



YHA Bath – Access Statement

Introduction

Located close to the historic heart of Bath, this hostel is the perfect place to stay whether you are visiting for business or a memorable city break. YHA Bath is situated half a mile up a hill with a steep approach and is a 20-minute walk from the main attractions, shops, restaurants and bars.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this Grade II listed Italianate mansion. Bedrooms are split across the main four-storey building and a separate three-storey annexe building. The main hostel building is not accessible to modern standards but the annexe building has level access to the ground floor where there is an accessible en-suite bedroom that sleeps up to 5 people.

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-bath.

This access statement was last updated in March 2024.

Pre-arrival

- The nearest rail station is Bath Spa, 1.5 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is approximately 150m away at the foot of the drive. A frequent service with low-level access runs to this stop – the U1 and U2 bus.
- A local taxi service can provide accessible taxis when pre-booked.
- The hostel is half a mile from the city centre. The approach is steep but there are pavements on either side of the road and streetlighting. The drive is 150m long and mainly has a gradient of 1:12, with a section at 1:7.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-bath/directions.
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

Car parking and arrival

There is no parking in front of the main building, exception dedicated accessible parking space for guests with impaired mobility and Blue Badge holders. There is also a drop-off point immediately outside the main entrance. Further public parking can be found on Bathwick Hill or North Road. This is free and unrestricted and runs on either side of the hostel.

The driveway leading to the hostel is approximately 100m long with an even, tarmac surface. Most of it is steep, but when you reach the hostel garden it is level up to the main entrance. The driveway is lit at night.

Main entrance and reception

There is level access into the hostel via manual double doors which open inwards. The reception is on the ground floor and has level access throughout with large clear spaces. The floor surface on this floor is polished stone and the area is well-lit with wall and ceiling lamps.

Seating can be found nearby in the lounge. Reception is also our café bar – snacks, hot and cold food plus soft and alcoholic drinks are served from 7am to 11pm.

Public areas

Halls and corridors

There is good colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building. All public areas, halls, stairs and landings are well-lit using a combination of ceiling and wall lights. Corridor flooring is polished stone downstairs and carpet upstairs.

We do not have a lift so access to the upper floors is only by stairs. The staircase to the first floor is stone with a handrail on one side. To reach the tower rooms, there is a steep, narrow spiral staircase. This is carpeted with a handrail on one side.

Public WCs

There are two gender-neutral WCs on the ground floor opposite the self-catering kitchen. There are three steps up from the reception hall. They have non-slip flooring and fluorescent lighting but are not fully accessible to modern standards. One of the WCs has wall-mounted grabrails and a drop-down rail. The taps are lever operated.

Lounge

The lounge is located on the ground floor and has level access from the reception hall via a single-leaf door. The room is level throughout with a laminate floor. The room is well-lit with wall lights and there is a lovely view out onto the garden.

There are coffee tables and sofas here. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

Dining room

The dining room is located on the ground floor and has level access from the reception hall via a single-leaf door. This is a spacious, bright room. The flooring is laminate and the room is lit with natural light and ceiling and wall lights. There are tables and straight-backed chairs without armrests. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

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

Self-catering kitchen and dining area

The self-catering kitchen is located on the ground floor. There are three steps up from the dining hall leading from the reception lobby. This room includes the self-catering dining area as well. The room is level throughout and has laminate flooring.

There is an island worktop with 2 microwaves and 2 ovens. There are 2 worktops each equipped with a sink, cordless kettle and toaster. One of the worktops is of an accessible layout. The sinks are fitted with lever taps. Crockery and some kitchen equipment is kept in high shelving units – we are happy to move these if required.

In the dining area, there are tables and bench-style seating. All furniture is moveable.

Laundry and drying facilities

The laundry and drying room is in the separate annexe building. The room is normally locked but is accessible to guests on request via a single door. Please ask staff if you have any laundry requirements during your stay.

Bedrooms and bathrooms

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Rooms in the main building are carpeted and well-lit with ceiling lights, while rooms in the annexe have laminate flooring. Rooms without an en-suite also have a washbasin. All bedding is provided.

All bathrooms have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. Basin taps and shower mixers are lever operated. Standard showers have a step up to enter.

Main building

First floor

Access to this floor is via a set of 15 steps.

- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 5 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath and a set of bunk beds.
- Three communal showers.
- Two communal WCs

There are between 6 and 11 further steps up to the following rooms.

- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes a set of bunk beds.
- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 3 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath.
- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Two rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Five rooms that sleep up to 6 people each. They include 3 sets of bunk beds.
- Communal showers.
- Communal WCs.

Second floor

- One room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes a set of bunk beds.
- Communal WC.

Third floor

- One room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes a set of bunk beds.

Annexe

From reception there is a smooth track that leads to ground floor annexe entrance. It has an initial 1:15 downward slope as it passes the hostel then a 1:25 incline before levelling out. There is a fire escape from the second floor of the annexe leading down 28 steps with handrails on both sides to the rear door of the main building. Both paths are lit at night.

There is a further ramped path leading directly from the main hostel driveway to the annexe fire escape. This is quite steep (1:6), not lit at night and has no handrail.

The annexe has a wide, level access, single door that opens inwards. The door is normally locked and can be unlocked using an electronic key card. Once inside, the annexe is level throughout the ground floor. Corridors are carpeted and well-lit.

Ground floor

- One accessible en-suite room that sleeps up to 5 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath and a set of bunk beds. The en-suite wet room has a WC with a grabrail and drop-down rail, washbasin with grabrails and a shower with a high-level fixed showerhead and a hose-mounted showerhead at a lower level, along with a pull-down shower seat with backrest and pull-down grabrails. Pullcord alarms are also fitted in the bedroom and bathroom.
- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 5 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath and a set of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 6 people. It includes 3 sets of bunk beds.

First floor

Access to this floor is either via 18 steps up from the ground floor or 11 steps down from the second floor via single-width doors at each level.

- Four en-suite rooms that sleep up to 6 people each. They include 3 sets of bunk beds.

Second floor

Access to this floor is via 28 steps up from the ground floor with a handrail. There are internal single-width doors at each floor level.

- Three rooms that sleep up to 3 people each. They include a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath.
- Four 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

We have a large front garden which is mostly laid to lawn. It is fairly level with steep woody banks above and below it. Picnic tables and a bench with armrests are available for guests to use.

Additional information

- Pets are not permitted at YHA Bath, though assistance dogs are welcome throughout – please notify us at the time of booking.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the hostel.
- A member of staff is always available on site including at night.
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms are fitted. Our teams won't fetch you in the event of an emergency so, if the alarms go off, please don't wait for a member of staff – get yourself out of the building by the nearest exit. Arrangements for guests needing assistance to evacuate should be discussed beforehand.
- Evacuation procedures are displayed in each bedroom.
- Mobile phone reception is good within the hostel.
- Wi-Fi is available at this hostel.

Contact information

- Address: YHA Bath, Bathwick Hill, Bath, BA2 6LA
- Telephone: 0345 3719303
- Email: bath@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey map: 172
- Local buses: Lines U1 and U2 – for the hostel, get off at Bathwick Hill (marked Youth Hostel), www.firstbus.co.uk/wessex-dorset-south-somerset
- Local taxi: V Cars 01225 464646 or Uber

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.