

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.
- From 2011 we have a dedicated disabled caravan built by a company called Pemberton at position 5.
- 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), 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 are no facilities to drop off or unload luggage or people at the individual caravans
- 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 have a private access to the Caulkheads pub across our gravel car parks. An alternative route would be down our entrance road and south along Avenue Road (100M).
- The Caulkheads pub has 4 access doors all of which remain open during licensing hours with internal doors which require opening
- Main front door (West) is a manual inward opening double door with internal outward opening double doors on door closers
- The southern door is a manual large single opening door with internal outward opening double doors
- The northern door is a manual large single opening door with internal outward single double door.

- The Eastern door to garden area is a manual large single opening door with internal outward single double door.
- An outside decking area and garden are also accessible via a ramp from the Eastern door on the pub. There is a small step (150mm) onto the decking
- Picnic benches are supplied in the pub these have a six foot top on a five foot base to allow knee space at either end for a chair, wheelchair or highchair.
- Car parking is available on the Southern car park with direct access to the southern door. A footpath or main highway path leads to all other doors and garden.
- Our larger car park is situated to the north and is of tarmac construction with an overflow gravel area. This has direct access to the garden via an outward opening garden gate and small step. Direct access to the pub is via the Northern side door. Access to all other doors via footpaths.
- A disabled / baby change toilet is available in the pub with large outward opening manual door.
- The toilet is a standard height toilet with various hand rails and is accessed from the left hand side.
- Sink taps are the push down non-concussive type.
- The interior has three floor coverings, Dining area is red pattern carpet, Bar area has a wooden floor and food till has a tiled floor
- A full range of drinks are available from the bar with good internal access.
- Food is served from 12pm until 9pm
- All food is cooked to order with vegetarian and Gluten free variants

Laundry

- Our laundry is small and accessed via a step with handrail.
- Inside we have room for two top loader washers (coin mechanism on the top) and two stacking front loader dryer all coin operated.
- A sink and spin dryer are also in here
- An ironing board and iron (free use) 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 have a small games room detailed above
- Outdoor play area with climbing frames, slides, roundabout and nest swing on bark floor accessed across the grass from the caravans outside No.11
- Caulkheads pub outlined 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 Co-op in Sandown high street, which is a small shop. It has no car park of its own but on street parking and loading.
Further up the High street we have a Sainsbury Local again on street parking and loading only. 100m further on are 2 on street disabled bays outside Lloyds TSB bank and cash machine.
At Lake 1.5 miles away we have Morrisons and 3½ miles away at Ryde we have a 24hour Tesco Extra.

Outdoor Facilities

- Caravans are accessed via concrete paths with areas set aside for plants.
- We have a play area with a bark floor.
Accessed via grass from outside caravans 11 and 12.
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 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

- We do have one caravan that is equipped for disabled usage. This is a Pemberton Sovereign 2004 model disabled caravan. It is 39' long by 12' wide and consists of two bedrooms sleeping maximum of 6 if using the pull out sofa bed conversion in the lounge.

The main bedroom has a sliding door and track fitted to the ceiling the full width of the caravan with two trapeze frames with two single beds. The caravan has a wet room consisting of large 1200mm square flush fitting shower base with built in fold away seat. The toilet is accessed from the left and also has a removable riser seat. Hand rails are fitted to the walls and a drop down toilet handrail for the right arm.

All internal doors are sliding doors.

The kitchen has a lowered work surface with wheelchair access to the sink. The oven has also been lowered.

- All our remaining caravans are of an older make 1986 to 2006 models and are accessed via three steps with handrails some doors are very narrow and all caravans are not equipped for wheelchairs.

- 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 all the 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

- Website: 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:

Premier mobility (01983) 563446

Island mobility (01983) 530000

Coastal Mobility (01983) 866431

Toogood mobility (01983) 528784

- Local public transport numbers:

Southern Vectis Bus (01983) 827000

Island Trains (01983) 562492

Red Funnel ferries (0844) 844 9988

Wightlink Ferries (0871) 376 1000

- Local accessible taxi numbers:

Teltax (01983) 402560

Meteor (01983) 404242

Redline (01983) 404444

Akar (01983) 401233

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 bookings@fortholidaypark.co.uk