



**CAST IRON AIR BRICK COMPANY**

Building Architectural Enhancements

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Specification Sheet – ciabL1-2018

[www.castironairbricks.co.uk](http://www.castironairbricks.co.uk)

## LOUVRE CAST IRON AIR BRICKS

ITEM - L3 - L6 - L9



Cast iron louvre air bricks are made from grey iron, cast in sand moulds bonded with resin to a fine cast finish and are available in three sizes (9x3, 9x6 and 9x9) (see table below for metric mm sizes).

### **Problem Solver**

The louvre air bricks are almost exclusively used in external positions, although the recent trend in industrialised interiors has seen a number installed indoors. The great advantage of this type of air brick is its ability to deflect driving rain and also to reduce the possibility of back draught in exposed conditions.

## **Construction**

The air brick is constructed from grey cast iron

## **Uses**

Supplying natural ventilation to interior rooms and also as an extractor outlet vent grille over core drilled duct holes from room, hob, kitchen and bathroom extractors.

## **Examples**

This air brick is predominantly used in period properties and can be seen in numerous listed public buildings, especially railway stations and in industrial buildings. Conversions of large properties into apartments generally require numerous quantities of these vents to match existing ones, the Kings Library conversion in Chelsea is one such example. The louvre is a fine example of Victorian craftsmanship as its design is perfectly suited to reduce back draughts and driving rain. Our own range of louvres are exact replicas and therefore perfectly compliment many Victorian and Edwardian properties and conversions. We have supplied quite a number to Cardiff and throughout Wales suggesting this airbrick was the vent of choice for this part of the country at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The small L3 is predominantly used around UKs national parks and also around blustery coasts of Ireland, Wales Scotland and Cornwall. One of our largest orders was to California USA

## **Finish**

We are able to supply this air brick in either bare metal or painted black. We can supply bespoke RAL painted air bricks to match customers' existing brickwork or requirements. Please note that items painted in such a way are nonreturnable, there is an additional charge for this and it will add 1-2 weeks onto the delivery time.

## **Environmental Benefits and Longevity**

All the cast iron air bricks we commission are UK made and this product is made in Wolverhampton, England.

Cast iron is not affected by UV and is fire resistant and fully recyclable. The cast iron used in the manufacture of this product is sourced from scrap iron with the addition of a small amount of pig iron. On average, 95% of the casting is recycled material. The moulds used to create the castings are generated using sand that is packed in a box with one of our patterns and this sand is used again and again to create further castings.

Casting in the UK has ensured all our products are made to strict emission and pollution levels in accordance with the latest legislation and that the workers creating these products are fairly paid and have a safe working environment in which to earn a living.

Melting iron requires a substantial amount of energy from either gas or electricity and to offset the CO2 emissions from this process we have planted over 300 trees in our own 3 acre wood. The annual absorption of CO2 from our wood is enough to ensure the production of our castings is carbon neutral.

As we don't import any of our products, the mileage from foundry to our finishing workshop and distribution bay in North Devon is very low keeping our carbon footprint small and once installed we expect this air brick to last a life time.

### **Maintenance**

Bare cast iron air bricks will rust but this rust forms a protective layer to prevent further corrosion and requires no further maintenance, they are ideal for installation in red brick properties but may stain light coloured brickwork or light coloured rendered properties where painted air bricks are recommended. We paint using three part epoxy primer followed by two part epoxy black gloss top coat which is extremely hard wearing and is unlikely to require repainting within a decade unless the paint is chipped or the air brick exposed to salt. The gloss paint will dull over time, in exposed conditions it is likely to dull to a satin sheen in a year or two.

### **Notes for architects**

The cast iron louvre air brick was way ahead of its time when it was first cast and installed around 150 years ago. It's such a good vent that we've replicated the patterns and see no reason to improve on the design.

The louvre requires a larger frame than most other air bricks and as such this limits the amount of room left on the smallest air brick for louvres and slots. The L3, 9x3 inch louvre therefore has just two slots for ventilation which yields only 2500mm<sup>2</sup> of free area, about half the area compared to standard air brick of the same size. It's not so evident on the 9x6 and barely noticeable on the 9x9 but it makes the smallest louvre one of our most popular in windy locations where minimal openings are a positive bonus.

Our largest louvre the L9 is 9x9 inch and is quite often used in industrial heritage buildings and conversions as well as former commercial premises and railway buildings. It is possible to create larger sizes than the 9x9 by drilling, bolting and joining grilles in a bank of two, three or four to create 9x18 and even 18x18. This is using castings we already in stock so the turnaround time is only a few days. We have done this for London architects DRMM for their Park Lofts apartment conversion on Albany Street. If you do want a period louvre that is larger than 9x9 in cast iron then this is an alternative to specifying modern contemporary aluminium louvres. Please contact us with the sizes you require and we will be happy to discuss this with you and provide a quote.

The imperial louvre air bricks can be used in conjunction with duct tape and metric plastic ducting supplied by Rytons (available on our website). Straight through telescopic cavity wall sleeves are available in three sizes for the L3, L6 and L9 (corresponding ducts number CAVHEXT3, CAVHEXT6 and CAVHEXT9). The L3 can also be used with periscope ducts (item periscope) as well as 4" round to rectangle adapter (item PERRND) to allow for under floor ventilation where the outside ground level has risen or where connection to a round duct is necessary.

**SPECIFICATION TABLE - LOUVRE AIRBRICKS**

Item Code	Nom. Size (Inch)	Size in mm	Vent Size (mm)	Weight (KG)	Free Area with mesh (mm <sup>2</sup> )	Plate Thickness (mm)	Depth (mm)
L3	9 x 3	222x 75	7	0.65	2500	5	35
L6	9 x 6	222 x 150	8	1.2	8500	5	40
L9	9 x 9	225 x 225	9	1.8	17,000	5	40

**Material – Grey cast iron 250**

**British Made Product**

**Cast iron foundry source – West Midlands, England**



For more details please see our website...

<https://www.castironairbricks.co.uk/product-category/louvre-air-bricks/>

Alternatively email or call us

[Sales@castironairbricks.co.uk](mailto:Sales@castironairbricks.co.uk)

01598 711999

Delivery for this product is normally from stock for low volume orders and these are sent out the next working day for orders received before 12 o'clock. Ideally we hold 20 units bare metal and 10 units painted black of each size although this is a guide and can quickly change. If we need to paint more black this will be 5- 7 days longer, bespoke painted fronts ( customer supplied RAL) are typically 10-14 days

Cast Iron Air Brick Company, Down Farm, Brayford, EX32 7QQ



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