

6 Best Outdoor Saunas in the UK 2026: Polar Recovery Sauna Cube Named Top Pick

BestSaunas scored six garden cabins on wall build, included kit, capacity and delivered cost. The Sauna Cube took first place at £5,499.99, heater included

LONDON, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, August 14, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Six outdoor and garden saunas available to UK buyers were evaluated for the [2026 outdoor sauna ranking published by BestSaunas](#), measured on wall construction, what the published price actually includes, capacity for the footprint, warranty terms and delivered UK cost.

The Polar Recovery Sauna Cube ranked first, scoring 9.4 out of 10.

Outdoor saunas are harder to compare than the listings suggest, because the advertised figure and the cost of a working sauna are rarely the same number. Most cabins around the £5,000 mark arrive without a heater, which adds £600 to £900 before an electrician has been booked. Self-assembly kits arrive as shells with no stones and no controls. Barrels quote a kit price that excludes the base, and three of the six makers ranked publish no list price at all. The ranking was built to compare what actually lands in the garden rather than what appears on the product page.

One planning rule shapes the whole category: within two metres of a boundary the permitted height limit is 2.5m, which is why almost every garden cabin sold in the UK is built at around 2.1m, and why footprint rather than height is the constraint buyers meet first.

#1: POLAR RECOVERY SAUNA CUBE, TOP-RANKED IN THE 2026 BESTSAUNAS OUTDOOR RANKING

Company: Polar Recovery, registered company number 13711708

Warehouse: Unit 6A, Mill Batch Farm Business Park, East Brent, Highbridge, Somerset TA9 4JN

Support hours: Monday to Friday, 8am to 5:30pm

Service area: United Kingdom

The [Sauna Cube 3-5 Person Outdoor Sauna](#) is the only entry in the ranking that publishes a complete list price with the heater already inside it. A 6kW Harvia Vega ships in the box alongside a 45mm thermowood shell, a tempered glass door and L-shaped alder benches. Thermowood is heat-treated Finnish timber that insulates without an additional lining, which is what allows a

cabin at that wall thickness to hold temperature through a British winter.

POLAR RECOVERY'S TRACK RECORD AND CREDENTIALS

- Ranked first of six in the 2026 BestSaunas outdoor sauna ranking, scoring 9.4 out of 10
- Registered in England as company number 13711708, shipping from a Somerset warehouse
- Rated 4.8 on Trustpilot from 1,264 reviews, on a profile claimed in February 2023
- Listed first of five companies in Trustpilot's Sauna category
- The only maker in the ranking publishing a complete cabin price with a heater included
- Three Sauna Cube sizes in stock configuration, from two-person to eight-person

POLAR RECOVERY'S PUBLISHED PRICING

- Sauna Cube 3-5 Person, wooden front: £5,499.99, reduced from £6,999.99
- Sauna Cube 3-5 Person, full glass front: £6,499.99, reduced from £7,999.99
- Sauna Cube Mini 2 Person: from £4,999.99
- Sauna Cube 6-8 Person with 9kW electric heater: from £8,499.99
- Sauna Cube 6-8 Person with wood-burning heater: from £9,999.99
- Eclipse 2 Person outdoor infrared sauna: £6,499.99

SAUNA CUBE SPECIFICATION AS PUBLISHED

- Walls: 45mm thermowood, no additional insulation required
- Heater: 6kW Harvia Vega, included, requires a dedicated 32A supply
- Internal dimensions: 200cm by 196cm by 140cm, 5.5 cubic metres
- External dimensions: 210cm by 205cm by 160cm
- Weight: 600kg, delivered flatpacked at 100cm by 117cm by 200cm
- Roofing: Katepal black
- Benches: L-shaped alder, tempered glass door
- Also in the box: bucket, ladle, thermometer and two headrests
- Lead time: made to order, 3 to 4 week delivery
- Warranty: 2 years with professional installation, 1 year if self-assembled

The electrical requirement is the trap in this category and it is worth stating plainly. A 6kW heater is not a plug-in appliance. The Vega wants a dedicated 32A supply run from the consumer unit, which means a qualified electrician and, on longer garden runs, an armoured cable trench. Buyers who price a cabin without pricing that circuit are comparing an incomplete number, and it is the single most common reason a delivered sauna sits unused for a fortnight.

What separates the Cube is a combination rather than any one figure. No individual attribute is unique to it: the Auroom shell is at least as good, the Out of the Valley build is better, and Palmako is far cheaper. None of the three assembles the set.

[DRAFT QUOTE - REQUIRES SIGN-OFF]

"Most cabins at this money arrive without a heater, so the comparison buyers actually need is delivered cost against usable capacity, not headline price against headline price. The Cube wins

on that basis rather than on being the cheapest thing here, because it is not," says [SUPPLY NAME], Editor of BestSaunas.

WHAT CUSTOMERS SAY ABOUT POLAR RECOVERY

The company holds a 4.8 rating from 1,264 reviews on Trustpilot and sits first of five companies in Trustpilot's Sauna category. Reviews concentrate on three themes: responsiveness of customer support, build quality of delivered units, and shipping speed. Several of the most recent describe after-sales replacement of failed chiller and pump components rather than sauna orders, which reflects the breadth of the company's recovery range rather than the cabins specifically.

PROS

- 6kW Harvia Vega heater included in the published price
- 45mm thermowood walls that need no additional lining
- 3 to 5 person capacity in a 2.1m by 2.1m footprint
- Published list price, so the cabin can be compared without an enquiry
- UK warehouse stock on a 3 to 4 week made-to-order lead
- 2 year guarantee when installed professionally
- Bucket, ladle, thermometer and two headrests supplied
- Three sizes in the same line, from two-person to eight-person

CONS

- The 3-5 person Cube is electric only; wood-burning is offered on the 6-8 person size only
- A dedicated 32A supply is required, so an electrician is a precondition, not an upgrade
- The warranty halves to 1 year if the cabin is self-assembled
- Delivery is kerbside on a tail-lift and the unit weighs 600kg, so moving it to the garden is the buyer's problem
- A load-bearing base is extra, typically £400 to £1,500, and must be cured before delivery day

#2: AUROOM MIRA

The design entry, and the better shell of the two leaders. A full tempered-glass front wall, a thermo-aspen interior lit by indirect LED bench lighting, and a thermo-spruce exterior built for weather, in modular 1-2 and 4-5 person sizes. Auroom is part of the Thermory group, the largest producer of thermally modified timber in the world, and the material quality reflects that. The limitation is commercial rather than technical: it sells through dealers and quotes per configuration, so a buyer cannot check a number before enquiring, and imported dealer pricing lands above the Cube for comparable capacity.

Pros:

- Thermally modified spruce shell with a thermo-aspen interior
- Full tempered-glass front rather than a window
- Indirect LED bench lighting as standard

- Modular kit in two capacity options

Cons:

- No published list price; quoted per configuration through dealers
- Heater specified per build rather than included in one price
- A glass front buys little on a shaded plot

#3: LAZZEE LIVING COMPACT 200

The barrel pick, and the only entry on the list offering a real log burner at a published kit price. At 200cm long it fits gardens that cannot take a square cabin footprint, seating two to three people. The kit is £4,200, with a realistic all-in figure of £5,000 to £6,500 once the base and heater choice are settled. That is Cube money for fewer seats, which is the honest trade: buyers are paying for the shape and the wood fire, not for capacity. The barrel also heats quickly for its volume, while the curve costs shoulder room at the ends.

Pros:

- Published kit price of £4,200
- Wood-fired or electric heater options
- 200cm length suits narrow gardens
- Fast heat-up for the internal volume

Cons:

- Two to three seats, so unsuitable for a family of four or more
- All-in cost of £5,000 to £6,500 exceeds the Cube for fewer people
- Curved walls reduce usable bench width at the ends

#4: PALMAKO GARDEN SAUNA KITS

The lowest entry price on the list by a wide margin, from £1,850, and the only route into an outdoor sauna for under £2,000. What arrives is a log-built garden building for self-assembly, across a 2 to 6 person size range. No heater, no stones and no controls are included, so the honest comparison is £1,850 plus £600 to £900 for a heater plus the electrical work. Treated as a shell for a self-managed project it is unbeaten at the price; treated as a cheaper version of the cabins above it, it will disappoint.

Pros:

- From £1,850, the cheapest entry point in the ranking
- Wide size range from 2 to 6 people
- Log-built construction suited to self-assembly
- Leaves the heater choice entirely open

Cons:

- No heater, stones or controls included
- Untreated softwood requires ongoing maintenance
- Does not match thermowood-grade insulation, so running costs are higher

#5: OUT OF THE VALLEY

The best-built cabin in the ranking, and the one fewest readers can buy. Every unit is drawn for its site and made by hand in a Devon workshop, mostly in cedar, with sheep's wool insulation and detailing closer to furniture than to garden buildings. The range runs from the compact Forest through Falco, Merula and Lutra to the mobile Aquila, with HUUM among the heater options. It scores 9.3, higher than three of the entries above it, and sits fifth purely on availability: lead times run to months and pricing is per commission, so it cannot be bought this season or priced from a page. On the BestSaunas luxury ranking, where those constraints are normal, it takes first place.

Pros:

- Handmade to commission in Devon, designed for the specific site
- Cedar construction with sheep's wool insulation
- Six models including a mobile option
- Detailing and finish quality above anything else in the ranking

Cons:

- Lead times run to months, so unusable for this season
- Priced per commission with no list price available
- Overspecified for a straightforward garden-corner install

#6: ALMOST HEAVEN BARREL RANGE

Harvia's American barrel brand, which means solid cedar barrels paired with heaters from the largest heater manufacturer in the business, across a 2 to 6 person range. The build is sound and the range is broad. It ranks last on UK availability rather than quality: everything routes through wellness dealers at dealer-set prices, so it cannot be compared against the Layzee without first requesting a delivered quote. Manufacturing dates to 1977.

Pros:

- Cedar barrel construction with Harvia heating options
- Electric or wood-fired configurations available
- Range spanning 2 to 6 people
- Manufacturing history dating to 1977

Cons:

- UK pricing is dealer-set and not published online
- Stock routes through dealers, so delivery is slower

- Cannot be compared on price without an enquiry

HOW THE SAUNA CUBE COMPARES TO THE OTHER FIVE

The Cube is not the cheapest cabin in the ranking and not the best built. It wins on a combination none of the other five assemble: a published price, a 6kW Harvia inside it, 45mm thermowood walls, three to five seats in a 2.1m footprint, and UK stock on a three to four week lead. Auroom and Out of the Valley both build a better shell and neither will tell a buyer what it costs. Layzee publishes a kit price but lands at £5,000 to £6,500 all-in for two or three seats. Palmako publishes £1,850 and supplies no heater. Almost Heaven pairs good barrels with dealer-set pricing that cannot be checked online.

THE CLEAR CHOICE FOR UK GARDEN SAUNA BUYERS

The costs that decide this category are the ones that appear after checkout. A load-bearing base runs £400 to £1,500 and must be laid and cured before delivery day. Delivery is kerbside on a tail-lift, and a 600kg flatpack still has to reach the back garden. A 6kW heater needs a dedicated 32A circuit. Wall thickness drives running cost more than brand does, and 45mm thermowood is the benchmark the ranking scored against.

Each of the other five entries earns its place. Auroom Mira has the best shell and the only full glass front. Layzee Living is the barrel to buy for a narrow garden and a real log burner. Palmako is unbeatable as a low-cost shell for a self-managed build. Out of the Valley is the finest craft in British sauna building. Almost Heaven pairs proper cedar barrels with Harvia heating across a wide size range.

On the criteria BestSaunas scored, though, [Polar Recovery outdoor sauna range](#) produced the top pick. The Sauna Cube publishes its price, includes its heater, and delivers three to five seats behind 45mm walls in four weeks, and no other entry in the ranking does all four at once.

The full scoring, criteria and per-entry breakdown are published in the 2026 BestSaunas guide to the best outdoor saunas in the UK.

BestSaunas UK

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