

## YHA Honister

### ACCESS STATEMENT

#### **Introduction**

YHA Honister is adjacent to a mountain pass (at 1,000 feet above sea level) in a relatively remote and exposed location. We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this 26-bed hostel, a single-storey building. 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**

- Train links to within 25 miles (Penrith or Oxenholme).
- Regular bus services to within 100 metres of the hostel from late March to late October.
- A local taxi service has accessible taxis if required. We can make a booking for you.
- Nearest shop-mobility scheme is situated approx 9 miles away, Booths in Keswick. Honister rambler stops 50 metres from there.
- The hostel's details can be seen on YHA's website: [www.yha.org.uk](http://www.yha.org.uk)
- You can contact the hostel by phone, fax or e-mail (details below).

#### **Arrival & Car Parking Facilities**

- Limited parking (50 metres from main entrance). The path is narrow and has a short section of steep gradient. Additional parking in National Trust car park. (50 metres below hostel). There are 17 steps from this car park to the front door.
- Please try to provide advance notice if assistance will be needed to move to and from cars.
- New gravel pathway leading from car park to main entrance.
- The nearest village is 1.5 miles from the hostel. There is no pavement or street lighting along this route.

#### **Main Entrance & Reception**

- 1 step up to main entrance. A portable ramp is available on request.
- Induction loop at Reception.
- Seating is available in the Reception hallway.
- Payphone available on quiet porch.

#### **Public Areas – General**

- Good colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building.
- Well lit corridors.
- Floor covering is Flotex.

### **Public Areas – WCs**

- 5 WCs (two female, three male) close to Reception but neither currently meets DDA standards for wheelchair users.

### **Public Areas – Dining Room & Lounge**

- Dining Room tables are movable. Chairs are available both with and without armrests.
- Table service is available in Dining Room if requested in advance at Reception.

### **Self-catering kitchen**

- No seating in self-catering kitchen. Seating in nearby dining area.
- Clear, visible signs (in large font) for advice on equipment use.
- 8 gas hobs on 2 gas ovens.

### **Drying room**

- Off main corridor close to bedrooms.

### **Bedrooms – Ground Floor**

- Five 4-bedded rooms not en-suite but each with wash basin and lever taps.
- Three 2-bedded rooms, not en-suite but with wash basin and lever taps.

### **Washrooms – Ground Floor**

- Four showers though not built to DDA standards are situated along the ground floor bedroom corridor.

### **Grounds & gardens**

- A fellside location on top of a mountain pass, located amongst sheep pastures.

### **Additional information**

- Yha has a no pets policy (but service dogs are welcome).
- No smoking.
- Disability awareness courses – as part of the 'Welcome Host' scheme – are undertaken by all of our staff.
- A member of staff is always available on site, including at night (access via emergency buzzer at Reception).
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms fitted. We ensure that all guests are evacuated in the event of fire or any emergency requiring evacuation.

- Evacuation procedures shown (in large font) in each bedroom on back of door.

### **Contact information**

- Address: YHA Honister, Seatoller, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5XN
- Telephone: 017687 77267
- Fax: as above
- E-mail: Honister@yha.org.uk
- Hours of operation: Reception open from 7.30 am to 10 am and from 5 pm to 11 pm.
- Local buses: Honister Rambler 77 and 77A
- Local accessible taxis: Davies taxis 017687 72676

### **Future plans**

- We hope to enhance our emergency alarm system by early 2009 to incorporate flashing lights and vibrating pads.

**We welcome your feedback to help us to continue making improvements. Please contact us directly if you have any queries or if you would like to make any comments.**