New Forest Log Cabins

"Offering Eco Friendly Log Buildings with Carbon Neutral Footprint"

Why we only use Redwood Pine for our log buildings

We only use "Pina Sylvester" Redwood Pine for our log buildings. This provides the very best timber for the type of structures we design and build.

Redwood pine is grown in Estonia near the south west tip of Russian where the extreme cold makes growth rates much slower and thus the wood has a very tight grain and higher density than faster growing varieties. The wood therfore is inherently stable and does not give rise to the twisting or warping often associated with the inferior woods used in log cabin manufacture these days.

We aim to use Grade 5 which is the highest selection grade available in the long lengths necessary for such building work. Grade 6, is a little lower grade but still entirely suitable and superior to some of the timbers originating from other Baltic countries. There are higher grades of pine available but these are in up to 6mtr lengths for manufacture of furniture and flooring etc. The grading indicates the tolerance of imperfections such as loose knots, shakes (small splits) and pockets of sap.

Logging takes place from sustainable sources in managed forests that support a programme of sustainable replanting. The forests hold PEFC certification (Pan European Forestry Commission) which is a prerequisite for FSC (Forestry Stewardship Certification). In order to achieve this level of high standard we need to demonstrate and prove the origin of our timber.

The trees used for logging are in the region of 100 to 120 years old. The logs that we use for construction are cut from the centre of the tree. This is known as the heart wood and of course is the oldest part of the tree and therefore the densest, hardest timber available from that tree and are source from several forests. All timbers used are kiln dried to a consistent moisture content to ensure dimensional stability.

Our wood has a fast throughput. It is sourced in sufficient quantities so that it is not hanging around for long periods before it is used. It is then cut into the main log size to be used for that particular build and then kiln dried to between 18 and 20% moisture to ensure consistency in moisture contents and hence dimensional stability before being milled to the particulat lengths required for that build, then notched using computer driven Swiss milling machinery that are guided directly by the Architects CAD designs to ensure optimum precision.

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designoffice@newforestlogcabins.co.uk

Office: 01202 888108
Fax: 01202 237979