

Accessibility Guide for RSPB Old Moor

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Welcome

Set in the heart of the Dearne Valley, RSPB Old Moor is a fantastic 250 acre wetland reserve with a range of habitats. The site provides year round wildlife that is easily observed. it is a great place to unwind, take a simple stroll and enjoy close contact with nature. The visitor centre has a shop and cafe; there is an education centre and meeting room facilities. It is open every day apart from Christmas Day and Boxing Day from 9.30am and closes at 5pm, with the cafe opening at 10am and closing at 3pm.

This access statement deals only with RSPB Old Moor. There is limited public access and visitor facilities at the other RSPB nature reserves in the Valley.

At a Glance

3 Level Access

There is level access from the main entrance to:

Dining Table

Welcome area

Retail desk

Public toilets

RSPB Old Moor shop

Activity Zone

There is level access from the car park to:

The courtyard

The lawn

The playground

The hide entrance has level access.

⊅ Hearing

Some staff have Next Generation Text and disability awareness training.

Hearing loop systems are installed at the welcome, in the shop and cafe

W Visual

The walls and the doors have high colour contrast.

Q General

We have a complimentary ticket policy for personal assistants.

There is at least 1 public toilet for disabled visitors.

Some staff have disability awareness training.

Getting here

RSPB Old Moor Old Moor Lane Wombwell S73 0YF

Travel by public transport

You can get to RSPB Old Moor by bus and train.

The nearest bus stop is located by the entrance gate to the reserve. Ask the driver to stop at Old Moor, Manvers Way. The bus stop is 0.1 miles / 0.2 km from RSPB Old Moor.

The nearest train station is Wombwell station. The train station is 3 miles / 4.8 km from RSPB Old Moor.

Taxis are not readily available at the station. If you require an accessible taxi you can book this in advance from local taxi companies.



Travel by taxi

You can get a taxi with Dodworth direct taxi by calling 01226 200110. The taxi company has a wheelchair accessible vehicle. You can get a taxi with A1 Association Taxis by calling 07742 483648. The taxi company has a wheelchair accessible vehicle. To plan your journey via public transport or car using transportdirect.info; simply enter your postcode and ours which is S73 0YF.

Parking

We have a car park. There are accessible parking spaces. The parking is less than 50 metres from the main entrance. Parking is free.

The nearest drop off point is at the top of the drive, approximately 20m from the entrance to the visitor centre. From the car park to the entrance, there is level access. There is a permanent ramp.

The route is 1200mm wide, or more.

We do have mobility scooters available to loan which can be broght to the car park by request. Booking is advised

Arrival

Path to main entrance

From the street to the main entrance, there is level access. The path is 1500mm wide, or more.

Main entrance

The main entrance has level access.

The door is 2000mm wide.

The main door is side hung and manual.

There is ample car parking on site for around 150 cars including 6 dedicated spaces for blue badge holders.

There is a short walk from the car park to the visitor centre although we do have a drop off point closer to the contre if you need it.

If you have pre-booked a scooter these can be used to collect

people from the car park.

The car park is hard standing and the path to the visitor centre is either paved or hard standing.



Walkway to RSPB Old Moor courtyard



Trans Pennine Trail pathway leading to Old Moor

Getting around inside

Visual Impairment - General Information

We have high colour contrast between walls and doorframes.



Door leading out to the reserve



We have 1 lift.

You can get a lift to all floors.

Lift to cafe

The lift is a platform lift.

The lift door is 2000mm wide.

The lift is 2000mm wide. The lift is 2000mm deep.

The lift says the floor number at each floor.

The lift buttons have raised numbers or letters.



Lift from the cafe



lift view from the visitor centre



★ Ticket/ information desk

Welcome area

From the main entrance to the desk, there is level access. The route is 1200mm wide, or more.

The door is 1200mm wide, or more.

The desk has a low section.

The Visitor Centre is located on the ground floor with step free, level entry.

Friendly staff are always on hand to help and provide up to date information on where to go and what to see. They are happy to give assistance, including with any literature. Entrance to the reserve is free for RSPB members. For non members, the charges are as follows - Adult £5, Family £11, children £2.50, concessions £2.50.

There are three robust mobility scooters available to hire from the Visitor Centre at a cost of £3. Please ring in advance if you would like to reserve one.

There is a full events programme throughout the year and a range of family friendly activities, including spotting sheets and quizee available. We also have activities/ equipment such as pond dipping, disocvery backpacks, binoculars and mobiltiy scooters available for hire. Please ask staff for details - including accessibility.



Welcome area

Retail desk

From the main entrance to the desk, there is level access. The route is 1200mm wide, or more.

The door is 1200mm wide, or more.

The desk has a low section.

The shop is located in the visitor centre, accessed directly from the main entrance.

Specialist optical equipment, books and DVDs are available along with a comprehensive bird care and wildlife gardening range.

In addition, a wide selection of gifts, souvenirs and greetings cards are available.

Our products are ethically sourced where possible - and our bird food is sourced to reduce the carbon footprint through miles travelled.

There is step free, level access throughout and ample room within the shop for a large wheelchair/pushchair to manoeuvre and turn.

There are some tall book/gift racks and low display units accessible from a seated position.

Our staff are always happy to provide assistance



Retail desk

Things to See and Do

We have a complimentary ticket policy for personal assistants.

** Public toilet

Public toilets

There is a public toilet for disabled visitors.

From the main entrance to the public toilet, there is level access. The route is 1200mm wide, or more.

The toilet door is 1200mm wide.

The direction of transfer onto the toilet is to the front only.

There is 2000mm in front of the toilet. The toilet seat is 2000mm high. The toilets have handrails.

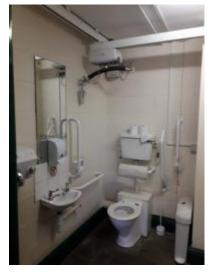
There are toilets located on the ground floor of the Visitor Centre, in the Farmhouse Meeting Rooms and upstairs in the Cafe.

There are two accessible toilets located on the ground floor of the Visitor Centre and one in the Farmhouse Meeting Rooms. All of these toilets are well lit, have easy access and vertical and horizontal rails.

One of the Visitor Centre accessible toilets has changing facilities (table and hoist) and the other has baby changing facilities.



Changing table and hoist in the disabled toilet



Disabled toilet



RSPB Old Moor shop

From the main entrance to the shop, there is level access. The route is 1200mm wide, or more. The door is 1200mm wide.

The route through the shop is 800mm wide, or more.

The shop is located in the visitor centre, accessed directly from the main entrance.

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Gift display in the shop



Bird seed display in the shop

Place to eat and drink

Farmhouse cafe

From the main entrance to the dining area, there is level access. There is a lift. From the lift to dining area, the route is 1200mm wide, or more. The door is 1200mm wide.

To get to a table, there are no steps.

The route through the dining area is 800mm wide, or more.

There is no background music.

The table and plates have high colour contrast.

We cater for sugar free (diabetic), vegetarian, gluten free (celiacs), nut free, low fat and vegan specific diets.

The Cafe is located on the first floor.

There is seating for up to 90 people, including on the balcony which gives panoramic views of the reserve with an additional 40 seats in the courtyard area.

The cafe can be accessed via a lift from the ground floor in the Visitor Centre.

There is also a flight of stairs with handrails.

Tables and chairs are well spaced apart and the chairs have no arms.

There are toilets in the cafe, but no accessible toilets in this location.

Where possible, all our food produce is locally sourced. Smaller portions are available and we do our best to cater for any dietary requirements; please contact us in advance to check any specific requests you may have.



Cafe menu



Family using the balcony



View from the cafe balcony



Inside the cafe

Activity Zone

From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. The route is 1200mm wide, or more.

The door is 1200mm wide.

The Activity Zone is located in the courtyard to the left of the Visitor Centre.

It is accessible, as are the education facilities - including raised ponds for pond dipping.

The visitor centre toilet facilities are next door - including the changing table and hoist.

The classroom is interactive with Smart Board technology.

Old Moor is the ideal place to bring your class for an unforgettable first-hand experience of nature, and is a great place to help them understand the value of wildlife and natural places.

Visits are limited to a maximum of three classes (or 90 students).

Our teaching has been externally verified to ensure that we are providing high quality learning experiences and managing safety effectively via the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge scheme.



Activity Zone in use

Getting around outside

Designated Walking Trail

Reedbed trail

The trail is 500metres long. The trail has a hard surface. The trail has seats. There are bird hides along the trail.

The reedbed trail is about 500 metres long and takes about 10 minutes to complete on foot.

The trail to the Bittern hide does have a steep gradient with refuge points and a hand rail however wheelchair users may find this route particularly demanding. The Bittern hide is suitable for mobility scooters and pushchairs.

All paths are flat and have hard surfaces, there is enough space along the trails for two wheelchairs to pass



Reedbed hide

Designated Walking Trail

Green lane trail

The trail is 700metres long. The trail has a hard surface. The trail is sloped. The trail has seats. There are bird hides along the trail.

The green lane trail is around 700m long and takes about 15 mintues to complete on foot.

A map of the trails is available from the visitor centre or available to download in advance from the website.

All the paths are flat and have hard surfaces, althgouh there are some inclines with refuge points. There is enough space along the trails for 2 wheel chairs to pass.

Seating and refuge points are situated approixmately every 100m. Most of the benches are made from wood or recycled plastic, with and without backs.



Green lane path



Family in a hide

Reedbed hide

At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 1000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

Family hide

At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 1000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

Bittern hide

At the hide entrance, there is level access. There is a permanent ramp. The door is 1000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

Wader scrape hide

At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 1000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

Wath Ings

At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 1000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

Field pools east

At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 1000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

Field pools west

At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 1000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

Tree sparrow farm

At the hide entrance, there is level access. The door is 3000.00mm wide.

There are low windows in the hide, so wheelchair users can see outside.

A Picnic Area

The courtyard

From the car park to the picnic area, there is level access. The path is 5000mm wide, or more.

The entrance is 5000mm wide.

Some tables have space for wheelchair users. You can bring your own food to the picnic area.

The courtyard at Old Moor has 10 tables with 40 chairs, each with wheelchair access. It is a great place to sit and have a picnic lunch or enjoy a cup of tea and cake from the cafe - sat in the shade of the parasol awning.



Courtyard

Picnic Area

The lawn

From the car park to the picnic area, there is level access. The path is 1000mm wide, or more.

The entrance is 2500mm wide.

Some tables have space for wheelchair users. You can bring your own food to the picnic area.

The lawn is a grassed area just beyong the visitor centre, it has areas of picnic blankets and 3 picnic tables available for use.

The lawn has 3 entrance points the smallest of which is a meter wide, the largest of which is around 3m wide from a 5 bar gate.



View from the balcony at Old Moor

Picnic Area

The playground

From the car park to the picnic area, there is level access. The path is 1000mm wide, or more.

The entrance is 2000mm wide.

Some tables have space for wheelchair users. You can bring your own food to the picnic area.

The adventure playground is an area for children to play, it has one wheelchair accessible picnic table within the play area.



Playground

Customer care support

Accessibility equipment

We provide 3 mobilty scooters which are available on site to hire at £4 each, these can be booked in advance from the visitor centre by calling 01226 751593.

We also have magifying sheets available in the visitor centre available for anyone to use.

Our staff and volunteers are friendly and knowledgeable, please do not hesiatte to ask for assistance.

For a list of more items, please go to

https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/dearne-valley-old-moor/.

Alongside the reserve runs the Trans Pennine Trail, this is a good toilet area for assistance dogs.

We have an area to charge mobility scooters and battery powered wheelchairs.

We charge our mobilty scooters in the visitor centre, but they can also be charge in the farmhouse or in the activity zone.

Emergency evacuation procedures

We have emergency evacuation procedures for disabled visitors.

We have an evac chair for safe evalucation of wheelchair users in the cafe in the case of an emergnecy.

Customer care support

Some staff have disability awareness training.

Some staff have Next Generation Text training.

Guide last updated: 25 October 2023