

American beauty

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SUNKEN TREASURE
A sunken bath channels a spa-style
hot tub feel, without the need for harsh
chemicals. Deck installation can also make it easier
to hide necessary pipework and drainage below.
Agape's freestanding outdoor bath has the overflow
integrated within its drain for a neat look. It can be
supplied without an external structure to suit this
built-in installation style. 'We love the luxury look of
a sunken tub. Include a pull-out spray to make it
easier to rinse the bath clean after use,' says Louise
Ashdown, head of design, West One Bathrooms.

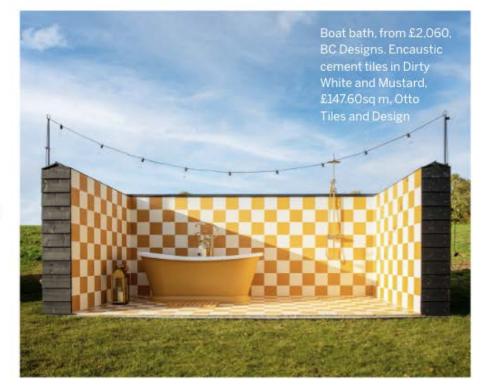
Concerned that showering outdoors will prove little more than a pipe dream for most of the year? New York-based West Chin Architects devised the perfect solution for this outdoor shower at a Long Island beach house, which has a retractable skylight that can be closed when blue skies turn grey. Walls clad in stacked river pebbles and travertine flooring enhance the connection to nature, whether the roof is open or shut, while two of freestanding shower columns in stainless steel lend a smart industrial touch.







OUTDOOR ROOM Take outdoor bathing to the next level by creating a fully tiled 'room' that's easy to keep clean and unforgettable. There really is nothing better than bathing outside, overlooking an amazing view,' enthuses Cat Earp, owner of boutique shepherd hut retreat Aller Dorset (right). 'We put outdoor baths in our original huts as a nice alternative to hot tubs, and they were a huge hit. For our latest huts we wanted to make them even better - tiling the whole space really makes it feel like a bathroom without a roof, she says.





Outdoor bathrooms are not reserved for homes with big gardens – they can also work on a roof terrace or balcony. Installing an outdoor shower up high is a great way to mitigate the sense of feeling exposed, says architect Philip J Consalvo of PJC Architecture. Here, the main bedroom has direct access to a private roof deck. 'The owners can enjoy showering outside without worrying about being overlooked,' he says.

DOUBLE TAKE

Installing two outdoor baths may seem
extravagant but it can prove a more hygienic
way to enjoy the sociable benefits of a hot tub. 'This boat
bath duo is the perfect set-up for watching the sunset in
company, without having to squeeze into the same tub
or share water,' says Barrie Cutchie, design director, BC
Designs. 'Tin is a great material for outdoor baths − it
retains heat well and can be left outdoors year round.' →





