



Visit Wales
Croeso Cymru

**Inspection and approval for
“BYGONE ERA
ACCOMMODATION”**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Inspection and approval for “BYGONE ERA ACCOMMODATION”

While customer assurance inspection schemes have been operated for a long while for the mainstream type tourist accommodation such as self catering cottages, it has become apparent that Wales can also offer a less traditional or alternative- to- the-norm type of accommodation, and that this is being increasingly sought out by those looking for a different holiday experience.

These criteria are intended for the self catering accommodation that has “Listed” status and cannot meet the basic requirements of the Visit Wales Star grading scheme but visitors nevertheless have the right to expect that a certain standard be attained. Consequently, anyone wishing to have Visit Wales recognise or promote this type of accommodation must annually apply and pay for an inspection and meet all of the following criteria. The full definition for the kind of place that can be inspected under this scheme is given under the relevant heading.

MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR “BYGONE ERA” TYPE ACCOMMODATION

DEFINITION

“Letting accommodation provided within buildings either of historical or cultural significance and which are of “Listed” status. This type of accommodation cannot provide the level of facilities or services associated with more modern/mainstream type tourist accommodation because of their listed status and as such, are only available for occupation over limited time periods during a calendar year.”

Whilst basic in terms of not providing bathrooms, flushing toilets, internal WC’s, mains water, electricity etc the accommodation will be fit for purpose, clean, well maintained and meet all current, relevant statutory obligations so as to comply with Health & Safety requirements.

The essence of this style of accommodation is the element of stepping back in time and experiencing a lifestyle that is far removed from that of the modern world, a bygone era, a forgotten era.

Visit Wales will retain the right at all times and at its own discretion to decide if this standard is the appropriate one to use.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Operator/agent must ensure that the accommodation complies fully with all current, relevant statutory obligations and requirements for letting.
- Evidence of “Listed” status from an official source will need to be provided to Visit Wales before inspection.
- Operator/agent must describe fairly the accommodation and facilities on offer and also clearly point out which mainstream facilities are not provided e.g. hot water, mains gas.
- A disability access statement must be prepared, be kept up to date and provided to enquirers.
- Current, valid public liability insurance must be obtained.
- All participants are required to observe the Visit Wales/Croeso Cymru Code of Conduct.
- A fire risk assessment must be done by the responsible person and act on findings to reduce or remove risk, then review assessment regularly, making changes where necessary.
- Accommodation must have a fully working Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide detector (if appropriate).
- Details for summoning assistance, day or night, in the event of an emergency must be provided and clearly displayed to guests (e.g., proprietor, doctor, dentist, emergency services callout (i.e., 999) to be detailed, together with the location of the nearest contact point/ telephone). A first aid kit to be provided on site.

THE ACCOMMODATION

- The accommodation and any accompanying toilet/washing/cooking facilities must be structurally sound, and well maintained both internally and externally.
- All grounds, gardens and parking areas to be well maintained. Pathways and parking areas should be free from trip hazards.
- All areas to be thoroughly cleaned on a regular basis.
- Heating to be provided.
- Windows & any skylights to function (open & close).
- All windows & any skylights to have opaque covering or blinds.
- All areas to be lit for safe movement. Emergency lighting to be provided as back up (i.e. a torch).
- A potable cold water supply must be provided either inside the building or adjacent to it, complying fully with current relevant and future statutory requirements.
- Accommodation inventory to be displayed (see below for list of minimum equipment required).
- Storage area in the accommodation for food and luggage.
- Dedicated sleeping areas to be provided.
- Single beds – minimum size 183cm x 76cm / 6' x 2' 6". Double beds – minimum size 183cm x 120cm / 6' x 4'.
- Mattresses & pillows must be clean and sound and to be fitted with adequate protectors.
- Bedding supplied in sufficient quantity i.e. three blankets per bed, or one duvet of suitable tog rating, and two pillows per person. For winter, late or early season letting, the amount of bedding should be increased. Bedding to be clean and well aired.
- Where bed linen is provided, change to be made available.
- An area for washing cooking utensils, plates, cutlery, etc, must be provided with at least cold running water.
- A dedicated cooking area must be provided.
- If provided, all cooking equipment (including barbeques, gas stoves/cookers etc) to be well maintained.
- If no fixed cooking appliances provided, a suitable raised surface for guests to use their own cooking equipment outside of the accommodation must be provided.
- At least 1 toilet facility and washbasin (including soap) must be provided for every 10 guests.
- A dedicated lounge/seating area to be provided.

REQUIRED MINIMUM EQUIPMENT IN ORDER TO MEET THE STANDARD

One per unit

Bread/Cake container
 Bread/Cake plate
 Bread/Chopping board
 Bread knife
 Butter dish
 Broom
 Bucket
 Carving knife & fork
 Casserole dish
 Colander
 Compost/recycling Bin
 Condiment set (2 piece)
 Corkscrew/bottle opener
 Carpet sweeper (available)
 Doormat
 Dustpan & brush
 Eco friendly cleaning agents
 (washing up liquid etc)
 Fish slice
 Frying pan
 Fruit dish
 Grater
 Jug (measuring)
 Jug (milk)
 Kettle
 Kitchen bin with lid
 Kitchen scissors
 Ladle
 Mirror
 Oven roasting tray (if appropriate)
 Potato peeler
 Pot scourer/dish mop
 Saucepans & lids (small, medium & large)
 Spoon
 Sugar Bowl

One per unit

Teapot
 Tin opener
 Tray
 Vegetable knife (sharp)
 Washing up bowl

Two per unit

Ashtrays (where smoking allowed)
 Duster
 Mixing bowl/basin
 Tablespoon

Per person

Cereal bowl
 Egg cup
 2 x Fork
 2 x Knife
 Mug
 Plate (small and large)
 Spoon (dessert and tea)
 Tumbler and wine glass

Bedroom

3 x blankets or 1 duvet per bed
 2 x pillows per person
 4 x clothes hangers per person

Bathroom/WC (if appropriate)

Toilet brush and holder
 Toilet roll and holder

PROMOTING THIS ACCOMMODATION

Once Visit Wales has carried out an inspection and this has proved that all relevant criteria are met, you will receive a copy of the Assessor's report and in due course, a display certificate. You will be entitled to describe the accommodation as "Visit Wales Bygone Era Accommodation/Llety Oes a Fu Croeso Cymru".

The accommodation should not be promoted using any other wording. The relevant logo will be supplied to you by us, Visit Wales, as electronic artwork so that you can put this onto your promotional literature and/or website if you so wish. If you advertise in any of our guides or those produced by your Local Authority, "Visit Wales Bygone Era/Llety Oes a Fu Croeso Cymru" is what should be used as part of your advert.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like to apply for a Star grading visit or discuss any issue of concern arising out of the contents of this guide, contact us at:

Quality Assurance Department
Visit Wales
Welsh Assembly Government
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You can also find a grading application form, fee details and an electronic version of this guide by visiting our website www.wales.gov.uk/tourism and clicking on 'Grading'.