



YHA Cheddar – Access Statement

Introduction

Nestled in the Mendips with Cheddar Gorge just a few minutes' walk away, this large Victorian house and accompanying annexe is the perfect short break destination for families, individuals and groups. YHA Cheddar makes a great base for an exciting activity break and activities for all abilities are provided by our partners Mendip Outdoor Pursuits. If high octane activities and adventures aren't your thing, you can take it easier with wonderful local walks and cycle routes.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors at this multi-building site consisting of a two-storey Victorian house and smaller two-storey annexe. Ground floor bedrooms are available in both buildings and an accessible en-suite room in the main building.

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

This access statement was last updated in August 2024.

Pre-arrival

- The nearest rail station is Weston-Super-Mare, 12 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is within 500m of the hostel, offering a daily service (limited on Sundays) that usually runs accessible buses to this stop.
- A local taxi company can provide accessible taxis when pre-booked.
- The hostel is 0.5 miles from the village facilities. From there the road is level with streetlighting and pavements on both sides. Hillfield is a narrow lane that is evenly surfaced with tarmac though has no pavements.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-cheddar/directions.
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

Car parking and arrival

There is ample parking at the end of Hillfield where it meets The Hayes. The hostel car park has 7 marked bays with an accessible space immediately next to the hostel entrance. The car park is level and evenly surfaced with tarmac up to the main entrance. It is lit by floodlights at night.

Guests can be dropped off just outside the main entrance. 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

There is level access into the hostel through a manual single leaf door which opens outwards, followed by another single leaf door which opens inwards into the entry hall. This room is level throughout with Victorian tile flooring. The reception desk is here at an accessible height. There is an emergency payphone situated under the main stairs in the foyer and seating nearby in the lounge.

Public areas

Main building

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 with ceiling lights. The corridor flooring is carpet. There is no lift at this hostel so access to the first floor is by stairs only. The staircases are carpeted and has a banister on both sides.

Lounge

In the main house, the lounge is located on the ground floor and has level access from the reception hall. It is level throughout and has vinyl flooring. It is well-lit with ceiling lights. It is furnished with coffee tables, sofas and armchairs. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

Dining room

Our dining room is in the conservatory on the ground floor with level access from the reception via a single leaf door. This bright room is well-lit by natural light during the day and by ceiling lights at night. It is level throughout and has vinyl flooring. There are dining tables and benches for up to 28 people. All furniture can be moved – please just ask at reception if you require assistance.

Table service is available for breakfast (please ask at reception). We are also happy to cater for dietary requirements – please advise us of these before your arrival.

Self-catering kitchen

Our self-catering kitchen is located on the ground floor with level access via a single leaf door. The room is level throughout with laminate flooring and even lighting.

The kitchen contains a domestic electric oven with separate grill and a 4-ring induction hob, electric oven with combination grill, 3 fridges, 2 microwaves, toasters and a range of kitchen utensils, crockery and cutlery. Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units – we can move these to lower storage if required. One work surface is low level and fitted with a sink and 4 ring gas hobs.

Annexe building

Halls and corridors

Access to the annexe from the car park is either up 2 steps and through a single leaf door which opens inwards, or via a ramp up to the lounge and through a glazed sliding door. The ground floor has vinyl flooring throughout (except in bedrooms).

There is good colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building. All public areas, halls, stairs and landings are well lit using ceiling lights. The upstairs corridor flooring is carpet. There is no lift so access to the first floor is by stairs only. The staircase is carpeted and has a banister on one side.

Public WCs

We have a WC next to the lounge and another next to the ground floor bedrooms. They both have non-slip flooring and are well-lit with fluorescent lighting, though neither meets modern standards of accessibility.

Lounge

The lounge is on the ground floor. It is an open plan space which also includes the self-catering kitchen and dining room. It is level throughout and has vinyl flooring. It is well-lit with ceiling lights and furnished with coffee tables, sofas and armchairs. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

Self-catering kitchen and dining room

The self-catering kitchen and dining room are in the open plan lounge space. The floor is level and is surfaced with vinyl flooring.

The kitchen contains a domestic cooker with 4-ring electric hob, separate grill, fridge, freezer, microwave, toaster and a range of kitchen utensils, crockery and cutlery. Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units – we can move these to lower storage if required. The dining room has dinner tables and bench-style seating available.

Laundry facilities

The laundry room is located on the ground floor just off the lounge. It is separated by a glass-panelled fire door that opens inwards. The corridor leading to the room is narrow and the door to the laundry opens outwards making access difficult. The floor is level and surfaced with non-slip flooring. A charge applies to use the washing machine (payable at reception).

We do not have any drying facilities at YHA Cheddar, though there is a public self-service laundry near the hostel.

Bedrooms and bathrooms

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

All bathrooms have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. Standard showers have a 2cm step up to enter.

Main building

The following bedrooms all have a washbasin.

Ground floor

- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 3 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath. Access is via a step up from the lounge. It has little floor space and an en-suite bathroom on the same level.
- One accessible en-suite room that sleeps up to 5 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath and a set of bunk beds. This room has a wider fire door straight out to Hillfield, which can be used by guests for access if needed. The en-suite bathroom has a shower with fold-down shower chair, low-level sink with a lever tap and a toilet with left-handed transfer. Grabrails are also fitted.

First floor

Access to this floor is via a set of 14 steps.

- Two rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Three rooms that sleep up to 5 people. They include a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath and a set of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 6 people. It includes 3 sets of bunk beds.
- Three communal showers.
- Three communal WCs.

Annexe building

The following bedrooms all have individual bunk lights as well as ceiling lights. Most rooms also have a washbasin.

Ground floor

- One room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes 2 single beds.
- Two rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- One communal shower.
- Two communal WCs.

First floor

Access to this floor is via a set of 14 steps.

- Two rooms that sleep up to 2 people each. They include a set of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 3 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath.
- One room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Two communal showers.
- One communal WC.

Grounds and garden

We have a garden that runs along the side and back of the main building. There is level access and the garden consists of a level lawn. There is a patio just outside the dining room conservatory which has picnic tables and benches for guests to use. There is a step up to the patio from the garden gate.

Guests cannot access the garden if hiring the Barton annexe through Exclusive Hire.

Cycle store

The cycle shed is in the car park. There is level access from here.

Additional information

- Dogs are not permitted at YHA Cheddar, 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 on site during hostel opening hours.
- 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 intermittent within the hostel.
- Wi-Fi is not available at this hostel.

Contact information

- Address: YHA Cheddar, Hillfield, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3HN
- Telephone: 0345 3719730
- Email: cheddar@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey map: 126
- Local buses: Catch the 126 from Weston-Super-Mare – for the hostel, get off at Greenhill House www.firstgroup.com

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.