

SECRET #2



BATTEN DOWN YOUR WINDOWS



Shutters are the classic look for seaside homes. [Shutterly Fabulous](#) (shutterlyfabulous.com) has a good selection. 'Wooden Venetian blinds are another, more affordable option,' says Kate Dukes from John Lewis. 'They give the effect of holiday home-style shutters at a more affordable price, and can be adjusted to let in as much light as required. Wooden or stainless-steel curtain poles are suitable if you live close to the sea, as other metals can corrode in the salty air.'

'Durability, air and weather tightness, energy efficiency, maintenance costs and sustainability are very important for windows,' says David Pattenon of Westgate Joinery (01273 814555, westgatejoinery.co.uk), currently helping to turn Belle Tote Lighthouse on the cliffs at Beachy Head into a guesthouse (belletote.org.uk). 'On Belle Tote, we use Accoya® wood (itanwood.com) to provide A-rated, energy-efficient windows. It is a revolutionary new timber, which is durable and non-toxic.'