



## YHA Eskdale – Access Statement

### **Introduction**

Set in 15 acres of private grounds in the peaceful western fells, YHA Eskdale has the best of both worlds – it is situated on the edge of arguably the Lake District's most awe-inspiring wilderness area but with a choice of good pubs within a short walk. This hostel is on the doorstep of the highest and most challenging Lakeland peaks such as Scafell but is also ideal for delightful riverside and woodland walks.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this two-storey building located approximately 1.5 miles from the village of Boot. Unfortunately, none of our bedrooms or bathrooms are accessible to modern standards.

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-eskdale](http://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-eskdale).

This access statement was last updated in April 2024.

### **Pre-arrival**

- The nearest rail stations are Ravensglass (9.2 miles away) and Seascale (12 miles away).
- There is no bus service to this hostel.
- A local taxi service can provide accessible taxis when pre-booked.
- The roads approaching and surrounding the hostel are steep and evenly surfaced with tarmac. There is no pavement or streetlighting. The tarmac hostel drive is winding, steep and about 130m long.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at [www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-eskdale/directions](http://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-eskdale/directions).
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

### **Car parking and arrival**

We have parking on site for around 15 cars with the main bays to the front of the hostel and overspill parking to the rear. The car park is compressed hardcore, gravel surfaced and very gently sloping. There are marked bays and the nearest is 12m from the main entrance. This bay can be reserved in advance. Between the parking spaces and main entrance is a small step onto a patio area with flat concrete flags.

If you let us know what time you are arriving, we will do our best to assist with moving to and from cars.

### **Main entrance and reception**

There is a 12cm step up from the patio into the porch. To enter the hostel there are double doors leading into the entrance porch. There is then a single leaf door into

the corridor. The reception is located on our bar, which can be found in the dining room. A portable induction loop is available on request at the bar.

## **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 downstairs corridors and social spaces are either wooden floors or carpet. Upstairs flooring is carpet throughout apart from lino in washrooms.

We do not have a lift so access to upper floors is by stairs only. The stairs are carpeted and have a banister to one side. There are 15 steps up to the first floor.

### Public WCs

There is a gender-neutral WC on the ground floor. This is located next to the lounge and has level access. It has non-slip flooring and is well-lit with ceiling lights.

### Entrance lounge

Our cosy lounge is located on the ground floor with level access from the corridor via a single leaf door. The floor is level and surfaced with flat wooden floorboards. The room is well-lit with ceiling lights.

The room is furnished with chairs with and without armrests, coffee tables, dining table and chairs. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

### Dining room / main lounge

Our spacious dining room is located on the ground floor and has level access from the corridor via double doors. The floor is level and is part wooden floorboards and part carpet. The room is well-lit – natural light enters through the bay doors during the day and there are ceiling lights at night.

There are dining tables and straight-backed chairs without armrests. There is also a coffee table and comfy chairs with and without armrests on the carpeted area in front of the wood-burning stove. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

As described above, our bar is also located in this room. From here we serve a range of local ales, wines and soft drinks. 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 arrival.

### Self-catering kitchen

The self-catering kitchen is on the ground floor with level access from the corridor via a single leaf door. The floor is level and surfaced with tile. The room is well-lit.

The self-catering kitchen contains 2 domestic electric ovens with 4 hobs each, microwave, dishwasher, 2 fridges, 2 cordless kettles, 2 toasters and a range of

crockery, cutlery and utensils. Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units – we are happy to move these to lower storage if required.

### Drying facilities

The drying room is located on the ground floor next to the lounge and has level access from the corridor via a single leaf door. The floor is level and surfaced with non-slip lino. The room is well-lit. There are rails for hanging and drying clothes and a rack for boot drying.

Please ask if you need to use the washing machine in the adjacent laundry room.

### Bedrooms and bathrooms

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Rooms are carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights. All bedding is provided. Most bedrooms also have a washbasin (except the two largest rooms which are typically dorms).

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

### First floor

- One room that sleeps up to 2 people. It includes a set of bunk beds.
- One room that sleeps up to 4 people. It includes 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Four rooms that sleep up to 5 people each. 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.
- One room that sleeps up to 7 people. It includes 3 sets of bunk beds and a single bed. This room is accessed via two steps up from the main landing.
- One room that sleeps up to 8 people. It includes 4 sets of bunk beds. This room is accessed via two steps up from the main landing.
- Five communal showers.
- Four communal toilets.

### Grounds and garden

We have a large lawn which is ideal for relaxing and ball games. There are picnic benches adjacent. There is level access from the drive onto the mostly level lawn. We also have 14 acres of grounds with a nature trail surround the building. The trail is unsurfaced and uneven can be steep in places.

### Cycle store

The cycle shed is about 25m from the front door and about 40m from the main car park. Access is down 8m of grassy slope which is sloping and uneven.

### Additional information

- Pets are not permitted at YHA Eskdale, 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 available during reception hours and also in an emergency overnight via an emergency bell 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 intermittent within the hostel.
- Wi-Fi is available at this hostel.

### **Contact information**

- Address: YHA Eskdale, Boot, Holmrook, Cumbria, CA19 1TH
- Telephone: 0345 3719317
- Email: [eskdale@yha.org.uk](mailto:eskdale@yha.org.uk)
- Ordnance Survey map: 89
- Local taxi: Gosforth Taxis 019467 25308

**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.**