

Gold

Audley Retirement
Binswood Hall, Royal
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire

Audley really does retirement living beautifully and consistently, retaining its gold standard in this category – this time for its restoration and revitalisation of Binswood Hall, a Grade II* listed building set in a tree-lined avenue in the heart of Royal Leamington Spa. The vaulted Victorian Gothic drama hits you on arrival and Audley, while always remaining sympathetic to history, has added colour, style and bold ambition to the historic canvas.

When completed, the scheme, which could easily be mistaken for a boutique hotel – although in many ways it is – will total 100 apartments. The Audley Club offers residents a restaurant, bar, library, pool, gym and spa treatment rooms. A piece of design ingenuity portioned the



soaring ceiling of the main building, cleverly creating sub-divided new spaces and the mezzanine floor has actually added to the hall's architectural integrity with clever layout solutions.

Another lovely touch is the use of grand artworks, lent by the local museum and doing justice to the scale and grandeur of the hall's imposing frame, while the original

college chapel is now a fully equipped gym. It is not often you look up from the treadmill thinking "God, I'm unfit" and see religious figures staring back from stained glass windows.

Away from the main building, further apartments are arranged around a central courtyard garden. This is not just retirement living; it's a new lease of life.

