



Mantes

THE BIVOUCAC SHACKS

Bespoke, handmade, luxury-rustic eco-cabins



ON TIME

Designed and built by Mantes and partners on time and within budget

AWARD WINNING

Multiple awards in design and sustainability categories

EFFICIENT

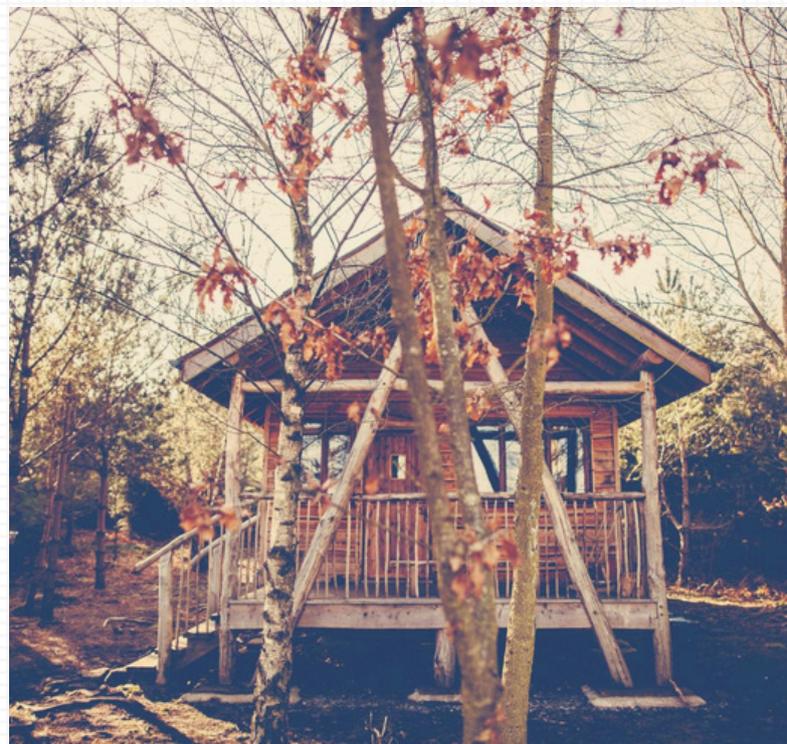
Entirely off grid and seven times more thermally efficient than a modern house

BACK TO NATURE

Bivouac Shacks are sustainable timber cabins that are off-grid, thermally efficient and full of charm and character. Bivouac Shacks are one of the cornerstone components of [The Bivouac at Druid's Temple](#).

In 2007 Mantes and partners formed a vision for 'The Bivouac' seeking to offer a high quality back-to-nature experience, capturing all of the romance of camping, without the unpleasant challenges that often go with it.

At the time, a small number of offerings emerged in a new sector which had attracted the nicknames 'posh camping', 'glamorous camping' and 'glamping'. The media described this as the rising popularity of the 'stay-cation'.





CRAFTSMANSHIP

Mantes worked with an old friend (experienced in working with woodland, timber and natural materials) to design and build the Bivouac Shacks, combining Rudi's experience and expertise in round wood craftsmanship with Mantes' ability to design products that are attractive, scalable and deliverable. An exciting partnership was formed.

This [short video](#) offers a little insight into our shack building experience.

ECO-BUILDINGS

Over 80% of the timber used in the shacks came from a radius of within 5 miles of the development site.

The timber was milled on a neighboring farm and delivered by a local farming family.

The Shacks are fully insulated with sheep's wool.

Water is provided by an onsite natural spring and is purified and pressurised in the farm buildings.

Waste water is treated via a natural reed bed filtration system.

Heating and hot water is provided via UK handmade wood burning stoves with back boilers.

Other design details include lime plaster, hemp based sheet roofing and local natural stone for foundations and pad stones (no concrete).

The Shacks were designed to offer maximum flexibility to effectively serve the varied groups that were likely to stay in a Bivouac Shack. In marketing terms they were positioned as 'Rustic Woodland Shacks'; in fact they are highly efficient eco-buildings with a thermal efficiency of over seven times that of a modern house built to UK building control standards.

“ Sam and Beth are amazing, inspiring creators. They were meant to meet, dream and build together. Part of the joy with this wonderful couple is that they invite others along on their journey. As managers they offer guidance and a wealth of experience. Ideas are never overlooked and you will be encouraged to grow and nurtured along the way.

Emilie McDermott

Team leader at The Bivouac

