

Himley Hall Glamping has been set up to deliver a nature-based, vacation experience in the walled garden at Himley. We are licenced through Freedom Camping.

When we started to work on the walled garden in 2020, we cleared 2.5 acres of overgrown and damaged woodland, including concrete, rubble and weeds. The site had been dug up in a number of places, leaving deep holes where digger drivers had practiced their craft during training, and the land had been otherwise untouched since the early nineties. The courtyard had been used for storage and contained 3 dangerous concrete garages/storage buildings that were removed by us. After 6 months, operating under licence from Dudley Council who own the property, the ground was cleared, new top soil brought in, levelled and seeded, ready for our lease to begin the following Spring.

The nature of glamping is that it is very low impact and does not leave a permanent trace on the woodland as all structures are portable and can be stored away out of season. We have repurposed and recycled whatever we can to sustain that low impact on the environment as a whole.

The historic buildings are protected by Historic England who have agreed they can be re-purposed over time, with permission from them, but they are out of bounds for now as they have deteriorated over time. It is hoped that we will secure funding to restore them in the future.

Each tent or caravan (with a maximum of 10 offered at any one time) can accommodate 2 adults and up to 2 children and each accommodation (glamp) has its own bathroom which are located within the courtyard area approximately 50 ft from the proposed bar. We have already received glamping bookings for times when the venue has not already been hired for events.

We offer our guests the opportunity to bring special celebrations or events to the venue, as they glamp, by hiring the site to clients over the course of up to three days for activities such as woodland weddings and corporate celebrations or birthday parties. These glamping experiences and events for up to 150 guests are only offered during the months of April to October. There are no overnight guests during the winter.

We have successfully run 2 events this summer so far for local people and there have been no complaints or incidents that have been brought to our attention: one was a daytime, alcohol free event and the other a 50th birthday party glamping event which also raised money for a Cancer charity.

We promote local businesses to supply our clients with services we do not offer, such as catering, photography or entertainment and most have come from within a 5-mile radius, including our cleaning team.

The events are always fully managed by Himley Hall Glamping staff, including car-parking, the safe use of the grounds and the management of the sale of any alcohol in the bar area. Additional guests can access the glamping bathrooms, with permission of the client, and/or additional toilets are hired in.

We have asked for a licence to cover longer hours and more days than we intend to make use of so that we have flexibility for our clients to book their special day: this is usual practice; however, the bar will not operate as a public bar and will only be operated during an event. We are hoping to have one event a week in the season next year, to include mostly weddings, and some of our bookings are only for between 40 and 60 guests.

We intend to work closely with Himley Hall, the Church, local business and a variety of charities to compliment activities for the local community.