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# 23 cosy pubs for autumn

Great food and drink, a crackling fire — and chic rooms upstairs. Jane Knight picks the best pub stays across the UK

They're the ultimate retreat from winter. As the nights stretch further into day, pubs with crackling fires and snug corners beckon like never before. The best have (short) walks right from their door that are just enough to put rosiness in your cheeks and make you feel like you've justified a good meal before you return to their warm embrace and a bed for the night.

Whether you're looking for a traditional flagstone and beamed boozery that makes its own ale, a Michelin-recommended gastropub that's big on game, or a quirky inn where you can bathe beneath the stars, we know the place for you.





## 12. The Double Red Duke, Clanfield, Oxfordshire

All the joys of a pub with the standards of a swish boutique hotel are on offer at the Double Red Duke, half an hour's drive west of Oxford and near the Thames Path. Across the flagstone corridor from the pub proper, a series of snugs are ideal for curling up by the fire. Bag a counter seat at the open kitchen to watch meat and fish sizzle over charcoal, cherry and apple wood; they take food seriously here. Cotswolds-chic rooms have patterned wallpaper and wood-panelled walls — one has a scarlet freestanding bath in honour of the mythical duke. If there's no room at the inn, the same hotel group (Country Creatures) has just opened the Mason's Arms across the road, with bedrooms due early next year.

Details B&B doubles from £210 (01367 810222, [countrycreatures.com](https://www.countrycreatures.com))