

THE MODERN HOUSE



Woodbridge, Suffolk
Sold

Shingle Street

Discreetly located beside the beach at Shingle Street is a rare house designed and built by architect John Penn in 1970 for his own use. The plan was to have as little impact on the landscape as possible.

The single-storey structure is one of 24 houses strung out over a quarter of a mile, along a solid ridge, with wonderful views of the vast shingle beach and the North Sea. The sun rises from the horizon and sets over the fields behind. Penn designed nine similar private houses in Suffolk, between 1962 – 1971, after his return from study and work in the US.

The house is mid-way along the quiet cul-de-sac that runs parallel to the sea. A driveway leads through a long stretch of lawn and Tamarisk trees, delineated from the neighbouring gardens by simple wooden fencing. Close to the house is a timber structure comprising a garden room / bedroom with en-suite bathroom and a carport.

THE MODERN HOUSE



Shingle Street

The main house is L-shaped, cleverly and sympathetically uniting two previously separate brick and glass boxes. It encloses a sunny and secluded courtyard garden. Three bedrooms, two shower rooms and a laundry comprise the landward wing, while the seaward wing provides beautiful and spacious living, dining, library and work areas. These surround a fully modernised kitchen with stunning sea views. Long runs of steel-framed, ground-to-ceiling glazing form the walls. Underfloor heating ensures that the house never gets cold.

A series of doors open to a raised deck, beyond which is a small step down to the beach itself. The view across the shingle to the sea is uninterrupted and wild.

Some ten miles inland is historic Woodbridge, a picturesque and thriving market town. It hosts an excellent supermarket, many independent shops and useful services, and a variety of restaurants, pubs and cafes. Nearby Snape Maltings is a world-renowned centre of music and a visitor destination of great beauty, also popular with local residents. Some twenty minutes drive away is Orford, a pretty medieval village on the River Alde, home to the famous Pump Street Bakery. Further afield is Aldeburgh, another popular seaside town famed for ice cream, fish and chips, and as the home of Benjamin Britten.

Shingle Street's nearest railway station is at Melton, a ten-minute drive away, with hourly trains north to Lowestoft and south to Ipswich (23 minutes). Direct connections there go to London (a total journey time of one hour and 50 minutes), Stansted, Cambridge, and Norwich.

Read our recent interview: Open House: Anne and Bruce Page on the brilliant simplicity of their 1970s home by the sea at Shingle Street, Suffolk

*East Anglia
Sold*

THE MODERN HOUSE



About

The Modern House is an estate agency that helps people live in more thoughtful and beautiful ways. We believe in design as a powerful force for good. Inspired by the principles of modernism, we represent design-led homes across the UK which celebrate light, space and a truth to materials. Esquire credits The Modern House with “rewriting the rulebook on estate agency” and GQ voted us “one of the best things in the world”.