

# Rustic Revival:

A Pool Restoration in  
a Cotswold Hideaway





Nestled in the heart of the Cotswolds, this remote countryside property is a true escape from modern life. With stunning views stretching over fields and woodlands, the outdoor pool area feels like a hidden sanctuary – a place where nature and relaxation come together.

Located a short walk from the main house, the rectangular pool and adjacent tennis court had long been cherished by the homeowners. Alongside these sits a charming Cotswold stone outbuilding, serving as a pool house and changing room, offering both functionality and a vantage point to take in the spectacular scenery. However, time had taken its toll, and the pool was in desperate need of a major renovation.



## The Brief

The pool, originally tiled and boasting a classic Roman end with steps, had suffered damage over the years. The shell was cracked and unable to hold water, making it unusable. Our challenge was to restore the pool to its former glory while introducing modern touches that would enhance its usability and aesthetic appeal.

The clients wanted a functional and beautiful pool that complemented the natural surroundings and preserved the sense of timelessness found in the aged stone terrace and coping. Additionally, the renovation had to respect the character of the stone outbuilding, which serves as a pool house for swimmers and tennis players alike. The pool needed to seamlessly blend into this hideaway setting while providing modern comforts.





## The Renovation Process

After assessing the structural integrity of the pool shell, we determined it was viable for renovation. The first task was to remove the original shallow end wall and Roman end steps, making way for a more contemporary design. To improve both functionality and aesthetics, new corner steps were constructed, providing easier access to the pool.

The pool was then converted to a liner system, fitted with a 1.5mm PVC on-site lining system from Aquaflex. This choice not only addressed the water retention issue but also gave the pool a sleek, fresh look. We also serviced the pool cover through Paramount Pools to ensure smooth operation and installed a new Calorex air source heat pump to enhance energy efficiency in the warmer months.

To further extend the swimming season, we retained the original oil boiler alongside the heat pump. This dual system provides flexibility and improved efficiency by allowing the oil boiler to warm the pool during the cooler months of early spring and late autumn, while the air source heat pump takes over in the warmer months to maintain the water temperature at a comfortable 29°C. This approach ensures consistent, efficient heating across the changing seasons, allowing for extended use and minimising energy consumption.

An important aspect of this project was preserving the original coping and natural stone terrace. Their weathered appearance added to the pool's timeless character, providing a lovely contrast to the new liner finish. The Cotswold stone-built pool house beside the pool and tennis court offered a charming focal point, harmonising the area into a serene, secluded retreat.





## Materials & Features

**Size:** 12.5m x 4m sloping depth rectangular pool with newly built corner steps for a contemporary look.

**Construction:** Converted to a liner pool with a 1.5mm PVC on-site lining system from Aquaflex for enhanced durability and a fresh aesthetic.

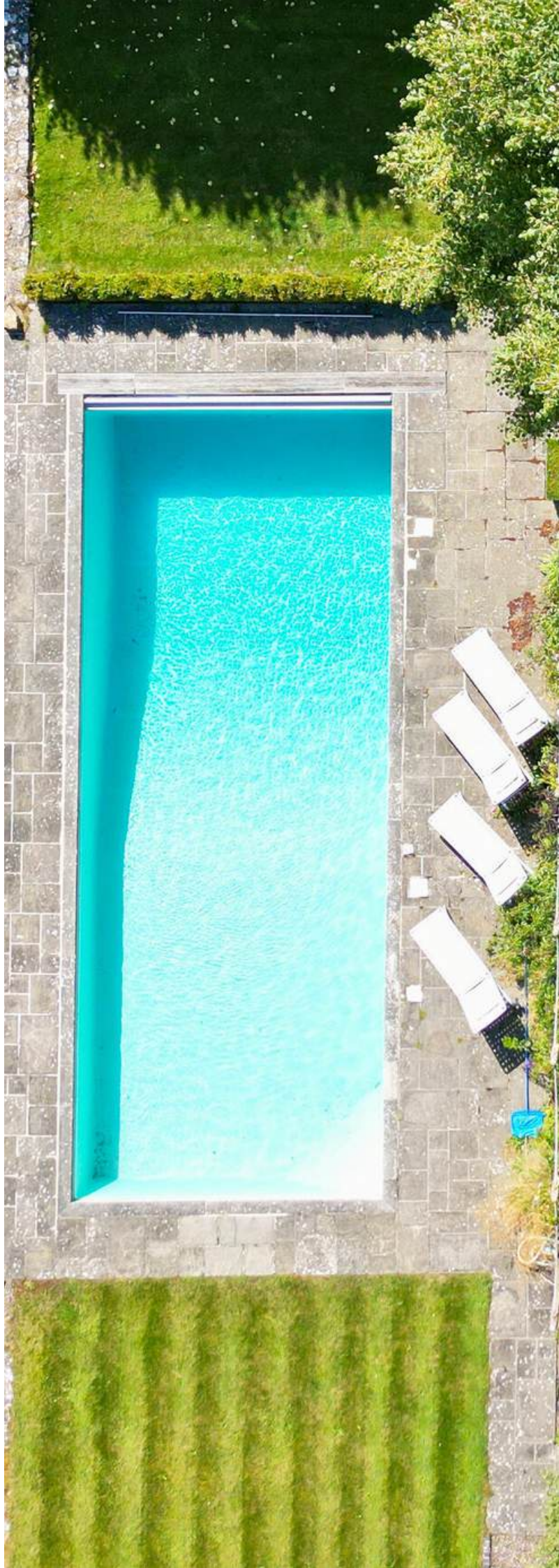
**Coping & Terrace:** Preserved original natural stone paving, maintaining its aged charm and character.

**Cover:** Serviced by Paramount Pools for optimal functionality.

**Lighting:** Certikin LED

**Heating:** Dual heating system with Calorex air source heat pump for efficient warm-weather heating and original oil boiler for colder months.

**Renovation Time:** 6 weeks







## Challenges & Solutions

One of the most significant challenges was preserving the original stone coping and terrace while renovating the pool. Their aged appearance added a unique charm to the setting, and it was crucial to maintain this while incorporating the new pool elements.

We approached this by carefully working around the existing stonework during the installation of the liner and corner steps. Our team took meticulous care in integrating the new features without disrupting the harmony of the aged natural stone, ensuring that the final look was seamless.



## The Result

The result is a stunningly restored pool that complements the breathtaking views and tranquil setting of the property. By retaining the original stone coping and terrace, the renovation honours the pool's heritage while adding a new level of sophistication with the liner conversion and corner steps. The adjacent Cotswold stone pool house now overlooks a pool that reflects both the serenity and the grandeur of its countryside surroundings.

The walkable safety cover adds both practicality and peace of mind, ensuring the pool is safe for children and pets, while also helping to keep it free from debris. The thoughtful design of the Certikin PU6 LED lighting enhances the pool's evening ambiance, creating a magical setting for nighttime swims.

The combination of the original oil boiler and new air source heat pump has provided the owners with an energy-efficient, versatile heating solution, allowing them to enjoy their pool well into the cooler months. The pool renovation has revitalised this secluded corner of the property, creating a private retreat where the owners can unwind, swim, and take in the beauty of the surrounding fields and woodlands. The balance of modern features and the preserved natural stonework provides a unique blend of comfort and authenticity, perfectly suited to the Cotswold landscape.

“We couldn't be happier with how Aquascape handled this project. They managed to respect the original character of our pool while incorporating modern elements that make it more functional and beautiful than ever. The pool house, tennis court, and pool now form a perfect hideaway where we can enjoy family time surrounded by nature.”







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