

Access Statement

Abbey Pumping Station Museum

*This access statement does not contain personal opinions as to our suitability for those with disabilities, but aims to accurately describe the facilities and services that we offer all our visitors.



Introduction

The collections of Abbey Pumping Station Museum comprise industrial, technological and scientific items relating to Leicester. The building houses four working examples of Woolf compound rotative beam engines made by Gimsons. These can be seen working at selected events.

The extensive grounds and ground floor are accessible for wheelchair users. In addition the Lower Beam Engine House and Switch Room are accessible via platform lift. The museum is available for private hire and is a unique and interesting alternative wedding venue.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require further assistance please telephone 0116 299 5111 or email www.enquires@abbeypumpingstation.org or aps@leicester.gov.uk

To find out more about Abbey Pumping Station and for more details about access and links to travel information and maps please visit: <http://www.leicestermuseums.org/abbey-pumping-station/> or visit our the volunteer organisation's website: <http://www.abbeypumpingstation.org>

Pre Arrival

Open: _____ Monday to Sunday: 11.00am - 4.30pm 1st February to 31st October

Closed _____ 1st November to 31st January except for special events (please see our websites for details)

- Admission is free except for special events
- Abbey Pumping Station is located north of the city centre adjacent to the National Space Centre. Car parking is not available on site, visitors parking is on the Space Centre car park next door
- For full details and maps of how to reach us please see the directions section of our website, alternatively you can plan your journey by car or public transport using www.transportdirect.info; simply enter your postcode and ours, which is LE4 5PX to get directions.

- The nearest railway station is 2.7 miles away on London Road. The numbers 54 & 54A leave from Charles Street and will bring you to Abbey Lane; alternatively taxis are available at the station. If you require an accessible taxi you can book this in advance on 0116 251 5105
- 'Skylink' service from Leicester to Derby drops off and picks up at the junction of Corporation Road and Abbey Lane
- Birstall Park and Ride is located adjacent to the A46/A6 junction. Buses leave every 15 minutes and arrive at the National Space Centre approx. 9 minutes later.
- For more details including local bus information please visit Google Maps. To plan your journey to Leicester please visit Leicester travel pages. All links can be found on our website:

Car Parking & Arrival

- Car parking is available at the adjacent National Space Centre
- Pathways within Abbey Pumping Station grounds are paved or tarmac and suitable for wheelchairs
- The pathway to the main entrance comprise historical paving slabs which are uneven in places



Main Entrance & Reception

- The main entrance and reception is on the ground floor. The entrance doors are automatic and measure 60 inches/152 cm wide.



- There are steps at the front of the building. However, these are only used on special event days and during weddings; there is a platform lift serving the same area.
- The floor area in reception is flat and wheelchair accessible
- The reception and counter area is used for information and shop purchases. The desk is open with no glass partition and has a low area suitable for wheelchair users.
- On event days there is a complimentary ticket policy for a carer
- Wheelchairs are available on loan free of charge.



Attractions & Displays

- The main exhibition galleries are situated on the ground floor. There are no steps and it is accessible for wheelchair users. It takes approximately 30 minutes to view.
- The galleries are free-flowing and generally uncrowded. However, on event days they can become very busy
- The galleries are made up of exhibition panels and cases, freestanding & interactive exhibits and room sets.
- There are video and audio transcripts which cause a degree of background noise
- The text is variable and doesn't currently meet access standards
- There are seats available within the gallery
- There is a hearing loop
- There is no audio guide



Gallery

The Beam Engine House.

- There is a platform lift to access the Lower Beam Engine House
- The upper floors of the Beam Engine House are only accessible by narrow, industrial metal stairways and are unsuitable for wheelchairs, pushchairs and those with mobility problems
- The top floor can become excessively hot during the summer months which may adversely affect some people.



Stairs to Upper Floors



Route to Switch Room

The Switch Room.

- The Switch room is used as a café on event days and is hired out for functions.
- The room is large and flat with no steps. However, the access route may be unsuitable for wider wheelchairs and mobility scooters as it is quite narrow and uneven and contains a 45° turn

The Basement.

- Our 'Ghostly Engineer' event takes place in the basement. However, this area is inaccessible to wheelchairs or those with mobility problems due to both steep and spiral staircases.

The Main Store.

- The main museum store is located in the grounds. It is used on event days for a variety of purposes and is flat and accessible for wheelchairs/pushchairs. However, it can become very crowded during popular events.

The Workshop

- The workshop is used on event days for demonstrations. These are viewed from the outside making it accessible to all.

Public Toilets

- Abbey Pumping Station has a toilet block situated in the range opposite the museum galleries. All toilets are on ground level. There is an accessible toilet with a wide sliding door. There are also a ladies and gents but these are situated along a narrow corridor with narrow doorways.
- The accessible toilet has a twist lock, a grab rail and an emergency alarm.
- The sink in the accessible toilet is fitted with a lever tap, mirror and hand drier.
- A baby change station is also situated in the accessible toilet at an appropriate height for all users

Children's play area.

The Children's play area is normally open during the museum opening hours.

The Marque

The marque is available for hire and is used to house additional attractions and exhibits during special events. Contact the museum for private hire enquires.



Additional information

- Assistance dogs are welcome and water can be provided upon request.
- Selected staff have received disability training
- We have a wheelchair available for use.

Contact Information

- Address: Abbey Pumping Station Museum, Corporation Road, Leicester, LE4 5PX
- Telephone: 0116 299 5111
- Email: museums@leicester.gov.uk
- Web sites: <http://www.leicestermuseums.org> or www.abbeypumpingstation.org