



YHA National Forest – Access Statement

Introduction

Located next to Conkers Discovery Centre, just a stone's throw from Moira Furnace and a 10-minute drive from Twycross Zoo, YHA National Forest is the ideal location for a large family group break, educational trip or group weekend escape. The hostel is 3 miles from Swadlincote with plenty of walking and cycling routes nearby.

We host group bookings in this two-storey, modern, eco-friendly building located in Moira, Derbyshire. We offer bed and breakfast, half board or full board catering or the option to hire the entire place through YHA Exclusive Hire.

We have five bedrooms on the ground floor – three of these are accessible en-suite bedrooms that sleep up to 3 people each.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require assistance, please phone 01629 592700 or email customerservices@yha.org.uk. You can also view photos of the hostel at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-national-forest.

This access statement was last updated in January 2024.

Pre-arrival

- The nearest rail station is Burton-upon-Trent, 7.5 miles away.
- There are taxi firms in the area which can provide accessible vehicles. We are happy to make a booking for you.
- The hostel is located off a level road with an even pavement running all the way along one side. There is street lighting but some sections may be dark at night. There is then a dropped kerb onto a level, winding tarmac drive leading from the main road to the hostel car park.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-national-forest/directions.
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

Car parking and arrival

Parking is available at the hostel approximately 20m from the main entrance. There are three marked accessible bays which are the closest to the entrance. If you let us know what time you'll arrive, we'll try our best to assist with moving to and from cars.

The floor of the car park is even tarmac and the hostel is accessed via a level paved path. There is no lighting in the car park, but there is lighting on the main hostel building and entrance.

Main entrance and reception

The main entrance is a wide, single-leaf, manual door with a level threshold which opens inwards into reception. This area provides access to the open plan dining and lounge area and also to the ground floor bedrooms through a double door.

This area is level with laminate flooring throughout and even lighting is provided by wall and ceiling lights. There is space for a wheelchair user to manoeuvre and seating is available in the nearby lounge area.

There is a lower-level service point at the reception desk. We also have a payphone available and an emergency phone to connect to a member of staff at night.

Public areas

Halls and corridors

There is good colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building. The corridors have laminate flooring and are well-lit by ceiling lights.

WCs

Adjacent to the reception desk is an accessible gender-neutral toilet which has grab rails, a lower basin, lever taps and an emergency cord (clear opening width is 80cm). The transfer in this WC is right-handed. Two additional gender-neutral WCs are available on the first floor at the top of the stairs.

Café bar, restaurant and lounge area

The café bar, restaurant and lounge is in an open plan area with a combination of soft and hard seating. There is plenty of space for a wheelchair user to manoeuvre. The lounge has sofas and low coffee tables. This facility is only open to bed and breakfast, half board or full board group bookings and is not open to the public.

Pre-arranged breakfast and evening meals are served from the café bar area. There are tables and wooden, straight-backed chairs available. All hard seating can be moved around to suit your needs – please ask at reception if needed.

We can cater for dietary requirements or any particular likes or dislikes – please advise us of these before your arrival.

Self-catering kitchen

The self-catering kitchen is located on the ground floor, through two single-leaf doors. The door leading into the kitchen has a clear opening width of 76cm. There is level access from reception and the room is level throughout. There are clear, large font safety signs displayed.

The kitchen has 2 domestic-style hobs and 2 sinks fitted with lever taps, with a good provision of worktop space. Hobs and worktops are 80cm from the ground.

Further hard seating is provided within the self-catering kitchen. There is a large table with bench seating and additional stools for use at the breakfast bar or additional work top. These can be moved on request.

Laundry facilities

The laundry room is located on the ground floor with level access from reception via a single-leaf door. This facility is available on group request only. If required, please inform staff on check in.

Meeting room

The meeting room is located on the ground floor with level access from the reception area via a single-leaf door. The room is level throughout, with carpet flooring and even lighting provided by ceiling lights.

There are tables and straight-backed chairs without armrests. These are all moveable and can be set out in a variety of arrangements to suit your requirements.

Bedrooms and bathrooms

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Each room is carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights. All bedding is provided.

All bathrooms have non-slip flooring and are well-lit.

Ground floor

Access to this floor is level from the main public areas. Ground floor bedrooms have a level access fire exit with a lever handle to open.

- Three accessible en-suite rooms that sleep up to 3 people each. They include a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath. One of these rooms has a door opening width of 78cm, while the other two have a door opening width of at least 80cm. Each room includes an emergency cord plus visible and vibrating fire alarms. Accessible en-suite bathrooms or wet rooms are fitted with grab rails, emergency cord and folding shower chair. Transfer to the toilet and shower is right handed.
- Two en-suite rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.

First floor

Access to this floor is only via a total of 19 steps (sectioned as 4 steps, followed by 10 steps, followed by a further 5 steps). There is a handrail on each side of the stairs and some soft seating at the top of the stairs.

- Six en-suite rooms that sleep up to 3 people each. They include a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath.
- Ten en-suite rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Two en-suite rooms that sleep up to 5 people each. They include a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath and a set of bunk beds.

Grounds and garden

There is level access through double doors from the lounge to a large, paved patio area with bench-style seating. From this patio area is a large lawn, which is level and regularly maintained.

Cycle store

Our cycle store is located in the compound close to the main entrance. There is level access from the paved path surrounding the main building. The store is accessed via a key held at reception. If cycle storage is required, please arrange during check in.

Additional information

- Pets are not permitted at YHA National Forest, though assistance dogs are welcome throughout – please notify us at the time of booking.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the hostel.
- Braille signs are fitted on bedroom doors and corridor doors.
- A member of staff is not always available on-site. Emergency contact numbers are shared during check in.
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms are fitted. We ensure that all guests are evacuated in the event of fire or any emergency requiring evacuation. Arrangements for guests needing assistance to evacuate should be discussed beforehand.
- Evacuation procedures are displayed in each bedroom and in reception.
- Mobile phone reception is good in the immediate vicinity but can be poor inside the hostel building.
- Free Wi-Fi is available at this hostel.
- The nearest defibrillator is located at the Conkers campsite. This is next to the hostel – we share a drive so, if leaving the hostel, follow the drive to the right and continue to the campsite.

Contact information

- Address: YHA National Forest, 48 Bath Lane, Moira, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE12 6BD
- Telephone: 0345 3719672
- Email: nationalforest@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey map: 128
- Local accessible taxi: Alliance Private Hire 01283 262524, Swad Cars 01283 262626
- Nearest accessibility retailer (3.6 miles away): 46/48 Grove Street, Swadlincote, DE11 9DD, 01283 210770

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.