water is luxuriously soft, its time to purify your drinking water so you are really are clean inside and out. KK has a complete range of filters for the most exacting needs.

#### KK Water Purification Ltd

Victory House,  
Victory Park Road  
Addlestone,  
Surrey KT15 2AX  
sales@kkwater.com

■ Tel: 01932 852423  
■ [www.kkwater.com](http://www.kkwater.com)



**AquaGarde Water Systems BV**

■ 07738 854 729  
■ [www.info@aquagarde.com](http://www.info@aquagarde.com)

**AquaGarde®**

AquaGarde automatically balances Ph and alkalinity, without the necessity to do extensive testing and mixing. Our simple shake and pour methodology takes away the unpleasantness of Hottub management and gives the tub user a quick and easy to use solution that is tested and proven effective at the elimination of Legionella.



**AquaGarde®**

AquaGarde® is one of the world's most well known Hottub water treatments systems. Founded in 2004 is now set to expand its operations into USA and Canada this summer. AquaGarde is represented in the UK by BZC distribution.

Once an unknown and undiscovered biological nobody, the Legionella bacterium has emerged as the number one danger and primary concern related to hot tub and spa use in the UK, Europe and the world. Making sure the family is safe when entering a private residential spa or hot tub is a major concern for every responsible owner and family member. Reliable data also reveals a great deal of unease for many spa owners about which water care alternatives are safe to use in their own right. In addition there is a significant amount of data about the effects of long term exposure to some traditional chemicals with respect to health safety.

AquaGarde can now claim to be the first product in the world to eliminate and kill legionella in residential hot tubs & spas using only the AquaGarde single product solution, without the use of chlorine or bromine.

**alba pools**  
Award Winning Pools



### Products and Services

- Swimming Pools
- Spa/Wellness Developments a Specialty
- Spa Pools & Hot Tubs
- Saunas & Steam Rooms
- Pool Equipment
- Pool Cover Systems
- Chemicals and Controllers
- Service Contracts and Repairs

### Alba/SB Pools Limited

Unit 10 Brechin Business Park  
West Road  
BRECHIN  
DD9 6RJ



■ Tel. 00 44 870 770 5660  
■ [www.alba-pools.co.uk](http://www.alba-pools.co.uk)



OASIS

The new **Esprit** is the perfect Hottub for any smaller space you wish to utilize for relaxation. It features full foam insulation, LED chromo therapy and stainless steel jet systems for quality enjoyment and a powerful 2.5 hp massages system. Guarantee five years parts and service. Includes exterior cedar step system and stainless steel cover caddy £5477.00

The **Sahara Night** T/ LT / LXT offer exceptional flexibility, built in steps for entry/exit safety, guaranteed energy efficiency, premium cedar exterior. Models equipped with twin 50 sq ft filters, dedicated circulation pump for super water quality, powerful twin massage pumps, Galaxy LED and waterfalls, Exterior Cedar steps, Cover Caddy From £6977.00 INCl. VAT

The **Oasis** LT / LXT offer exceptional comfort for bigger people, built in steps for entry/exit safety, guaranteed energy efficiency, premium cedar exterior. Models equipped with twin 50 sq ft filters, dedicated circulation pump for super water quality, powerful twin massage pumps, Galaxy LED and waterfalls, Exterior Cedar steps, Cover Caddy From £7977.00 INCl. VAT

The Mistral **Special T** offers exceptional flexibility, built in steps for entry/exit safety, guaranteed energy efficiency, premium cedar exterior. Equipped with twin 2 Hp massage pumps, Ozone super water quality, Galaxy LED, Exterior Cedar steps, Cover Caddy From £6477.00 INCl. VAT

**Mistral hottubs Europe**

- Tel: 01217 444 210
- Tel: 07738 854 729
- Email: [info@mistralhottubs.com](mailto:info@mistralhottubs.com)
- [www.mistralhottubs.com](http://www.mistralhottubs.com)



SPECIAL T



SAHARA NIGHT



ESPIRIT

## Castle Hot Tubs



Castle Hot Tubs Pembrokeshire's premier Hot Tub company offers quality hot tubs and above ground pools at seriously competitive prices.

We also offer

- Timber Tech - Beautiful and durable wood composite decking with a 25 year guarantee.
- Bamboo Gazebos, flooring and out door furniture plus everything you need for your hot tub or swimming pool.

With friendly and knowledgeable staff Castle Hot Tubs offers a truly unique service in this luxury market.

Pay a visit to our online shop or call us and let us turn your dream into a reality.



## What is Aquafinesse?

AquaFinesse® is an environmentally friendly patented water care solution that allows users to enjoy their hot tubs without the harsh effects of chemicals. Everything you need to experience clean, soft, crystal clear water is in one convenient carrying case. We take the guesswork out of hot tub water care in one easy step per week! You and your family will soak in the most luxurious water without the time and hassle of measuring multiple chemicals

We encourage you to experience the luxury and convenience that only AquaFinesse® provides. You'll thank us for it!



## POOL PUCK Pure Clear Simple Sensational

The maintenance of swimming pool water can be complicated and difficult. Trying to Balance PH, alkalinity and chlorine content is a daunting task for most private swimming pool owners. Cloudy, unpleasant smelling water, deposits of dirt and grime are all common place and widely experienced.

NOT ANY MORE

The patented AquaFinesse™ POOL PUCK is an all-in-one solution which greatly reduces the need for chlorine in your swimming pool. The unique balanced composition prevents the problems associated with chlorine, improves the quality of the pool water and enhances the swimmers overall experience.



### Pool Puck

Email: [sally@aquafinesse.com](mailto:sally@aquafinesse.com)

■ Tel: 01348 841116

■ [www.poolpuck.com](http://www.poolpuck.com)

### Aquafinesse

Email: [sally@aquafinesse.com](mailto:sally@aquafinesse.com)

■ Tel: 01348 841116

■ [www.aquafinesse.co.uk](http://www.aquafinesse.co.uk)

### Castle Hot Tubs

■ Tel: 01348 840509

■ [www.castlehottubs.co.uk](http://www.castlehottubs.co.uk)



### Underwater Light Show

Pool lighting just got more exciting with the World Famous AquaGlow Underwater Light Show. This floating disco ball creates a dramatic light show of patterns and colour on the sides and bottom of your pool or spa. Five different light effects bring a fun, party atmosphere to your backyard. Size 5 " High x 4" Diameter



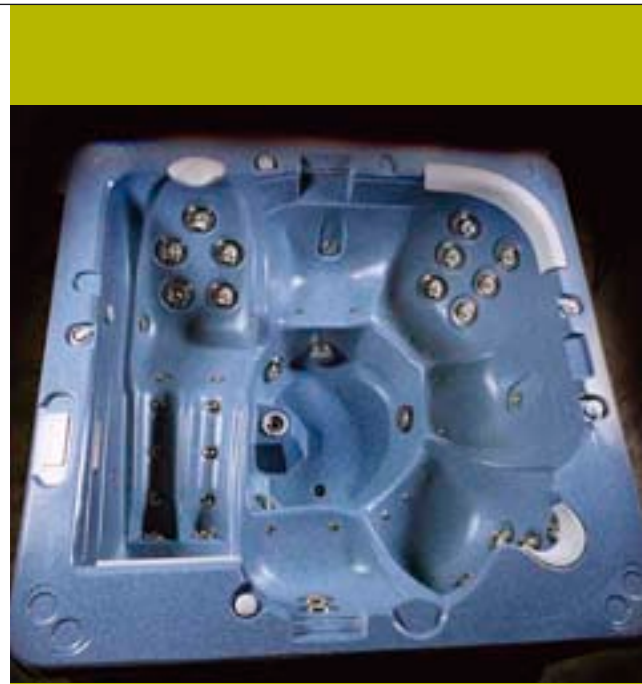
### Yukon Spa

The New 2006 Yukon (SE) Model features a brand new design with a lounge, love seat and a deep therapy seat all with loads of bubbling water and air jets which will have you feeling like new in no time, releasing the tension from mind, body and soul. A Backlit waterfall, grab rail and 5 Inch LED lighting are standard. Also all the jets on this spa are in stainless steel as standard.

#### Canadian Spa Company

Canada House  
Gatwick Road  
Crawley  
West Sussex  
RH10 9RE

■ Tel: 01293 522266  
■ [www.canadianspacompany.com](http://www.canadianspacompany.com)



### Alberta Spa

Reserved for the serious hot tub connoisseur, the Alberta Platinum package offers unparalleled therapy massage with a standard feature list that sets it miles above the competition. The spa incorporates hydrotherapy, skin therapy, aromatherapy packages. With a twin pump 8Hp system, this spa will satisfy the hardest athlete for muscle massage yet pamper the most sensitive user. The hydrotherapy, and heated air skin therapy jets can be combined in unlimited combinations & degrees to suit every taste. There is not a therapy spa on the market that can match the performance and beauty of the Alberta platinum series by Canadian spa company.

### Pink Ribbon Ducks

This year in the UK, more than 200,000 women and men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 40,000 will die. To support those affected by breast cancer, The Canadian Spa Company announces our new "THINK PINK" LED DUCKS. Dealers can purchase these ducks in display cases of 12 ducks. The "THINK PINK" Ducks are completely waterproof and light up while sitting in water, and shut off automatically when taken out of the water. A portion of the proceeds from the sales of these ducks go to breast cancer research.





### Cover Valet

The Cover Valet range of cover lifters, now available from Splash Spas, has been established in the US for many years, providing hot tub owners with a range of affordable and flexible solutions for taking the strain out of removing their hot tub cover! All of their lifters are made from heavy gauge, rust free aluminium, with a black powder coated finish for maximum durability. Many have gas shock assistance.



### Replacement Hot Tub Filters

Splash Spas now stock the UK's most extensive range of replacement hot tub filters with many types now available in both conventional style or with the patented microban antibacterial coating. Just visit the website at [www.splashspas.co.uk](http://www.splashspas.co.uk) and choose the correct filter through the product selector using either your tub's model, filter reference number or filter dimensions to identify the correct filter. Alternatively, Splash Spas friendly staff are always available on the phone "to help you."



### Fantasy Spas

Fantasy Spas, an exclusive and exciting range of Californian manufactured fully featured 'plug and play' 13amp hot tubs from Splash Spas. Fantasy Spas comprise 3 models; the Illusion, Mirage and Vision and they come in a choice of 2 colours with matching cover, optional steps and ozonator. All at under £2200 delivered to your doorstep!



### ecoONE

ecoONE, from Splash Spas, an all natural treatment system relying on the natural ability of enzymes to break down bacteria in spa water and contains no chlorine or other harsh chemicals. Why not make your spa water softer and fresher every time you use it? All components of ecoONE are biodegradable and environmentally safe.

### Splash Spas

The Old Grain Store  
West End Farm  
Upper Froyle  
Alton  
Hampshire  
GU34 4JR

■ 08454 300030  
■ [www.splashspas.co.uk](http://www.splashspas.co.uk)



### The Hydrus

Spa Crest Europe Ltd are the exclusive suppliers for the UK and mainland Europe of the Spa Crest and Vision ranges of Hot Tubs, that have been hand crafted in Claxton Georgia USA for over 20 years by Spa Crest Manufacturing Inc.

Why don't you give us a call for information on our selected UK and Ireland dealers, you won't be dissappointed.....

Meanwhile, take a look at our latest hot tub; the Hydrus. It was launched at the Piscine 2006 exhibition in Lyon and stole the show on our stand.

The Hydrus comes in a choice of 3 colours and 3 EON maintenance free cabinet colours it is fitted with all the latest technology from Balboa, the worlds leader in spa electronic management equipment and with a whole host of features fitted as standard that others class as optional extras, we feel we have the best buy on the market for a spa this size.

### Spa Crest Europe

JGB Investment Park  
 Stephens Way  
 Goose Green  
 Wigan  
 Lancashire  
 WN3 6PG

■ Tel: 01942 233211  
 ■ [www.spacrest-europe.com](http://www.spacrest-europe.com)

### Technical Specifications

Seating Capacity	8
Total Jets	105 (Chrome)
Dimensions	92" x 120" x 39" / 234cm x 305cm x 99cm
Lighting	LED; 24 point underwater & perimeter LED
Water Capacity	425 gallons / 2460 litres
Dry Weight	1248 lb / 567 kg
Filled Weight	6435 lb / 2925 kg
Filtration	100Sq.Ft. / 9.29m <sup>2</sup>
Pumps	2 x 2 speed 3.6hp and 1x1 speed 3.6hp
Circulation Pump	1/15 hp
Air Blower	no
Equipment	Balboa GL 2001 with additional topside remote and Balboa in home remote' Insulated, lockable and tapered TRI fold cover
2 X Waterfalls	
Electrical Requirements	50HZ, 220V, 32 Amps
Optional Extras	Sony Stereo System OR JBL TV/DVD/CD System
Timberstone Acrylic Cabinet	(5 year warranty)



### AQUAMONDE THATCHED GAZEBOS

The simple and elegant design of our African Thatched Gazebo's is equally suitable to provide privacy for your hot tub or spa, or as a dining or seating area for 'alfresco' entertaining. Whatever you decide to use it for it always creates a stunning focal point in any garden.

Manufactured from the highest quality timber and featuring a unique thatched roof, gazebos are available in a range of styles & sizes.

The thatch roofing system is provided as 'tiles' and is therefore very easy to install which means that the gazebo can be supplied fully assembled, or in kit form for self assembly.



### LIBART RETRACTABLE ENCLOSURE SYSTEMS

Our range of Spa & Swim Spa enclosures have been specifically designed for Hot Tub & Swim Spa aficionados. Privacy and four-season



enjoyment are now a reality. Ideal for hot tubs, swim spas, exercise and smaller pools. Retractable enclosures provide the protection of a complete building from the weather and for the safety of children & animals, but with a flexibility that allows it to be easily opened during sunny days for outdoor enjoyment. Libart manufacture enclosures for every size of pool from the smallest to Olympic sized projects. Aquamonde are the UK Distributors for Libart Enclosure systems.



### AQUAMONDE DIAMANTE GC 11 SWIM-SPA

Swimming is acknowledged to be one of the most beneficial forms of exercise; ideal for building strength and stamina with minimal impact on joints and muscles. In this very busy world, there's often not enough time in the day to go to a swimming pool, or enough space and money to install a traditional pool in your garden.

At just over 14' feet long, the latest version of the Grand Canyon 11 is compact enough to fit into most locations; gardens large & small, backyards, garages, out-buildings, conservatories & extensions. Running costs are kept to an absolute minimum through intelligent design and insulation. Aquamonde are 'The Professionals' when it comes to Exercise pools & swim-spas, and the GC11 is our most popular model. The latest five swim jet configuration and Diamante's unique 'True Lane System' provides controlled currents from a gentle flow - perfect for aqua-aerobics, jogging and resistance exercises; up to a 6 MPH 'bore' that will give serious recreational swimmers a chance to really 'go for gold'. As frequent swimmers know, one of the challenges is "staying in your lane." Differences in side strength and stroke can create a tendency to pull to one side or the other. Diamante's unique True Lane System keeps you "on track" because the 5 strategically placed swim jets keep you centred in the swim lane. The GC 11 is also ideal for teaching people to swim in a controlled environment where technique can be observed and improved.

Afterwards you can, relax with a soothing or invigorating massage in either of the two fully adjustable, multiple jet captain's chairs.

With the Grand Canyon, you can now enjoy the full-body effects of aquatic exercise and hydrotherapy with timesaving convenience in the privacy of your own home.



#### Aquamonde Lifestyle Ltd

Farfield  
Wykeham  
Scarborough  
YO13 9QB

**Tel: 01723 865777**

**Fax: 01723 865778**

**Web: [www.aquamonde.co.uk](http://www.aquamonde.co.uk)**

**Email: [contact@aquamonde.co.uk](mailto:contact@aquamonde.co.uk)**

## PRODUCT PROFILE



Aquatrac covers provide unrivalled safety, heat retention, reduced chemical usage and there's far less cleaning on outdoor pools because leaves and debris are prevented from entering the pool. On indoor pools dehumidification costs are dramatically reduced.



Heating costs savings can be significant and as you only have to turn a key to open and close the cover, any authorised person can access the pool leaving it closed and safe afterwards. There are several models available to suit various shapes and types of pools.

100% Safety - Easy operation - Chemical & Heating Cost Savings - Reduced Cleaning Time.

### Aquatrac

Unit 7  
Hodgson Court  
Wickford Business Park  
Essex  
SS11 8XR

■ Tel: 01268 571515  
■ [www.aquatrac.co.uk](http://www.aquatrac.co.uk)





### Above Ground Pool Kits

A range of small pack chemicals designed specifically to treat above ground pools and large paddling pools.



### Chlorine Free Products

Our Blue Crystal system is an advanced chlorine free method of biocidal control made up of two parts: Alpha & Omega.

The system requires minimum maintenance offering greater flexibility than other systems.



### Spa Chemicals

Our complete range of Briswim spa chemicals will ensure your water is safe and hygienic allowing you to relax and enjoy your spa.



**Poolsandspaonline.com**

■ [www.poolsandspaonline.com](http://www.poolsandspaonline.com)



Our custom made domestic and commercial enclosures are first in design, stability and safety making it possible to enjoy your pool all year round, but retaining the advantages of open-air swimming in good weather. Reduces cleaning, maintenance and heat loss, and protects your children and animals.

**FULL SIZE BUILDING ON DISPLAY IN OUNDLE SHOWROOM**



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Oundle  
PE8 4XA  
Fax: 01832 275 111  
Email: sales@swimex.co.uk

■ **Tel: 01832 275 333**  
■ **www.poolcover.co.uk**

**Features**

- Powder-coated aluminium frames.
- No glass! Plexiglas walls and twin-walled polycarbonate roof.
- No guide rails! Castor system leaves the pool patio totally free.
- 10 year guarantee on structure. Optional motors, air heaters.
- Safety locks on all doors.
- Designs and colours to suit your surroundings.



### Thermalec Bespoke Control Centres

The promotion of our control panels has shown people that it is not expensive to have bespoke panels, producing high quality equipment to industrial standards and giving people what they want instead of compromising with "off the shelf" units.

Add this to the safety standards this type of unit gives the customer and the benefits are for everyone.



For 40 years buying Thermalec has meant buying British, manufactured at our factory in Ivybridge, Devon. Thermalec continue to use highly skilled engineers, to produce individually built heaters, guaranteeing the quality which produces the reliability and the durability needed for commercial or domestic pool or spa installations, at affordable prices.

## THERMALEC POOL and SPA HEATERS



### Swimming Pool Heaters

Thermalec have been manufacturing swimming pool heaters for 40 years, based in the UK and well respected throughout the World

Available in a range of sizes, from 3kW to 120kW giving you the customer, the opportunity to heat any size of pool or spa, efficiently, with no noise or emissions, and economically when combined with the Economy 7 supply tariff, and a solar cover



Heating your Pool or Spa using Thermalec Heaters costs as little as 3p per kilowatt hour when using Economy7 electricity. Heating your pool through the night allows you to wake up to a warm pool, knowing you have reduced your costs to a minimum and produced no CO2 emissions.

### Thermalec Products - Meddings

#### Thermalec Ltd.

Kingsley Close, East Way  
Lee Mill Industrial Estate  
Ivybridge, Devon. PL21 9GD  
email: sales@thermalec.co.uk

■ Tel: 01752 313343  
■ www.thermalec.co.uk



### Leisure Time EsScents

Fragrances for Hot Tubs & Spas.

This special blended mix of fragrances caresses the senses and further enhances your sense of well-being. EsScents' non-oily formula is non-foaming and will not affect water balance. It is safe for all spa equipment and surfaces. 12 Essences in the range.

### Leisure Time Spa 56

Normal chlorine used in hot tubs gives a free-chlorine rate of about 65-70%. This is corrosive to your spa elements and surfaces.

Leisure Time Spa 56 is specific for use in hot tubs and gives 56% of free-chlorine which is not corrosive and does not give off odours associated with swimming pools.



**Spa-Care.co.uk**

■ Tel: 01952 820 061

■ [www.spa-care.co.uk](http://www.spa-care.co.uk)



### Leisure Time Instant Cartridge Clean

Spray-and-rinse formula which has to be tried to be believed! You will not use anything else afterwards.

It is a quick and easy way to remove scale, minerals, oils, lotions and other debris from cartridge filters.

The blue 'colour-indicator' ensures complete coverage.



### Leisure Time Dirty Duck Water Cleaner

Once you have tried the notorious 'Dirty-Duck' in your spa, he will never be out of your hot tub again!

DD prevents scum line formation, reduces filter clogging and removes all surface contaminants as it floats around your spa.

Absorbs 40 times its weight in oils, lotions and cosmetics. An absolute must for clean hot tubs.



### Piscinelle

Add a timber pool to your garden, either sunk into the ground or freestanding. Fully featured with pump, filter, light, pipework and automatic remote control. Delivered to your site with fully illustrated instructions. Available from 3.5 metres to 14.5 metres long. The longest part of the assembly process is waiting for the pool to fill with water! As featured on Channel 4's Big Brother



### Multiforma

One piece fibreglass construction with no seams or joints which is therefore leak proof. Hygienic, ultra smooth finish with real mosaic tile border. Pools are delivered complete fully fitted with skimmer and light. The kit includes pump, filter and pipework with full instructions. Builder or DIY installation within days instead of months. Less time, less money and less disruption to your garden. Factory 10 year guarantee. Sizes from 18ft to 36ft. Multiforma have manufactured 30,000 plus pools since 1972. A detailed brochure is available on request.



### Arqualand

A pool enclosure ensures that you can swim all year, any time of the day. Free standing or attached to an existing wall. Fixed or telescopic designs. Patented, weather proof, energy efficient and choice of colours. All side window sections open up by sliding them into the roof to provide unimpeded access from pool to garden along both sides of the building. Arqualand has a 10 year guarantee, Sizes from 16ft to 98ft wide and 20ft to 100 ft plus long



### Easy Pool Group

PO Box 425  
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West Sussex  
RH17 2YR

■ 01273 846855

■ [www.swim pools.co.uk](http://www.swim pools.co.uk)

## REVOLUTIONARY NEW DECKING



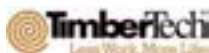
TimberTech is unlike any other decking. Combining style and durability this next generation product is set to revolutionise the way we use decking in the future. Made from a blend of recycled American hardwood and pure polymer, TimberTech is virtually water resistant. There is very little contraction and expansion so it's stability is second-to-none, with no warping or twisting. Whilst it retains all the aesthetics of timber decking TimberTech will never rot split or crack, it's splinter free and is significantly less slippery when wet than traditional decking. This makes it perfect for use in gardens or public spaces, particularly those used by children, the elderly or infirm. It's also the solution for flooring problems around hot-tubs, swimming pools and other areas prone to saturation.

Not only is TimberTech remarkably easy to construct, it's even easier to care for. There is no need for painting, staining or oiling and unlike wood it also resists mildew and moss, so future maintenance costs are cut even before the project starts.

TimberTech is available in three non fade colours - Cedar, Redwood and Grey, and comes with two textures - brushed on one side and grained on the other.

The TimberTech range encompasses a variety of different decking styles to suit individual needs, alongside a collection of railings and balusters to complete the overall look and incorporate maximum safety.

TimberTech also produces the Dockside™ plank, ideal for all marinas, docks and boardwalks.



For more information and local stockist details visit [www.timbertechuk.co.uk](http://www.timbertechuk.co.uk) or call 0121 745 6205

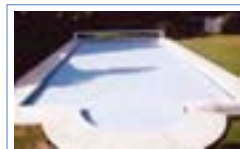
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### Pool and Pond Safety Systems Nets, Alarms, Slatted Covers & More



Enhance your swimming pool safety with our choice of Europe's leading cover systems - manual or automatic.

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## Hot Tubs & Spas



### Kent Hot Tubs and Spa's

Greenways Garden Centre  
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Kent  
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Shop: 01233-822037  
Mob: 07971-196599

Kent Hot Tubs and Spa's opened its doors in October 2005, selling and hiring only one brand of Spas 'Canadian Spa Company'. Every year we have become stronger and our small company has now become well known, not only for selling Spas but for our Servicing and Hiring of Hot Tubs. Hiring a Spa is a great way to try a tub before you make that big investment. Our helpful team in sales and service have between them over 15 years experience in Hot Tubs and Spa's and we pride ourselves with our excellent Customer Service relationship.

## Pool Covers



### Pool Cover

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**FULL SIZE BUILDING ON DISPLAY  
IN OUNDLE SHOWROOM**

Pool Cover has manufactured 1000's of telescopic pool buildings over the last 15 years, all individually tailored to our client's needs.

Pool Cover buildings are made to measure, so there is no published standard price list, but low buildings cost typically between £12,000 - £19,000, whilst high domestic buildings cost approximately £18,000 to £40,000 with all options.

We hope to welcome you to our long list of satisfied Pool Cover customers!

## UV Treatment



### KK Water Purification Ltd

Victory House,  
Victory Park Road  
Aldershot,  
Surrey KT15 2AX  
Tel: 01932 852423  
[www.kkwater.com](http://www.kkwater.com)  
[sales@kkwater.com](mailto:sales@kkwater.com)

The UK's largest specialist supplier of UV and ozone units for pools and spas. All units are manufactured from high grade stainless steel, and incorporate the latest UV lamp technology. Fitted with electronic ballasts with lamp change timers and alarms as standard, these units are truly low energy and extremely efficient. Improve the quality of your pool or spa without chemicals.

## Spas


**Sundance Spas UK Ltd.**

Unit 10, The Markham Centre  
Station Rd, Theale, Berks, RG7 4PE  
Philip Moseley, Sales & Marketing  
Director, tel: 01952 820490,  
phil@sundance-spas.co.uk

Dorian Davies, Commercial  
Development Director, tel: 0118 930  
4000, dorian@sundance-spas.co.uk  
Fax: 0118 930 4001  
Consumer freephone: 0800 146106.  
Website: www.sundance-spas.co.uk

For more than 27 years, Sundance Spas Inc, the world's largest manufacturer of acrylic hot tubs, has perfected the spa experience and is devoted to improving health and lifestyles through its hydrotherapy benefits. Sundance Spas UK Ltd, is now in its 12th year of existence and is the longest established independent distributor of hot tubs in the UK.

## Pool Maintenance

**AquaSafe Bristol Ltd**

32A Downend Road  
Downend

Bristol BS16 5UJ

Tel: 0117 956 6694

Fax: 0117 302 6793

Email: sales@aquasafe90.com

Website: www.aquasafe90.com

AquaSafe supply a number of products to maintain a clear, clean and fresh Spa or Swimming Pool without using harsh chemicals. Whether you have a Spa or Swimming Pool, AquaSafe have the answer with revolutionary approaches to purifying and testing, that gives the clearest, cleanest water imaginable - The Natural Way!

## Hot Tubs

**Canadian Spa & Leisure**

14 Tullydraw Rd, Dungannon  
Co Tyrone, BT70 1RE,  
N.Ireland

Tel: 028 87 76 11 44

Fax 028 87 76 11 75

Mobile 07801 13 18 18

sales@canadianspaireland.com

www.canadianspaireland.com

S. Ireland

Tel: 01 635 00 50

Mobile: 087 207 38 95

sales@canadianspa.ie

www.canadianspa.ie

Canadian Spa & Leisure is a family run business established in 1998, to supply, service and install Hot Tubs for Canadian Spa Company throughout all of Ireland. Our product line includes:

- Hot Tubs
- Saunas
- Swimming Pools
- Swim Spas
- Log Cabins

## Spas

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Tel: 01691 654422

www.4wheelpitstop.com

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Canadian Spas

We have massive premises, selling a wide range of heavily discounted car accessories, tools, diy and furniture, with a central courtyard filled with spa's, gazebos and log cabins.

We pride ourselves on getting, YOU, the customer the best price possible. Bring this advert with you and received a further 10% discount on all canadian spas and chemicals. For July only.

## Spas



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Tel: 0800 0732603

Fax: 01206 766 406

www.softub.co.uk

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With the ever increasing media talk of 'Wasted Electricity', Carbon Emissions and 'Energy Efficiency', Softub are proud to be one of the Industries most Energy Efficient, totally portable Spas.

Plugging into a standard 13amp socket, Softub re-cycles the wasted heat of the motor to produce 40c of hot water, without the use of an expensive heater.

## Swimming Pools

**Piscinelle**  
**Multiforma**  
**Arqualand**

P O Box 425 Haywards Heath,  
West Sussex RH17 2YR

Tel: 01273 846855

Web: www.swim pools.co.uk

Email: estellemichaels@onetel.com

Arqualand, Piscinelle and Multiforma are all West Sussex based companies who specialise in swimming pools and pool enclosures nationwide. Arqualand's pool enclosures provide a flexible option of fixed or telescopic designs.

Piscinelle's range of above ground pools are known and respected through the UK and Europe.

Multiforma's one piece pools are made from fibreglass and come with full instructions and a 10 year guarantee.

**Hot Tubs**



**Homegames**

Tel: 0845 226 5758  
www.homegames.co.uk

Based in East Lancs with a network of service agents covering most of the country, Homegames.co.uk, aim to supply only the best top quality products available.

We supply hot tubs from the Canadian Spa Co. chosen for their commitment to customer care and quality.

**Pool Installation**



**Westcountry Leisure**

Westcountry Leisure Pool & Spa Services Ltd  
14 Torquay Road, Newton Abbot  
Devon, TQ12 1AJ  
Tel: 01626 364927  
Fax: 01626 364928  
Email: westcountryleisure@btconnect.com

Westcountry Leisure is the leading supplier and installer of indoor and outdoor, domestic or commercial swimming pools in the south west. We offer maintenance contracts to suit all requirements.

**Hottubs**



**Mistral hottubs Europe**

Tel: 01217 444 210  
Tel: 07738 854 729  
Email: info@mistralhottubs.com  
www.mistralhottubs.com

Unique deep water design for year-round use.  
Built Stairs for safety.  
Full foam insulation.  
Built for Canadian winters.  
Guaranteed energy usage rates.  
Delivery and install across UK.  
5-year guarantee parts and service.  
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Pricing packages from £4995.00.

**Pool Covers**



**Dripool Ltd**

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Email: ian@dripool.co.uk  
www.dripool.co.uk

Britain's only designers and manufacturers of Automatic All Seasons Swimming Pool Covers. We supply both overcoping, The DRIPOOL, and under coping the DRIGLIDE.

**Chemicals**



**PoolSan UK Ltd**

The Clergy House, Mark Street  
London, EC2A 4ER  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7749 9699  
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7613 4804  
email: email@poolsanuk.com  
web: www.poolsanuk.com

PoolSan UK offers a new product that could change the way you purify and maintain your swimming pool. PoolSan is a unique product that is chlorine-free, hypoallergenic, odourless – and lasts up to three times longer than other chlorine-based products. Its purifying qualities allow pool owners to enjoy the experience of chemical-free purified water, eliminating the sufferance of burning eyes, dried-out hair, wrinkled skin; or any irritating effects to those who suffer from asthma, psoriasis and eczema.

**Spas**



**R&S Project Management Ltd.**

Coggeshall rd  
Earlescone  
Colchester  
Essex CO6 2JX  
Tel: 01787 224 354

Canadian Spa Company Colchester has been a Canadian Spa company dealer for over three years and has recently added a full showroom with wet test facility to their Colchester location, come in and see why we are the oldest spa brand in the UK

## Pool &amp; Spa Maintenance

**Evolution Pools**

2 Hale Lane, Mill Hill  
London, NW7 3NX  
Tel: 08707 77 88 66  
Fax: 0870 410 2481

Email: [sales@evolutionpools.co.uk](mailto:sales@evolutionpools.co.uk)  
[www.evolutionpools.co.uk](http://www.evolutionpools.co.uk)

One of the UK's foremost providers of all products and services related to swimming pools, saunas, spas and maintenance equipment. In addition to our design and installation of tailor-made pools, we also offer the largest online pool accessory store to cater for your needs.

## Water testing equipment

**Palintest Ltd.**

Palintest House, Kingsway,  
Team Valley, Gateshead,  
Tyne and Wear NE11 0NS  
Tel: 0191 491 0808  
fax: 0191 482 5372

Email: [sales@palintest.com](mailto:sales@palintest.com)  
Web: [www.palintest.com](http://www.palintest.com)

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**Riomay Solar Heating**

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East Sussex  
BN23 6PL

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Arctic Spas are one of the world's leading manufacturers of hot tubs, gazebos and related products. We sell our products in over 30 different countries and have over 40 dealers throughout the UK and Ireland.

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For further information please contact us on 0845 6327497 or email info@hallgate-timber.co.uk

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**Summit Leisure Limited**

Unit 2 Garlands Trading Estate  
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Tel: 01264 850001  
Fax: 01264 850009  
email: office@summitleisure.co.uk  
www.summitleisure.co.uk

UK distributors for USSPA SwimSpa and Spas and Algarve retractable pool enclosures. Summit are SPATA and BISHTA members and operate nationwide. The showroom, which is open every week day and evenings and week ends by appointment, displays the complete USSPA range, has a working Swimspa plus Algarve enclosures on display in several designs.

Hot Tubs



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[www.telescopicpoolenclosures.com](http://www.telescopicpoolenclosures.com)

Telescopic Pool Enclosures Ltd is the only bespoke swimming pool company in the UK, that offers fixed or retractable enclosures, either single or double glazed, supplied in any one RAL colour throughout the UK. Included is a rubberised non-slip floor if required, to complete turning an outdoor pool into an indoor one. Built around the pool by our skilled fitters means that difficult sites and access are no problem. Schools, Hotels etc., or domestic

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**Hottub & Spas**



**Diamante Spas UK  
Aquamonde Lifestyle Group**

Unit 8, Farfield, Wykeham  
Scarborough, YO13 9QB  
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Fax: 01723 865778  
contact@aquamonde.co.uk  
www.diamantespas.co.uk

Diamante spas, hot tubs & swim-spas are manufactured by the long established US Tooling & Spas Inc. of California, USA. The Aquamonde Lifestyle Group are exclusive distributors for the UK & ROI. We would not be so bold to say that these are the best spas in the world, what we do know is that once you have experienced a Diamante spa you will discover it is very hard to find quality & performance to match – at any price! The Diamante range starts at just £3,945; probably, making it the best value quality spa available.

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**Hot Tubs**



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**Hot Tubs**



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# too pool FOR SCHOOL

World-famous DJ Judge Jules speaks exclusively to **Angela West** about his enviable lifestyle and private pool at his villa on the White Isle.

Judge Jules would describe his perfect day as chilling by his private pool in Ibiza. Trained as a lawyer but now a multi-award-winning DJ, Jules has spent the last ten summers living and working on the tiny party isle which, with its legendary parties, justifiably remains the clubbing capital of Europe.

Travelling the world and living the life of a glamorous 'superstar DJ' Jules owns both a private villa and trendy beachfront restaurant Kasbah. Having purchased a property just outside San Antonio, Jules commutes back to the UK on Fridays/Saturdays throughout the summer for his popular Radio 1 show and club gigs. Outside the summer season, he visits Ibiza every six weeks, in-between regular sets in Tenerife, Benidorm and on the Spanish mainland. Perched on a hilltop, his six-bedroom villa, Cala Salada, affords stunning views: "I'd visited countless times on my DJ travels and was shown around by a local, so I had an insider's knowledge well before buying my place."

The villa boasts its own large, private pool: "It's more about the view than the shape," says Jules. "It's oblong but has a panoramic view from the top of the hill."

So what does he love most about his pool? "The fact that I've got one!", he gushes. "For me, it's all about my two small kids and teaching them to swim... with a good sound system in the background!"

Jules also loves hosting huge pool parties at his villa. Every year, Radio 1 descends on the island, offering free beach gigs from its top-name DJs like Jules' fellow Radio 1 DJ, Pete Tong. Says Jules, "I have at least one huge party each year, inviting all of the Radio 1 crowd for the station's Ibiza Weekend. Lots of the presenters and back room folk come along."

So is Ibiza still the place to party? "Without question. Every night's like a Saturday night. I've DJ'd just about everywhere and nowhere comes close!" ■

## Jules' Pool Tips

- Anyone wanting to buy a poolside property on the island should be prepared for the same problems as in the UK.
- Be patient and shop around, buying property's a stressful experience. In markets where you're buying one-off bespoke properties, it's very hard to work out whether the asking price is realistic, so don't be afraid to haggle.
- It may make sense to forward-buy your currency to guard against any unfavourable fluctuations, and, of course, engage the services of a local abogado (solicitor).



Kasbah restaurant and bar in Caló d'es Moro. Tel: (+34) 971 348364  
Judgement Sundays weekly at Eden, San Antonio from Sunday 10th June 'til Sunday 16th September 2007.

■ [www.judgejules.net](http://www.judgejules.net)



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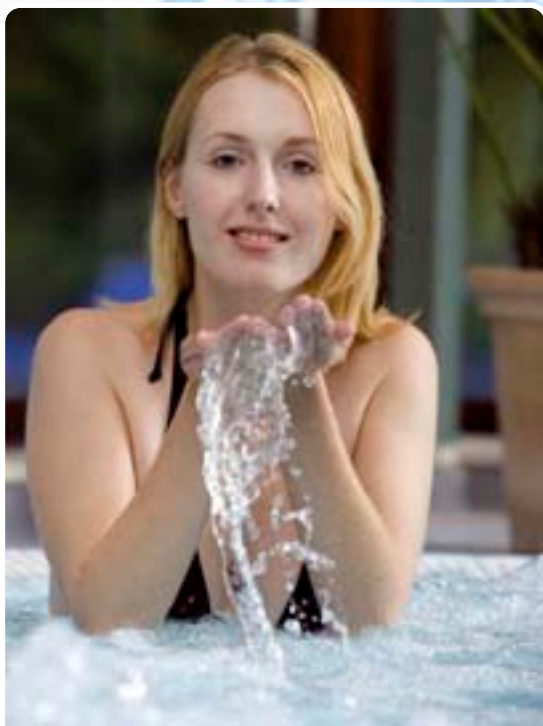
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