



HEVER CASTLE

Access Statement: The Astor Wing & Anne Boleyn Wing Bedrooms

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Introduction

We have 19 bedrooms available within The Astor Wing of the Castle which provide luxury and comfort whilst retaining the classic and historic influences of their surroundings. All en suite and individually styled, the double, twin, single and family rooms offer stunning views, indulgent bathrooms, antique furnishings, and sumptuous beds.

The Astor Wing is only accessible to private guests, allowing you the opportunity to enjoy the peace and quiet, unique atmosphere and exceptional setting. Whilst staying at this superb location, guests can visit the historic Castle, once the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, Henry VIII's ill-fated second wife and mother of Queen Elizabeth I.

Guests also have the unique opportunity of gaining access to much of the award winning gardens, lake and parkland during times when the grounds are closed to the public, offering them the chance to appreciate the breathtaking views and scenery in complete privacy.

There is also our 18 hole championship golf course, with PGA professional tuition, Stay & Play rates can be provided on request.

B&B Bookings can be made up to eight weeks in advance of your date of arrival both online through Booking.com and through our direct line to our B&B co-ordinator on 01732 861733. Weekend breaks and a selection of packages are available. We also offer 'Dine and Stay Nights' throughout the year. Gift vouchers are also available to purchase.



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1. Pre-Arrival

The Astor Wing is situated on the Hever Castle Estate which is situated 3 miles south east of Edenbridge in Kent, between Sevenoaks and East Grinstead. Junctions 5 and 6 off the M25 are only 20 minutes away as is Junction 10 off the M23. Gatwick Airport is only 30 minutes away and Heathrow one hour and helicopter landing is possible in certain parts of the grounds.

The grid reference for the property is TQ476 9545291.

❖ **By Road:**

Maps and directions can be e-mailed and posted to you personally prior to guest's arrival with us. Guests that are arriving by car will need to be aware of our postcode which is TN8 7NG.

❖ **By Rail:**

Hever Railway Station is the closest railway station to the property which is approximately 3/4 mile away. The main route is the London Bridge-Uckfield). Taxis would have to be booked in advance otherwise it is a one mile rural walk to the property.

Alternatively, Trains run from London Victoria and London Bridge (via Oxted or East Croydon) to Edenbridge Town Station. You will then need to take a taxi for three miles to the castle. Relyon Taxis are near the station, telephone 01732 863800, or call Edenbridge Cars on 01732 864009. We suggest that you book a taxi in advance.

Eurostar terminal at Ashford is 1¾ hours' drive by road.

❖ **By Air:**

Gatwick airport is 30 minutes away, Heathrow is one hour. The Astor Wing can then be reached by Road or Rail as above.

❖ **By Sea:**

Dover is 1¾ hours away by road as is the Channel Tunnel at Folkestone.



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The nearest shops are at Edenbridge Town which is 2.5 miles or 4km.

❖ **Bus Stop:**

The nearest bus stop is situated on Hever Road opposite the T-junction. There is a bus shelter and seating.

2. Car Parking and Arrival

There is a private gravel car park for Astor Wing guests for up to 40 cars.

The car park is well lit at night with both drive lighting along the private drive towards the property and situated to the front of the property.

The main road directed to the property is not lit however and during the Winter Months remains very dark for guests wishing to walk to the local pub from the B&B. We do however offer a limited number of torches that guests will be made aware of upon check in.

The car park is mainly gravel which in areas is slightly uneven.

Access to the property is gained through an automated gate system at the private entrance and not far from the main entrance to the Castle. Maps and directions will be sent prior to guest's arrival. On arrival guests are requested to press the Astor Wing button to be buzzed through where they will be met by a member of the team.

Assistance will be given with luggage where needed.

3. Main Entrance and Hallway

The entrance door to the hallway is 98cm wide. There are two steps: the first having a height of 50mm. The length to the next step is 1.6m. The second step has a height of 1.8cm. The width between the doors is 1.3m height and width. An accessible ramp is available on request.

Inside the front entrance is a corridor of 156cm wide which leads to the rest of the ground floor and stairs to further bedrooms.

The first door through the corridor is 102 cm wide inwards opening into the corridor. It is a fire door so is heavy and has a door guard connected to the main fire alarm system.



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There is a threshold of 2.5cm when entering the corridor.

The corridor is 183cm wide and leads to the Music Room (Lounge Area) and ground floor bedrooms. On the left a corridor leads to the Billiard Room, downstairs cloakroom and stairs to the upper level bedrooms.

All public area doors are 86cm in width.

4. Public Area-The Music Room (Lounge)

Most furniture items in the Music Room are moveable. The door opens inwards width 99cm.

3 sofas- 9cm in depth; 100cm high and 135cm long.

7 chairs- all armed. Height-88cm; 93cm depth and 80cm wide.

The narrowest access width is 100cm wide. The free space from the opening of the door to the cabinet is 229cm long.

4 Loose tables of averaging sizing 83cm in length x 56cm wide and 54cm high.

There is an unfitted carpet with short pile covering most of the flooring with wooden floor to the edge of the doorways.

The sofas/armchairs contain duck down feather alongside the scatter cushions.





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5. Public Area-Tudor Suite Dining Area (Dining Area/Conference Room)

The dining area comprises of three interconnecting rooms adjoined by a moveable partition.

The door width into the dining room is 93cm.

The dining room itself will be set with moveable aluminium tables for the required numbers- height of the tables are 73cm x 7cm wide and 80cm in depth.

The dining chairs are 86cm high to the back and a seat height of 46cm.

There is a variant of free space amongst the tables' dependant on the capacities required for breakfast and the layout of the room.

There are two steps down into the Tudor Suite Dining Room- height- 17cm; 32 depth; 2 metres wide. If required, breakfast can be set in the Tudor Suite Sitting Room which is all on one level with the corridor. A supervisor/porter will be on site and available to assist where needed. Please note that it is not possible to have a ramp for the three steps into the Tudor Suite Dining Room for health and safety reasons.

A door to the outside lawn area is accessible through the breakfast room. The door is 83cm wide. There is a permanent concrete ramp giving access into the gardens. There is a handrail which runs the length of the ramp (height 112cm.)





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6. Public Toilets

Accessible Toilet: The door width is 87cm wide. The flooring is a non-slip lino.

The height of the toilet is 48cm high and the height of the sink is 71cm high. 5 handrails are present for assistance.

The free floor space in the toilet is 2m x 1.5m.

There is a low level light situated to the right of the door. There is a pull cord alarm system if assistance is required.

7. Bedrooms and Sleeping Areas

Accessible bedroom: Fuchsia Bedroom.

Door access onto the corridor leading to the bedroom is 119cm wide. The bedroom outside door is 89cm in width. This leads to an inside door-86cm wide. The threshold from the corridor to the bedroom is 1.5cm high.

Flooring is short pile carpet throughout.

Inside the bedroom guests will find all low lying switches and sockets. Furniture includes a dressing area, 1 wardrobe, and 1 mirror, TV with remote, a 6ft bed and a free space of 180cm x 176cm.

The linen includes a goose down feather duvet and scatter cushions. Non Feather allergen free bedding is available on request.

Sheets, Duvet Covers and Pillow Cases are made from Egyptian cotton.





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Accessible En-Suite Bathroom/Wet Room to Fuchsia Bedroom:

The threshold to the bathroom is 89cm high.

The flooring throughout the bathroom is a marble tile.

9 handrails are in position for guests use. There is also an alarm system in place in the bathroom.

In the wet room guests will find a flexible shower over with a vertical and horizontal handrail.

A moveable seat is available for the shower -35cm wide and 33cm deep.

The toilet seat height is 47cm high

The sink height is 73cm high. The space under the washbasin is free.

There is a low level towel rail- 82cm in height.

The free space to the right of the toilet is 31cm in width and to the left of the toilet is 115cm wide.

The door to the bathroom is not lockable.

8. Anne Boleyn Wing Bedrooms and Breakfast Area

- The Anne Boleyn Wing bedrooms utilise the same car parking area as The Astor Wing (please refer to number two above.)
- The entrance door to The Anne Boleyn Wing has two brick steps up to the front door. The first step is 162.5 cm wide; 44.5cm in depth and 18cm in height. The second step before the door is 13.5cm high and 83cm wide - these narrow to 77cm in width with the door ajar.
- On entering the Anne Boleyn Wing the hallway consists of an umbrella stand and coat area to the left and low table with guest's book and Hever Castle leaflets situated on the right. The flooring in the entrance comprises of coir matting moving to a tiled polished floor in the hallway which is prevalent along the hallway to Anne Boleyn's Wing Breakfast Room.



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Bramley bedroom

- This bedroom is the closest bedroom located to the front entrance. Its location is on the ground floor opposite to the front lobby. The width of the open door into the bedroom is 81cm in width. The bedroom can be set as a double/twin bedroom. If set as a twin bedroom the floor space between the bed and the wall is 92cm wide.
- The bathroom comprises of a walk in rain shower, toilet and wall attached basin. There are no grab rails in this bathroom.
- The height of the sink is set at 81cm high. The floor space of the bathroom area is 241cm in length x 132cm wide.

Anne Boleyn's Breakfast Room/Afternoon Tea Location

- The hallway approaching the breakfast room houses two doors – both are 77cm in width.
- The carpeted breakfast room area is set up with wooden moveable tables which are set to the numbers required. The height of the tables is 74cm in height x 77cm wide. Fabric chairs are 46cm high and a width of 43cm wide.
- The average free space between the tables is 56cm.

Anne Boleyn's Downstairs Toilet

- A downstairs toilet is located to the left of the front door on entry. The width of the doorway is 76cm. The height of the toilet is 44cm in height and the sink is 82cm high.

9. LEISURE- Castle and Grounds-Accessibility

- Accessible toilets are located:

At the top of the internal car park/visitor entrance.

In the Moat Restaurant

Near the Pavilion Restaurant at the far end of the grounds.



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- A limited supply of wheelchairs can be hired from the Hever Shop. A refundable deposit must be left.
Working dogs are welcome in all buildings including the Castle.
- Induction loops are fitted at the Castle Entrance, Hever Shop, Courtyard Shop, Moat Restaurant and Pavilion Restaurant.
- Ramps have been provided to allow wheelchairs to reach the main parts of the gardens, grounds, Pavilion Restaurant and **only** the threshold step at the Castle Entrance.
- Please note that it is not possible to have a ramp for the three steps down from the Castle courtyard for health and safety reasons. Visitors with disabilities must consider access according to their individual needs.
- It is not possible for visitors to use motorised wheelchairs or mobility scooters inside the Castle due to the historic nature of the building and its contents. These can be left on the forecourt at the visitors own risk. The Castle has a limited supply of manual wheelchairs that can be loaned for Castle use only.
- There are three floors to view in the Castle. The ground floor is level and has six areas to view before reaching thirteen spiral steps up the middle floor. There are sixteen steps up the top floor and twenty six spiral steps down from the top floor to exit into the courtyard.
- Wheelchairs cannot be taken up the staircases inside the Castle for health and safety reasons.
- All staircases in the Castle have a banister rail.
- Castle stewards are happy to advise if stairs are a problem for visitors. Visitors can be escorted down an alternative staircase instead of using the usual exit spiral staircase. It should be noted that the thirteen spiral steps to the middle floor are the only means of reaching the top floor.
- A place to sit and wait inside the Castle whilst guests visit the top rooms can be arranged. A guidebook/iPad can be loaned to guests which has
- A brief history of Hever Castle is available in large print /braille. Magnifying glasses are also available to loan.
- There are a minimum of two chairs on each floor that guests are able to use.
- The lights inside the Castle are low due to the fragile historical interiors.



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10. Additional Information

There is a non-smoking policy in all buildings and public areas as in line with general legislation.

The information folder is produced in size 14 font.

Evacuation from the property would be led by the Fire Team and Manager on duty.

11. Contact Telephone and Email Addresses

Helen Reeves /Bethan Mort–Astor Wing B&B Co-ordinators 01732 861733/01732 861731

Nicola Ferguson - Assistant Manager 01732 861745

Emergency Contact Details for guests use whilst onsite are sited in the Welcome Folders.