



YHA Boswinger – Access Statement

Introduction

If you're looking for a relaxing break in Cornwall then YHA Boswinger is the ideal accommodation. Located a mile out of Gorran, this hostel is a gateway to the Roseland's fine walks and unspoilt beaches as well as being handy for visits to The Lost Gardens of Heligan, China Clay Country Park and the Eden Project.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this two-storey building located on the southwest coast of Cornwall. We have two ground floor bedrooms, though neither is accessible to modern standards.

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-boswinger.

This access statement was last updated in August 2024.

Pre-arrival

- The nearest rail station is St Austell, 10.5 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is at Gorran, a mile away, offering a limited service from Monday to Saturday.
- A local taxi service can provide accessible taxis when pre-booked.
- The roads approaching and surrounding the hostel are country roads which are steep in places. There are no pavements and very limited streetlighting.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-boswinger/directions.
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

Car parking and arrival

We have ample car parking at one side of the hostel, approximately 30m from the main entrance. There are no marked bays. The car park slopes gently down away from the road and is surfaced with loose gravel. Guests can be dropped off near the main entrance though caution must be exercised as it is on a sharp bend in the road.

Access from the car park is via a path through the hostel gardens and into the gravel courtyard. If you let us know what time you are coming, we will do our best to assist with moving to and from cars.

Main entrance and reception

There are two ways to enter the hostel, both with steps down with small steps and single-leaf doors. Reception is situated in the small lounge and can be accessed via routes beginning from either entrance.

The main entrance is a green door with large glass panels that arrives into the hall outside the self-catering kitchen. To access the lounge and reception from here, there are 2 deep steps and a shallow step with a handrail. Unfortunately, we do not have a portable lamp.

The alternative entrance is a single-leaf glass-panelled door with a small step. This arrives into the passageway which connects the dining room to the reception and lounge area. This is a low ramp at the reception end.

The reception desk does not have a lower-level section, but there is seating available. There is also an induction loop available on request. The room is level throughout and has carpet tile flooring. It is brightly lit with ceiling lights.

Public areas

Halls and corridors

There is fair colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building. All public areas and halls are well-lit using a combination of ceiling and wall lights.

Flooring is carpet or laminate. Due to the age of the building, neither the ground or first floor are level throughout. There are some steps up and down from rooms and in the corridors. We do not have a lift so access to the first floor is only via a set of 11 carpeted steps with a handrail on one side. These steps do not have risers.

Dining room

Our dining room is located on the ground floor. From the living room there is gentle ramp down into a corridor and from there is a level threshold through a single-leaf door. The lounge also has access via sliding doors into the garden (small step onto uneven flagstones).

The room is level throughout with carpet flooring. It is well-lit with ceiling lights. There are dining tables, straight-backed chairs and upholstered benches. There is not much space between furniture, though this can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

Table service is available (ask at reception). We are also happy to cater for dietary requirements or particular likes or dislikes – please advise us of these before arrival.

Lounge

The lounge (previously mentioned as reception is situated within this space) is located on the ground floor. It is access via steps from the main entrance hall or the corridor from the lounge. This corridor can be accessed from another door from the courtyard. This entrance from the courtyard has a small step from a gravel surface. Flooring and lighting are as described above. There is a sofa and some armchairs. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

Self-catering kitchen

The self-catering kitchen is located on the ground floor with level access from the entrance hall via a single-leaf door. The flooring is tiled and the room is well-lit. There

is stainless steel table in the centre of the room, leaving only a small amount of space around it.

The kitchen contains 3 domestic-sized cookers (2 gas and 1 electric with fan oven), 2 fridges, freezer, microwave, 2 cordless kettles, toaster and a selection of pots and pans. Tea towels are provided. Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units – we are happy to move these to lower storage if required.

Drying facilities

The drying room is on the first floor and has a level threshold through a single-leaf door. The floor is surface with non-slip vinyl and the room is well-lit. Space in this room is quite limited.

Bedrooms and bathrooms

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Lower bunks are close to floor level. Rooms are carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights plus a washbasin. All bedding is provided.

All bathrooms have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. Standard showers have a step up to enter. None are accessible to modern standards.

Ground floor

- One room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes 2 sets of bunk beds. This room also has a door into the courtyard.
- One room that sleeps up to 6 people. It includes 3 sets of bunk beds.
- Shower and two WCs at the end of a narrow corridor.

First floor

There is level access from the stairs to the following rooms.

- Two rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 6 people. It includes 3 sets of bunk beds.
- One shower.
- One washroom.
- Two WCs.

There is also a fire exit leading onto 8 wide concrete steps with a handrail on one side. This staircase takes you onto the road in the direction of the car park.

There are then several steps up and down to the following rooms.

- Three rooms that sleep up to 2 people each. They include a set of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes a double bed and a set of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 6 people. It includes 3 sets of bunk beds.
- Two showers.
- Two WCs.

Another fire exit is next to the washrooms. This is a descent down a steep staircase into the gardens where a narrow path and 3 sensor-lit steps lead into the car park.

Grounds and garden

We have a small lawn outside the lounge, with access through sliding glass doors. Chairs and wooden picnic tables with benches are located in the gravel courtyard.

Cycle store

The cycle shed is located at the bottom of the car park with sloping access onto a grass surface.

Additional information

- Pets are not permitted at YHA Boswinger, though assistance dogs are welcome throughout – please notify us at the time of booking.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the hostel.
- There is an emergency phone on the upstairs landing to contact out-of-hours support at night.
- Braille signs are fitted on room and corridor doors.
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms are fitted. We ensure that all guests are evacuated in the event of fire or a similar emergency. Arrangements for guests needing assistance to evacuate should be discussed beforehand.
- Evacuation procedures are displayed in each bedroom.
- There is no mobile phone reception in the hostel, though there is coverage in the grounds.
- Free Wi-Fi is available in shared social spaces.

Contact information

- Address: YHA Boswinger, Gorran, St Austell, Cornwall, PL26 6LL
- Telephone: 0345 3719107
- Email: boswinger@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey map: 105
- Local buses: See www.travelcornwall.uk.com or www.gorranbus.org
- Local taxi: A2B Taxis (Truro) 01872 272989

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.