

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 The Farriers Arms

Introduction

The Farriers Arms is situated at the bottom end of the village of Mersham near Ashford. Enjoy a relaxing drink, we offer many cask ales from local breweries, including our own on-site Micro-brewery, and dine in the Anvil restaurant or the main pub from our 100% freshly cooked menu which we source the best of local produce for. We host a range of events, including monthly folk sessions in the bar, wine tasting evenings in the restaurant and even an annual beer, cider and music festival in our 7 acre field adjacent to the pub. There is level access throughout and a wheelchair accessible toilet for our customers.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01233 720444 or e-mail info@thefarriersarms.com

Pre-Arrival

- For full details and maps of how to reach us please see the maps tab on our website where you can plan your journey by car by using the RAC Route Planner on that page; simply enter your postcode in the box and click “go”. Alternatively, you can plan your journey using public transport by going to www.transportdirect.info
- The Nearest railway station is Ashford International, which is 4 miles (6Km) away. Taxis are available at the station. If you

require an accessible taxi this can be booked in advance, see the Contact tab for details.

- The nearest bus stop is 500m/546yds from the pub outside the Royal Oak Pub (a 5 minute walk) – but the bus route runs straight passed the pub so just ask the driver to stop outside The Farriers Arms. All buses can accommodate one wheelchair. The No.125 bus runs to/from the bus station and Ashford International Train Station every 2 hours Monday – Fridays only. The No.15 runs a more frequent service to the Mersham turning of the A20, approximately 0.5 miles from the pub (about 10-15 minute walk) which also runs on Saturdays and Sundays. There is a shelter with seating.
- The main road outside the pub where the entrance to the car park is situated has a standard width pavement which is in good repair.
- Details about companies supplying equipment for hire in Ashford can be supplied on request.
- We have information about local RADAR toilets on request.
- Our menu, price lists and this Access Statement are available in larger print on request.

Car Parking and Arrival



- There is free parking on site for customers, as well as being used by the parents of children at the local primary school. The car park is situated at the front of the building and has approximately 16 parking spaces and is no more than 20m from the main entrance at its furthest point. There are no marked disabled spaces, however can be reserved on request closest to the main door.
- The car park surface is tarmac throughout with a 20mm kerb at the entrance.
- The car park is lit at night from lights on the side of the building only.
- There are no steps leading into the main entrance or the saloon bar, however there is a doorstep 20mm high at the main entrance.
- There are 2 steps leading to the separate function room. A portable ramp is available.

Bar & Bar Area and Anvil Restaurant/Dining Area



- The bar and restaurant are situated on the ground floor. Entry to the bar and to the main building is all on one level, with a 20mm high door frame at the main door and a 30mm doorstep down to the bar entrance.
- Both the bar and restaurant have level access throughout.
- There are low sofas and bar stools in the bar area. Both the bar and restaurant have a mixture of upright chairs with and without arms and tables are well spaced apart, with a clear height from the floor of 720mm/28.8ins.
- Lighting is natural daylight supplemented with overhead and wall lighting. Candles are lit on tables in the restaurant.
- There is background music in the both the bar and restaurant areas.

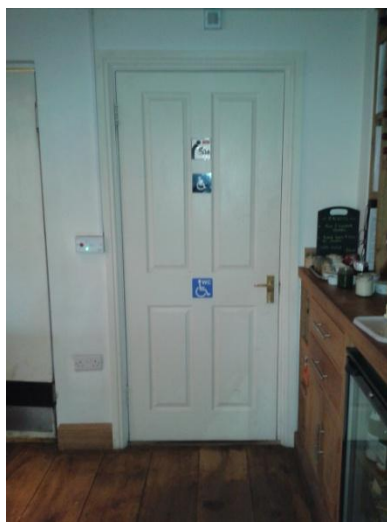


- The flooring is flagstones in the bar area and solid oak flooring in the restaurant.
- We do our best to cater for any dietary requirements and most of our dishes can be altered to become gluten free; please contact us in advance with any specific requests. Where possible all our food produce is sourced locally and cooked from fresh ingredients.
- In the bar area, food is ordered at the bar and brought to tables. The restaurant is table service.
- Large print menus are available. Specials of the day are shown on a blackboard. All staff can assist by running through menus with you.
- Crockery is colour contrasted with the tables where possible.

Customer Toilets



- Customer toilets can be found on the ground floor to the rear of the bar. Access is all on one level.
- The unisex accessible toilet can be found on the ground level in the main restaurant area and benefits from level access from all areas. Details of which are described below:



- Entrance door 780mm/31.2ins wide and level entry into the toilet.
- 1400mm/56ins transfer space to the left of the toilet, when facing the toilet. Horizontal wall mounted baby changing station located in the transfer space.
- Toilet height is 480mm/19.2ins.
- Vertical rails either side of basin and to the left of the toilet.
- Horizontal rail on the side wall adjacent to the toilet.
- Double arm drop down rail to the left of the toilet adjacent to the transfer space.
- An emergency alarm pull cord.
- Well lit fluorescent overhead lighting and there is a low level light switch.
- Non-slip laminate flooring.
- Lever taps on the sink.
- Good colour contrast between critical surfaces; tiles are brown, toilets & washbasins are white.
- All other customer toilets are tiled ceiling and wall with dark grey tiles with low energy halogen spot lighting and good colour contrast between critical surfaces; tiles are dark grey, toilets and washbasins are white.

Beer Garden/Outdoor Area/Smoking Area



- The Beer Garden is open all year round, with barbecues and other events in the summer months. A sheltered designated smoking area is available.
- The Beer Garden and the smoking area are situated to the rear of the pub. Access to these areas can be made through the internal of the pub, or via tradesman's access to either side of the pub. Level access is available from the car park via the tradesman's route.
- The main entrance/exit door leading to the outdoor areas has glass panels and lever handle. It is 1170mm/46.8ins wide.
- The smoking area is flat. The beer garden is mostly flat with a slight incline from the patio area to the garden. There is one step up to the garden and a ramped patio path.
- The Beer Garden is grassed. The patio area is paved and offers full access to external tables which are spaced well apart. The smoking area is block paved.
- There are combinations of picnic benches and patio tables which can be moved to give wheelchair access.
- Drinks and food can be ordered and served at the table on request.

Function Room



- The Village Forge Function room is situated at the front of the pub adjacent to the side of the main car park. Entry to the function room is by two steps, but an alternative low gradient ramp is available.
- The function room has level access throughout.
- Lighting is natural daylight supplemented with overhead lighting. The room benefits from under floor heating.
- The flooring is flagstones throughout.
- The room is multi-use and can be utilised for meetings, conferences, parties, food & beverage and live or recorded music.
- There are 2 flat screen TV's in the function room. Sound can be activated by remote control for each television independently, or alternatively can be controlled by amplifier to in-ceiling speakers. Subtitles can be shown on request.
- Both TV's have multiple ports to enable computer and/or projector display. All cables are supplied by the pub on request.
- The function room has upright stackable conference chairs without arms and a mixture of rectangular and circular trestle tables, with a clear height from the floor of 670mm/26.8ins (rectangular) and 740mm/29.6ins (circular).
- There are two dart boards in the function room and darts are available from the main pub bar on request.

The Old Forge Micro-Brewery

- The Old Forge Micro-Brewery is operated by volunteers from the local village and brews beer solely for The Farriers Arms. Name-plate capacity of the plant is 5-barrel (1440 pints per brew).

- Brewing takes place roughly fortnightly and consists of rigorous cleaning routines, fermentation and racking into casks.
- Tours of the brewery are available at any time by a member of the pub staff, but more detailed tours and talks can be provided by the brewing team on advance notification of visits.
- The brewery is situated on the ground floor adjacent to the Village Forge function room. Entry to the brewery is on one level, as is the brewery throughout.
- The brewing room is small and has little room to manoeuvre, with heavy machinery and plant equipment in fixed positions. Due to the confines of the room, wheelchair access is unavailable.
- Lighting is natural daylight supplemented with overhead and wall lighting.
- The flooring is concrete throughout and painted with washable paint.
- There is a drainage channel with grating at the entrance to the brewing room.

External Toilets

- External toilets are provided for customers using the events field or the Village Forge function room.
- These toilets are situated on the ground floor opposite the micro-brewery along the tradesman's route to the beer garden.
- Entrance to the gents is through a 760mm/30.4ins hardwood door with a 20mm step and measures 950mm/38ins by 960mm/38.4ins.
- Entrance to the ladies is through a 760mm/30.4ins hardwood door with a 150mm/6ins step and measures 1200mm/48ins by 950mm/38ins.

- Both toilets have well lit fluorescent overhead lighting and standard level light switches.
- Level tiled flooring.
- Lever taps on the sink.
- Good colour contrast between critical surfaces; tiles are brown, toilets & washbasins are white.

Events Field

- The 7 acre field at the rear of the pub is often used for events and private parties/weddings and can be accessed by two bridges from the beer garden that cross the East Stour river that runs to the rear of the beer garden.



- Wheelchair access is provided via a concrete path leading to one of the bridges, which is level along the length.
- Each event which is held in the field has it's own access statement provided. Further information regarding access to any of our events is available on request.

Additional Information

- All of our staff receive regular training that includes disability awareness training.
- We have a set of evacuation procedures – should you require assistance someone will help you with evacuation either out of the building or to a refuge.
- We welcome trained assistance dogs. A water bowl is available just outside the main entrance for assistance dogs and one can be supplied for any other area in the pub where necessary.
- Low energy lighting is used throughout.
- The nearest General Hospital with an A&E unit and walk in NHS facility is 3.2 miles away. The nearest doctor's surgery is 3.2 miles away. Please ask for further information.
- Free Wi-Fi Internet access is available throughout the pub and in the Village Forge Function room.

Future Plans

- We plan to extend the function facilities next year to provide toilets internal to the function room all on one level.
- We are planning a review of our website over the next 6 months to make it more accessible; your comments are welcome to assist us with this project

Contact Information

Address: The Forstal, Mersham, Ashford, Kent
TN25 6NU

Telephone: (01233) 720444

E-mail: info@thefarriersarms.com

Website: www.thefarriersarms.com

Grid Reference: TR 04896 39121

Hours of Operation: We are open all year. Opening times are:

Mon-Thurs 11:00-00:00

Fri & Sat 09:30-01:00

Sun 09:30-23:30

Local Carers: Carers' Support 01233 664393

Local Equipment Hire: Forr Mobility 01233 721589

Local Accessible Taxi: Airport Cabs Direct 01233 625980

Local Public Transport: Bus - Kent Coach Tours Ltd 01233 627330