

YHA Beer

ACCESS STATEMENT

Introduction

YHA Beer is a 42 bed Hostel, set in a light and airy country house in it's own tranquil grounds, on the edge of a fishing village on the Jurassic coast. We cater for mainly families as we have mainly small rooms, but also are in a great location for walking the South West Coastal path.

The Hostel is located on the stunningly beautiful, Jurassic coast, now listed as a world heritage site. As such it's great for geology, rock pools and fossil hunting walking and photography. The following statement is a summary of our provision. If you have any specific questions about access, please call us and we will endeavour to help.

Pre-Arrival

Reception and check in is available from 5pm until 10pm. You need to know that we provide all your bed linen, and kindly request you not to bring your own sleeping bags or bedding.

We have a full meals service available from 6pm depending on the time of year your planning on coming to visit. Please ask the reception when making your booking about the catering service available. We also have a fully licensed bar with local beers and ciders.

Arrival & Car Parking Facilities

The drive has a sharp turn and parking is limited to 10 – 15 cars. Please do not block the side access as this is reserved for the emergency services. The footpath up to the hostel door is quite steep; please let reception know if you require assistance. The driveway is lit during the evening and through the night.

Main Entrance & Reception

The main entrance is up a steep slope to the left of the building. We use a code system so once you have checked in you will have 24 hrs access to the facilities and your room. Once you have entered the building you will notice the big white door which is where you will find reception and the rest of the public areas. Seating is available at the entrance. The ground floor is mainly the original polished parquet flooring, but all rooms are carpeted and the wash areas are fitted with non-slip flooring.

Limited ability persons

We do have rooms on the ground floor, there is also a ground floor toilet and shower so going upstairs need not be a problem. When booking your stay, please advise the receptionist you require a ground floor room. One of our rooms has wheelchair access although it is advised to have someone assist in opening the double doors.

Our stairs to the first floor consist of 16-carpeted steps with 300mm trends and 200mm risers. There are also two turns to take while ascending / descending the stairs.

Public Areas – General

We are in a beautiful location and many of the features are original in the building. The floor is the first thing many guests notice. It's the original parquet flooring and as such needs to be treated with a bit of care. Please remove any stones from your shoes and stilettos shoes and walking sticks with metal bases are not permitted!!

Public Areas – Dining Room & Lounge

Here at Beer we have a great lounge which we like to keep as a quiet area. The children can play in the dining room once they come in from outside and the meals service has finished.

Laundry & drying facilities

We have a small laundry service, but a great little drying room. A washing line is also available to customers for wetsuits and such.

Meeting rooms

Sorry we do not have designated meeting rooms, but the lounge and dining areas are great for chatting, reading quietly and making new friends.

Bedrooms – Ground Floor

We have 2 bedrooms rooms on the ground floor, a 4 and 5-bedded room. The four-bedded room would fit someone with a wheel chair as the double doors both open allowing the width. However we do not have a disabled toilet but people have managed as we have a downstairs toilet and shower. All the bedrooms have a wash hand basin within the room but no rooms are ensuite.

Bedrooms – First Floor

The remainder of the accommodation is on the first floor. We have dorms and a double room available for hire. All the bedrooms have a wash hand basin within the room but no rooms are ensuite.

Washrooms – Ground Floor

There is a toilet, wash hand basin and shower on the first floor. These are coupled together so can only be used by one person at a time.

Washrooms – First Floor

On the first floor we have 4 toilets and 4 showers. All the facilities have a sink, two showers and two toilets, all of which are separate and are therefore unisex.

Grounds & gardens

We are in our own private grounds which are normally very safe for children to roam freely and enjoy a game of football on the lawn or just let off some

steam. We are on the edge of the village, but only ten minutes walk from the sea front.

We have a set of goal posts on the bottom lawn; please feel free to enjoy a game of football but refrain from bringing balls onto the top lawn. The windows in the front of the building are the original leaded windows and damage must be paid for.

Additional information

Pets are not permitted on the premises, even in cars as we cater for a lot of children, however guide dogs can be accommodated by prior arrangement. If you're planning on arriving in a mini bus, be cautious and walk the drive first if you are unfamiliar with it. The sharp turn causes quite a few problems with larger vehicles, especially in wet weather.

"Beer is a drinking village with a fishing problem" and as such we have 3 great pubs, as well as our own stocking all local beers and ciders. Beer as a whole is great for families and children are welcome mostly everywhere.

Swimming off the beach is safe, although Beer is a working fishing village. The main boats are to the centre of the beach with swimming on each side.

What is the Jurassic Coast?

The Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site (commonly known as the Jurassic Coast) is England's first and only natural World Heritage Site. The Site is a 95-mile stretch of the south coast from Exmouth in East Devon to Studland in Dorset. It was awarded World Heritage Site status in December 2001 by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) because of its outstanding Earth Science interest. It is the only place on Earth where 185 million years of the Earth's history are sequentially exposed in dramatic cliffs, secluded coves, coastal stacks and barrier beaches. The 'tilt' of the rocks creates a unique 'walk through time' from 250 million to 65 million years ago, through the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods as you walk eastwards along the Site.

Self-catering kitchen

The self-catering kitchen is just off the dining room; it is fitted with two domestic ovens and two hobs. It's fully equipped for normal use but if you're catering for a group then please let the reception know and we will do our best to assist with larger pans.

Contact information

If you wish to contact the hostel or make a booking then please feel free to call us on 0870 770 5690 or drop us an email at Beer@YHA.org.uk.

Reception is open and the phone is manned from 8 am to 10 am and from 5 pm to 10 pm. Outside of these hours you can contact the YHA reservations team on 0870 770 8868.

We are on the X53 bus route running from Bournemouth to Exeter.

Our address is:
YHA Beer
Bovey Combe
Townsend
Beer
EX12 3LL

Future plans

We are aiming to introduce camping to the site once we have figured out where it's going to go! Until then we can allow camping on the lawn but it's limited to prevent disturbance to guests and children using the lawn.

We are planning on fitting grab rails to the downstairs toilet. This will not meet disabled toilet standards but hopefully assist people in using the facilities.

We welcome your feedback to help us to continue making improvements. If you have any comments, please phone 0870 77 5690 or e-mail Beer@yha.org.uk