

Britain's 10 best country houses to rent

Want to throw a grown-up country-house party? Stanley Stewart has the best rental options available

My country-house parties have always suffered from one slight problem – I don't have a country house.

ASSYNT HOUSE, Ross-shire, Scotland (sleeps 16) As befits a Scottish estate, woodwork is one of the great features of Assynt House. Both the drawing room and the dining room are lined with the gorgeous light-coloured wood panelling that gives the house so much of its warmth. Skiing at Aviemore is only 30 minutes away. The famous Royal Dornoch golf course is close by, as is the Moray Firth. Grouse, pheasant and clay-pigeon shooting can all be arranged, as can salmon and sea-trout fishing. From £3,800 per week.

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