



YHA Kings Access Statement

Introduction

Kings hostel is a stone built country house dating from 1830. The main house was extended in 1940. Accommodation is split between the main house and the Annexe, the former stable block. There is a distance of 65m between the hostel buildings.

Kings is set in a wooded ravine on the slopes of the Cader Idris mountain range. This south part of the Snowdonia National Park is a great base for fans of outdoor adventures. It is the ideal place to find some peace away from the pressures of modern life.

In total, Kings has 7 bedrooms and sleeps 42 people. 5 of the bedrooms are on the 1st floor and are accessed by staircases. 2 of the bedrooms are on the ground floor but there are some small steps.

Kings is a rural hostel, it is 336ft above sea level and is quite remote. Kings has its own water supply. There is no mobile telephone or television signal. Wi-Fi coverage is patchy.

Pre-Arrival

- The 1 mile lane up to the hostel from the main road is steep and narrow.
- The nearest railway station is Fairbourne which is 6.2 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is at the bottom of the one mile lane up to the hostel for buses X28 between Dolgellau and Tywyn.
- Local taxi companies have varying facilities please call them to discuss your needs.
- Guests can be dropped off by taxi directly outside of the hostel reception.
- There is no shop mobility scheme in Dolgellau. However both ASDA and the local CO-OP will deliver goods directly to the hostel. Details available in the contacts section.
- More information about our location, travel directions and maps are available on the YHA website www.yha.org/hostels/Kings and on Google Maps.
- We are happy to be asked any questions about whether Kings can meet your needs. Please also see the 'Useful Information' section at the end of this document.

Car Parking and Arrival

When you arrive at Kings you turn off the lane directly into the main car park. In front of you is the Annexe building. The car park is not tarmacked and there are no designated parking bays. The car park is lit by external lights mounted onto the Annexe building. From the main car park there is a narrow path with a gate (width 110 cm) which leads across the lawn. There is another gate (width 110cm) and a lane to cross to the main building. The distance between the main car park and the reception is 65m.

There is a second very small car park next to the main building which merges into the lane. This car park is 50m from the main building and guests can enter the hostel via the dining room door (width 114 cm) or the main hostel door (width 72cm). This access path of 9m crosses grass and has a gentle gradient. This route is lit by external wall lighting on the hostel building.

Both approaches require a small step. Neither door has a ramp. We can provide assistance if you let us know when you will be arriving.

Main Entrance and Reception

The main threshold has a small step. There is an access code reader and handle on the front door which is 55cm from the door step. The code is needed to open the door outside of reception hours.

The hostel reception has a level tiled floor with a welcome mat directly in front of the reception hatch. Our reception is where guests check in/out, order food and buy alcoholic or soft drinks from our licensed bar and shop.

Our reception hatch (height 93cm) has a hearing loop. The reception area has lots of useful information for guests on display. Outside of the hatch is a contact bell and a notice which explains how to contact staff out of hours.

Directly across from the reception hatch is the door to the guest lounge. There is space available for wheelchair or frame manoeuvre.

To the right of the reception is the downstairs corridor. On the left hand -side is the staircase (15 steps of 20cm each) upstairs to 3 bedrooms and the shared bathroom. Next to the stair case is a small payphone cubicle measuring 67cm wide. The telephone is mounted 110cm from the floor.

Further down the corridor on the left is a door to the drying room (this has a step down). On the right hand side of the corridor is a door to the guests' kitchen. There is a very low ramp down to the tiled kitchen floor.

To the left of the reception is a narrow corridor to the guests' dining room.

Public Areas

Downstairs Cloakroom

The door to the downstairs cloakroom at the end of the corridor is 67cm wide. The floor is level and is of a mid- grey relief ceramic tile. In the outside lobby area is a small corner mounted hand basin 91cm in height with a lever tap. The soap and hand towel dispenser is wall attached. There is a small swing top bin on the floor.

There are 2 unisex toilets 40cm from the ground. The width of the cubicles is 55cm each

There are no emergency call points or handrails in either cubicle. We do not have a baby changing station. This room has a small window and electric lighting.

Restaurant/Dining Room, Bar & Bar area

The dining room door is 72cm wide. One side of the dining room has windows and the patio door. One end of the dining room leads into the staff only commercial kitchen.

The dining room can be used for guests who are self - catering or for eating meals prepared by the hostel cook. (Food prepared by the hostel is an extra service and charges apply.) **We cater for guests with specific food requirements; please get in touch to discuss options.**

The hostel has 3 wooden dining tables (height 74cm) and chairs (45cm) floor to seat. The hostel has 2 black laminate dining tables with accompanying black stools (height 44cm). The tables are usually grouped to seat 8 people at each table.

The dining room has a stainless steel servery (height 84cm) where breakfasts prepared by hostel staff is laid out. Hostel prepared meals are served at a guest's table.

The dining room floor is mid tone wooden parquet. The walls are painted mid green. The lighting is a mixture of natural and electric light with extra floor and table lamps. One side of the hostel has 2 unused period fireplaces.

There is a football table in the dining room (height 99cm).The clearance around the table varies depending on how the room has been laid out. The dining room can be used as extra lounge space but is closed at 11pm.

Lounge

The door to the lounge is 70cm wide. The lounge has windows on 2 sides, one side has an integral bookcase and placed against the back wall is a multi-fuel burner stove. The stove is 35cm from the ground and mounted on a stone plinth. There is an unattached fire guard surround. A basic supply of fuel is stored in a box on the floor for guests to light a fire in the evening.

There are 4 sofas, 2 of which are low sofa beds 40cm from the floor and there are 2 single upright armchairs. There is also a small dining room table (height 74 cm) with 4 hard

backed chairs (height 44cm). This table can be used for guest's meals or for games/reading.

There is plenty of natural light in this room with large windows on 2 walls. The floor is a mid-tone wood, 3 walls are painted white and the back wall is a bright contrast red colour.

Kings has a good selection of books to read. Please ask at reception to borrow board games.

Due to its rural location there is no T.V or mobile telephone reception at Kings. There are charges for WIFI. If you are already a BT customer, please bring your customer ID with you to get on-line for free.

Self-catering Kitchen

There is a 4cm/15 degree ramp from the main corridor into the kitchen. The floor is a mid-grey relief ceramic tile. The walls are painted white. The kitchen has lots of windows and fluorescent lighting. The door is 74cm wide. Along the right hand side wall is a stainless steel workstation unit. The upper shelf is 150cm high and is storage for hot drinks equipment. The work station food preparation area is 90cm high. There are 2 electric kettles and a 6 slot electric toaster on this surface. The lower shelf is 25cm from the floor and is used to store guests' food.

On the left hand side wall are 2 cookers with gas hobs/ovens and 1 electric oven. There is a work top for food preparation 91cm from the floor. There are low level shelves which store cooking equipment. There are 2 cooking extractor fan cords at 120cm high. Above this workstation is a wall mounted knife store.

Next to the worktops with the ovens are 2 double sinks. The sink unit is mounted at 90cm and both taps are lever operated. Underneath the sinks are stainless steel storage areas.

There is a large freestanding larder fridge/freezer the handle is at a height of 1m. Next to this is a smaller fridge with a small freezer compartment. This handle is at 80cm high. A small microwave oven sits on top of the small fridge at a height of 140cm.

A stainless steel shelving unit stores cups and glasses on the top shelf. Middle shelf has cutlery /bowls/cooking equipment and the bottom shelf stores plates.

2 additional stainless steel work stations (height 90cm) with low level storage shelves (25cm) are placed back to back in the centre of the room creating an 'island.' The clearance between the workstation island and the back wall with windows is 88cm. The clearance between the workstation island and the fridges is 148cm.

Laundry and Drying Room

Along the main hostel corridor is the drying room. There is a step down of 20cm to the concrete floor. The door (width 65cm) opens outwards back into the corridor. There is no ramp. There are 2 drying rails. One is 196cm high and the other is 199cm from the floor.

We also have a small clothes airer. The heater and dehumidifier are at a low level. This room has dark blue walls and a dark floor.

Main Building: Upstairs Corridor

Access to the upstairs of the Main building is by a stair case without a stair lift. There is a corridor with 3 bedrooms. If a guest has a carer please see the 'Other Information' section.

Bedroom 1

This is a 6 bedded room the door width is 70cm. It has 3 sets of bunk beds. The upper bunk is 130cm high. The headroom clearance between the bunks is 60cm. There is a shared sink 84cm high with a mirror and wall mounted shaving point above. The walls are white with dark grey carpet and dark green curtains. There are large windows on 2 walls. We can provide a single bed in this room if needed.

Bedroom 2

This is a 6 bedded room the door width is 70cm. It has 3 sets of bunk beds the measurements are the same as bedroom 1. There is a shared sink (height 85cm) and wall mounted mirror/shaving point. The walls are white, with a dark grey carpet and green curtains. There is one large window overlooking the grounds.

Bedroom 3

This is another 6 bedded room, the door width is 70cm. This room is laid out like room 1 with the same measurements. It has a sink at 80cm with a mirror/shaving point mounted above. The walls are white with a dark grey carpet and green curtains. There is one large window overlooking the grounds. We can provide a single bed in this room too.

Bedroom 3 is next door to the shared bathroom.

Main Shared bathroom

The bathroom door is 68cm wide. There is a sharp turn to the right. In front of you are 2 unisex shower cubicles. The shower door widths are 1x60cm and 1x50cm. There is a small step up of 15cm onto the shower tray. The shower head height in both showers can be adjusted from 150cm to 195cm. The control of water flow and temperature is by a dial (height 110cm).

There are 2 large sinks mounted 79cm from the floor at the far end of the bathroom. The taps are lever taps mounted onto the sink unit. There is a mirror on the right hand side wall. Opposite the sinks are 2 unisex toilets cubicles both measuring 56cm wide. The toilet seat height is 40cm in both cubicles.

The floor is mid grey linoleum. The shower curtains must be used to prevent the floor becoming slippery. The walls are light coloured and there is a large window above the sinks and another small window for ventilation. There are no assistance rails, emergency

button presses or baby changing units. The emergency exit is via a metal fire escape staircase.

The Annexe Building

The Annexe building has been converted into 4 en-suite bedrooms. 2 of these bedrooms are on the ground floor and the entrances are direct from the main car park. The other 2 bedrooms are on the first floor and the entrances are via 2 external staircases. Rooms 5 and 7 on the ground floor and Rooms 6 and 8 above are interconnecting and can be converted into 2 large rooms or as a facility for guests with carers.

Bedroom 5 (ground floor)

This room sleeps 6. It has 2 sets of bunkbeds, top bunk height is 119cm, bottom bunk 52cm and the height clearance between top and bottom bunks is 69cm. There are 2 free standing beds placed next to each other. There is a double sink at 88cm with lever taps and a mirror mounted above.

Through a 70cm wide door is a 65cm wide corridor to the toilet and shower room. The shower cubicle width is 56cm. The step over into the shower tray is 25cm. The shower screen is wall mounted and opens outwards. Water flow and temperature is controlled via a dial mounted at 112cm. The shower head height is adjustable between 145 -195cm. On the right hand side of the lobby is a toilet door of 70cm wide. The toilet height is 45cm. There is no assistance alarm or rails in either the toilet or the shower.

Bedroom 6 (1st floor)

This room sleeps 6 and the bed layouts are the same as in room 5. There is a double sink unit (height 88cm) with lever taps and a mirror over the top. The door into the en-suite area is 70cm wide. On the left hand side is the shower cubicle which is 52cm wide. There is a 28cm step up into the shower tray. The shower head height can be adjusted between 145-195cm. The shower control dial is 112cm high. The toilet door measures 66cm wide and is on the right hand side. The toilet seat height is 40cm.

Bedroom 7 (ground floor)

Sleeps 6 and has 2 sets of bunkbeds, the measurements are the same as in other Annexe bedrooms. There are 2 free standing single beds next to each other. The carpet is dark grey and the walls are painted white. There is a double sink unit mounted at 95cm with a mirror above. The shower cubicle is at floor level and is 55cm wide. The step over into the shower tray is 26cm. The shower control dial is mounted at 112cm and the shower head can be adjusted to between 145 -195 cm.

From the floor level there is a small set of stairs with a guardrail to the toilet. (2 steps of 11cm each) The entrance door is 70cm wide. The toilet seat is 43cm from the floor.

There is no assistance alarms or rails in either the toilet or the shower cubicle.

Bedroom 8 (first floor)

This room sleeps 6 and the bed and sink unit layout is similar to room 7. There is dark carpet and light paint on the walls. There is a door (width 72cm) into a small lobby with a shower cubicle (width 52cm) on the right. There is a step over (height 34cm) into the shower tray. The control dial is 112cm high and the shower head can be adjusted from 145-195cm. On the left is a 66cm wide door leading to the toilet cubicle. The toilet seat height is 43cm. There is an assistance rail in the shower cubicle. There are no assistance alarms in the shower or toilet.

Additional Information

Staying with a carer

We will do our best to follow the same arrangements as you have at home. Sometimes because of child and vulnerable adults safeguarding guidelines we will need to have agreed arrangements with you in advance.

- Sorry no pets anywhere at Kings except for registered assistance dogs.
- Both kitchens are not 'allergen free' environments.
- The WIFI service is patchy BT customers bring your codes for free Wi-Fi
- Kings is licensed so guests cannot bring their own alcohol.
- Bedding is provided but no toiletries, towel hire £1.99 each
- Nearest chemists, food shops, restaurants, cafes, Doctors are in Dolgellau.
- Nearest pub is the George at Penmaenpool about 3 miles away.

We can provide this for you in advance

- The front door access code once your booking has been made.
- Cordon off individual car park spaces next to ground floor rooms in the Annexe
- Assistance for those with mobility challenges on arrival and departure.
- Mobile Alert alarm for guests staying with carers.
- Change the layout of tables and chairs in the dining room.
- Information on our menu, packed lunch, bar prices and board games.
- A list of ingredients for hostel meals for those with food allergies/intolerances.
- Some food products can be bought directly from us. (Milk ,pasta, rice, tinned goods)
- Telephone numbers of local GP/hospital out of hour's service.

Contact Information

- Address: Kings, Penmaenpool, Dolgellau, Gwynedd, LL40 1TB
- Telephone: 0345 3719327
- Email: kings@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey Map 124; Grid reference SH683161.
- Local Co-op in Dolgellau will deliver goods over £25 but there is no on-line service
- ASDA on line service, contact <http://groceries.asda.com>
- Derek's Taxis (+44) 07760 787 053
- Peter's Taxis (+44)01654 749 065
- 'Snowdonia for All' contact: carys.dafydd@eyri-npa.gov.uk
- Nearest free internet access, Dolgellau library Tel: (+44) 01341 422 771
- Dolgellau Launderette for service wash Tel: 07719 073 590
- Coed-Y-Brenin forest park, accessible trails/adaptive MTB www.adaptivemtb.co.uk