

# **Access Statement for** **Fort Holiday Park**

## **Introduction**

- Fort Holiday Park is a family run, static holiday park with 3 stars located in Sandown.
- The high street and beach are only 400m away. The road to the beach has a slight upward gradient to the town before a steep last 100m down to the beach.
- We have 45 caravans on 3 acres with another 8.5 acres left to wildlife in the form of marshland and water courses with long reed beds.
- David Bellamy Gold award for the all the years we have entered.
- We strive to ensure that the vast majority of visitors can enjoy our accommodation, facilities and surroundings within the park, however, we still have some way to go with regards to wheelchair access. This is due to the layout of the existing buildings on the park.
- Our aim is to help in anyway that we can and if you require any assistance during your stay or whilst planning your visit we will be delighted to assist.

## **Pre-Arrival**

- Our brochure and access statement are available online where they can be printed or we can post a copy of this access statement if required.
- We offer fax (01983 402858), email ([info@fortholidaypark.co.uk](mailto:info@fortholidaypark.co.uk)), and staff always accept Type Talk calls.
- The number 3 bus from Ryde to Shanklin stops less than 100m from our entrance in Avenue Road, Sandown in both directions.  
Southern Vectis (01983) 532373  
This bus connects at various points to the rest of the bus network on the Isle of Wight.  
This bus also passes the Tesco 24 hour superstore in Ryde and Somerfield in Sandown which is only 800m from the park.
- Sandown town centre and beach are up a slight incline on Avenue Road over a distance of 400m.
- The Co-op shop is located on the way to the beach and offers food, newspapers and general provisions
- The Beach is then located down a road onto the Esplanade all tarmac with various access ramps onto the beach.
- The closest beach also has running boards onto the sand by the cafe and toilets with Radar Key.
- Many taxi firms on the island offer accessible vehicles from 5 seats to minibuses
- All our caravans are of a proprietary make ranging from one bedroom to three bedrooms and are accessed by three steps with handrails all except two caravans outlined below.
- We have our own large wheeled wheelchair for hire at £10 per stay.

## **Arrival & Car Parking Facilities**

- We have a large gravel car park suitable for 50 cars.
- All cars park in here.
- There is a provision for three caravans to have parking for one car outside by prior agreement. These caravans are No.1, No.4 and No.5
- The grounds around the caravans are kept vehicle free at all times.
- We supply 4 wheeled trolleys to take luggage and provisions to the caravans.

## **Main Entrance & Reception**

- Main entrance is located directly from Avenue Road and is of a tarmac construction with two speed bumps
- Reception is accessed directly from the main entrance road and parking is available whilst inside reception.
- A manual door 800mm wide and a ramp form the entrance and once inside there is ample room to turn around in a wheelchair.
- A Portable Audio Frequency Induction Loop System (AFILS) Is available for those in need. By switching the hearing aid to 'T'
- A desk and seating are available as are a notepad and pens.

## **Public Areas - General (Internal)**

- The Games room and information area are accessed via a small step with a handrail. A ramp is not available due to the layout of the buildings.
- There are sofas and many leaflets for the island attractions.
- A coin operated pool table and arcade machines are also in this room

## **Public Areas - WC**

- The WC area is not accessible in a wheelchair as it is through our laundry and up 4 steps. Handrails have been placed at the steps but there is not enough room inside the laundry area for an access ramp either fixed or mobile. The only accessible public toilets are at Sandown Beach (400m).

## **Restaurant / Dining Room, Bar & Lounges, Take Away & Cafe**

- We do not have a restaurant or bar on site. We do have a private access to the Caulkheads pub across our gravel car parks. An alternative route would be down our entrance road and along Avenue Road (100M).

## **Laundry**

- Our laundry is small and accessed via a step with handrail.
- Inside we have room for two top loader washers and a front loader dryer all coin operated.
- A sink and spin dryer are also in here
- An ironing board and iron are also located in here but when in use it totally restricts access to the machines.
- There are also steps to our toilets and showers

## **Treatment room/s**

- We do not have any treatment rooms

## **Leisure Facilities**

- We only have a small games room detailed above

## **Shop**

- We do not have a shop on site.
- The nearest is The Co-op is 200m away in Avenue Road on the way to the Beach. There is one road to cross which does have a drop kerb but it is located at the entrance to the Caulkheads pub south car park and the up ramp is located in Avenue road outside the entrance to the church. Meaning you have to cross Fort street at its widest point along the stop line of the traffic.
- The closest supermarket is Somerfield in Sandown high street. which is a small shop. It has no car park of its own but on street parking  
At Lake 1.5 miles away we have Morrisons and 3½ miles away at Ryde we have a 24hour Tesco.

in general areas

## **Outdoor Facilities**

- Caravans are accessed via concrete paths with areas set aside for plants.
- We have a play area with a bark floor. The equipment consists of climbing frame, do-nut style roundabout, wobbly rotating chair and a swing with a nest for a seat large enough to hold 6 children

## **Conference & Meeting Rooms, Banqueting, Clubs, Entertainment**

- We now own the Caulkheads pub. Located adjacent to the park
- This is accessed via the park across our car parks, these are both gravel. They can also be accessed via our entrance way and along the road a total distance of 150m from our reception to the pub.
- The pub has wide doors and a disabled toilet all easily accessible
- Food is served from breakfast until 9pm
- All food is cooked to order with vegetarian and Gluten free variants
- An outside decking area and garden are also accessible
- Most of the local hotels and pubs have live entertainment which is all open for non residents

## **Bedrooms**

- Please see caravans below

## **Bathroom, Shower-room & WC [Ensuite or Shared]**

- Please see caravans below

## **Self-Catering Kitchen**

- Please see caravans below

## **Caravans, Holiday Homes & Twin Units**

- All our caravans are of an older make 1986 to 2000 models and are accessed via three steps with handrails some doors are very narrow and all caravans are not equipped for wheelchairs.
- We do have two caravans that do have a ramp but they are of a standard design once inside. These are Caravan No.31 an Excalibur 8 wide three bedroom with a central lounge and bedrooms at either end and No.32 a Knight 6 2 bedroom caravan
- All bedrooms are made as small as possible by the manufacturers with only enough room to slide round the bed.
- Some of our caravans have a sit down bath in them. This is a high sided (300mm) shower cubical with a built in seat.
- All bathrooms are also as small as possible. Some caravans have showers with seats built in.
- Most kitchens are of a galley style also acting as the main route to the bedrooms from the lounge.
- Having said all this we have a number of guests who use wheelchairs whom with assistance have holidays with us and return.

## **Touring Facilities (Holiday Parks)**

- we do not have touring facilities

## **Boats - Narrow Boat, Cruiser & Hotel Boat**

- we do not have boating facilities

## **Attractions (Displays, exhibits, rides etc.)**

- There are many attractions on the island offering varying levels of accessibility.
- We have most of their leaflets in our information racks and will be happy to call any of them for you.

## **Grounds and Gardens**

- Our grounds are level and mainly grass with concrete paths to all caravans.
- Surrounding the caravans are many plants and we have won the David Bellamy Gold Award the two years we have entered

## **Additional Information**

- We are a husband and wife team and our entire interest is the park
- As we own and live on the park we go that bit further as we like to live somewhere we are proud of.
- Virtually every penny we make is used to enhance the park.
- We hope you will find us to be helpful, truthful and informative if you decide to holiday with us.

## **Contact Information**

- Address: Avenue Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight. PO36 8BD

- Telephone: (01983) 402858

- Fax: (01983) 402858

- Email: [info@fortholidaypark.co.uk](mailto:info@fortholidaypark.co.uk)

- Website: [www.fortholidaypark.co.uk](http://www.fortholidaypark.co.uk)

- Hours of operation: 9am to 9pm  
(Reception closed all day Wednesday and Sunday from 12)

- Emergency numbers:

Fort Holiday park office (01983) 402858

St Mary's Hospital (01983) 524081

Police (08450) 454545

- Local carers:

Sandown medical centre (0844 477 3001)

- Local equipment hire companies:

Island mobility (01983) 530000

Coastal Mobility (01983) 866431

Toogood mobility (01983) 528784

- Local public transport numbers:

Southern Vectis Bus (01983) 532373

Island Trains (01983) 562492

Red Funnel ferries (0870) 444 8898

Wightlink Ferries (0870) 582 7744

- Local accessible taxi numbers:

Teltax (01983) 402560

## **Future Plans**

- we are hoping within the next five years to redesign the park to have every area and accommodation 100% accessible
- Our plans include accessible pine lodges varying in size with parking adjacent.
- Reclamation of the marshland to fishing lakes with fishing rights and log cabins in close proximity.
- These are subject to my lovely bank manager and the Isle of Wight council planning department.

**We welcome your feedback to help us continuously improve if you have any comments please phone (01983) 402858 or email [dave@fortholidaypark.co.uk](mailto:dave@fortholidaypark.co.uk)**