

Access Statement – The George Inn, Blackawton

Introduction

The George Inn is at the heart of Blackawton, both geographically and socially. There has been a pub on this site since the 13th Century when the workers building St. Michael's Church, across the road, were housed here. Blackawton is a functioning community, with very few second homes, a highly regarded primary school, a small village stores and post office, a smart restaurant and a pub (The George Inn aka "village clubhouse"). The building has changed several times over the centuries, being demolished by fire more than once and most recently, when sold by Heavitree Brewery, being asset stripped and chopped in half leaving a pub with one public bar, a dining room and a small quiet lounge room on the ground floor, and four guest bedrooms on the first floor.

Guest accommodation all with en-suite shower rooms, comprises one twin, two double and one family room. Whilst we aim to meet the needs of all our guests there are some features which might make access difficult for people with limited mobility. We have no bedrooms on the ground floor, the staircase to the first floor is not very long but is fairly steep and narrow with a right angle turn at the top. Doors are of normal width, and rooms of normal proportions and therefore not really suitable for wheelchair users.

Pre-Arrival

- We are located in the centre of Blackawton village opposite St. Michael's church.
- The village stores & post office is a few hundred yards away.
- The nearest bus stop is just over a mile away at Woodlands Leisure Park on the A3177 Dartmouth road. Buses only run hourly through the summer, two hourly out of season and the service stops early in the evening. There are no buses on Sundays.
- The 112 bus route operates into/out of Blackawton village morning and afternoon on school days ONLY.
- The West Dart community bus provides a limited service into/out of Blackawton village, weekly to Dartmouth, fortnightly to Totnes and monthly to Newton Abbott.
- The nearest railway station is Totnes which is approximately 7 miles away. Taxis are usually available at the station but we can book one for you in advance if required.
- There are several local taxi companies; we can make bookings in advance for you.
- Within reason we are happy to accommodate dogs if booked in advance.
- Our website www.blackawton.com provides some pictures of our accommodation and further information about the services we provide.
- You can contact us by telephone or e-mail. Please see the "Contact Information" section of this document for full details.

Arrival and Car Parking

- Please advise us of your anticipated arrival time to ensure we are here to welcome you.
- To ensure your accommodation is ready we ask that guests do not normally arrive before 2.30pm. Earlier arrival is possible by arrangement.
- Parking is beside the pub in our car park.
- Please let us know if you require assistance with your luggage.

Entrance

- The George Inn opening hours are 12 noon to 3 pm and 5 pm to 11 pm Monday to Saturday, and 12 noon to 4 pm and 7 pm to 10:30 pm on Sundays. If you intend to arrive outside of these hours please let us know so that we can arrange access for you.

Public Areas

- The George Inn has three ground floor rooms which are open to non-residents and residents alike.
- The small quiet lounge is available for meetings, for guests and for TV viewing.
- The stairs and hallway lead to the first floor guest bedrooms
- There is a small step up from Main Street into the dining room, then into the public bar.
- There are 13 stairs, a right angle turn and 1 further step to the first floor; there is a hand rail on one side of these stairs. The stairs are carpeted.
- There is a door from the hallway at the bottom of the stairs which leads directly onto Main Street, residents are provided with a key to this front door as well as a key to their individual bedroom.
- Ground floor toilets (Ladies' and Gents') available to guests during opening hours.
- The pub is centrally heated throughout but temperatures can be adjusted in each bedroom to suit individual requirements.

Lounge and Dining Room

- Guests are welcome to use the small quiet lounge at any time. This has a sofa, two easy chairs, two tables and several straight back chairs. This room has a television and a collection of books.
- The lounge is carpeted and has a wood burning stove during cold weather.
- A selection of local information, maps, magazines and board games is also available
- Breakfast is served in the dining room which is carpeted.
- We are (of course!) licensed for the sale of alcohol and well known locally for excellent cask ales, a good selection of wines and soft drinks, as well as an extensive and varied menu of freshly cooked local produce.

Bedrooms

- Bedrooms are on the first floor, right of the top of the stairs, and carpeted throughout.
- There are en suite facilities in all rooms consisting of a shower, WC and wash basin.
- Tea and coffee facilities are provided, as are a hair dryer, use of iron and ironing board.
- Our beds are made with duvets and two pillows per person.
- We are happy to provide sheets and blankets if preferred. Please specify before your arrival if required.
- There is a wardrobe, and chest of drawers in each room.
- Our bedrooms are not large enough to accommodate additional seating.
- There is a folder in each bedroom which contains further information about the area and details of emergency contacts including doctors and hospitals.

Bedroom 1 - twin

- Bedroom 1 overlooks the garden to the rear of the pub.
- This room has a two single beds with access between the two.

Bedroom 2 - double

- Bedroom 2 is at the end of the corridor, has a double aspect overlooking the garden to the rear of the pub and the car park to the side.
- This room has a standard double bed accessed from both sides.

Bedroom 3 - family

- Bedroom 3 is at the end of the corridor, overlooks Main Street at the front of the pub
- This room has a standard double bed accessed from both sides.
- This room has a convertible sofa bed for two.

Bedroom 4 - double

- Bedroom 4 is first on the right, and overlooks Main Street at the front of the pub.
- This room has a standard double bed accessed from both sides, though only one side has a bedside table.

Gardens

- There is a pub garden behind The George Inn.
- Guests are very welcome to enjoy our garden at all times.
- Access to the garden is from the car park at the side of the pub.
- There is a slope to the garden gate and then two steps of 6 inches into the garden.
- There is a patio between the pub and the garden, which can be accessed without climbing any further steps.

Additional Information

- There are fire extinguishers located throughout the building, one in each of the ground floor rooms, and two on the first floor landing.
- In the event of a fire we will ring a warning bell loudly. Please advise us if you have a hearing impairment and may not hear this.
- The building can be evacuated via the door at the bottom of the guest stairs or any of the doors from the pub bars. In an emergency there is also an exit via the back of the bar.
- We do not permit smoking inside the pub, the bars, or the bedrooms but you may smoke in the garden or the patio area. Please request an ash tray.
- We are happy to cater for special diets or any particular likes or dislikes. Please advise us of these before your arrival.
- We are happy to refrigerate any medication, cold drinks to go or freeze cooler bags. We can also keep any perishables (such as clotted cream!) in our fridge for a limited period.
- Mobile phone reception in Blackawton can be erratic, and in some of the surrounding area there is no signal.

Contact Information

- Address: The George Inn, Main Street, Blackawton, nr. Totnes, Devon
- Post Code: TQ9 7BG
- Telephone number: 01803-712342. When we are closed, please leave a brief message and your number, we will return your call as soon as we can.
- E-mail address: ruth@blackawton.eclipse.co.uk
- Website: www.blackawton.com
- In an emergency during the night (midnight to 8am) telephone proprietor on 01803712131
- We are open all year.

Future Plans for The George Inn, Blackawton

- We have plans to refurbish the patio, providing access directly from the dining room, during the next 12 – 18 months.
- We are constantly looking to improve the décor and facilities throughout the building.
- Longer term plans to extend the restaurant and guest rooms are not yet scheduled.

If you require further details or have any comments about the services we provide do not hesitate to contact us.

We very much value feedback from all our customers. We can only improve our products and services when you let us know where we do not meet expectations, so if there is a problem PLEASE do tell US ! If you are impressed then tell all your friends !