

Whitby Retreats



Access Statement
17a Grape Lane, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO22 4BA

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December 2008

Introduction

17a Grape Lane is a 4-star apartment situated on the first and second floors of a beautiful grade 2 listed building in the heart of Whitby on the 'Abbey side' of town.

It is accessible through a traditional Whitby yard, adjacent to the Captain Cook Museum, and overlooks the harbour from the rear.

Pre-arrival

Our website includes pictures of the accommodation available, and also shows floor plans to allow guests to gauge the layout of the property.

Bookings can be made via our website, e-mail, telephone or by letter, according to guests' preference. Guests receive a booking confirmation form in the post, which confirms all details of the booking and sets out the terms and conditions of booking. These terms and conditions are also available on our website.

Once payment in full is received, guests receive, in the week prior to their arrival, a package that contains directions, information about parking – and the keys to the apartment. In this way, guests are free to arrive at their own convenience. Alternative access arrangements can be made if required. These include being met on arrival, or collecting keys from a local address in Whitby.

Whitby has a train station, which is less than 5 minutes' walk from the apartment. Taxis are available from outside the train station. The town is well served by buses.

Arrival

Grape Lane is a one-way street, wide enough for a single vehicle. Guests arriving by car can drop off passengers and luggage directly outside the property.

Depending on their time of arrival, guests may need to unlock the outer (wooden) door to the Captain Cook Museum, and the inner (wrought iron) gate, to allow access to the yard, and the front door of 17a. Guests are supplied with all keys prior to arrival. Guests are requested to leave all doors as they find them (i.e.locked or unlocked, as appropriate). A ramp leads from the outer door to yard level.

Once passengers and luggage have been dropped off, guests can now move their car to an appropriate parking location. Full details of pay and display and local, free on-street parking are provided to guests in their pre-arrival package. All car parks are controlled by Scarborough Borough Council, and disabled spaces are available at all council car parks.

Entry to the property

Two steps lead up to the front door. Steps are covered in grooved wooden decking and may be a little slippery if wet.

A small vestibule provides a place for guests to remove their shoes and place them on the rack provided. Coat hooks are available behind the door in the downstairs cloakroom.

An external light is available; the light switch is on the right hand side, just inside the front door. The light switch for the stairs and hallway is in the same place.

Sixteen stairs lead up to the property. The staircase is relatively steep, but stairs are full depth and are over 1m wide. A rail is provided on the right-hand side of the stairs. The stairs are carpeted.

The Hallway

The hallway is at the top of the stairs. Off the hallway is a raised area to the left, from which a small cupboard door leads into the stores cupboard. The boiler and central heating controls are in this cupboard. The central heating thermostat is situated on the wall opposite the cupboard.

Straight ahead is the downstairs cloakroom, comprising toilet and sink. The light switch is outside the cloakroom, on the right hand side as you face the door.

A stairgate is available upon request for families with small children. Whilst this can be used for the stairs up to the bedrooms, or between the kitchen and lounge, we must stress that it is **not suitable for placement at the top of either of the staircases.**

The Lounge

The door to the lounge has a self-closing mechanism, in line with current building and fire regulations.

The lounge is on one level. The light switches are situated on the right hand side as you enter the room. Side lights are on a separate circuit to the overhead lights.

The lounge is fully carpeted, and a rug is in place under the coffee table.

Windows are the original sashes and all work fully, but guests should note that they are heavy!

Radiators are situated underneath each of the three windows. An electric fire is provided; controls are under the black top panel, with the master switch being on the left-hand side of the fire as you face it.

There is a door to a false balcony at the end of the lounge. The key to the door is on a hook on the right hand side of the door itself.

There are two leather settees and an armchair in the room, along with occasional furniture. A TV and DVD player and full library of DVDs are placed within a cabinet. A CD player / radio is available, with cable to connect to i-pod / MP3 players. Books, CDs, games and children's toys are all within the bookcase in the lounge.

Off the lounge is the Study, with a chair and table and reading lamp provided. Information about local attractions is available on the desk, along with the visitors' book.

Please note that there is no telephone access from the property, although mobile coverage from the major mobile networks is good.

The Kitchen / Diner

A comprehensive welcome folder, containing all relevant information for guests during their stay, is housed in the kitchen. Additionally, instructions for all domestic and electrical appliances are contained within another folder.

Also off the hallway is the Kitchen / Diner, which comprises a fully fitted kitchen and table with seating for four. The kitchen is on one level, and is fully equipped, with a dishwasher (dishwasher tabs provided under the sink), washing machine / dryer (washing powder also under the sink) and microwave. There is sufficient crockery and cutlery for six people. Children's tableware (plates, bowls, cups and cutlery) is also provided. A high chair with integral safety harness can be provided on request.

The fuse box for the property is situated in the kitchen, above the door. Sometimes, when a bulb goes, you might need to re-set the fuse for the relevant lighting circuit. If necessary, there are stepladders in the cupboard in the hallway, and a torch in the kitchen cupboard above the microwave. Spare bulbs are provided under the sink in the kitchen.

A fire extinguisher and fire blanket are placed adjacent to the window in the corner of the room. A first-aid kit is provided in the cupboard above the microwave.

The kitchen door is also fitted with a self-closing mechanism.

Stairs to second floor

A staircase with a single turn, having fifteen stairs and a banister on the left-hand side, leads up to the landing.

The window on the landing is locked; the key hangs on the right-hand side of the frame.

There is a two-way light switch system for this staircase, so that the lights can be switched on and off from the top and bottom.

House bathroom

The light switch for the house bathroom is on the left-hand side of the door before you enter the room.

The bathroom comprises toilet, sink with mirror over, and large bath with taps at the side (rather than at one end). Taps can operate in 'bath' or 'shower' mode by the operation of a lever. The plug in the bath has a screw-in operation.

A ladder radiator is fitted.

A non-slip, rubber bath mat is provided for placement in the bath. A child's step can be provided on request.

Twin bedroom

The light switch for this bedroom is just inside the door on the left-hand side as you enter.

Two single beds, both having head boards and foot boards are provided, each with a single duvet and two pillows.

Bedside cabinets are provided beside each bed, each with a bedside lamp.

One wardrobe provides space for hanging clothes and for storage in drawers.

There are two mirrors hanging in the room, and a clothes chair.

The door has a self-closing mechanism in line with building and fire regulations.

Double bedroom

The light switch for this bedroom is on the right-hand side as you enter.

One standard-size double bed, having a head board and foot board is provided, with a king-sized duvet and four pillows.

Two bedside cabinets are provided, each with a bedside lamp. A digital clock / radio is provided.

One wardrobe provides space for hanging clothes and for storage in drawers.

A full-length, floor-standing mirror is provided in the room, as is a shaving mirror. A hairdryer can be found in the drawer of one of the bedside cabinets. A clothes chair is also provided.

The door to the double bedroom is fitted with a self-closing mechanism.

En-suite bathroom

Off the double bedroom is an en-suite bathroom.

This comprises a large shower unit with sliding doors, a sink with mirror over and a toilet.

A ladder radiator is fitted.

The light switch for the en-suite is situated on the left-hand side of the door frame before you enter the room.

Outdoor Facilities

There are no outdoor facilities at 17a Grape Lane. We ask that guests respect our immediate neighbours in accessing the property.

Contact Us

We value our guests' feedback, and we ask for comments in our Visitors' Book, which is on-site, and via written feedback by post or e-mail.

If you have any comments or suggestions on improvements that we might consider, please let us know.

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