

Mottistone Garden Access Statement

The garden is set in a south facing valley surrounding an attractive manor house and has a Mediterranean style planting scheme including drought tolerant plants from subtropical regions.

Contact details

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Points to note

- There is reasonable mobile phone reception across most of the site.
- Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property, and this is signed on the Visitor Reception entrance door. There is a water bowl along the side of this building which is refilled regularly or can be filled on request.
- The courtyard and pathways are loose gravel.
- The pathways are generally steep and require some strength to push wheelchairs.
- The Tea Gardens are approximately 60 meters away from main reception and accessible by wheelchair.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

- There are brown signs within 200 metres of the property. The entrance is signed, and the main car park is down a short driveway.
- The main car park surface is partly gravelled with some grass parking bays.
- There are 5 designated spaces for blue badge holders, on a firm grassed surface, in the main car park. However, there are steps down to the main reception from here. These spaces are the shortest distance from the Visitor Reception.
- One cycle rack is available in the main car park and visitors can leave a bike inside the property at their own risk. Please speak to a member of staff for guidance.
- A drop off facility is also available at the front gate. If the blue badge holder is the driver, please contact us ahead of your visit and we can advise you on parking.
- There is an overflow car park to the left of the entrance drive which is only used for events. This is a field usually used for grazing sheep.
- The path down the steep entrance slope to the Visitor Reception is gravel and involves steps. There is a single central handrail at the lower end as you reach Mottistone Gardens' main entrance.



Steps from car park to Visitor Entrance Pathway from Car Park

WCs

- There is a portable accessible WC within the courtyard, including a left hand transfer accessible WC. Baby changing facilities are available here. This WC is accessed by a flat surface ramp with a **9 degree slope**.
- Non accessible WCs are accessed by 2 steps, supported by a left hand handrail on one side. They have sinks, running water, towel dispensers, flat floors and are illuminated with LED lights.

Visitor Reception

- From the car park along a gravel driveway with a slope of 1:8 towards the archway of the barn you will find the visitor reception. The single entrance door is non-power operated, approx 900mm wide, opens inwards to about 90 degrees. Staff and volunteers can assist with opening the door if required.
- The surfacing in this area is stone. There is very little natural light from the doors and very small windows. Lighting is provided by a track system using spotlights.
- The reception desk is over 1000mm high but there is a lower area, approx 750mm high, which the reception team can also use for admission and membership enquiries.
- There is space for a 1500mm diameter turning circle in front of the reception.
- There are seats provided.



Path to Visitor Entrance



Visitor Reception Entrance (Right hand door) Exit (Left hand door)

The Shack

- There are 5 wooden steps each about 150mm high with wooden handrails at each side. The entrance to The Shack is a single wooden door 70cm wide that opens inwards to 90 degrees. Immediately behind that is an internal door 65cm wide opening inwards to 90 degrees. It is a small open planned room with cork tile flooring with 2 stainless steel ladders to separate bunk beds and a small ensuite shower and toilet.



Steps up to the Shack



Entrance to the Shack

Food and Beverage

- The Tea Garden is mainly level with a mixture of loose gravel and lawn with stone paving under the pergola seating area.
- Mostly outdoor seating with tables some of which can accommodate wheelchairs.
- The counter is over 850mm high. Staff and volunteer team members are available to assist with service and carrying of trays.
- The width between the tables is approximately 1000mm.
- Members of visitor groups can sit at tables, if queuing is difficult, and one member of the group can ask a team member for assistance.
- Menus are available in standard print and there are large-handled cutlery and straws available.



The tea garden seating area

Garden



Step free access to the formal garden is via a fairly steep loose gravel slope.

- The garden is set in a south facing valley and within the formal garden it is designed into as a series of 'outdoor rooms', each enclosed by hedging or low walls. Each section has at least one bench and is fairly level but has some slopes. There are some steps within this area, none have handrails and most have uneven surfaces of loose gravel and lawn. It is difficult to access the garden without using steps. Path surfaces vary between gravel, paving stones and grass.

Please see the current map of the garden for more information.

Date: April 2024



Map



Key:

- 1 Entrance Barn and shop
- 2 Monocot Border
- 3 Lower Garden and Turf Maze
- 4 Plant Sales
- 5 The Steps
- 6 Rose Garden
- 7 Double Herbaceous Border
- 8 Organic Kitchen Garden
- 9 Potting Shed and Propagation Area
- 10 Olive Grove
- 11 Wildflower Banks
- 12 The Avenue
- 13 Sheam Place
- 14 The Gully
- 15 The Grassed Terraces and Viewpoint
- 16 The Tea Gardens
- 17 The Shack
- 18 St Peter and St Paul Church

- Toilets
- Car park
- Footpath to the Long Stone
- Step free route
- No wheelchairs beyond this point.

Top 5 things to see at Mottistone

- The colourful double herbaceous border 7
- The tranquil lower garden 3
- The Shack 17
- The view from the View Point 15
- The flowerpot people - for you to find!

How much time do you have?

1 hour: See the double herbaceous border, enjoy a treat in the tea-garden or visit the shop in the entrance barn.

2 hours: Wander around the garden and explore the hidden pathways leading to the higher levels.

3+ hours: Have a leisurely stroll around the garden then take a short walk up to the Long Stone.

What to do when it's wet

- Borrow an umbrella from the entrance barn.
- Look around the Shack.
- Shelter undercover in the tea-garden.
- Run around in the rain in the orchard.
- Browse inside the shop.