



YHA Dartmoor - Access Statement

Introduction

With this stunning Dartmoor National Park accommodation as your base you can enjoy the tranquillity of a picnic by the East Dart River or, for a great outdoor activity break, the exhilaration of walking up Bellever Tor to take in the stunning views. Explore Bellever Forest and discover a wealth of wildlife, archaeology and grazing Dartmoor ponies.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this 35-bed hostel; a 2-storey building located in the village of Bellever. We have one ground floor bedroom; however, none of our bedrooms or bathrooms meets modern standards of accessibility.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01629 592700 or [email customer services](mailto:customer.services@yha.org.uk).

Pre-Arrival

- The nearest rail station is Newton Abbot which is 16 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is within 100 metres of the hostel. There is a daily bus service which runs to this stop.
- A local taxi company can provide accessible taxis when booked in advance. Please see the contact information section for more details.
- The roads leading to the hostel are evenly surfaced with tarmac and can be steep. There are no pavements and street lighting is extremely limited.
- The hostel's details can be seen on YHA's website; please scroll down to the Maps and Directions section to view a map and transport options.
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (please see contact information).

Car Parking and Arrival

We have parking onsite for 8 cars approximately 50 metres from the main entrance. There are no marked bays but we would be happy to reserve a space close to the entrance if required. There is also a dropping off point outside the main entrance.

The car park is surfaced with gravel and there is a shallow step from this up onto the tarmac drive. The car park slopes moderately down towards the road. The driveway is also moderately inclined, and leads up into the courtyard which is level. If you let us know what time you are coming we will do our best to provide assistance moving to and from cars. The car park is not lit but the drop off point up in the yard is.

Main Entrance and Reception

To enter the hostel there is a ramp and then a manual single leaf door which opens outwards. The reception is on the ground floor; from the entrance there are two further single leaf doors. There are two internal ramps and the flooring on this route is painted concrete and then carpet. There is then a 10cm step up into the reception.

A portable induction loop is available on request at the reception desk. There is also a low level Payphone available with adjacent seating and an emergency phone to connect to a member of staff (on site) at night.

We do not have any vibrating pillow alarms but we do have a system in place whereby if you let reception know on arrival of any hearing impairment, we will make you a priority with assistance should we need to evacuate the building.

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. The corridor flooring is carpet or stone.

Unfortunately we do not have a lift, so access to upper floors is by stairs only. There are two staircases to the first floor. One is carpeted and the other is polished wood. Both have handrails fitted on both sides and there are 14 steps to the first floor.

Public WCs

There are three unisex WCs on the ground floor. None is currently accessible to modern standards. They all have good lighting and non-slip flooring.

Lounge

The lounge is located on the ground floor. Access to this room is via the dining room; there is a small ramp into the dining room and then level access from here. When the dining room is busy there can be limited space to pass through. The room is level with carpet flooring. It is well-lit with ceiling lights.

The lounge is furnished with wooden benches, chairs with armrests, coffee tables and a sofa. A firm cushioned chair with high seat & backrest can be supplied on request. All furniture can be moved; please just ask at reception if you require assistance.

Dining Room

The dining room is located on the ground floor. The self-catering kitchen is also located in this room. There is a small ramp down into the dining room from the reception hallway.

The room is level from here and has tiled flooring around the edge and carpet flooring in the dining area.

There are dining tables and straight backed chairs without armrests. All furniture can be moved; please just ask at reception if you require assistance.

Table service is available; please ask at reception and we will be happy to help. We are also happy to 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 in the dining room as described above.

The kitchen is fitted with a domestic gas oven with a grill and 4 hobs and an electric fan oven with four gas hob rings, 2 microwaves and 2 fridges and a freezer. All worktops and sinks are 90cm high. Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units. We would be happy to move these to lower storage if required.

Laundry and Drying Facilities

The drying room is located on the ground floor. The drying room is off the dining room and has a sliding door to the right. A washing machine is available for use by staff for customers. We do not have a dryer. Our drying room is run with heaters, a fan and dehumidifier. Staff are happy to help with any equipment.

The flooring is painted concrete and is a little uneven. There are ceiling-height hanging rails in here. We are happy to assist with hanging items up in this area.

Classrooms

The meeting room is located on the ground floor of the annexe building. This building is approximately 20 metres from the main entrance, over a level concrete path. There is then a 20cm step up through a single leaf door.

The floor is level in the classroom and there is tiled flooring. We can provide tables and chairs without armrests in a variety of seating arrangements.

Bedrooms and Bathrooms

None of the rooms is en-suite, but they all contain a washbasin. Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. All bedrooms are carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights. All bedding is provided.

All of the bathrooms have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. The standard showers have a 280mm step up to enter.

Ground Floor

- One 5-bedded room (double with a single over and a bunk). This is our most accessible room, although it does not meet modern standards of accessibility. The clear door opening width is 760mm.
- Three unisex WCs and two showers

First Floor

- Three 4-bedded rooms
- Three 6-bedded rooms
- One WC and 3 showers

Grounds and Garden

From the front door there is level tarmac type courtyard. In The courtyard we have an armed bench along with 4 table/fitted bench style tables, in the spring/summer these are fitted with umbrellas for shade. We also have separate plastic garden chairs and 2 deck chairs. The courtyard is a lovely suntrap.

From the car park there is a sloping entrance to our Wildlife Garden. The garden is quite rough, mostly grassed and is moderately sloping and uneven.

Information boards are set at 1 meter high. The cycle shed is approximately 20 metres from the main entrance, the door is 102cm wide and there is a 2cm step up. Assistance is available on request

Additional Information

- We do not permit pets, but assistance dogs are very welcome.
- We do not permit smoking anywhere in the hostel.
- A member of staff is usually within residence on site from March to October on site, including at night however staff are not contracted to be contactable overnight. There is emergency free contact to 24hr hostel via an emergency number available through the phone box.
- Braille signs are fitted on room doors and corridor doors.
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms 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 in case of fire should be discussed beforehand.
- Evacuation procedures are displayed in each bedroom.
- There is no mobile phone reception in the hostel.
- Free Wi-Fi is available at this hostel.

Contact Information

- Address: YHA Dartmoor, Bellever, Postbridge, Devon, PL20 6TU.
- Telephone: 0345 3719622
- Email: bellever@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey Map 191; Grid reference SX654773
- Local taxi: It is best to do this via the hostel as local taxi companies are prone to changes. Please note this can be quite an expensive option

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.