



## YHA Berwick – Access Statement

### Introduction

If you're looking for accommodation with a difference then YHA Berwick is ideal. Just minutes from the centre of historic Berwick-upon-Tweed, this hostel is housed in a 240-year-old restored granary which offers original features alongside modern renovations. The building even houses an art gallery for guests and visitors to enjoy!

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this five-storey building located on the quayside overlooking the river Tweed. We have two rooms on the ground floor in a separate building, both of which are accessible with accessible en-suite bathrooms.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require assistance, please phone 01629 592700 or email [customerservices@yha.org.uk](mailto:customerservices@yha.org.uk). You can also view photos of the hostel at [www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-berwick](http://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-berwick).

This access statement was last updated in March 2024.

### Pre-arrival

- The nearest rail station is Berwick-upon-Tweed, 0.8 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is within 500m of the hostel, offering a daily service.
- A local taxi company can provide accessible taxis when pre-booked.
- The hostel is approached from the front via Bridge Street car park, down a sloping ramp and through automatic doors. Access is via the rear of the building from Sally Port alleyway or from the quayside, though the surface is cobbled and uneven.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at [www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-berwick/directions](http://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-berwick/directions).
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

### Car parking and arrival

There is some parking on Dewars Lane with 5 marked accessible bays. This public car park is limited to 2 hours during the day (unless a Blue Badge is displayed) and unlimited from 6pm until 8am. The car park is level and surfaced with tarmac. Parking can be purchased from reception for £1, allowing parking in any public car park within Berwick. The nearest long-stay car park is around 200m from the hostel.

From the car park there is access to the hostel via 6 paved steps with handrails or a concrete ramp. Then the entrance is across a narrow, level, cobbled alley. External lamps provide lighting along this route. 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**

The entrance door from the car park is a single-leaf automatic door which opens onto a concrete atrium. There is a second single-leaf automatic door which opens outwards. This door is glazed with patterned glass and opened via a push button.

There is also access from the quayside, though the surface is cobbled and uneven so not recommended for wheelchair users or guests with mobility impairment. This route takes you along a passageway through the town wall and into the concrete courtyard. This area is level, even and lit by external lighting. There are then two manual single-leaf doors which open outwards.

The reception area is open plan and includes the bistro dining area. It is level throughout with concrete flooring and well-lit with ceiling lights. The reception desk has a low-level service area and an induction loop is available on request. Seating is provided by the bistro furniture and there is space for a wheelchair user to manoeuvre. However, this area can become busy at mealtimes.

## **Public areas**

### **Halls and corridors**

There is good colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building. All public areas, halls, stairs, landings and lifts are well lit using a combination of ceiling and wall lights. Corridor flooring is bare concrete on the ground floor and short-pile carpet on the upper floors. Each floor is level throughout.

There is a staircase on each end of the building which provides access to the upper floors. The steps are metal with semi-open risers and there is a handrail on each side. We also have a lift which provides access to all floors.

### **Public WCs**

There are separate male and female WCs on the ground floor with level access from the bistro/reception area. There is also an accessible WC here.

There are additional accessible WCs on the first, second and fifth floors. Transfer in the accessible WCs is left-handed. The WCs are well-lit and have non-slip flooring.

### **Lounge**

The lounge is located on the fifth floor and there is level access from the lift. The room is carpeted and brightly lit. There are sofas, soft bench-style seating and straight-backed chairs without armrests. Low coffee tables are also available. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

### **Dining room**

The dining room is located in the ground floor reception area and shares the access, flooring and lighting described above. Tables and straight-backed chairs with and without armrests are available here. The furniture is all moveable.

The servery is at one level, but 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 your arrival. The café serves all day and offers a wide selection of food for all dietary requirements.

### Self-catering kitchen

Our self-catering kitchen is located on the fifth floor and has level access from the lift. The flooring is laminate and the room is lit with ceiling fluorescents.

Adjoined to the kitchen is the self-catering dining room. This shares the same flooring, lighting, tables and chairs that are found in the bistro.

### Landry and drying facilities

The laundry and drying rooms are located on the third floor and have level access from the lift via single-leaf doors. The flooring is non-slip vinyl and the room is well-lit.

The room is equipped with a washing machine and dryer. These rooms are fairly small and so space is limited. If you require any assistance with the equipment, we are happy to assist.

### Art Gallery

The building's second floor is dedicated to an Art Gallery. This can be accessed via the lift and from there it is level throughout. The gallery is bright and spacious with space for a wheelchair user to manoeuvre. Floor is laminate and level throughout.

Entry to the Art Gallery is free. It hosts prestigious exhibitions from famous artists and eminent locals.

### **Bedrooms and bathrooms**

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Each room is carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights plus an en-suite bathroom. All bedding is provided.

All bathrooms have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. Standard showers have a step up to enter and sinks are fitted with lever taps.

### Ground floor

Access to these rooms is within a separate lodge with level, external access across the back courtyard. There are two manual doors to exit the main building and then a single-leaf door to enter the lodge. Staff are happy to assist with doors if required.

- Two accessible en-suite rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include a double bed and a set of bunk beds.

### First floor

Access to these rooms is within a separate lodge with level, external access across the back courtyard. There is an access door which leads to a stairwell (no lift available). There are two manual doors to exit the main building and then a single-leaf door to enter the lodge. Staff are happy to assist with doors if required.

- One accessible en-suite room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes a double bed and a set of bunk beds.
- One accessible en-suite room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes 2 sets of bunk beds.

### Third floor

- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 3 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath.
- Two en-suite rooms that sleep up to 5 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds and a single bed.
- Two en-suite rooms that sleep up to 6 people each. They include 3 sets of bunk beds.

### Fourth floor

- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes a set of bunk beds.
- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 3 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath.
- Three en-suite rooms that sleep up to 5 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds and a single bed.
- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 6 people. It includes 3 sets of bunk beds.

### **Grounds and garden**

To the rear of the hostel we have a walled courtyard with picnic tables. This has level access from the bistro.

### **Cycle store**

The cycle shed is located approximately 15m from the front entrance. It is halfway down the ramp which links the car park to the entrance.

### **Additional information**

- Dogs are not permitted at YHA Berwick, 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 (emergency out-of-hours number provided at reception).
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms are fitted. We ensure that all guests are evacuated in the event of 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 poor within the hostel.
- Wi-Fi is available at this hostel.

## **Contact information**

- Address: YHA Berwick, Dewars Lane Granary, Dewars Lane, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 1HJ
- Telephone: 0345 3719676
- Email: [berwick@yha.org.uk](mailto:berwick@yha.org.uk)
- Ordnance Survey map: 75
- Local buses: There are a number of lines which run accessible buses, including the 246, 242, B2 and B7 – for the hostel, get off at Golden Square
- Local taxi: Ecocabs 01434 600600

**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.**