

Monk's House Access Statement

Monk's House
The Street
Rodmell
Lewes
East Sussex BN7 3HF
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Introduction

1. Situated in the valley of the River Ouse at the lower end of the village of Rodmell.
2. Mobile phone reception across most of the property is fair.
3. Well behaved dogs are welcome on short leads in the garden only.
4. Due to the small size of the rooms and the volume of visitors, large bags will be kept at visitor reception to protect the house and collection.
5. The garden has three ponds.
6. Assistance dogs welcome.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

1. The car park is 100 yards further down the street from the house and is well signposted.
2. The car park has a gravel surface and bays are marked by wooden posts. There is one disabled space.
3. There is a bus service from Lewes and Newhaven. Less frequent at weekends.
4. Drop off point: visitors can be dropped off outside on the street.
5. Gentle slope from car park to property entrance (100 yards).

WCs

1. There is a small outdoor privy situated within the garden for the use of visitors.
2. Nearest accessible loo – Lewes Garden Centre.

Entrance to property

1. There are two steps into the property from The Street with more shallow steps located around the garden. There is an alternative side entrance to avoid the steps into the property. Please ask at the gate for access. The side gate is up the road, turn right down the alley towards the church. It is 57.4metres to the gate from our main gate entrance, and the gate itself is 78cm wide. This route allows you step free access into the bedroom and garden. However, there are still uneven paths and shallow steps in the garden to navigate.
2. There are two steps up from the road into the garden, through a little gate: 13cm and 15cm height.
3. Following the path towards the house there are a further three steps up: 18cm, 20cm and 20cm.

House

1. The house is 27 metres from the road 'The Street' and possible drop off location at the main gate.
2. The paths are brick and paving stones. Some of these paths are uneven in places and there are some steps.
3. The main house is only accessible by steps detailed below.
4. The entrance to the house is through the conservatory. The conservatory door is 72cm wide.
5. The entrance door is manual and open with a volunteer to greet you. The entrance door into the house is 74cm wide.
6. There are three deep steps down into the house: 21cm, 23cm and 22cm. There is no handrail.
7. The entrance hall, sitting room and kitchen have tiled flooring. There are a couple of rugs in the sitting room. The dining room floor is wooden floor boards.
8. There is a step in the dining room to be aware of: 6cm.
9. The doorway lip between the dining room and kitchen is 5cm.
10. The lighting is mostly LED and kept to a low level to maintain the atmosphere and to protect the collection.
11. There is no access to upstairs of the property. The visitor route is to exit through the back door in the kitchen to access the separate bedroom. There are three steps inside the kitchen out of the back door: 23cm, 19cm, 16cm. Then a further two steps on the outside of the door: 16cm and 23cm. Please take extra care of your head as the doorway is low and the gutter beyond it is also low. We advise visitors who may find the kitchen exit difficult to go back out through the main entrance.
12. There are three steps on the path to the bedroom: 19cm, 17cm and 20cm. These can be avoided by going across the conservatory lawn and following the paved path to bedroom.
13. Powered mobility vehicles and powered wheelchairs cannot be accommodated in the house due to turning circles. Please speak to a member of staff beforehand for advice.
14. Staff and volunteers are not able to lift wheelchairs into the house but you can be assisted by those accompanying you. Wheelchair users can access the bedroom step free when entering by the side gate in the garden.
15. Seating is available if required. Please ask the room guides for assistance. There is usually someone in each room. We do not have signs or pinecones on our collection so please ask which chair you can sit on.
16. Backpacks and large bags cannot be accommodated inside the house and will need to be left outside. Due to current restrictions, we cannot take care of these items for you.
17. The furniture in the house is original and fragile, we ask you not to lean or sit on the chairs or furniture. There is one chair in each room provided for the volunteer and any visitor who requires a seat.



Garden

1. The paths are a mixture of brick, concrete slabs and crazy paving which are historic and uneven in places.
2. There are steps in the garden. These are avoidable by using the side gate, please ask at reception.
3. There are no handrails in the garden.
4. There are benches at intervals throughout the garden. On sunny days there are deckchairs in the garden, one of these is a director's chair which is more upright.
5. There are three ponds in the garden.

Writing Room

1. There is a writing room in the garden displaying the desk where Virginia Woolf wrote and edited her novels. This room is viewable from the outside.
2. The exhibition room is currently closed.
3. There is no lighting in this room.

Contact details for more information

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