

## YHA Portland

### ACCESS STATEMENT

#### **Introduction**

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this 28-bed hostel, a 2-storey Edwardian building, which was formerly the First Admirals House.

We are sited on the Isle & Royal Manor of Portland and enjoy great views along Chesil Beach in the heart of the Jurassic Coast.

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**

- Good bus & train links to Weymouth (5.5 Miles away).
- Regular bus services from Weymouth to within 200 yards of the hostel.
- A local taxi service has accessible taxis if required. We can make a booking for you. Bee Cars of Weymouth on 01305 761321
- Nearest shop-mobility scheme is situated approx 5.5 miles away in Weymouth. Details on 01202 661770
- A regular bus service from Portland stops 125 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**

- Ample parking. Reserved space close to main entrance is available. There is a dropping-off point directly outside the main entrance.
- Please try to provide advance notice if assistance will be needed to move to and from cars.
- 4 steps leading from car park to main entrance.
- The nearest supermarket is 500 yards from the hostel. There is a pavement and street lighting along this route but it is up a steep hill.

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

- 4 steps up to main entrance.
- Induction loop at Reception.
- Seating is available adjacent to Reception in the Lounge.
- Reception Staff will come to you in the lounge to assist in checking in.
- Payphone available in private room with seating, 2 steps to access this room.
- Staff resident on site all night. Available 24 hours a day for emergencies.

#### **Public Areas – General**

- Good colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building.
- Well-lit clear corridors.
- Floor covering is short pile carpet and laminate flooring in Dining room.

### **Public Areas – WCs**

- 1 unisex WC close to Reception but does not currently meet DDA standards for wheelchair users.

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

- Level access to all rooms on Ground Floor including lounges and dining room.
- Dining Room tables are movable.
- Chairs are available both with and without armrests in both lounges.
- Table service is normal for evening meals in Dining Room and can be arranged for breakfast, just ask.

### **Self-catering kitchen**

- Level access to self-catering kitchen.
- Perching stools available in self-catering kitchen.
- Lever taps fitted.
- 2 domestic gas cookers built in at one end of Kitchen. Toaster, Kettle, microwave.

### **Laundry & drying facilities**

- Level access to fully equipped laundry room with washer and dryer. Narrow access so assistance is available upon request. Service wash available.

### **Bedrooms – First Floor**

- Staircase to 1<sup>st</sup> Floor has 2 flights, first of 12 steps and a resting area, second of 7 steps to large landing. Handrails are fitted on one side (right hand side when going upstairs). Narrow dado rail on left hand side.
- 3 6-bedded rooms, not en-suite. All have washbasins.
- 1 6-bedded room, fully en-suite (bath with shower above, also has 2 single beds. Separate washbasin in bedroom.
- 1 4 -bedded rooms, not en-suite. With washbasin.
- Individual bed lights fitted adjacent to bed head.
- Small table at side of each bed. Some with low level mirrors.

### **Washrooms – Ground Floor**

- A shower (with toilet and basin) is situated in the downstairs corridor; there is a step up into the shower.

### **Washrooms – First Floor**

- 3 separate shower cubicles all gender free, 1 step up into shower approx 6 inches high, 2 WCs both with washbasins. All situated on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor landing.

### **Grounds & gardens**

- Large gardens to front and rear. Front slopes slightly away from the main building. They are mainly laid to lawn, with the front traversed by 2 gravel paths.
- Two 3-seat benches (with armrests) are available in the garden.

### **Additional information**

- No pets or dogs (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 (contact via emergency notice at Reception, or on top floor of building).
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms fitted. We ensure that all guests are evacuated in the event of fire or any emergency requiring evacuation assistance is available.
- Mobile phone reception varies depending on network, within immediate vicinity.
- OS 194 GR 685 741

### **Contact information**

- Address: YHA Portland, Hardy House, Castletown, Portland, Dorset, DT5 1AU
- Telephone: 0870 770 6000
- Fax: 0870 770 6001
- E-mail: portland@yha.org.uk
- Hours of operation: Reception open from 7.30 am to 10 am and from 5 pm to 10.00 pm.
- Local buses: 01305 823039(Sureline) 0870 010 6022 (First Group)
- Local accessible taxis: Bee Cars of Weymouth 01305 761321

### **Future plans**

- We hope to redesign the main entrance to incorporate a permanent ramp and step (plus grab rails), and to allow the front door (single leaf) to be opened remotely by push-buttons situated next to it.
- We hope to enhance our emergency alarm system 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.**