



Steam Yacht Gondola - Access Statement

Steam Yacht Gondola
National Trust Pier
Lake Road
Coniston
Cumbria LA21 8AN

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Introduction

Steam Yacht Gondola operates on Coniston Water from Coniston Jetty between late March and the end of October - please see website for more information.

Access to the vessel is via a wooden jetty suitable for wheelchairs, but there are one or two steps to transfer onto the boat. Full wheelchair access is therefore not possible and passengers will need to be able to make the short crossing onto the boat without their chair.

Lake levels can vary considerably but alternative access points are provided and the crew will always try to make the transfer to the boat as level as possible.

Also, since *Gondola* is a historic vessel, the accessways are narrow and the chair cannot be used whilst on board. There are hand railings, and crew will happily assist passengers to a seat if requested to do so.

Guide dogs are welcome throughout the boat, while other dogs must be kept by their owners in the seating areas outside the carpeted area.

Parents are responsible for the safety and behaviour of their children at all times while aboard.

Mobile phone signal is generally good at Coniston but there are some small blind spots on the lake.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

By car: Using the A593 from either Greenodd or Ambleside, turn onto Lake Road between the petrol station and the fish and chip shop. The turning is 120 metres south of the pubs and bridge at the centre of Coniston, and is marked by a brown 'S Y Gondola' sign. The jetty is at end of Lake Road LA21 8AN.

There is an adjacent Lake District National Park Authority pay & display car park (not National Trust) with easy parking for disabled visitors – approximately 100 metres from the jetty over smooth surfaces.

A drop off point at the rear of the Bluebird café close to the jetty can be used if there are no convenient parking slots available.

Other car parks and bus-stop are located within 10-15 minutes walk, and on busy days an overflow car-park often operates on Lake Road.



Please allow time for parking before boarding.

By public transport: There is a regular bus service 505 from Windermere Railway Station and Ambleside and a limited bus service X12 from Greenodd and Ulverston.

The bus stop is about 20 mins walk from the jetty.

Toilets

There are no public toilet facilities aboard *Gondola*. There are public toilets adjacent to the LDNPA car park – with wheelchair-accessible and baby-changing facilities – and these have a level entrance, wash hand basins with electric hand drier and are well lit.

Visitor Reception

There is no visitor reception building for Steam Yacht Gondola – the crew welcome visitors at the jetty gate and vessel boarding point.

Assistance is offered to less physically able visitors to board the vessel, on request.

There is plentiful seating, both indoor and outdoor. There are NO seat reservations.

Tickets may be bought in advance (online) or aboard the vessel at the time of sailing, with payment by cash or card.

Passengers should be at the gate ready to board at least 5 minutes before advertised departure time.