



In keeping with Studland's natural vibe, the beach huts blend into the woods.

WHERE TO STAY AND EAT

Manor House Hotel (01929 450288, www.themanorhousehotel.com) is a curious mix of olde worlde Englishness – 18th-century mansion, stately gardens, village location – and laid-back seaside resort (sunburnt beachgoers seek refuge here for tea or lunch). Inside, it's all oak panels and four-poster beds, but the sea views inject a breezy holiday vibe.

Knoll House Hotel (01929 450450, www.knollhouse.co.uk) looks more Cape Cod than coastal England. It's a low, sprawling gabled house set amid manicured lawns and tennis courts, high on a hill overlooking the sea. The plain bedrooms won't make it into the pages of *Wallpaper** any time soon, but the lush grounds and pool-with-a-view provide the eye candy.

The Bankes Arms Country Inn (01929 450225, www.bankesarms.com), an ivy-covered pub in Studland village, contains ten bedrooms and a scenic beer garden. It's also a good choice of restaurant: with its log fires and candlelight, it's relentlessly cosy, and has a good reputation for seafood. But its real claim to fame is beer: real ale connoisseurs come from far and wide.