



## YHA Grinton Lodge – Access Statement

### **Introduction**

If you're in the mood for a spot of walking or cycling and you love a spectacular view, YHA Grinton Lodge is the perfect place to stay. This former hunting lodge is located on the Coast to Coast walk, close to a variety of hiking and cycling routes. You can find us on the slopes of Swaledale, just 0.75 miles up a hill from Grinton village.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this two-storey hostel located in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. We have en-suite bedrooms on the ground floor, but they do not have level access and are not accessible to modern 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](mailto:customerservices@yha.org.uk). You can also view photos of the hostel at [www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-grinton-lodge](http://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-grinton-lodge).

This access statement was last updated in January 2024.

### **Pre-arrival**

- The nearest rail station is Darlington, 24 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is 0.6 miles away, offering a daily service that does not usually run accessible buses.
- The roads leading to the hostel are tarmacked country lanes which are steep in places. There is no pavement on either side and no street lighting. There is a cattle grid at the beginning of the drive, with a narrow gate to one side. The car park and hostel entrance are approximately 250m from here and the drive is tarmacked with a gradient of approximately 1:19 for 45m.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at [www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-grinton-lodge/directions](http://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-grinton-lodge/directions).
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

### **Car parking and arrival**

There is ample parking 20m from the front door. The car park is level, surfaced with loose gravel, and it is lit at night. There are no marked bays but we are happy to reserve a space close to the entrance for easier access. If you let us know what time you are coming, we will do our best to assist you with moving to and from cars.

### **Main entrance and reception**

There is a step up to the main door and then a level threshold through a manual single-leaf door which opens inwards. The reception desk is just through this door. The area is level throughout with flag stone flooring and well-lit with ceiling lights.

There is no seating in this area as it is quite small. We do not have a low-level service section, but there is a low shelf below the desk which can be used to write on. There is a portable induction loop available on request.

## **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 in the main building is either flag stones, which are worn in places, or short pile carpet. In the annexe the flooring is short pile carpet. Due to the age of the building, none of the floors are level throughout and there are steps up and down to reach different corridors.

We do not have a lift, so access to the first floor is by stairs only. The stairs are carpeted with non-slip contrasting nosing. There is a handrail fitted to one side. There are 15 steps to the first floor.

### Lounge

The lounge is located on the ground floor. From the reception to here there are 3 steps in total. The threshold is level through a single-leaf door. The flooring is carpet and the room is well-lit with natural light during the day, and ceiling lights at night. The room is furnished with sofas, armchairs and coffee tables. Chairs and tables can be moved – please ask at reception if you require this.

The TV lounge is nearby. There is one step in the corridor from reception and then 3 steep steps up to enter. The furnishings are the same as above, but the room has more limited space.

### Dining room

The dining room is located on the ground floor opposite the lounge. From the reception to here there are 3 steps in total. The threshold is level through a single-leaf door. The floor is laminate and the room is lit with small chandeliers. There are tables and straight backed chairs. All the furniture can be moved.

Table service is available (please ask at reception). 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 and dining area

The self-catering kitchen is located on the ground floor. There is a step in the corridor from the reception, but the threshold is level. Space can be very limited when the kitchen is busy. Crockery and some pieces of kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units. We are happy to move these to lower storage if required.

The small dining room is next door. The threshold is level and the flooring and lighting is the same as the kitchen.

### Laundry and drying facilities

The laundry room and drying rooms are located on the ground floor and have level access from reception via single-leaf doors. The floor in both rooms is flagstones. There is a washing machine available in the laundry room.

### Games room

The games room is located on the ground floor in the annexe building and has level access from the courtyard through a single-leaf door. The flooring is carpet and the room is well-lit. The room is equipped with a pool table and bench seating.

### Classroom

The classroom is located on the ground floor in the annexe building and has level access from the courtyard through a single-leaf door. The flooring is carpet and the room is well-lit with ceiling lights. We can provide tables and chairs in a variety of seating arrangements.

### **Bedrooms and bathrooms**

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Most rooms without an en-suite bathroom have a wash basin fitted with a lever tap. Each room is carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights. All bedding is provided.

All bathrooms have fluorescent lighting and non-slip flooring. Showers have a step up to enter.

### Ground floor

There are 2 steps up to this floor. Access to these rooms is not level.

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

### First floor

There is a flight of 15 steps up to this floor.

- One room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes a set of bunk beds.
- Five rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Three communal showers.
- Four communal WCs.

There are then a number of steps up or down along the corridor to the following.

- One en-suite room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes a double bed.
- Three 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.
- Three rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.

- Two en-suite rooms that sleep up to 6 people each. They includes 3 sets of bunk beds.
- Two rooms that sleep up to 6 people each. They includes 3 sets of bunk beds.
- Three communal showers.
- Three communal WCs.
- One communal washroom.

## **Camping & Cabins accommodation**

### **Pitch-up camping**

Campers have 24-hour access to showers and WCs located 250m away and can use the self-catering kitchen in the hostel during the day. They can be accessed via hard earth paths from the main drive. This may become muddy and slippery when it rains, and the area slopes gently upwards from the drive.

There is one big step up into the unisex camping washroom, but it is mostly level throughout once inside. There is a small step up into each shower. The flooring is non-slip lino.

### **Camping pods**

Our camping pods are located in our wooded front garden and are a great alternative to camping! We have two pods that sleep up to 3 people and three pods that sleep up to 4 people.

They can be accessed via hard earth paths from the main drive. This may become muddy and slippery when it rains, and the area slopes gently upwards from the drive. There is a step up onto a wooden porch which contains two plastic garden chairs with armrests and a small coffee table.

The doors are glazed and open outwards. The pods are unfurnished, but the floor is carpeted and there is heating and lighting inside. Guests have access to the communal hostel facilities.

### **Landpods**

Our Landpods sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 small double mattresses (both are raised) and all bedding plus duvets. These waterproof structures have LED lighting and are slightly elevated off the ground. Our Landpods are not heated.

## **Grounds and garden**

The hostel courtyard is a large space which gives spectacular views of the rolling hills nearby. There is a bench seating here so that you can admire the scenery in comfort. The back garden can be accessed from the ground floor, with two shallow steps down from the corridor of the dining room. Here there is a small, paved patio, a large lawn which is mostly level and wooden picnic tables.

### **Cycle store**

Our cycle store is approximately 20m from main entrance, in an out-building on the main drive.

### **Additional information**

- Pet dogs can stay in our Camping & Cabins accommodation or when hiring the whole hostel through exclusive hire. Pet dogs are not permitted in the hostel bedrooms, 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 (access via emergency phone at reception).
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms are 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 should be discussed beforehand.
- Evacuation procedures are displayed in each bedroom.
- Mobile phone reception is poor within the immediate vicinity of the hostel.
- Wi-Fi is available.

### **Contact information**

- Address: YHA Grinton Lodge, Grinton, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL11 6HS
- Telephone: 0345 3719636
- Email: [grinton@yha.org.uk](mailto:grinton@yha.org.uk)
- Ordnance Survey map: 98
- Local buses: Line 30 runs from Richmond or Reeth – for the hostel, get off at Grinton, adjacent Little Bridge [www.procterscoaches.com](http://www.procterscoaches.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.**