



YHA Holmbury - Access Statement

Introduction

Steeped in history, YHA Holmbury was the first purpose built YHA Youth Hostel in 1935, thanks to a variety of donors. It stands in an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the edge of 4,000 acres of open access countryside and woodland.

YHA Holmbury is a perfect rural retreat and a great base for activity breaks and day trips to London. Near to the village, it's not far from Holmbury Hill with its panoramic views of the North and South Downs. There are great routes for walking, cycling, mountain biking and horse-riding nearby - perfect for a family activity holiday. The hostel has a large open plan dining room and lounge in one which is perfect for relaxing after a busy activity-packed day.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this 46-bed hostel; a 2-storey building located near Dorking, Surrey. We have ground floor rooms. Unfortunately none of our bedrooms or bathrooms meets modern accessibility standards.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01629 592700 or email customerservices@yha.org.uk. You can also take a virtual tour of our hostel at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/holmbury.

Pre-Arrival

- The nearest rail station is Gomshall which is 2.5 miles away, or Dorking which is 6.3 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is 0.4 miles away. A daily bus service runs accessible buses to this stop from Monday to Saturday. Please use caution as this walk doesn't have pedestrian paths the whole way.
- A local taxi company can provide accessible taxis when booked in advance. Please see the contact information section for more details.
- The roads approaching and surrounding the hostel are steep, without pavement or 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 parking for 8-10 cars at the site as well as a secondary car park next door provided by Hurtswood estate as an overflow. Our car park is uneven ground surfaced with a mixture of mud and gravel.

Access from the car park to the main entrance isn't advised, arrangements for access can be made in advance and cars can be parked outside the front of the hostel. Please note that there are three small steps up into the hostel.

Main Entrance and Reception

There are 3 concrete steps up to the main entrance; to enter there is a set of double doors which open inwards into the entrance hall. This area is level and the reception can be found here. The flooring is carpet and the area is well-lit with ceiling lights.

The reception does not have a low level section but a clipboard can be provided for completing registration. There is bench seating just opposite the reception hatch and the lounge/dining room is nearby and provides a variety of seating.

There is a payphone available in the foyer with adjacent seating (the bench described above). The procedure for contacting a member of staff in an emergency at night is located at Reception by pressing option A on the payphone.

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 is carpet throughout.

Unfortunately there is no lift at YHA Holmbury, so access to the first floor is via stairs only. The stairs are carpeted and have a handrail fitted to one side. There are 16 steps to the first floor.

Public WCs

There are WCs on the ground floor with level access from the reception via a single leaf door. There are three unisex WCs and a unisex WC with grab rails fitted. They all have non-slip flooring and are well-lit with ceiling lights,

Lounge and Dining Room

The combined lounge and dining room is located on the ground floor and has level access from the reception lobby via a single leaf door. The floor is level and surfaced with wood effect laminate. The room is well-lit with ceiling lights.

The room is furnished with two sofas, eight 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 on the ground floor and has level access from the dining room via a single leaf door. The floor is level and surfaced with tile. The room is well-lit with ceiling lights.

The kitchen is equipped with 2 standard ovens, 8 gas hobs, and 2 grills. Other equipment includes 2 toaster, 2 kettle, microwave, fridge, freezer and utensils. If you need any help accessing high items, a member of staff is available to help.

Drying Facilities

The drying room is located on the ground floor and has level access from the entrance hall via a single leaf door. The floor is level and surfaced with concrete, and the room is well-lit.

The room is equipped with a washing machine, and also houses the hostels ironing board, airer and boot rack. Washes are charged at £2.50 per wash, powder is not provided.

Bedrooms and Bathrooms

None of the rooms is en-suite, but they do 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 and male and female dormitories are available.

All of our bathrooms are unisex. They have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. The standard showers have a step up to enter.

Ground Floor

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

- Four WCs, two showers, three washrooms

First Floor

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

- Four WCs, two showers and three washrooms

Grounds and Garden

We have a large garden around the hostel, which is mainly woodland with flower beds and a pond. No fires or BBQ's are permitted on this site, we also kindly ask guest to smoke in the area provided. On the back lawn there are picnic tables and benches available for guests to use.

Camping Facilities

Our idyllic camping area is located just metres from the Youth Hostel building. The site is level, and is large enough to accommodate 15 guests.

Campers have 24 hour access to the hostel facilities once checked in, until the morning of departure. These facilities include the self-catering kitchen, bathrooms, showers and the lounge. There is an outside basin with hot and cold water if you wish to wash the mud off your boots before coming in. Camping is offered all year round come rain or shine so come and see for yourself the peaceful, rustic and perfect YHA Holmbury.

Camping is offered all year round come rain or shine so come and see for yourself the peaceful, rustic and perfect YHA Holmbury. There is no lighting on the campsite, so don't forget your torch for after dark toilet trips - we really are in deepest, darkest Surrey here.

Additional Information

- We do not permit pets, but assistance dogs are very welcome.
- We do not permit smoking anywhere in the hostel.
- In the event of an emergency during the night, option A on the payphone will take you through to a member of staff who will be able to advise you.
- 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 signal is limited at the hostel and in the immediate vicinity.
- Wi-Fi is not available at this hostel.

Contact Information

- Address: YHA Holmbury, Radnor Lane, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6NW.
- Telephone: 0345 3719323
- Email: hombury@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey Map 187; Grid reference TQ104450
- Local buses: Catch the Metrobus line 22 from Dorking and
- Local taxi: A-Star Taxis – 01306 882299

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.