

## **Compton Castle Access Statement**

Compton, Marldon, Paignton, Devon TQ3 1TA

T: 01803 661906

E: [comptoncastle@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:comptoncastle@nationaltrust.org.uk)

### **Introduction**

Compton Castle is a medieval fortified manor house set amid rolling hills in the Devon countryside.

The property is situated in a rural location close to Torbay.

Visitors are advised to allow a maximum of 90 minutes for the visit including the house and gardens. The original room layout has been preserved.

There is generally poor phone reception within the area of the property.

Assistance dogs are allowed in the castle, garden and orchard. Please ensure that they are wearing their identification harnesses.

Path and floor surfaces around the property are tarmac, gravel, flagstone, grass, wooden and concrete.

Natural light levels are controlled to comply with museum guidelines and standards.

Staff and volunteers are located around the property to provide assistance and information.

There is a manual wheelchair available for loan from visitor reception. Please call 01803 661906 to book.

### **Arrival & Parking Facilities**

There are brown signs from the Torbay Ring Road directing you to the property. The property is approximately 2 miles from the Ring Road.

Parking is on the grassed area in front of the castle. There is a small kerb from the drive onto the grassed area.

There are two designated disabled spaces on the grass near the main entrance. (NB there is a kerb from the disabled parking onto the main driveway.)

This parking is approximately 100 metres from the main entrance.

## **WCs**

The male toilets are situated off the rear courtyard. The female toilets are located within the building off the lower solar. The disabled toilet is in the same location as the female toilets.

The male toilet does have a raised threshold at the access point, a ramp is available and can be deployed by a member of staff.

All toilets are lit by light bulbs and natural lights and have automatic hand driers.

## **Visitor Reception**

Visitor reception is located within the main house.

Access to the Great Hall is through the main entrance of the house, which in total has five steps.

Seating is provided in the welcome area.

## **House**

The castle is approximately 100 metres from the main parking area. The route is along a hard path at the front of the property.

The main entrance to the property involves negotiating two raised stone thresholds, making four steps in total. There is also a further step up into the main hall and a raised threshold to access the rear courtyard from the main house.

There is an alternative route to the rear of the property around the side of the property which is level.

There is an alternative entrance to the property at the side of the property through the lower solar. If access is required here it should be requested at reception and a member of staff will assist.

All doors to the property open inwards and are operated manually. Doors are generally kept closed to the property.

Wheelchair users have access to two rooms on the ground floor only.

All rooms within the house are furnished minimising echo. Floor surfaces are wood, flagstones and loose carpets.

There are two floors open to the public. Access to the first floor is via two spiral stone staircases, with a one way system in operation. The down staircase is provided with a rope hand rail.

The lighting in all rooms is by natural light and / or lightbulbs.

Separate to the main property, the kitchen, scullery and guard room are located off the rear courtyard. There is a raised threshold and single stepped access. The kitchen and scullery are on the ground floor and the guard room is on the first floor. The access to the guard room is via a stone spiral staircase and is restricted, with no hand rail available.

The chapel is at the front of the property through a separate entrance. There is a raised threshold and single stepped access.

Tours of the house are self guided and guides are available from visitor reception. Access to the garden is restricted for disabled visitors.

Level access to the rear courtyard is via the side of the building. The courtyard itself is main grass with flagstone paths. There are some changes of level which involve single steps.

Powered mobility vehicles and electric wheelchairs cannot be accommodated within the property. Manual wheelchairs are allowed. A manual wheelchair is available for loan.

## **Food & Beverage**

There are no catering facilities at the castle itself. However, there is Castle Barton Restaurant opposite the property which opens half an hour before the castle and closes approximately half an hour after the property.

## **Garden**

A welcome map which includes the garden is available for all visitors.

The access to the garden is to the left hand side of the property and involves a large number of steps as there are several level changes.

The rose garden has a large water feature which has deep water. There is no fencing to the pond.

There is no access to the formal garden area and orchard for wheelchairs or visitors with restricted mobility.

There is a single kerbed access to the front lawned area of the property and the lower orchard. The lower orchard is fairly uneven ground and is not suitable for wheelchair access.

## **Contact details for more information**

T: 01803 661906

E: [comptoncastle@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:comptoncastle@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**Date February 2022**