



National
Trust

Cragside Access Guide

Spring/Summer

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Paths and terrain

Cragside is a large estate with considerable distances between various parts of the property. The terrain is uneven and steep in places.

Many paths are unsuitable for wheelchair users and slopes can be tiring for a person assisting a wheelchair user. If you are visiting by car, you may find it easier to drive between the various parts of the property.

Some self-drive three-wheeled vehicles, other pavement vehicles and powered wheelchairs have difficulty on Cragside's steep terrain. Please think carefully before use and do not hesitate to ask a member of staff if you need further information or guidance.



Paths and terrain

Formal Garden: Closed

Closed for improvements to the paths and essential maintenance to the Orchard House following high winds.

The closest car park to the Formal Garden is the Formal Garden car park. Access the gardens via the sloping path.

Level access is available to the lawn area and outside the Orchard House only.



Visiting by car

Speedbumps

There are 7 speedbumps on the road between the visitor centre (opposite Tumbleton Lake) and Cragside House. The dimensions of these are a maximum of **304 cm wide x 10cm high**.

Accessible parking, near visitor centre

There are 6 designated accessible parking bays at the visitor centre end of the main car park.

There are also 3 designated accessible parking spaces 10m from the archway entrance to the visitor centre.

Accessible parking, near House

There are 3 accessible parking bays at the House end of the main car park.



Carriage Drive: Open

The Carriage Drive is a 6-mile, one-way, single-track road. It takes you to the upper estate where you will find starter points for waymarked walks and additional parking at areas called Dunkirk, Cragend, Blackburn, Crozier, Nelly's Moss, Canada and Moorside.

This 6-mile drive around the estate is for cars and vehicles no bigger than a 16-seater minibus. **Maximum dimensions 8 foot 8 inches high and 6 foot 6 inches wide.**

Please note: The Carriage Drive can close during extreme weather events such as snow storms and high winds. Please check the website regarding closures before travel at:
nationaltrust.org.uk/cragside



Mini-bus

Cragside operates a free mini-bus service between February half term and October half term.

It stops at the following places:

- Visitor centre
- Main car park
- House courtyard
- Dunkirk car park
- Formal Garden
- Coach park

The bus is a 16-seater mini-bus.

This bus is accessible with a rear lift for wheelchairs.



Accessible toilets

Accessible toilets are located at the visitor centre, House and Crozier car park (next to the play area).

Visitor centre toilets: Open

3 accessible toilets, 2 with level entrance and 1 with ramped entrance.

House toilets: Open

Ramped entrance, 1 accessible toilet.

Crozier toilets: Open

Level entrance, 1 accessible toilet.



Accessible eating

Tea Rooms: Open

Located at visitor centre

10am – 5pm

Serving breakfasts, lunches and light bites. Wheelchair accessible. Level access at main entrance/exit. Ramp at secondary exit. Induction loop and large-handled cutlery available. Menus are displayed on digital screens and blackboards. Till service. Seating is available indoors and outside on the courtyard. Takeaway also available.

The Still Room: Open

Located at the House

11am-4pm

Serving a selection of drinks and light bites. Wheelchair accessible. Sloped access to main entrance/exit. Induction loop available. Menus are displayed on blackboards. Till service. Seating outdoors.



Accessible shopping

Shop: Open

Visitor centre

10am – 5pm

Selling a variety of souvenirs and gifts to take home. Products include home and garden accessories, children's toys, books for all ages, items by local artists and sweet treats.

The shop is wheelchair friendly and on one level with a low level till point. Ramp access between visitor centre courtyard and shop.

Induction loop available.

All dogs welcome.



Visiting the House and historic buildings

House: Open

11am-5pm (last entry 4pm)

There is ramped access into the main entrance of the House. The House is wheelchair accessible on the ground floor only.

Some mobility scooters are too wide for the narrow, Victorian layout of the House. The team will assess whether scooters are small enough to safely manoeuvre around the ground floor on arrival. Wheelchairs are available to borrow if needed.

Virtual tours are available to watch via a laptop, please ask a member of the House team on arrival.



Visiting the House and historic buildings

House continued...

Induction loop available.

Assistance dogs welcome.

Braille guides are available. Please ask a member of the House team for a copy.

A Calm Corner is available on the ground floor of the House between the Kitchen and Dining Room. You are welcome to use this room should you need a quiet space or some privacy during your visit.

The House is partially open from Saturday 17 February while a future-proofing project is completed.



Visiting the House and historic buildings

Pump House: Open

10am-5pm

The Pump House is located near the Archimedes Screw. The main path to the Pump House includes large, sloping concrete steps and a small, timber footbridge. Access into the Pump House is via 3 steps. The area is level once inside.

Information about the Pump House is provided by large interpretation panels on the walls. The main area is lit by spotlights and limited natural light.



Visiting the House and historic buildings

Powerhouse: Open

10am-5pm

Access to the Powerhouse is via the Gorge or a steep path with steps. Access into each room at the Powerhouse is level.

Information about the Powerhouse is provided by large interpretation panels on the walls. The main area is lit with natural light and some spotlights.



Assistance and support dogs

Assistance and support dogs are welcome in all areas at Cragside including all catering facilities, House, shop, toilets and gardens.

All dog must be kept on a lead at all times.

Dog bin locations:

Either end of the main car park, around Tumbleton Lake, at Dunkirk, Crozier, Nelly's Moss and Formal Garden car parks.

More information about visiting with a dog at Cragside can be found online:

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cragside

This leaflet is intended to help
you get the most out of your visit.

If you have any queries or
concerns about any aspect of y
our visit, please do not hesitate to
speak to our staff.

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