

# Mornington House Check In

The address is: **55 Beckford Road, Cowes, PO31 7SJ – The big pale blue house in the street**  
**David Linton (Dingo) +44 7973 228 154 - [david@updata.co.uk](mailto:david@updata.co.uk)** – Full Fibre Broadband - Wifi Code: **MornHouse55**

## Directions

### Coming by Train

Get at through ticket to West Cowes (WTW) which will include your RedJet fastcat from Southampton to West Cowes (20mins) and the connecting bus from Southampton train station to the Redjet Terminal. Normal time from London is 2hrs.

From the Redjet terminal in Cowes (5 min walk), turn left onto the High Street and Beckford Road is the 4<sup>th</sup> right hand turn. The house 80m up the street on the right.

### Coming by Car

The closest ferry is the Red Funnel Southampton to East Cowes Car Ferry (we can arrange discounted tickets). On arriving in East Cowes, you can cross the river to West Cowes on the Floating Bridge chain ferry (google it and pay on your phone – check it is running first). Alternatively, you can drive to Newport and back to West Cowes (20 mins). Beckford Road is a one-minute drive from the chain ferry.

### Parking

We can provide visitor parking permits, but the IOW council are tight with these only allowing us to purchase a limited number each month. If you are not using your car for the week, we are grateful for you parking where it is free – North of Victoria Road or West of Mill Hill Road. Only one street away from Beckford Road in each case. Parking is free on Sunday, except for the dedicated Residents spaces to the right of the front of the house (looking from the house).

## Entry to the House

The front door has an electronic keypad (we will provide you with the current 4 digit code) which means no one staying has to worry about keys. The code is also marked on the inside of the front door. Take a picture with your phones. To activate the keypad, ***touch the keypad with three fingers first***, then type in the code and star (ie: 1234\*) to open the door. Please ensure all other external doors and lower windows are locked on leaving the house.

## Bedrooms

All bedrooms can be made up as twin (two can be triple) or doubles (super king) – **please inform us 72 hours before** your stay, otherwise all beds will be made up as singles.

There are 5 Bedrooms and 5 bathrooms made available to guests. On the ground floor, Bedroom 1 is the first on the left as you enter the house. We suggest that everyone puts their luggage in there first on arrival and then explores the rest of the house. Bedroom 1 is the only room that is not en-suite. The bathroom for this room is down the hall and has a bath. Room 2 is locked off.

Rooms 3 & 4 are on the first floor. Both are en-suite. The showers in these rooms are electric power showers (press the silver button for more power). Room 3 is the largest and can be made up as a triple with a trundle bed. Again, please give us 72 hours, notice for this. Room 4 is ideally suited to a couple and looks over the back garden.

Rooms 5 & 6 are on the top floor, both are en-suite. Room 5 is a triple (but two beds can be made up as a double) and the bathroom here has a bath. Room 6 is again ideally suited to a couple and looks over the back garden with a view of the sea in the distance.

Large towels are provided for guests. Please note with the staircases, the house is not suitable for elderly guests, people with disabilities or toddlers and small children. We welcome well behaved dogs (ie not on beds) in the lower floors of the house.

## Living Areas

### Sitting Room

These are on the lower ground floor. To the left is the sitting room which has a 55" flatscreen TV, with Freeview and the ability to use your Netflix and Amazon Prime account etc. There is also a DVD player with a large selection of DVDs and a PC connected to the screen. There is a large bookshelf with a selection of books as well as those on the coffee table. This room is an ideal quiet space but also the best room for some noise, late at night as it is separated from the adjoining houses by paths either side.

### Dining Room

The dining room has a large table, capable of seating 10 very comfortably, 12 at a squeeze. There is another bookshelf here with books on gardening, sailing, cooking and the Isle of Wight. There is a cupboard with extra glasses and some plates. This room also has the popular herbal tea wall with a selection of 40 different teas. Help yourselves. There is also an honesty wine rack with a selection of wine. Leave 10 pounds or replace with something similar for each bottle you drink.

### Pantry

The pantry contains various kitchen gadgets, place mats, plastic cups, some bottles of tonic, beers etc and the larger fridge and freezer.

### Laundry and Downstairs Loo

Off the dining room is a laundry and loo. There is a washing machine and dryer and a large hanging rail for any wet gear.

### Kitchen

There is a small fridge, dishwasher, microwave, oven and hob. All cups, glasses, plates, saucepans, cutlery etc are easily found.

### Conservatory

There is a conservatory with a glass table for 6 (ideal for breakfast) and small sofa. There are double doors opening out onto the terrace. Please make sure the key is left in this door at all times.

## **RUBBISH**

Large groups staying in the house back to back presents a challenge with bi-weekly (recycled one week, non-recycled the other) rubbish collection (Thursday mornings) by the council. The collection schedule is shown by the microwave in the kitchen. Rubbish bags are in the cupboard to the right of the cupboard under the sink. There are two bins in the kitchen/conservatory – recycling and non-recycling. Please do your best to recycle, which is also the bigger green bin outside. There is also a composting bin with instructions on where to place in the garden.

The wheely bins are in the green wooden bin box to the left (looking outside) of the back door. There is also a small black plastic box to the right of doors – please use this box for empty bottles first over the green bin. **IMPORTANT** – if either of the wheely bins are full, please pull them out of the bin box and put bin bags in the wooden bin box area. Please don't leave bags out in the open, by the back door (or on the street – if you can't find another bin to put them in) The seagulls will pull them apart in minutes, the foxes and badgers will follow and there will be rubbish strewn everywhere.

### Terrace and BBQ

The outside table seats 12 people comfortably. The umbrella for the table is in the brown box on the terrace. Here you will find extra cushions, a couple of folding chairs and a couple of sunlounges for the lower garden. **IMPORTANT** – please use plastic glasses from the kitchen where possible. Again, if you leave any food or even empty glasses on the table overnight, the seagulls will come at first light and you will find broken glass everywhere. So, please clear the table before bed each night.

There is a large six burner gas BBQ. Please make sure gas is off at the bottle and pull away from plants when cooking. Also please use the cover when cooled down to save it from rusting in the rain. Feel free to put the trays in soak when you leave, but leave for us to dispose of rather than tipping on the garden.

## The Lower Garden

The garden is yours to enjoy, but please bear in mind that we have 14 adjoining neighbours to think of with noise. There are garden lights for the hot tub area in the conservatory. Please remember to switch off at bedtime.

## **Around Cowes**

### **Shops**

The closest supermarket is the Sainsburys Local in the high street (2 mins walk). There is a larger M&S further along the high street. There is a Co-op up Mill Hill Road which is open for longer hours on a Sunday. There is a Waitrose in East Cowes which you can walk to via the chain ferry.

The butcher shop is excellent selling local meat and produce. The fishmonger opposite is also good. There is a shop selling local produce including cheeses a few doors before the fishmonger. Rosalies grocer further along the high street sells good local fresh produce.

Other shops we recommend as you go down the high street are: Toio, Myfunky Bags and Towels, Shipmates, Day Lewis Pharmacy, Hurst Hardware, Wine Therapy, Kirby of Cowes, Medina Publishing. There are numerous coffee shops and cafes for breakfast.

### **Eating Out**

If you are large group, booking is highly recommended. All the below, we can recommend.

The Coast – great comfort food and good atmosphere

North House – Classy boutique hotel, fine dining, great garden and bar for drinks too

No 3 – lovely family run, simple menu, great wine list

Murray's – lovely family run seafood restaurant

Mojacs – good family run restaurant

Smoking Lobster – upmarket, buzzy atmosphere

Harbour Kitchen – Best burgers in town

Gastronomy – good for a large group, fun bites

Captain Pizza – sit down at the Island Sailing Club terrace by the water is fun

Basque Kitchen – Shepards Marina is fun

MooCow – can be a laugh

Tonino's – unpretentious Italian

Indian – there are three, all pretty good. Bahar is probably my favourite. They don't sell alcohol, take wine, ask them to get from Sainsbury or walk across the road to the social club and get pints as you need ☺

Fish and chips – Corries in the high street (sit down possible), Chips Ahoy up the road has the edge for takeaway

### **Pubs**

We recommend:

The Anchor – good back garden terrace area, great live music

Duke of York – probably the best food and outside space

Pier View – Iconic sailing pub

The Union – cosy and open late

Vectis – the place you go last..it's open latest

The Woodvale – a walk along the seafront to Gurnard, very good Sunday lunch

Also Good for a drink

Island Sailing Club Terrace – right on the water

Pontoon View – Yacht Haven Marina

Compass Bar – wine bar in the high street

## **Beaches and Swimming**

Check the tides

Cowes beach less child friendly

Gurnard beach better – beach the other side of yacht club dog friendly

Cliff walk to Thorness Bay good and beaches along the way dog friendly

## **Around The Island** (clockwise)

The beach at Ryde when the tide is out – and beaches at Seaview, Seagrove bay and Priory Bay

The huge sandbar at Bembridge at low tide is a great beach walk, park opposite the Pilot Boat Inn

The Beach Hut at Forelands is a favourite crab shack lunch with a lovely view

The Spyglass Inn at Ventnor is a good waterside pub

The Ventnor Botanic Garden is very good

Steephill Cove a walk below there – best crab on IOW in café and crab pasties from shack

The Buddle Inn at Niton and St Catherine's lighthouse walk good

A drive from Niton to Freshwater Bay for spectacular scenery

Compton Beach for fossils and surfing

Dimbola Museum at Freshwater interesting

Tennyson Down walk to Needles best view on the island – 330 degrees of water at 550 ft high

Highdown Inn below Tennyson Down nice pub

Cowell Bay – clearest swimming water – Waterfront and Totland Pier good for food

The Hut – Now iconic – need to book well in advance, especially if a big group

## **Yarmouth**

The Terrace restaurant is good

The George Hotel waterside garden

The Bugle – good pub

Some good boutique shops – My Funky Bags, Stripes

## **In the middle**

Carisbrooke Castle is good

Osborne House is OK, walkable from Cowes

Garlic Farm – can be a good lunch

Newtown Creek – great for nature and seals and occasionally sea eagles