

# Tudor Roof Tiles



**Why Buy TUDOR Tiles ?**

# Aspire to Tudor Tiles

This document assumes that you have already decided to specify plain tiles (sometimes called shingles) or peg tiles made from clay rather than cement for your project.

Tudor Roof Tiles specialises in the manufacture of handmade clay tiles.

We believe that the uniqueness of these tiles, with their individuality, inherent variation and character, adds aesthetic appeal to any roof.

Before making your final decision about which clay roof tiles to use, we suggest that you consider the following points.



## *Q 1. Do you want Handmade or Machine-made tiles?*

In the past, peg and plain tiles were handmade by skilled craftsmen. However, as labour costs rose, some tiles were manufactured by machine in automated factories, whilst others were machine-made with a degree of human handling and/or finishing to produce handcrafted tiles.

At Tudor we cut individual slices of clay from the block, then press each tile by hand. All subsequent stages of the production process are then further undertaken by skilled artisans.

## *Q 2. In what country are the tiles made?*

Tudor tiles are made in Lydd, which is located on the south east coast of Kent. All our tiles are genuinely handmade at this single location.

## *Q 3. What clay is used?*

Tudor uses 'Etruria Marl', which is the same type of clay traditionally used by the ceramic industry in Stoke-on-Trent. The growth and success of the pottery industry was largely due to the very high quality of the Etruria Marl clay found there. We believe it is the finest organic clay available.

## *Q 4. How are the tiles fired/baked?*

The firing or baking of the tiles is fundamental to their frost resistance. In the old days, the kilns (ovens) used were fuelled by wood or coal. They were generally fired for weeks rather than hours in order to fuse all the clay particles, thereby making each tile weather resistant. As production methods speeded up, gas oil or diesel were used as fuels for the kilns. Nowadays, electricity or gas is used, which offers the advantage of high temperatures and the ability to control the speed of heat rise, ultimately giving a superior result.

## *Q 5. How long has the manufacturer been trading?*

In tile making, experience matters. The life-long quality of each tile made is obviously determined by

the experience of the manufacturer. Well established factories, with well proven processes to draw on, tend to produce better quality tiles than recent start-ups.

Technological advances in kilns and firing techniques have also made a positive impact on tile quality, which is why we at Tudor purchased a new gas fired and computer controlled kiln in 2011.

#### *Q 6. Do the tiles have a performance guarantee?*

The guarantee of durability is a very important factor to consider before purchasing any building product. For clay tiles, the main problem area in the UK is frost damage, which is usually manifested by a very thin layer of the surface of tiles (or bricks) breaking away.

At Tudor, we give our own guarantee against such problems. Copies of the guarantee are freely available on the Company website, and are also supplied in writing along with every quote and delivery. This is a 30-year guarantee, which has not changed for many years. Before buying your tiles, we advise you ensure that you have a worthwhile guarantee.

#### *Q 7. Do the tiles comply with British and European Quality Standards?*

Roof tiles sold in the UK should comply with BS:EN legislation, which requires that tiles must be CE (UKCA) marked to BS:EN 1304 standards. The 1304 standards include prescriptive tests for tile strength, water permeability, size and frost resistance.

BS:EN 1304 also states that these tests must be audited by a recognised testing laboratory and certificated. Tudor uses LUCIDEON (formerly CERAM) in Stoke-on-Trent and we publish all results on our website.

Additionally, Tudor are a part of the Roof Tile Association (RTA) and its Technical Committee which is only open to UK manufacturers.

#### *Q 8. Can we visit the factory and meet the Team?*

Of course you can. In fact, If our MD is on site, he will personally escort you on your tour and answer your questions.

Please understand that we need to comply with Health & Safety law, so your visit needs to be supervised and by appointment, but we are happy to show you exactly how we make our tiles. Do not expect plush surroundings or a slap up lunch ... we control costs very carefully in order to keep our prices competitive!

#### *Q 9. Where can we find out more?*

All technical documents, photographs, company info and contact details are on the internet at [www.tudorrooftiles.co.uk](http://www.tudorrooftiles.co.uk) or ring our office on 01797 320 202.

# Made Without Compromise

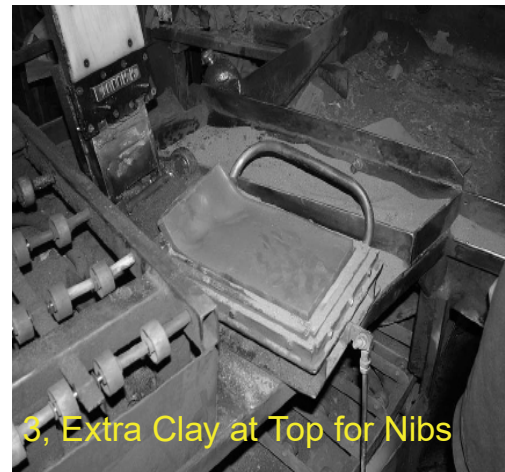




1, Put Face Sand into Mould



2, Sliced Clay Slab into Mould



3, Extra Clay at Top for Nibs



4, Twice Bang the Mould Press



5, Tile Face & Edges Formed



6, Cut Back for Thickness



7, Remove the Tile from Mould



8, Trim Off the Tile Fringes

Tudor Roof Tile Co. Limited is based in Kent and is proud to be the largest independent manufacturer of handmade only clay roof tiles in the UK.

With the skills of time served craftsmen, Tudor's main focus is on providing customers with high quality, aesthetically pleasing, UK made roof tiles.

# MAKE YOUR ROOF UNIQUE

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