



YHA Leominster – Access Statement

Introduction

YHA Leominster was a workhouse of the Old Priory, a Benedictine monastery dating back to the 11th century. Walking and cycling in the area is excellent and we have maps available for sale or hire at the hostel. There are several National Trust properties nearby as well as museums, visitor centres and beautiful water gardens.

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this three-storey building which is set at the edge of a quiet market town. We have an accessible bedroom on the ground floor with an accessible bathroom just outside.

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-leominster.

This access statement was last updated in July 2024.

Pre-arrival

- The nearest rail station is Leominster, 0.5 miles away.
- The nearest bus stop is within 500m of the hostel, along level ground.
- A local taxi company can provide accessible taxis when pre-booked.
- The streets leading to the hostel are level and have pavements and streetlighting. The last 50m have only a cobbled pavement.
- The hostel's location can be viewed on YHA's website at www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-leominster/directions.
- You can contact the hostel by phone or e-mail (see contact information).

Car parking and arrival

There is free on-site parking with space for up to 10 cars. There are no marked bays, but we can reserve a space close to the entrance if required. The car park is level and evenly surfaced with tarmac. It is lit at night.

There is a level, evenly paved path leading from the car park to the front door. 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 main entrance is a wide, manual set of double doors which open inwards into the reception lobby. The floor is level and surfaced with carpet. The area is well-lit with ceiling lights.

A portable induction loop is available at reception, which also includes a low-level service section. There is a payphone located in this area, along with an emergency bell to reach a member of staff at night. Seating is provided by wicker armchairs.

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. Corridor flooring is carpet throughout.

Public areas are on the ground and first floors. There is no lift so access to the first floor is only by a set of 16 carpeted steps with a banister on one side.

Public WCs

There are two gender-neutral WCs on the ground floor with level access. One is next to the reception desk but does not meet modern standards of accessibility.

The other is accessible and can be reached through a single leaf door from reception. The transfer to the toilet in this bathroom is right-handed.

Lounge and dining area (common room)

The common room is on the ground floor and contains our lounge and dining area. The floor is level throughout and is carpet. The room is well-lit with ceiling lights.

The room is furnished with coffee tables, sofas, dining tables and straight-backed chairs with armrests. All furniture can be moved – please ask at reception if you require assistance.

Self-catering kitchen

YHA Leominster is self-catering only. The kitchen is located on the ground floor with level access from the dining room via double doors. The floor is level and covered with non-slip flooring.

The kitchen is equipped with 2 domestic-sized cookers with ovens, 2 microwaves, 3 toasters, 3 kettles, 3 fridges, freezer and a range of kitchen utensils, crockery and cutlery. Crockery and some kitchen equipment are kept in high shelving units. We are happy to move these to lower storage if required.

There is a low-level section of the preparation bench with a hob and sink – this is accessible to wheelchair users.

Bedrooms and bathrooms

Unless otherwise stated, all bedrooms have bunk beds. Our rooms are carpeted and well-lit with ceiling and individual bunk lights plus a washbasin. Bedding is provided.

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

Ground floor

- One accessible en-suite room that sleeps up to 3 people. It includes a single high-sleeper bunk with a double bed underneath. The accessible bathroom is located just outside the bedroom and is fitted with a WC, shower, grabrails, emergency cord and low-level sink. Transfer onto the toilet is right-handed.

First floor

- 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.
- Two rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Two washrooms (each with a shower and WC).

There are then a further 6 steps up to the following rooms.

- Two rooms that sleep up to 2 people each. They include a set of bunk beds.
- Two rooms that sleep up to 4 people each. They include 2 sets of bunk beds.
- Two washrooms (each with a shower and WC).

Grounds and garden

A courtyard garden provides outside seating and tables. There is a step down from the kitchen to an even surface.

Two three-seater benches are available outside reception, placed on the gravel which borders the paved path.

There is also a small area at the front of the hostel where you can kick a football about. Guests also have use of a spacious garden between us and the church. The area is grassy with a couple of bushes, and about 60m by 30m.

Additional information

- Pets are not permitted at YHA Leominster, except when hiring the whole hostel through YHA Exclusive Hire. 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 except between 12pm and 5pm. Night cover is provided via an emergency button on the payphone.
- Braille signs are fitted on room and corridor doors.
- 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 good within the hostel.
- Wi-Fi is not available at this hostel.

Contact information

- Address: YHA Leominster, The Old Priory, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8EQ
- Telephone: 0345 3719127
- Email: leominster@yha.org.uk
- Ordnance Survey map: 149
- Local taxis: Gold Line Taxi 01568 611100, Leominster Taxi 01568 616964, Star Taxis 01568 611976
- Local accessibility retailer (350m): Leominster Shopmobility, 6 Morris Mews, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8LZ

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.