

Forest Hill SE23 Moving Day Checklist

Print this before moving day in Forest Hill SE23. It covers the London Borough of Lewisham permit route, the access quirks of the local stock (victorian and edwardian terraces and villas, many split into flats) and the sign-off steps most people forget.

Four weeks before — book and confirm

- ☐ Confirm the move date, arrival window and both addresses in writing for your Forest Hill SE23 move.
- ☐ Match the van size to the property type — Victorian and Edwardian terraces and villas, many split into flats.
- ☐ Ask London Borough of Lewisham whether your street needs a parking dispensation or a suspended bay, and what notice it wants.
- ☐ ULEZ applies across all London boroughs — check the van is compliant and the charge is inside your quote.
- ☐ Tell your landlord or agent the exact handover date and key-return time.
- ☐ Book the end-of-tenancy or pre-move-in clean for the day either side of the move.
- ☐ Start running down freezer food, cleaning products and anything that cannot legally travel in the van.

Two weeks before — permits, lifts and paperwork

- ☐ Apply for the London Borough of Lewisham bay suspension or dispensation — most London councils want 5–10 working days.
- ☐ Book the lift, loading bay or service entrance with the building manager if your block has one.
- ☐ Access reality to plan around: Steep gradients, narrow hill roads and permit bays around the station.
- ☐ Redirect post and update the SE23 address on the electoral roll, bank, insurance and driving licence.
- ☐ Give energy, water, broadband and council tax the closing and opening dates for both properties.
- ☐ Register with a new GP, dentist and vet if you are leaving the area; arrange school or nursery transfers.

One week before — pack room by room

- ☐ Label every box with the destination room, not the room it came from.
- ☐ Pack a first-night box: kettle, mugs, chargers, bedding, toilet roll, medication, tools.
- ☐ Photograph the back of the TV and any flat-pack before you dismantle it.
- ☐ Drain the washing machine and fit its transit bolts.
- ☐ Take paint, oils, batteries and garden waste to a London Borough of Lewisham reuse and recycling centre — the crew cannot legally load them.
- ☐ Set aside passports, valuables and jewellery to travel with you, not in the van.

The day before — final prep

- ☐ Charge phones and keep a paper copy of the crew's number and the new address.
- ☐ Defrost the fridge-freezer and towel it dry.
- ☐ Take meter readings at the old property and photograph them.
- ☐ Hold the loading space with cones or bins if kerb space near The Horniman Museum and Gardens is tight on the day.
- ☐ Strip the beds you are taking and bag bedding and clothes.
- ☐ Reconfirm the arrival window with the crew and the key-collection time with the agent.

Moving day — loading

- ☐ Walk the crew through the property first and flag fragile and do-not-load items.
- ☐ Protect carpets, stair noses, communal halls and door frames before the first box moves.
- ☐ Load heavy furniture first, boxes second, soft furnishings last.
- ☐ Keep the first-night box, paperwork and keys with you rather than in the van.
- ☐ Check lofts, sheds, gardens, balconies and every cupboard before the van pulls away.
- ☐ Final meter readings, lock up, hand back keys and get the handover confirmed in writing.

Moving day — unloading and sign-off

- ☐ Direct each box to its labelled room as it comes off the van.
- ☐ Build the beds first so the day can end even if boxes are still packed.
- ☐ Test the boiler, hot water, smoke alarms and the consumer unit.
- ☐ Take arrival meter readings and photograph them.
- ☐ Check items against your inventory and report any damage before the crew leaves.
- ☐ Flatten boxes and book a recycling collection or a clearance slot.

Forest Hill local notes (SE23)

- ☐ Nearest station for the crew: Forest Hill (Overground).
- ☐ Access landmark to navigate by: The Horniman Museum and Gardens.
- ☐ Housing stock: Victorian and Edwardian terraces and villas, many split into flats.
- ☐ Parking and access: Steep gradients, narrow hill roads and permit bays around the station.
- ☐ Council for permits, suspensions and waste: London Borough of Lewisham.
- ☐ Local context: The Horniman Museum, the hill views and a compact village centre.
- ☐ Neighbourhood scale (ONS Census 2021): 15,955 residents in 6,684 households, 58.2% of homes flats.

Need a crew in Forest Hill? Get a free fixed quote at
helloservices.co.uk/moving-services/london/lewisham/forest-hill-se23

Source: ONS Census 2021 via Nomis (TS008, TS041, TS007A, TS044, TS054, TS003), MSAO geography. Figures cover the ONS neighbourhoods Forest Hill East, Forest Hill West (E02000673, E02000676) — the published geography that covers Forest Hill, not the whole borough. Neighbourhood names: House of Commons Library MSAO Names (OGL).