

Alfriston Clergy House and Garden Access Statement

Alfriston Clergy House, The Tye, Alfriston, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5TL

T: 01323 871961

E: alfriston@nationaltrust.org.uk

Introduction

- Situated in a quiet conservation area on the Tye (village green) behind the High Street and next to St Andrew's church.
- Grade 2 (*) listed building.
- A thatched medieval 'Hall house' over two floors with narrow doorways and corridors, low level light and some steps on the ground floor.
- A terraced cottage garden of approximately two thirds of an acre, grass with slopes and some steps. The vegetable garden has chalk paths which can become very slippery when wet.
- No public toilet on site. Nearest in public car parks which are 500 metres from property.

Visitor Information

- Volunteers and staff are here to welcome and help all visitors.
- Mobile phone reception is very poor to non-existent at the property and for most of the village of Alfriston.
- Assistant dogs are welcome in the house and garden, all other dogs are allowed in the garden only.
- Fixed loop induction is available at visitor reception, a portable loop is also available.
- Light levels are low around the whole property.
- Group organisers should contact the property before their visit – 01323 871961 or email alfriston@nationaltrust.org.uk

Arrival and Parking Facilities

- Parking (not National Trust) 500 metres at the northern end of village. 10 mins easy walk to the Clergy House.
- Drop off point at garden gate or front entrance of house for cars only. At southern end of High Street, turn down the narrow road beside the Wingrove Hotel, open bolted barrier at start of lane and drive to visitor entrance gate. If you wish to use the double gates at the western end of the garden, please phone the property in advance to enable a team member to meet you there.
- Bus services to Alfriston operated by Compass Travel. <http://www.compass-travel.co.uk/compass-timetables/bus-timetables/>
- Disabled parking spaces available around the Tye (village green). Not National Trust

Visitor Reception

- The property has a main entrance accessed from the lane running along the side of the house.
- The entrance gate is 150cm wide and there are two steps 20cm deep. There is no ramp available.
- There is a wooden handrail to the right of the steps.
- There are three more steps of 16cm depth before you get to the visitor reception.
- A member of the visitor services team is stationed at the small window to the left of the exhibition room. Here you can purchase tickets or show your membership cards. There is a large wooden shelf below this window which is 98cm high.
- You do not have to enter the visitor reception to gain admission to the house and garden but if you wish to there is a step up into the reception area with a depth of 16cm.
- There is a fixed induction loop in visitor reception.
- An alternative route through the garden gates at the western end of the property is available for wheelchair users. This will give access to the lower part of the garden only.



Main entrance



Steps at
entrance gate



Steps to visitor
reception



Visitor
reception
entrance door

House

- There is a brick path to the house entrance.
- There are two steps up into the house entrance with heights of 12cm and 17cm respectively.
- The door height is 150cm and the width is 70cm.
- There are low steps throughout the house: two steps from the Lower Parlour to the Parlour both of 19cms, two steps between the Hall and the Lean To of 7cm and 12cms, and three steps to the Reading Room of 16cms and a handrail on the left-hand side as you enter the room.
- All floors in the house are brick or wooden.
- Access to the second floor is by a steep staircase only made up of 13 steps with a handrail on the left-hand side.
- There are chairs in all rooms for visitor use.

- We cannot guarantee that there will be a volunteer to assist you in all rooms. But someone will always be available within the property.



House
entrance



Steps to
Parlour



Steps to Hall



Stairs to
second floor



Steps to
Reading Room

Garden

- The garden is designed as a series of 'outdoor rooms' each enclosed by hedging or low walls.
- Each 'room' has at least one bench and are mostly separated by steps. These steps are made of brick and there are no handrails.
- The garden can be accessed without the use of steps at the western end of the property via the back gate. Wheelchair users can use this entrance but will only be able to access the lower part of the garden. If you wish to use this alternative route, please phone the property in advance to enable a team member to meet you there.
- The upper elevation is terraced with steps throughout.
- Path surfaces vary between brick, gravel, grass and chalk paths. The chalk paths in the vegetable garden can be extremely slippery when wet.
- There is a water course running along the southern boundary of the garden with no fencing or hedging between the lawn and the water.



Vegetable garden



Herb garden



Judas tree lawn



Rose terrace



Rose terrace from lower garden



Chalk paths in vegetable garden



Water course

Catering

- There are no catering facilities at the property – there are coffee shops, restaurants and pubs in the nearby Alfriston village.