

YHA London Earls Court

ACCESS STATEMENT

Introduction

YHA London Earl's Court is a lively 3 star property in central London. The hostel, conveniently located on the way from Heathrow and Gatwick airports, is only 4 stops from Victoria station and is within walking distance of Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park, the Natural History, Victoria & Albert and Science Museums and the Royal Albert Hall. Earl's Court Road is a busy street with shops, restaurants and pubs, yet the hostel is set back in a quiet residential side street away from the hustle and bustle. Shared accommodation is in single-sex rooms, although private rooms are also available. Please note that this Youth Hostel does not have any single rooms.

Facilities include 24-hour access, a small café, fully equipped self-catering kitchen, internet (and WiFi) access, laundry, luggage room, a garden and two lounges (one with plasma TV and a quieter lounge/reading room).

Pre-Arrival

- Earl's Court tube station is the closest underground station to this Youth Hostel.
- Walking from EARL'S COURT STATION: Take Earl's Court Road exit and follow Earl's Court Road to the right (same direction as the traffic). The 5th street on the left is Bolton Gardens. We are located at number 38, which is the third building on the right
- Typetalk and visual/hearing assistance
- YHA is a registered user of Typetalk, enabling Youth Hostels and booking points to communicate with text phone users via a Typetalk operator. YHA London Earl's Court is decorated in colour schemes to aid people with visual impairments and an induction loop is available at our reception desk.
- Registered Assistance Dogs - Special arrangements can be made for registered assistance dogs at this Youth Hostel. Please contact us direct and discuss your needs if you would like to make a booking.
- YHA London Earl's Court is a NO SMOKING hostel.

Arrival & Car Parking Facilities

- Car parking is not available within the hostel grounds, and parking spaces are very limited in the surrounding area - the majority of on-street parking is for permit holders (i.e. local home-owners) only.
- For information on parking in the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea please see their website at www.rbkc.gov.uk/parking

Main Entrance & Reception

- YHA London Earl's Court is located in an old building, which makes access by wheelchairs difficult. When entering this Youth Hostel from road level the ground floor is raised and there are nine external steps, plus threshold, into the building. There are stairs to each level within the building - there is no lift/elevator - and some doorways, stairs and corridors are very narrow (in some places less than one metre wide).

Public Areas – General

- There are small steps located around the building (in corridors, washrooms, showers and toilets) as individual floors can be on slightly different levels. These areas are difficult to negotiate without stepping up or down, and in the event of an emergency evacuation anyone with limited mobility, particularly anyone who relies solely on wheelchair access, may find this causes difficulty leaving the building quickly.

Self-Catering kitchen

- A self-catering kitchen is available for customer use between 0700 and 2300hrs. Please note that there is no full catering operation at this Youth Hostel therefore breakfast is not included in the quoted accommodation prices. This self-catering kitchen is located on the lower ground (basement) level of the building and is accessed via narrow stairs from the ground level. Access to the garden is possible from this room.

Laundry & drying facilities

- Laundry facilities comprise washing machines and separate dryers. All are token-operated (tokens may be purchased from reception) and are located in the laundry room in the basement. An iron is available on request from reception and the ironing board is located in the laundry room.

Meeting rooms

- This Youth Hostel does not have meeting rooms.

Bedrooms

- All dormitory accommodation is provided in narrow bunk beds and there are no standard single beds at this Youth Hostel, although some private rooms have double beds and can be booked online at the published private room rates.
- Please note that double rooms are located on third, second, first and lower ground/basement floors only.

Bedrooms – (Lower Ground) Basement Floor

- There are 47 beds in the following rooms on this floor:
 - 3xDouble (with 3rd bed available)
 - 5x2-bedded rooms
 - 1x3-bedded room
 - 3x4-bedded rooms
 - 1x6-bedded room
 - 1x7-bedded room

Three of these rooms are ensuite and are accessed directly from the garden (1xDouble (with 3rd bed available), 1x4-bedded and 1x6-bedded). These three rooms are not internally accessed from any other part of the building and access is via the garden only.

Bedrooms – Ground Floor

- There are 30 beds in the following rooms on this floor:
 - 2x2-bedded rooms
 - 5x4-bedded rooms
 - 1x6-bedded rooms

Bedrooms – First Floor

- There are 50 beds in the following rooms on this floor:
 - 2xDouble (with 3rd bed available)
 - 4x6-bedded rooms
 - 2x10-bedded rooms

Bedrooms – Second Floor

- There are 28 beds in the following rooms on this floor:
 - 2xDouble (with 3rd bed available)
 - 1x2-bedded room
 - 5x4-bedded rooms

Bedrooms – Third Floor

- There are 31 beds in the following rooms on this floor:
 - 4x6-bedded rooms
 - 1x4-bedded room
 - 1xDouble room (with 3rd bed available)

Grounds & gardens

- The front of the property has a short, even pathway of approx 1m between pavement and the building's entrance. The pathway does not have a handrail, although the (2m wide) entrance steps have a handrail to each side.
- The rear courtyard garden is at the lower ground level and may be accessed directly from the basement rooms and self-catering kitchen or via an external metal staircase from the ground floor. The external staircase has 17 steps between the ground floor and garden, is approximately 1m wide and is of a 'fire escape' nature (steps comprise perforated metal).
- As the Youth Hostel is located in a residential area use of the garden is limited to the hours of 8am - 9pm unless for emergency access or direct access to rooms B12, B13 or B14.

Additional information

- If you consider that access into or around the building may cause difficulties for any members of your party we would be happy to recommend alternative Youth Hostels in or around London, which have designated access and facilities. Alternatively, to check access and facilities at other YHA accommodation within London yourself please visit the YHA website – www.yha.org.uk
- 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 reception 24 hours a day.
- 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.
- Mobile phone reception is good within immediate vicinity.

Contact information

- Address: YHA London Earls Court, 38 Bolton Gardens, London, SW5 0AQ
- Telephone: 020 7373 7083
- Fax: 020 7835 2034
- E-mail: earlscourt@yha.org.uk

- Hours of operation: Reception is open 24 hours.
- Local buses: please visit www.tfl.gov.uk for information on how to travel to Earl's Court from your location.
- Local accessible taxis: a local taxi firm has limited accessible taxis if required. These may be arranged at reception.

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.