

# YAS

## Kiln Yard info pack



# About

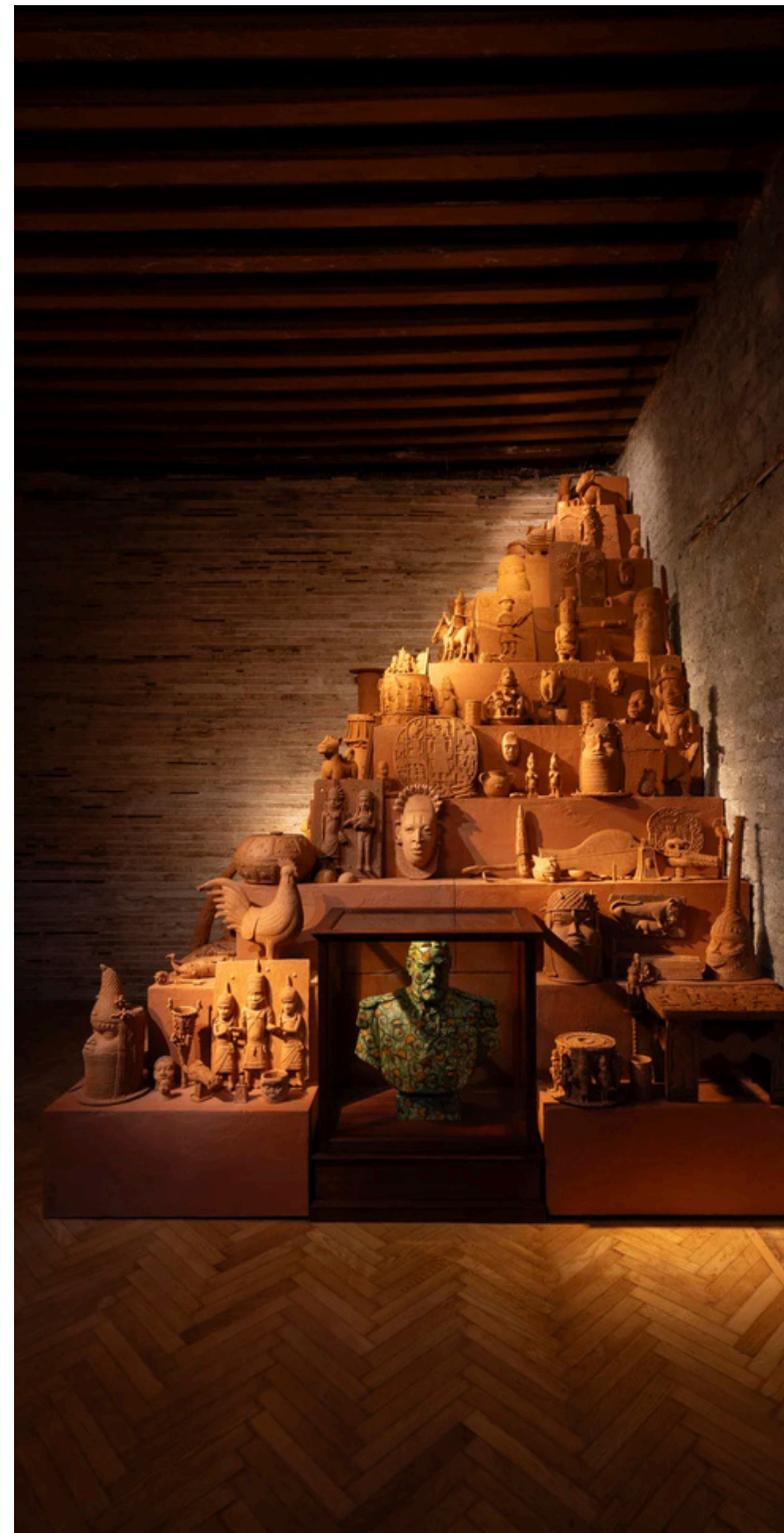
The Kiln Yard is our gas kiln facility at Persistence Works. Featuring two large gas-fired kilns with a sheltered outdoor workspace and urban garden, the Kiln Yard is the only publicly accessible facility of its kind in the region

Using a gas kiln enables reduction firings, which can create complex glaze effects including copper reds, shinos, celadons, and carbon trapping. The size of our kilns make them ideal for firing large ceramic sculptures and production pottery.

The facility has been used for a number of community projects. It was also used to fire terracotta sculptures for Yinka Shonibare's presentation at the 60<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale (pictured).

Our kilns are available to hire by professional ceramicists on a solo or shared basis. Firings are managed by our dedicated Kiln Technicians as standard.

The Kiln Yard was built with support from Arts Council England.



# Specifications

## Large kiln

- 60 ft<sup>3</sup> LPG downdraft, sprung arch
- Packing space: 8 shelves per layer (18" × 10" each) = 36" × 40" total area, 10 ft<sup>2</sup> per layer.
- Example: 4 layers = 40 ft<sup>2</sup> total packing space.
- Internal dimensions: W45" × D45" × H48", plus 6" at the apex of the sprung arch.
- Volume: 56.25 ft<sup>3</sup> (excluding arch), 61.77 ft<sup>3</sup> (including arch).

## Small kiln

- 15 ft<sup>3</sup> LPG downdraft, sprung arch
- Packing space: 2 shelves per layer (18" × 12" each) = 3 ft<sup>2</sup> per layer.
- Example: 4 layers = 12 ft<sup>2</sup> total packing space.
- Internal dimensions: W27" × D27" × H33", plus 4" at the apex of the sprung arch.
- Volume: 13.92 ft<sup>3</sup> (excluding arch), 15.25 ft<sup>3</sup> (including arch).



# Hiring the kilns

## How it works

Both kilns can be hired by individuals, groups, or businesses. Our Kiln Technicians handle everything: loading, firing, and unpacking. You simply drop off your work and collect it when it's ready.

A full firing cycle typically takes five days: packing on Monday, firing Tuesday, cooling Wednesday, and unpacking Thursday.

We'll do our best to accommodate your preferred firing dates. Once you've read this document, complete our enquiry form and we'll be in touch to arrange your booking.

For shared firings, one person must apply, act as main contact, and handle booking and payment on behalf of the group. The group is responsible for dividing space and costs between themselves.

Firings must be booked in advance via our form, with details of clay, glaze, and preferred schedule (including temperature gradients and reduction periods) for Kiln Technician approval.

## Rates

Large kiln, £930

Small kiln, £645

Additional charges may apply for slower firing programmes.



# Independent use

## How it works

Experienced ceramicists who want to make regular use of the kilns may wish to do so without the support of a Kiln Technician. This reduces the hire costs significantly. We grant permission for solo use at our discretion.

The process generally requires:

- Observing several managed firings to gain experience;
- Holding public liability insurance and following facility H&S rules;
- Paying a £150 induction fee;
- Accepting responsibility for any kiln damage.

If you are interested in independent use of the kilns, please get in touch to discuss this further: [rachael@yas.art](mailto:rachael@yas.art)

## Rates

Large kiln, £305

Small kiln, £215

Additional charges may apply for slower firing programmes.



# Community firings

## How it works

We occasionally run community firings, supported by our Kiln Technicians just like our regular group hires. Unlike standard group bookings, these are organised by us, so you don't need to already belong to a ceramics group to take part.

Large kiln shelves (H11" x D18" x W20") are available at £60 each, and you can book more than one. This makes it an affordable way to experiment with reduction firing without committing to a full kiln hire.

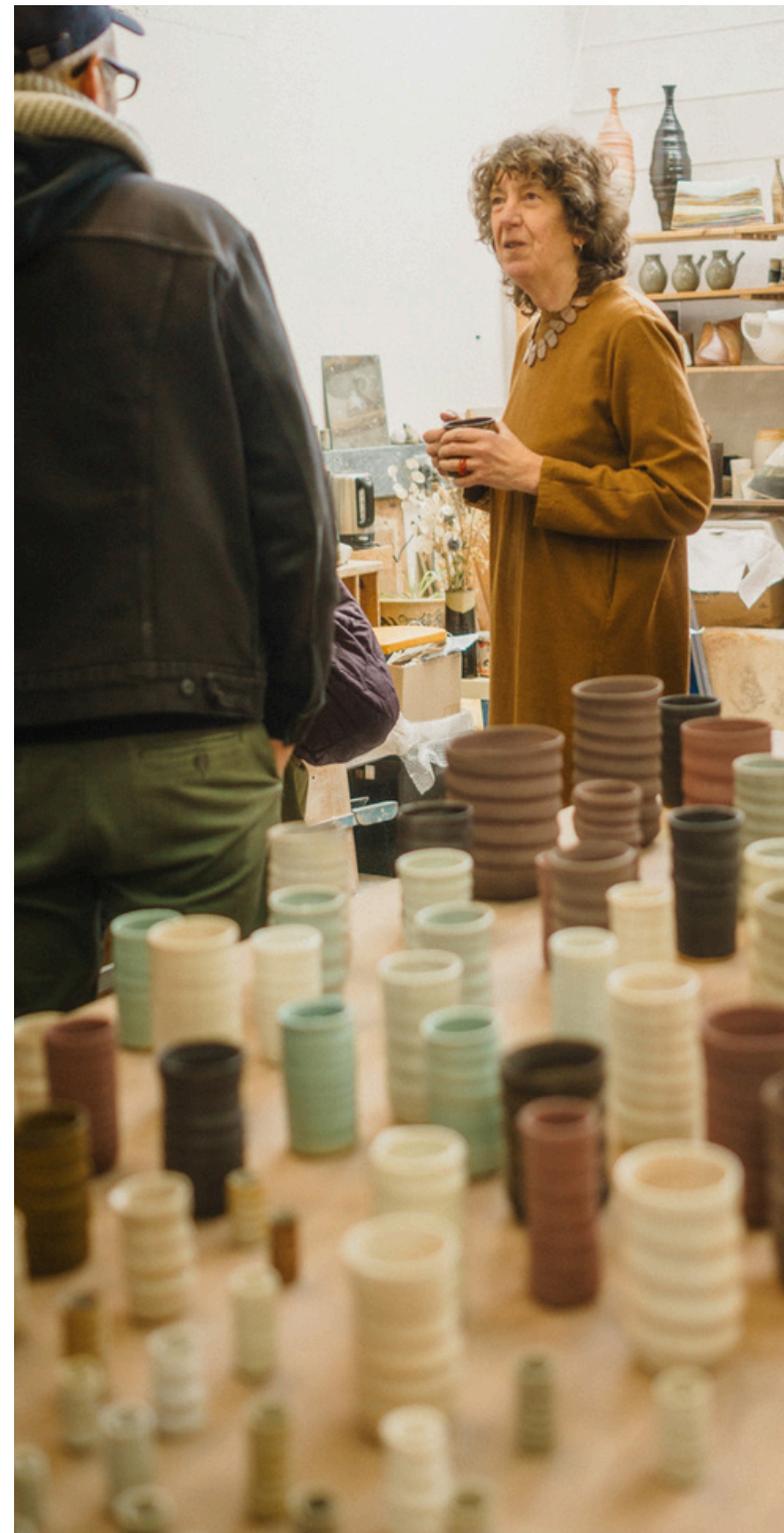
## 2026 Community Firings:

- March 24–27 (drop-off by 5 pm Mon 23 Mar)
- June 16–19 (drop-off by 5 pm Mon 15 Jun)
- September 8–11 (drop-off by 5 pm Mon 7 Sep)

To enquire, email: [rachael@yas.art](mailto:rachael@yas.art)

## Rates

£60 per shelf (H11" x D18" x W20")



# Terms of Use

## Temperature & Kiln Use

- Maximum firing temperature: 1300 °C. Higher temps require approval from Kiln Technicians;
- Kilns are not for atmospheric firings (soda, salt, wood, etc.). No prohibited materials may be introduced.

## Drop-Off & Collection

- Drop-off schedules sent upon booking confirmation;
- You will be notified by e-mail when your work is ready to collect;
- Fired work will be held for 30 days; items which remain uncollected after this period become property of YAS;
- Transport to/from the Kiln Yard is the responsibility of the kiln user.

## Damage & Liability

- Yorkshire Artspace handles work carefully but cannot accept liability for damage during firing, handling, or unexpected glaze results;
- Payment for firing services is still required, even if damage occurs;
- We reserve the right to refuse work that may damage equipment or pose a health & safety risk - see our Standards for guidance.



# Standards

Prepare your work to these standards:

- Clay wall thickness: ideally  $< \frac{1}{2}$  inch; up to 1 inch if pre-biscuit fired (raw 1-inch work may incur extra cost).
- Provide full clay and glaze information for risk reduction. Ask technicians if unsure.
- Top temperature must match the clay body's tolerance.
- Glaze must match firing schedule; test unfamiliar glazes beforehand.
- Glaze must not be too thick or flaking; bottoms of pieces must be glaze-free ( $\geq \frac{1}{4}$  inch margin).
- Pieces must be biscuit-fired or 100% dry and fire-ready.
- All pieces must have a legible name, usually on the bottom.

## Note

To reduce risk of damage to your work or our kilns, Kiln Technicians may refuse work not meeting these standards. No refund will be offered.



Click here to request a booking

or get in touch: [rachael@yas.art](mailto:rachael@yas.art)

**YAS**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
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