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# Ty Rosa

Cardiff, Wales

View on a map

7/10 Telegraph expert rating

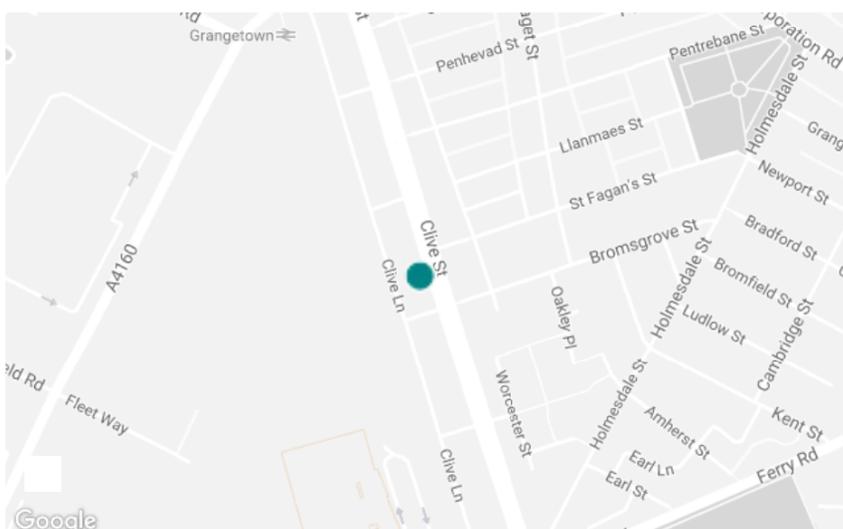
"One mile from Cardiff's dynamic city and one mile from the regenerated Cardiff Bay is Ty Rosa, a Victorian terrace house turned b&b that prides itself on being part of the Welsh LGBT scene. It's unashamedly homely, with a few modern touches and an extensive breakfast selection."

By Benjamin Parker, TRAVEL WRITER

## Location

7/10

Grangetown is one of Cardiff's original 'five towns'. It's a little dated and parts are grimy - though the proximity to city and bay mean Grangetown is earmarked as the next place to be gentrified. Ty Rosa is in the middle of Victorian terraces; not one of Cardiff's prettiest, but still plenty of pretty arched doorways and bay windows. The railway station is close, with trains to Barry for sea, sand and Gavin and Stacey, or to Caerphilly for castle and forest. Buses stop just outside the b&b, heading to the city or down to the waterfront, and taxis either way cost around £5.



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## Style & character

6/10

Ty Rosa might have more of a polished exterior than a lot of the houses on Clive Street but inside it feels very much like home: a jumble of furniture, knick-knacks accumulated over the years (or given by guests, including a collection of Doctor Who action figures), the kitchen open to guests, and the front room very naturally acting as a place to eat breakfast, play a game of chess or sit by the fire with a glass of wine. Outside is a covered deck and small green garden.



View gallery

## Service & facilities

8/10

Paul Bolter-Shone is your host, who set up this b&b with his husband (now running a café near Cardiff's Roath Park). He's chatty, and tailors his advice to different demographics - sci-fi fans get pointed to the Doctor Who Experience, history buffs get his essential stops. Other than in-room amenities, there are no additional facilities at Ty Rosa.

- Wi-Fi

## Rooms

6/10

There are 10 rooms, and all are pleasant without being particularly outstanding; in that sense, a continuation of the simple, homely feel found downstairs. If you don't venture out, DVD players and speedy Wi-Fi help pass the time. Colours vary, from moody aubergine to an off-white pearl, and some have feature walls of paint or patterned wallpaper. Beds, some sleigh-style and others with boxy wooden frames, tend to take up a lot of space.

The Keep, under sloping ceilings on the property's top floor, is the largest room; peaceful, though the mattress sags and each wobble causes the low bed to creak. The Keep's small en-suite shower room is clean, but a stale smell lingers; another room has a larger en suite, and three rooms on the first floor share a bathroom.

## Food & drink

7/10

With no lunch or dinner offering, it's all about breakfast at Ty Rosa. From the kitchen you see as you first enter, everything is cooked fresh to order. There's the hearty full Welsh breakfast, a stack of pancakes drizzled in maple syrup, or even a Gower breakfast featuring crispy bacon, laverbread, cockles and poached eggs. Dining out nearby is generally unexciting, with a string of takeaways. Merola's, an Italian and local favourite since the 1980s, is dated but reliable if you don't want to travel far. You can find better options in the city centre, or at the bay.

## Value for money

7/10

Double rooms from £45. Breakfast £6.95. Free Wi-Fi.

## Access for guests with disabilities?

Not suitable.

## Family-friendly?

Not especially, though children are welcome.

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tyrosa.com