



YHA Swanage - Access Statement

Introduction

If you're looking for a weekend break or an educational trip to Dorset's World Heritage Jurassic Coast, then YHA Swanage is the ideal accommodation. Our elegant Victorian villa boasts fine views across Swanage Bay and is also minutes away from a safe, sandy Blue Flag beach. We are located on a steep hill just outside the small seaside town of Swanage.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this 101-bed hostel; a 3-storey building close to the town centre. Unfortunately none of our facilities are accessible to modern standards.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 0845 371 9346 or email customerservices@yha.org.uk. You can also take a virtual tour of our hostel at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/swanage.

Pre-Arrival

- The nearest rail station is Wareham which is 11.4 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is Swanage Bus Station which is within 500 metres of the hostel. There is a frequent bus service which runs to this stop. The line usually runs accessible buses.
- A local taxi company can provide accessible taxis when booked in advance. Please see the contact information section for more details.
- The centre of town is 500 yards from the hostel down Cluny Crescent, quite a steep road. There is a good pavement with street lighting.
- The hostel's details can be seen on YHA's website www.yha.org.uk; please click on the Maps and Directions tab 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 ample parking onsite, located behind the main house on St Vast's Road. There are no marked bays, but we would be happy to reserve a space close to the hostel if required. There is a dropping off point from the main road approximately 20 metres from the entrance. Parking is also available along the road in front of the hostel.

The car park is level and surfaced with gravel. There is minimal lighting from the hostel building. From the car park to the hostel guests must cross the gravel and step up onto an even concrete path. From here to the entrance there are 19 steps up with a handrail.

From the street there is an evenly paved path which gently slopes up towards the main entrance. If you let us know what time you are coming we will do our best to provide assistance moving to and from cars.

Main Entrance and Reception

To enter the hostel there are two shallow steps up and through manual double doors which open outwards. There is then a single leaf door which leads into the reception lobby. The flooring here is level throughout and surfaced with the original mosaic tiles. The area is well-lit with ceiling lights.

The reception desk does not have a low level section, but there is an induction loop available on request. Seating is provided by a 3-person bench to the side of the desk.

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 on the ground floor is mosaic tiles and on the upper floors it is carpet.

Unfortunately we do not have a lift, so all access to upper floors is by stairs only. The staircase is carpeted with non-slip contrasting nosing. There is a bannister that runs up one side. Due to the age of the building there are additional steps in the corridors of the first and second floor.

Public WCs

There is a unisex accessible WC next to reception. It is well-lit with fluorescent lighting and has tile flooring. Transfer onto the toilet is left-handed.

Lounge

Our elegant, oak panelled lounge is located on the ground floor and has level access from the reception lobby via a single leaf door. The floor is level throughout and covered with carpet. The room is brightly lit by large bay windows during the day and by ceiling lights at night,

The room is furnished with coffee tables, sofas and soft chairs with armrests. The furniture is well spaced, but all furniture can also be moved; please just ask at reception if you require assistance.

Dining Room

Our large dining area is located on the ground floor and has level access from the reception lobby via a single leaf door. There are two spacious seating areas linked by the servery. The floor is level throughout and is carpeted.

Tables of different sizes are available, as are chairs with and 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 on the ground floor and has level access from the ground floor via a single leaf door. The floor is level and there is tiled flooring. The room is well-lit with ceiling lights.

There are clear, visible signs (in large font) for advice on equipment use. The kitchen is equipped with 3 gas ovens with hobs and grill, microwaves, two fridges, a freezer, toasters, utensils, crockery and cutlery. One sink is fitted with lever taps. Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units. We would be happy to move these to lower storage if required.

Games Room

The games room is on the ground floor. From the entrance lobby there are 3 steps down into this room, without a handrail fitted. The room is carpeted and well-lit with natural light and ceiling lights.

To reach the other side of the room there are three steps up without a handrail. Up here there are leather tub chairs with armrests and a selection of card and games tables.

Laundry and Drying Facilities

The laundry room is located on the ground floor and has level access via a single leaf door. A washing machine and tumble dryer are available here. The machines are coin operated. The floor is level and surfaced with tile.

Staff are on hand to assist with the equipment if required.

Classrooms

We have four classrooms which are located in our single storey annexe. The annexe is approximately 50 metres from the main building. There is level access from the car park, or from the main building there is a concrete path with steps. There are then three steps up into the building.

The annexe is level throughout and the floor is surfaced with non-slip lino. There are four WCs also in this building. We can provide tables and chairs in a variety of seating arrangements. The portable induction loop is also available on request. For more information about the classrooms please contact the hostel directly.

Bedrooms

All rooms have a washbasin and bunk beds, are carpeted and are well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights. None of the rooms are en-suite. All bedding is provided.

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

First Floor

There are 19 steps to this floor. In the corridor between some rooms there are two further sets of steps: one of 3 and one of 4 steps.

- Three 2-bedded rooms
- One 3-bedded room
- Six 4-bedded rooms
- Four 6-bedded rooms
- One 8-bedded room

- Nine showers
- Seven WCs

Second Floor

There are 23 steps to this floor. Along the corridor there is a further 9 step descent.

- One 2-bedded room
- One 4-bedded room
- Five 6-bedded rooms

- Two showers
- Four WCs

Grounds and Garden

The front garden is small and flat. It is suitable for seating. We have two picnic tables and benches available for guests to use.

The back garden is very steep and is dedicated to planted shrubs and plants.

Cycle Shed

The cycle store is approximately 100 metres from the main entrance, connected by a level tarmac drive.

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 always available on site, including at night (contact details are at reception)
- 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.
- Mobile phone reception within the hostel is good.
- Wi-Fi is available at this hostel.

Contact Information

- Address: YHA Swanage, 20 Cluny Crescent, Swanage, Dorset, BH19 2BS.
- Telephone: 0345 371 9346
- Email: swanage@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey Map 195; Grid reference SZO31785.
- Local buses: Line 40 runs from Poole and Wareham. For more information see [the Morebus website](#).
- Local taxi: Purbeck Taxi Centre and Private Hire - 01929 501205.

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.