



YHA Wasdale Hall – Access Statement

Introduction

If you're looking for a rural retreat with a difference, then YHA Wasdale Hall is the ideal location. This beautiful 200-year-old country manor still contains many of its original features and offers stunning views of Britain's deepest lake and the Wasdale Screes. The hostel is 1.5 miles from the village of Nether Wasdale and is close to numerous walking and climbing routes.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this two-storey National Trust building which is set on the shores of Wastwater Lake in the Wasdale Valley. All of our bedrooms are on the first floor, which can only be accessed via stairs.

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-wasdale-hall.

This access statement was last updated in February 2024.

Pre-arrival

- The nearest rail station is Seascale, 8 miles away.
- There is no regular bus service to the hostel.
- A local taxi service can provide accessible taxis when pre-booked.
- The roads to and surrounding the hostel have level and steep sections. There is no pavement or streetlighting.
- The driveway to the hostel is fairly level and surfaced with compacted gravel which can be uneven. It is approximately 75m long. There is a cattle grid part way along with a gate to one side allowing access around it.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-wasdale-hall/directions.
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

Car parking and arrival

We have on-site parking with space for up to 14 cars. There are no marked bays but we can reserve a space in front of the hostel entrance if required. The car park has a very gradual slope away from the hostel with a hard floor covered with loose gravel. There is no lighting at night but some areas are illuminated by the hostel lights.

It is also possible to drop-off right in front of the main entrance. 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

To enter the hostel there is a step up into a small, carpeted entry hall, and then a level threshold through a manual single-leaf door which opens inwards. The flooring

from here is painted stone and there are two loose/rubber-backed welcome mats as you enter.

The reception is on the ground floor and has level access from here. There are low chairs without armrests nearby and the area is well-lit with ceiling lights. The reception desk does not have a low-level section but we do have a portable induction loop available. There is an emergency phone to contact a member of on-site staff at night. Hot and cold drinks are also served from here.

Public areas

Halls, corridors and stairs

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.

The corridor flooring on the ground floor is painted stone. Corridors on the first floor are carpeted. The ground floor is level throughout but, due to the age of the building, the first floor has two steps in the corridor and additional steps to some of the rooms.

We do not have a lift so access to the first floor is by stairs only. The staircase has 18 steps to the first floor. It is carpeted and has a banister on one side. There are 11 steep steps to the basement. These are stone and have a handrail on one side.

Public toilets

Gender-neutral toilets are located on the ground floor with level access from reception. They are well-lit and have non-slip flooring but are not accessible to modern standards. We also have an outside toilets with level access.

Lounge

Our cosy lounge is located on the ground floor and has level access from reception via a single-leaf door. It is level throughout with polished wood flooring. The lighting is even, provided by ceiling lights and standing lamps. The room is furnished with coffee tables, sofas and bench-style seating. Furniture can be moved and we are happy to assist but space in this room is quite limited.

Dining room

The dining room is located on the ground floor with level access from the entry hall via a single-leaf door. It is level throughout with polished wood flooring and good lighting from ceiling lights. Tables and straight-backed chairs without armrests are available here. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you need help.

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

The self-catering kitchen is located on the ground floor and has level access via a single-leaf door. It is level throughout with non-slip flooring.

The kitchen is equipped with a standard-sized oven and a low-level oven (both with gas hobs and grill), microwave, fridge, fridge-freezer, 2 cordless kettles, toaster and a range of crockery, cutlery and utensils for 30 people. Tea towels are provided. Sinks are fitted with standard twist taps.

Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units. We are happy to move these to lower storage or assist with equipment if required.

Drying facilities

The drying room is located in the basement and can be accessed via steep stone stairs as described above. There is level access over a level flag stone corridor. The flooring is flag stones and the room is well-lit.

Games room

The games room is also located in the basement. There is level access from the stairs. The flooring is level flag stones and the room is well-lit with wall lights. There is a pool table, a table tennis table and some seating here.

Bedrooms and bathrooms

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Rooms are carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights plus a washbasin. All bedding is provided, though guests are asked to remove linen on departure (please let us know at check-in if you need any help with this).

All bathrooms have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. Standard showers have a step up to enter.

Ground floor

- Three communal showers.

First floor

From the stairs there is level access to the following rooms.

- One room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Three communal toilets.

There are 2 steps up to the following rooms.

- Two rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Two 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.
- Two rooms that sleeps up to 6 people each. They include 3 sets of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 8 people. It includes 4 sets of bunk beds.
- Three communal showers.

Grounds and garden

We have a large lawn to the front of the hostel, which slopes down to the shore of Wastwater Lake. There are also picnic benches available in the garden.

Cycle store

Our cycle store can be found to the rear of the building. There is a level path and then a small step down to access it.

Additional information

- Pets are not permitted at YHA Wasdale Hall, 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 (access via emergency phone at reception).
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms are fitted. We ensure that all guests are evacuated in the event of a fire or similar emergency. Arrangements for guests needing assistance to evacuate should be discussed beforehand.
- Evacuation procedures are displayed in each bedroom.
- Mobile phone reception is reasonable within the hostel and immediate vicinity for O2 and Vodaphone, though poor for other operators.
- Wi-Fi is available at this hostel.

Contact information

- Address: YHA Wasdale Hall, Wasdale, Seascale, Cumbria, CA20 1ET
- Telephone: 0345 3719350
- Email: wasdalehall@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey map: 89
- Local accessible taxis: Gosforth Taxis 019467 25308

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.