

National Trust Cottages Accessibility Guide

**The Gaffer
The Harbour
Boscastle
Cornwall**



Cottage Ref: 011100

Introduction

- The Gaffer is a first-floor studio apartment on the Harbour in Boscastle. Perched above the National Trust Shop and closed Visitor Centre, it is one of three holiday apartments in this three-storey building.
- There is a wooden staircase leading up to this first floor apartment with a door onto a communal landing at the top of the stairs.
- There is a telephone for emergency calls at the top of the wooden staircase. Mobile telephone signal in Boscastle depends on your network.
- In the event of power failure emergency lighting is provided on the landings.
- The cottage has electric panel and convector heaters and a flame effect, electric fire in the main rooms. Electric towel rail in the bathroom.

The accommodation comprises the following:

- Open plan sitting/dining/bedroom, kitchen, and bathroom, shared garden area with a wooden bench and 2 wooden garden tables and chairs.
- The bedroom area comprises a 5' double bed.

- The bathroom has an immersion fed shower over the bath, a WC and wash hand basin.
- The apartment is compact and furnished for two people.

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 drive down into Boscastle is relatively steep. The apartment is approached by a private, level road which runs along the riverside.

Arrival & parking facilities

- There is car parking for one vehicle in the car parking bay. The space which has an uneven gravelled surface is the left hand one of three and is clearly marked The Gaffer.
- The main entrance door to the apartments is approximately 100 metres from the car parking space. It is reached by walking over level ground and then a few paces across an uneven courtyard.
- The key safe is to the left of the front door at a height of 1420mm. The key safe is operated by pulling the front cover down and twisting numbers to combination and then pressing the sides. The key safe will then open. A torch is recommended, especially if arriving in the dark, as the numbers on the lock can be difficult to see. The key inside will open the front door and needs to be replaced back into the key safe before entering the building.



Courtyard leading to main entrance door



Car parking spaces



Level walk to the apartments.

Getting in (and out) of the cottage

- The main entrance door has a low wooden threshold with a clear opening width of 730mm.
- There is an external sensor light to the left of the external door and a light switch inside the building on the left-hand side at a height of 1360mm.
- There is a PIR light that lights the downstairs inside entrance.
- A 13-step wooden staircase with handrail on the right leads to the first floor with a small carpeted landing area. The height of the steps are 190mm, depth of 240mm and a width of 930mm.
- The stairs handrail is on the right-hand side at a height of 850-900mm from each tread.
- Fire door measuring 650mm opens into a communal landing area which is 1000mm wide.
- The landing light switch can be found on left hand side of the door at a height of 1320mm.
- The front door to The Gaffer can be found along the right of the landing where a wall mounted key safe can be found on the left of this door containing the keys to the apartment. The height of the key safe is 1520mm. It is operated by a combination lock mechanism where the dials need to be turned to the cottage combination code. After entering the combination code press the release button and the key safe will open.





The Gaffer front door

Getting around the cottage

First floor:

- The front door opens into a small, narrow, inner hallway off which are three doors, two of which are fire doors. One leading to sitting/dining/bedroom, one leading to the kitchen and the one standard door leads to the bathroom.
- Level access throughout the cottage.
- Luxury vinyl wood effect floor throughout.
- Internal door clear opening widths are 680mm.
- The flat is compact with limited circulation space.
- Light switch heights 1350mm.

Sitting/dining/bedroom:

- The fire door to this room requires a firm push to open.
- There is a threshold of 25mm from the sitting/dining/bedroom room up to the hall.
- The main light switch is to the right of the door at a height of 1350mm.
- Two Georgian style windows which over look the old lime kiln.
- Two-seater sofa with seat height 550mm, back height 450mm and a high back chair with a seat height of 400mm back height 680mm.
- Lighting comprises floor lamp, two bedside lamps and two ceiling shades.
- Wooden, fold down dining table and two chairs (no arms).
- Table has a knee clearance of 600mm.
- Dining chair height 480mm.
- Wooden chest/coffee table.
- Cast Iron style 5' double bed with a length of 1990mm and a height of 760mm with firm mattress.
- Built in wardrobe with 3 doors with shelving under.
- The wardrobe hanging rail is at a height of 2050mm.
- 28" TV with integrated DVD player.
- CD player.
- Radio reception via TV.



Kitchen:

- The fire door to this room requires a firm push to open.
- The main light switch is to the left of the kitchen door at a height of 1350mm.
- Central light with four spotlights.
- Georgian style window.
- Height of worktop is 900mm from floor level.
- Stainless steel sink with mixer lever taps.
- Integrated electric cooker with single oven/grill and ceramic hob. Cooker hood with light.
- Fridge with ice cube box.
- Microwave.
- Toaster and cordless kettle.



Hall

- The main light switch is to the right of the front door at a height of 1350mm.
- Coat hooks at a height of 1650mm.
- Threshold of 25mm to dining/sitting/bedroom.



Hall showing threshold



Threshold from hall

Bathroom

- Door off hall.
- The light pull is the right of the bathroom door at a height of 1200mm.
- The room is lit with one ceiling light.
- Standard size bath with twist mixer taps and immersion fed shower above.
- Bath has a height of 500mm.
- The shower controls are at a height of 1320mm.
- WC with lever flush and a seat height of 420mm.
- Hand basin is 804mm high with twist taps.
- Mirror with integrated lighting and a shaver point to the left of the mirror.
- Electric towel rail.



Garden

- The shared enclosed garden is approached by a grassed, sloping walk uphill from the car parking area, and left of The Old Forge Gallery. A latch opens the wooden gate which is marked The Gaffer, The Luggar and The Clinker. The lawned area has a wooden bench and two wooden garden tables and chairs.
- The tables have knee clearance of 690mm and the armed chairs have seat height of 440mm and a back height of 460mm.



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.
- There is a fire escape at the rear of the first-floor landing which leads down to the National Trust Courtyard. This must only be used in an emergency. This escape route has a metal

handrail on the left-hand side and there are 15 metal treads with a height of 200mm down to the courtyard.

- Mobile telephone signal is very unreliable in Boscastle and depends on your network.
- Carpets/Rugs are 80/20 wool/man-made fibres.
- Duvets and pillows are made of hollowfibre.
- Cushions are hollowfibre or man-made.

Facilities at all cottages

In addition to the standard equipment and facilities, each cottage is equipped with the following:

- Chair with armrests in sitting/dining/bedroom
- Good reading light
- Non-slip mat for bath/shower
- Information in alternative formats (on request)

We aim to provide these items in all cottages but please check when booking as to their availability and to check if new items have been added to the list.

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.

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-help/borrow-a-wheelchair>

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-help/hire-a-toilet-aid>

Future Plans to improve Access to National Trust 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: holiday.enquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Phone: 0344 800 2070

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

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