

Accessibility of West Oxfordshire Attractions

Blenheim Palace

The Palace and Gardens are accessible for wheelchair users. However, due to the nature and layout of the Palace and grounds, an able-bodied carer is strongly recommended (an able-bodied carer accompanying a person with disability is admitted free of charge)

The parking area close to the Palace, known as 'Flagstaff' is a designated car park for visitors with disabilities. Full details of disabled access are available at Flagstaff kiosk.

There are adapted unisex toilets in the East Courtyard and at the Pleasure Gardens. Non unisex facilities can be found in the Palace near to the Restaurant.

There are a limited number of manual wheelchairs that can be used in the Palace only and 2 for use in the Gardens. There are a few electric scooters available to hire from April to September. Please enquire at Flagstaff kiosk for further information. All are available on a first come, first served basis.

The shops and restaurants are fully accessible; some entrances have a shallow ramp. The bookshop next to the Chapel has a narrow entrance.

Assistance dogs welcome inside the Palace and out in the Gardens, they must be kept on a lead at all times.

Access to the Palace is approximately 100m via the courtyards, which are gravelled. There are 22 steps to the Palace entrance; there is a wheelchair lift on the west side near to the Two Churchills Exhibition. A member of staff will help with the operation of the lift (max weight – 230kg). The optional Private Apartments tour is not accessible for wheelchairs (stairs & small corridors).

The Water Terrace Gardens are accessible via the Terrace café. Wheelchair users visiting the rest of the gardens should access via the Fisherman's Gate. Direction and a code for the gate can be obtained from a member of staff. Visitors to the Cascade are advised to proceed via the Rose Garden (avoiding the steps on the Lakeside walk). The terrain can be rough in some areas.

The Pleasure Gardens: this area has a separate car park. It is approx. 15 minutes walk from the Palace on tarmac. The Butterfly House has a narrow entrance that may not accommodate all wheelchairs. The Marlborough Maze is not recommended for wheelchair users.

Golf Buggies and the Train: offering tours around the lake and to the Pleasure Gardens, these are an excellent way for the less mobile visitor to enjoy the landscape, though please note that disabled visitors will have to transfer from the wheelchair.

The Park: there is a continuous tarmac route around the Queen's Pool (approx. 2km) and around the Park (approx. 8km) – both routes have steep inclines.

Further information: please contact the Operations Office (01993 810532). No large print, Braille or audio format

Chastleton House (NT)

There is separate disabled parking, about 30yds from the house. Please enquire at main car park for directions. There is a drop-off point closer to the building.

The building itself has 6 steps to the entrance. Inside there is one wheelchair for visitor use. There are stairs to the other floors, though a photograph album is available for viewing.

There is an adapted WC in the stable.

There is a Braille guide and an induction loop in reception.

Cogges Manor Farm Museum

Disabled car parking close to the entrance.

Wheelchair available to book in advance.

Accessible toilet and washing facilities.

There are significant areas of uneven ground. First floor of the Manor House is not accessible to wheelchairs.

A plan showing a wheelchair route around the Museum is available on request from reception. The audio tour and costumed staff are available to provide information about inaccessible areas.

Further information: 01993 772602

Cotswold Wildlife Park & Gardens

There is easy access for wheelchairs to all enclosures, and self-service cafeteria. A limited number of invalid chairs kept in the Manor House and there is no charge for their use: enquiries should be made to the general office (01993 823006).

There are excellent toilet facilities for the disabled: one block of public toilets are situated opposite the kiosks which are next to the Park Shop; one opposite the Zebra House; the others are in the courtyard.

Parking is free for visitors to the Park. There is a large tarmac area for coaches and ample disabled parking.

Kelmscott Manor

There is disabled parking and drop-off at the Manor, the public car park is approx. 10min walk.

There is wheelchair access to the gardens, shop, restaurant and ground floor of the manor.

There are disabled toilet facilities.

A wheelchair is available for visitor use.

Further information: 01367 252486

Oxford Bus Museum

Every effort has been made to accommodate visitors with disabilities. All the public areas are accessible by ramp or lift. There is a toilet for the disabled, constructed to the latest specification. While it is not possible to gain wheelchair access to vintage buses, several can be viewed from elevated platforms. A wheelchair is available on site.

The Oxfordshire Museum

The public areas of the museum are fully accessible and the museum has an adapted toilet. If you have any specific needs please do not hesitate to contact us on 01993 814115.

Rollright Stones

All three sites are no more than five minutes walk from the main parking area. The Kings Men Stone Circle is a few strides from the main lay-by. It is accessible by wheel chair although some assistance might be needed to get up the kerb. The King Stone is over a wobbly wooden fence across an open privately owned field to which the owner permits access. The Whispering Knights are about five minutes walk from the main lay-by heading east. After about 100 yards go through a green farm gate and follow the edge of the field down to the Knights. The field is privately owned but access to the Knights is permitted.

There are no toilet facilities at the Stones.