

## National Trust Cottages Accessibility Guide

Cottage details: Lark  
Brochure Ref: 020030



### Introduction

Situated less than a mile from Fountains Abbey, a World Heritage site with spectacular ruins of a 12th-century Cistercian abbey, the cottages at How Hill are situated around a courtyard and have been converted from a group of 18th-century farm buildings.

These have been sympathetically restored using traditional materials whilst incorporating modern green technology such as the use of Ground Source Heat Pump in the heating system. The tower on the hill behind the cottages is believed to have been originally built as an outlying chapel for the Abbey. It was restored by John Aislabie, when he owned the Estate, and rumour has it that he used it as a gambling den. The farm buildings at the side of the tower were added at a later date and the property was occupied until the 1950s.

These farm buildings have been sympathetically restored using traditional materials whilst incorporating modern green technology such as the use of Ground Source Heat Pump in the heating system. The single storey cottage has generous living space for 4 has central heating, a wood-burning stove and shared paved courtyard around which it is situated.

The Cottage is arranged as follows:

### Ground Floor:

- Entrance lobby with lavatory, open-plan kitchen/sitting/dining room with wood-burning stove, two bedrooms (1 double with 5' bed and 1 twin) and bathroom with shower over bath

### Pre-Arrival

- See the main webpage for booking and location details
- Please contact us prior to booking if you have any specific access requirements
- Directions provided with booking

## Approach

- The cottage is easy to find using the local directions provided by the Contact Centre
- A gentle slope leads from the car-park area to the cottage
- There is a distinct National Trust sign indicating location for How Hill Cottages
- The surrounding area is gently sloped and once away from the cottages it is hilly in places

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## Arrival & Parking Facilities



- The tarmac car-park is easy to find on turning in from the lane
- The car-park is more level than surrounding areas
- Circulation on the route from the car-park is very good
- The cottages are very well signed
- There is space for the larger mobility vehicle
- Utility areas such as the Log and bin Stores are found in this area (1 step of 100mm)
- Designated parking for two vehicles in car park next to

the main entrance, approximately 25 metres from the cottage

## Getting in (and out) of the cottage



- Step up to door threshold 200mm
  - Door is 840mm wide
- Step up to patio doors threshold 200mm

## Getting around the cottage

### Ground floor:

- Lobby is 1200mm x 1600mm

### Cloakroom

- Door is 800mm wide
- Wash hand basin 830mm and WC 400mm

### Open Kitchen / Dining room



## Sitting Room area



- Door is 800mm wide
- Height of worktop is 920mm
- Electric oven and hob
- Microwave, dishwasher, kettle and toaster
- Table 760mm with 4 chairs 470mm high

- Two chairs are 440mm high
- Settee is 440mm high
  - TV with DVD
  - Wood-burning stove
- Standard lamp and nest of tables

## Bathroom



- Door is 800mm wide
- Bath is 590mm high with shower attachment
  - WC is 400mm high
  - Basin is 830mm high

## Corridor to bedrooms

- 900mm wide x 6700mm

## Twin Bedroom



- Door is 800mm wide
- Two single beds 660mm high
- 2 bedside tables with lamps
- Wardrobe and dressing table

## Double Bedroom



- Door is 800mm wide
- King size divan is 660mm high
- 2 bedside tables with lamps
- Wardrobe, dressing table and wooden chair 470mm high

## Courtyard



- Mostly level tarmac area. Picnic benches for each cottage with some also on the garden side (on paving stones).
- Paving stones are well maintained with level mortar-joints.
- Laundry room for shared use (step of 100mm)

## Additional Information

- Assistance dogs are welcome at all our cottages
- In the event of a fire, it is the responsibility of the guests to evacuate themselves. Vibrating fire/smoke detectors are available if requested at time of booking. Please contact us if you have any other specific access requirements in this respect.

## Facilities at all cottages

The National Trust aims to expand the list of accessible /equipment/items available at each cottage and these may include

- Cordless kettle
- Hollowfibre bedding
- Chair with armrests
- Good reading light
- Large handle vegetable peeler
- Easy tin opener
- Non-slip mat for bath/shower
- Non-slip place mat
- Easy jar opener
- Information in alternative formats (on request)

Please note that we cannot guarantee that all items will be available at the time of your visit. Please enquire at the time of booking regarding any particular requests.

## Specialist equipment

Other specialist equipment such as wheelchairs, bath seats, toilet frames etc may be available for loan or purchase from the local Red Cross loan centre. Please check this out before booking the Cottage and contact us if you require further information.

<http://www.redcross.org.uk/standard.asp?id=89425>

## Future Plans to improve Access to NT Holiday Cottages

- We are currently in the process of writing Accessibility Guides for all our holiday cottages and improving access over time for all our guests. All feedback is very helpful in informing us of ways in which we can improve access to all our cottages. We welcome any comments or ideas from you about access at this cottage and thank you for taking the time to do this. Please do this in the most convenient way for you. See contact details below or information on website.

## About the Accessibility Guide

- This Accessibility Guide is intended to provide key information about the cottage that may be particularly relevant to guests with disabilities. Please contact us prior to booking if you would like information that is more specific and we will be happy to oblige.

Email: [cottages@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:cottages@nationaltrust.org.uk)

Phone: 0844 8002070

## Access for All at the National Trust

- The Access for All office works to improve access at all National Trust cottages and properties. The office welcomes comments and ideas on improving access.

Phone: 01793 818531

Email: [accessforall@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:accessforall@nationaltrust.org.uk)

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