



Access Statement

Introduction

Cohort Hostel offers high quality hostel accommodation for all in our 60 bed building and ensure that all who use the hostel are treated equally and according to their needs. We have developed this Access Statement to inform future guests of our facilities and how we may (or may not) be able to accommodate them.

We are based in a Grade II listed old Wesleyan Chapel, across two different buildings on two levels. Due to the awkward nature, size and shape of this old building we have limited disabled access and facilities.

St Ives is very hilly, with steps and/or hill walking required to access many parts of the town. However, as we are centrally located the journey between the hostel and the town centre (harbour area) is an 5-8 minute flat walk.

Pre-Arrival

- St Ives train and bus station are located in roughly the same place. The bus station being a short uphill walk from the train station. Both are a 6-10 minute walk from Cohort which includes a short, sharp downhill walk.
- There are local taxi firms that we can book on your behalf
- The nearest airport is Newquay which is 39 miles from the hostel by car (approx 55 minutes). There is no easy public transport access from the airport to St Ives; a journey by bus or train could take between 2-3 hours.
- National Express run daily coach services to Hayle, which is then a 15 minute bus ride to St Ives
- You can contact us via our website, social media, phone or email. NB limited email and phone response between 10pm & 8am

Arrival and Car Parking Facilities

- There is limited 30 minute street parking at the front of the hostel for bag drop-off (street name: The Stennack). These spaces are hard to come by during holidays and peak season
- We can offer assistance with luggage. Please call us on arrival.

- There are **2 steps** up to the porch way and hostel main entrance. The front entrance is a manually opened single front door, which open towards you.
- The front door is open between 9am – 10pm. Access outside this time is via a valid guest room key-card.
- We have 3 public car parks all a 4-10 minute walk away. Each car park is payable 24hr a day.
 - The Stennack car part – 2 minute walk
 - Park Avenue car park – 4 minute walk
 - Trenwith car park – 8-10 minute walk
- There is no free parking in the vicinity of the building.
- Dogs and other pets are not allowed in the hostel

Main Entrance and Reception/lounge area

- Once through the manually opened front door there is a domestic sized staircase (80cm width) with **20 steps** going up to our first floor landing.
- Once onto the first floor landing it is a 12 metre walk through a connecting link way into the large main lounge and reception.
- Flooring has commercially graded carpet
- All lights in the lounge are operated via timers with main lights operating from 6am – midnight switching to night lighting from midnight – 6am
- Background music is in operation in the lounge
- The reception desk is 39 inches high
- There is seating in reception, consisting of 3 sofas and 15 chairs and 6 coffee tables
- We have tourist information leaflets, highlighting and promoting information about the local area
- There is CCTV in operation in the lounge.
- There is a TV area with 50" screen and seating area plus bean bags

Public areas

We have free superfast broadband available throughout the building and bedrooms (with no black spots).

- First floor, front building corridors

From the top of the main staircase coming from the front entrance:

- There are **2 steps** up to the first floor corridor to the main accommodation area
- Our corridors are well lit and carpeted. All spot lights are operated by sensors or timers. The main corridor lights are on permanently.

- First/ground floor, rear building corridors

- The link way that connects the front building to the rear building is carpeted with well lit lights operated by motion sensors.
- We have a large granite spiral staircase of **16 steps** that connect the first floor to the ground floor. This area is well lit by a 12 bulb chandelier operated by a motion sensor. **There are no lift facilities.**
- There are three corridors on the ground floor, two which are tiled and one carpeted corridor. These corridors are not easily accessible by wheelchair users due to the narrow access and right angled corners. All areas are lit via motion sensors.

Washroom facilities

All bathrooms are well lit and operated by motion sensors.

There are separate male and female toilets and showers on the first floor of the front building and a unisex wash room on the ground floor of the rear building

There are 6 showers, 5 toilets and 1 urinal servicing the main accommodation area on the first floor of the front building, which can sleep up to 39 people.

There are 3 showers and 3 toilets servicing the rear building which can sleep up to 16 people

Female washroom

- The female toilets on the first floor have an additional set of stairs (13 steps) inside leading up to a mezzanine floor where the toilets are located. There are 3 showers and 3 toilets in the female facilities.
 - The flooring consists of non-slip commercial grade flooring.
 - Automatic taps, hand-dryer a hairdryer and mirrors and sanitary bins

Male washroom

- There are 3 showers, 2 toilets and 1 urinal in the male toilets.
 - The bathroom area is quite small with minimal space and no turning area
 - The flooring consists of non-slip commercial grade flooring
 - Automatic taps hand-dryer, a hairdryer and mirrors

Unisex washroom

There are unisex toilet and shower facilities on the ground floor of the rear building; 3 toilets, 6 sinks and 3 shower cubicles.

- The unisex washroom cubicles are split into the following:
 - 2 x toilet + sink
 - 1 x toilet + sink + shower cubicle (one step up to shower tray)
 - 2 x shower cubicles (one step up to shower tray)
 - There is one row of 3 sinks in the public area of the washroom
- Other facilities include automatic taps, hand dryer, hairdryer and mirrors
- Each toilet has a sanitary bin

Disabled toilet

- There is a single unisex disabled toilet on the ground floor of the rear building
- Consists of one toilet and a sink, paper towels and a sanitary bin

Communal Kitchen

- The communal kitchen is located on the ground floor of the rear building. There are no guest lift facilities between the first floor (lounge) and ground floor.
- This is a fully equipped kitchen with all utensils, crockery and pots and pans needed to cater for up to 50 people.
- The kitchen has 2 x 2 ring hobs and 1 x 4 ring hob, plus oven, toasters, 2 x microwaves and a large fridge. Please note we do not have freezer facilities.
- The kitchen light is operated via a motion sensor and has tile flooring
- The kitchen is open from 7am-10pm and can only be accessed via a guest key-card.
- The kitchen has direct access to the private outdoor courtyard, where there is also an indoor dining area for up to 14 people (**up 2 steps**).

Bedrooms

- We have 12 guest bedrooms in the hostel. 1 x 8-bed dorm room, 7 x 6-bed dorm rooms, 1 x 4-bed dorm room and 3 private rooms.
- All of our dorm rooms consist of purpose built pod-beds. Each bed has its own privacy curtain, USB port, socket and reading light and lockable under-bed storage (own padlock required or hireable from reception)
- Emergency evacuation procedures are posted on the rear of each bedroom door and upon request can be explained at check in
- All bedrooms are strictly non smoking
- Each bedroom has an audio smoke and fire detector
- Lighting for each room can be switched on at the entrance to the room. Light switches are placed no higher than 1200mm off the ground.
- 50 beds consist of small single mattresses (75cm x 190cm) and 10 beds consist of standard sized mattresses (90cm x 190cm).
- All of the bedrooms are varying shapes and sizes. Room sizes are as follows:

Room 1 – 10.7 sqm (6-bed dorm)
Room 2 – 9.8 sqm (6-bed dorm)
Room 3 – 7.6 sqm (twin/double/triple)
Room 4 – 15.6 sqm (6-bed dorm)
Room 5 – 16.6 sqm (8-bed dorm)
Room 6 – 13.3 sqm (6-bed dorm)
Room 7 – 13.3 sqm (6-bed dorm)
Room 9 – 7 sqm (single/twin)
Room 10 – 5.2 sqm (single/twin)
Room 11 – 14 sqm (6-bed dorm)

Room 12 – 13.2 sqm	(4-bed dorm)
Room 13 – 19.6 sqm	(6-bed dorm)

- We try as far as possible to allocate bedrooms based upon individual guest needs
- Bedrooms 1 – 7 are situated in the main accommodation area on the first floor of the front building. We have no lift facilities in the building to transport guests from the ground floor to the first floor.
- Bedrooms 9 – 10 are on the first floor of the rear building located off a side corridor of the main lounge.
- Bedrooms 11- 13 are located on the ground floor of the rear building. All bedrooms (apart from Room 9 & 10) have wooden flooring

Ground Floor dorm rooms

- There are three ground floor dorm rooms (Rooms 11 – 13) in the rear building. one of which (Room 11) maybe suitable for those with restricted mobility.
 - Room 13 is occupied by hostel staff
 - Room 12 is a family Room (4-bed dorm), and is accessed via a hallway that has no wheelchair access due to narrow 90 degree angle turns.
 - Room 11:
 - There is ground floor access from a rear fire exit
 - there is a disabled toilet approx 7 metres away
 - There is a unisex toilet and shower room approx 9 metres away, with **1 step** up via a right angle turn (not suitable for wheelchairs). There is **1 step** up to access each shower.
 - There is access to the communal kitchen (via **1 step**) and courtyard

Private Courtyard and dining/laundry area

- The courtyard is located on the ground floor of the rear building. The only access is via the rear spiral staircase.
- The courtyard consists of 4 x 8-seater picnic tables. One table has a permanent roof whilst a retractable awning can offer shelter to the other 3 picnic tables
- The courtyard has natural light during the day, and is lit by festoon lighting at night (until 11pm). The lighting is control via an automatic timer.
- The courtyard closes at 10pm
- The courtyard flooring is of paving slabs. Guests are required to take more caution when walking through the courtyard during wet weather.
- The courtyard has a wetsuit rack, surfboard rack, bike rack and outdoor hot shower.
- There are two clothing lines for guests to use via a pulley system.
- At the far end of the courtyard is an outdoor building which consists of a small dining area (up to 14 people) and a laundry room. There are two steps into this building.

- The laundry room has a metered washing machine for guests use and a small drying cupboard to dry clothes and wet shoes.

Last updated:

April 2020