

This access statement does not contain personal opinions as to our suitability for those with access needs, but aims to accurately describe the facilities and services that we offer all our guests/visitors.

## **Access Statement for Naworth**

### **Introduction**

Naworth is one of three holiday cottages located in a secluded corner of Alston, a charming historic little town in the heart of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Alston is built on a hill so nowhere in the town is totally flat but the approach to the cottages is on a gradual slope. The centre of the town is a steep cobbled hill and the approach to our cottages is via narrow streets surfaced with pavements.

Naworth was the first of our properties to be developed and is a conversion of an old two storey stone lean-to building dating from the seventeenth hundreds or possibly earlier. It gets its name from an inscription on a stone bearing the name of Lady Dorothy Howard of Naworth Castle which we found in the wall of what is now the kitchen. The living/dining area upstairs leads through French windows onto a balcony with a peaceful view of the churchyard, an ideal setting for relaxing and enjoying the fresh air.

Naworth sleeps up to 4 people with one ground floor bedroom (twin), ground floor bathroom and kitchen breakfast room with table and four chairs and an additional rattan easy chair.

Our cottages are located in a secluded corner of Alston and our visitors appreciate the peace and quiet and the lovely country walks you can do from the cottages but at the same time like having all the convenience of shops and places to eat within 5 minutes walk of our cottages.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01434 382975 or email [enquiries@holidaycottagesalston.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@holidaycottagesalston.co.uk).

### **Pre-Arrival**

- When you book one of our cottages you will be sent directions of how to find us.

- You can also look on our website <http://www.holidaycottagesalston.co.uk/location.php> where there is a link to a Google map.
- The nearest railway station is in Penrith, approximately 20 miles away.
- If you require an accessible taxi, or information about bus services, we suggest you contact our "Local Links" Information Centre Tel: 01434 382444
- We may be able to collect you if you are arriving at a station or airport but there is a local taxi service run by Richard Bainbridge, tel: 01434 381386
- The centre of the town is a steep cobbled hill and the approach to our cottages is via narrow streets surfaced with pavements.
- It is possible to hire a shopmobility power assisted wheelchair from the "Local Links" Information Centre situated in the Town Hall.
- We can organise shopping to be delivered if required.

### **Key Collection, Welcome and Car Parking**

- The three holiday cottages are part of a development of four architect designed cottages which blend together old and new development. The owners live in one of the cottages (called "Pigeons") and they will normally be on hand to welcome visitors and give them a familiarisation tour of the cottages, give them the key and help them to get parked if they need any assistance.
- If the owners are not available they will try and organise another person to provide a welcome service. Very occasionally this may not be possible in which case the alternative arrangements will be clearly given with contact telephone nos. for key collection and a welcome note will hopefully provide the guest with essential information.
- One parking space per cottage is available and Naworth's parking space is in a fairly level paved yard where it is possible to park very close to the back entrance.

### **Entrance to Property**

- There are two entrances. The entrance at the front of the property is accessed via a step from the cobbled street

surface and is 70mm high with a 30mm door threshold. The second entrance, from the paved parking area is via a step which is 90mm (3.5 inches) high.

- The front entrance leads directly into the Kitchen / Breakfast Room which has a ceramic tiled floor and a non-slip doormat.
- The whole of the ground floor has a ceramic tiled floor surface.
- The rear entrance (from the parking area) also has a non slip doormat.
- There is a Bedroom and Bathroom on the ground floor, both are accessed over level wooden thresholds.
- There are no handrails.

### **Halls, Stairs, Landings, Passageways**

- The ground floor Hallway is lit by wall lights. The stairwell to the first floor is lit by a wall light and a spotlight from the Living Room above.
- The ground floor Hallway leads from the rear entrance, past the ground floor Bedroom, Bathroom and Stairwell into the Kitchen / Breakfast Room. The width of the Hallway is 950mm (37.4 inches) minimum. There is unobstructed space of 930mm (36.6 inches) at the Kitchen.
- There are thirteen stairs up to the first floor Living Room. The staircase is finished in a dark wood stain and features a 'dogleg' arrangement where stairs are tapered on one side to a width of 60mm (2.3 inches). There is a handrail on the inside of the staircase. There are railings at the top of the staircase separating the stairs from the Living area.

### **Sitting Room/Lounge**

- The Living Room area is furnished with natural oak floorboards. The furniture includes a sofa, two rattan easy chairs and a coffee table on a jute rug.
- The Living Room area has patio doors at the furthest end which lead onto a decked, covered balcony with iron railings. The step down, and threshold through the patio doors from the Living Room total 110mm (4.3 inches).

## **Dining Room**

- The Dining Area is situated within the Living Room area. It is accessed directly from the stairwell with no intervening door.
- There is a dining table and chairs, however as an alternative (as these are situated on first floor level) there is another dining table and chairs in the Kitchen / Breakfast Room at ground floor level. There is a clear 680mm (26.7 inches) underneath the dining table and the chairs are rattan, upright chairs with no arms.
- The Living / Dining Room is lit by a mixture of wall lights, spotlights and standard lamps to enable a variety of lighting to suit the use of the room.

## **Kitchen**

- The step up into the Kitchen from the outside is 90mm (3.5 inches). The clear door opening is 780mm (30.7 inches)
- There are no wall cupboards. Crockery is stored in lower cupboards with some items on a ceiling rail, which could be moved to a more suitable height by prior arrangement. The worktop height is 910mm (35.8 inches). The cooker has a drop down oven door. The bottom of the oven is 220mm (8.6 inches) above floor level and the grill floor is 580mm (22.8 inches) in height. The hob sits at 920mm (36.2 inches).
- There is a fridge / freezer with the lowest shelf at 260mm (10.2 inches) and the freezer compartment at 660mm high (26 inches)
- The traditional pine 'farmhouse' table has enough space around it and under it (610mm (24 inches) for a wheelchair. The four Windsor chairs are armless.
- The lighting comprises ceiling spot lights and a wall light.
- The sink has a single mixer tap
- There is a cordless kettle revolving 360 degrees.
- There is a microwave which sits on the worktop at a height of 910mm (35.8 inches) above the floor.

## **Bedrooms and Sleeping Areas**

- There is a ground floor Bedroom and a First Floor Bedroom.
- The ground floor Bedroom is accessed from the Hallway through a door opening a clear 760mm (30 inches)

- The ground floor Bedroom has: twin beds. Bed height from floor is 540mm (21.2 inches). Space next to bed 1400mm (55 inches). There is 230mm (9 inches) of clear space below each bed.
- The colour scheme of the ground floor Bedroom is dusky pink floor tiles, pale green / beige woven floor mat, terracotta and off white walls.
- The windowsills are pale green with a green / blue door.
- There are 2 ceiling pendant lights and 2 bedside table lamps. Two windows provide natural light during daylight hours.
- There are no televisions in the bedrooms.
- The first floor Bedroom is accessed from the living room.
- The first floor bedroom has a king-size bed. Bed height from the floor is 480mm (19 inches). Space next to the bed is 1220mm (48 inches) wide and there is 230mm of clear space below the bed
- The colour scheme in the first floor bedroom has good contrast with pale green walls and dark stained woodwork. The floor is natural oak with two small woven bedside mats in contrasting white and green stripes.
- Lighting in the first floor bedroom consists of two pendant lights, two bedside lights and a light above the dressing-table mirror

### **Bathrooms, Shower-rooms and Toilets**

- The Bathroom is on a level with the ground floor Bedroom.
- The clear door opening width is 770mm
- The shower is over the bath
- The washbasin is 800mm (31.4 inches) above floor level and has a pedestal stand with a space of 200mm to recessed pedestal and has traditional individual taps.
- There is a ceiling light and an illuminated shaving mirror.
- The decor. Walls are painted off white, tiled walls are pale blue/grey. The floor tiles are light blue. The pale blue door is set in a dark brown stained frame. There is a mid-blue non-slip mat for the bath and towels are blue/grey.

### **Garden**

- The garden area is a level decked patio with garden chairs, table and potted plants, brick paved area and cobbles.

### **Additional Information**

- We do allow dogs to accompany visitors at this cottage and there is a small rear yard.
- The Kitchen and Hallway are decorated in yellow and blue contrasting with the dark wood stained staircase and woodwork.
- The Living Room / Dining area has a natural oak wooden floor, dark stained woodwork and off white walls.

### **Future Plans**

- We are planning to improve our website, so any comments on accessibility will be welcome

### **Contact Information**

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Email: [enquiries@holidaycottagesalston.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@holidaycottagesalston.co.uk)

Website: [www.holidaycottagesalston.co.uk](http://www.holidaycottagesalston.co.uk) or  
[www.artapartments.co.uk](http://www.artapartments.co.uk) (links to same  
website)

Hours Of Operation: 10am - 8pm but 24 hour for emergencies

Local Equipment Hire: 01434 382444