

WYSING ARTS CENTRE CAFE OPPORTUNITY



Photo courtesy Café Abantu

THE OPPORTUNITY

Café Abantu, who have been Wysing's resident café for the past 18 months, successfully operating from our site six days a week and winning the regional heat of Britain's Best Café award in November of this year, have taken the decision to act upon a rare opportunity to relocate to a new site. The move has opened up an opportunity for a new café provider at Wysing. Alongside providing a lunch and potentially brunch or breakfast menu for the public, there is an opportunity to use Wysing as a base for activity that might include producing for other outlets, and even running cookery classes. We are open to hearing about potential new approaches.

Current customers to the café include regulars from the surrounding villages and beyond, and visitors to Wysing's site including to exhibitions and our wide-ranging events programme. The café is also becoming popular with cycling groups and there is scope to expand this offer.

Ideally, we are looking for a small to medium artisan catering or food business that needs premises to

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work from, who can provide a food offer for café customers, both those coming for the café and those who are visitors to Wysing's busy programme of events across the year, serving a good quality menu that includes vegetarian and vegan options, and who can also provide catering for Wysing's external space hires and other Wysing activity.

ABOUT WYSING

Established in 1989 and located nine miles west of Cambridge, close to the village of Bourn, Wysing Arts Centre delivers a range of programmes for artists and the public. Wysing's site is comprised of ten separate buildings across 11 acres of land alongside a growing collection of outdoor sculpture. The majority of the buildings include artists' studios, with up to twenty artists and staff working on the site every day. In addition, across the year, artists travel from across the UK and further afield to take part in residencies, retreats, and other activity, staying in on-site accommodation for up to eight weeks.

THE CAFÉ AND SITE

The café set-up is ready to go with catering equipment in place, alongside furnishings and a dedicated storage area. A list of kitchen equipment can be provided on request.

The café has been operating Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm and on Saturdays 10am to 4pm offering breakfast and lunch and afternoon tea. There is scope to reduce the opening hours to a more focused lunch-time offer, and to open on Sundays.

The seating area measures 13 x 5.3 m (approx. 67 square metres) with an additional kitchen area, measuring 3.5 x 5.3 m (including counter and cupboards). The two rooms are connected via an open hatch. There is an outdoor seating area with wooden picnic tables and there is scope to explore an onsite allotment to provide vegetables and produce if of interest. There is ample parking space for vehicles on site and easy access to the kitchen area for deliveries. The site has 24-hour access and is locked overnight. A care-taker lives on the site.

All consumables and crockery, utensils etc. to be provided by the caterer.



Café Abantu, current set up. Photo courtesy Café Abantu



Outdoor seating area. Photo courtesy Café Abantu

HOW TO MAKE AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

We are inviting expressions of interest in this opportunity and ask that you provide a written proposal to include:

- Information on your business and the type of food you are producing or would produce; please provide an overview of your food offer with prices.

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- How you see your business operating at Wysing and how being at Wysing would support the development of your business.
- An overview of relevant experience and skills including the nature of your current business and period of trading.
- Outline income and expenditure budget for the first year of operation.

If you would like to visit the site for a tour and an informal conversation about this opportunity, please contact Katy Drake, Wysing's Deputy Director, on katy.drake@wysingartscentre.org. **The deadline for expressions of interest is 31 January 2018.**

We will be inviting a shortlist of applicants to attend interviews during early February 2018.

CONTRACT AND FINANCES

We are offering an initial one year contract with minimum three months' notice on both sides thereafter, and with an option for a longer contract beyond the first year.

Rent for the space should be paid quarterly in advance by direct debit, and a deposit of 3 months' rent will be required in advance. The monthly rental rate is negotiable.

