

Kedleston Hall Access Statement

Kedleston Hall is one of the most complete 18th century palaces - with pleasure ground and parkland - in the country. It has interior and external features designed by architect Robert Adam as 'a temple of the arts' and was the location for lavish entertainment and it is set in beautiful naturalistic parkland.

Contact details

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Key points:

- Please note, some parts of the visitor offer remain closed, please see our website for the latest details on what is open.
- There is reasonable mobile phone reception across most of the property but there are some dead zones inside the Hall.
- Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property and there are water bowls by the restaurant entrance and visitor reception building, which are refilled regularly.
- There are manual wheelchairs available to borrow on a first-come-first served basis and are free of charge to use. They are located in the:
 - Visitor reception building and can be used both indoors and outdoors,
 - Hall, for indoor use only.
- There are a series of large lakes and weirs in the main parkland and there are ha-ha walls around the park and pleasure grounds.
- Many of the paths and walking routes include stone steps and uneven surfaces.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

- There are brown signs directing you to the property from the A38. The main entrance is on Kedleston Road which has a height and width vehicle restriction. Should a larger vehicle require access, our exit on Mercaston

Road can be used. The two entrances are well sign posted and the main car park is signposted down the drive.

- The main car park surface is gravelled with embedded space markers and some areas are grassed.
- There are 10 designated spaces for blue badge holders on a firm and gravelled area in the main car park which is approximately 200 yards from the main Hall.
- Essential carers have free admission.

Toilets and changing facilities

- The public toilets, including a step-free accessible toilet for visitors, can be accessed by the side of the Hall by the entrance to the Church, these are sign posted. The Ladies and Gents toilets entrances have two steps down and the other one has a single step up. There is a further step down in the Ladies toilets.
- There is a right hand transfer accessible WC with space to turn a wheelchair through 1500mm diameter circle. There are no adult changing facilities.
- Baby changing facilities are located in the accessible toilet and also in the Ladies toilets. All the WCs have paper hand towels available, a contrasting colour scheme has been used and all toilets have tiled floors.
- There are no visitor toilet facilities within the main hall or restaurant.

Visitor Reception

- The Visitor Reception Building is a wooden building next to the main car park with a double entrance door which is non power operated with a 180 degree opening. Staff and volunteers are on hand to assist with the opening of these doors. The floor surface is wooden with floor mats with adequate windows to provide natural light and there are acoustic clouds in place to help absorb some of the noise levels. The reception desk is 920mm high with a lower side which measures 740 mm high. An induction loop is available. There is a good turning circle in front of the reception desk and there are non-powered double doors which lead out of the visitor services building onto the property. There are no toilet facilities in this area.



Route to the Hall

- There is a gateway beside the visitor reception building for access.
- There is a path from the Visitor Reception Building towards the main hall building. There is currently no transfer vehicle available. The path is a hard surface and ends in a 1 in 8 slope. There are 2 benches along this path.



Pathway from the Visitor Reception Building

Hall

- The main entrance to the Hall is through a tall gateway and down a slightly sloping path. The path to the Hall is over a hard, loose gravelled surface.
- Visitors who require step free access can get to the hall and restaurant by using a signposted gate at the rear side of the restaurant. The metal gate is kept open and is at a 90 degree angle and then there is a tight turning circle.
- The step free route into the hall will take you through Trophy Corridor and past the entrance to the shop. Should you require further access into the hall (as highlighted below), please speak with the shop team who can assist further.
- Manual wheelchairs are available for use on the first floor.
- Bags are permitted inside the hall but must be worn or stored on the front of the person.
- There is currently no locker facility for bag storage inside the hall.
- There is a television showing films of the State Floor on the ground floor.
- There are induction loops at Caesars' Hall reception.
- The Hall is on two floors. During current limited opening with a one way social distanced route for visitors in the hall, access to the first floor (State Floor) is via a staircase of 20 steps with handrail. Visitors return to the ground floor using a staircase of 22 steps with handrail.
- Manual wheelchairs are available for visitors to use on the state floor. These wheelchairs require a companion/carer's assistance to push.
- The level of lighting can be low on the staircase areas. There is no lift or stair climber available at the property.
- The indoor surfaces are a mixture of stone, concrete, and wood – they are reasonably flat but subject to historical wear and tear and there are a number of uneven slabs with raised edges.
- In the event of a fire alarm, staff and volunteers will ensure that all visitors have left the Hall.

Restaurant –

- Wheelchair users wishing to access the Restaurant can enter the rear of the Hall as it is largely flat flag stones with uninterrupted access and the entry door can be opened as required giving an opening of 1050 mm.

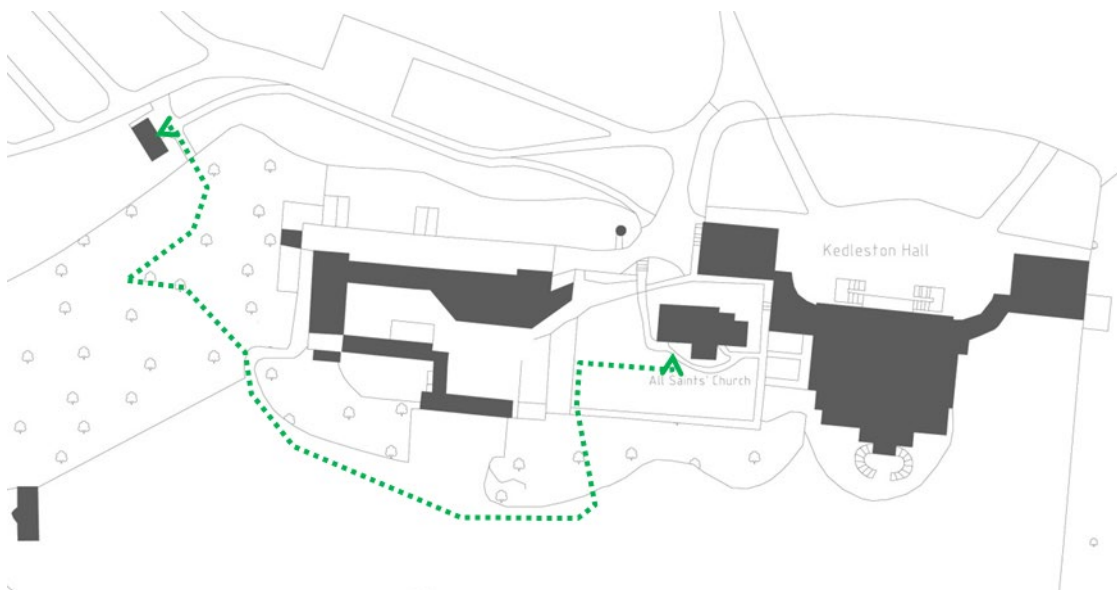
- The seating in the restaurant is a combination of chair and bench seating, and tables are 750 mm high. Chairs can be removed to accommodate wheelchairs.
- The ceilings are high and can create an echoey environment.
- The circulation space between the tables is a minimum 1,000 mm space.
- There are double handled mugs, straws and adapted cutlery available on request.
- There is a hearing loop available at the till point.
- Food and drink needs to be ordered at the till which is clearly identified. If you need assistance with this, please ask a member of staff.
- Assistance dogs only are allowed in the Restaurant.
- Printed single use menus are available on each table.

Church and Churchyard

- The Church is owned and managed by the Churches Conservation Trust. It is not open on a daily basis. If you would like to arrange a visit please contact the Churches Conservation Trust.
- There is step-free access to the Church via the Gardens. The paths inside the Churchyard are laid with large stone gravel.



Step-free access to the Church via the Gardens.



Step-free access route to the Churchyard via the Gardens.

Park and Pleasure Grounds

- The park and pleasure grounds feature a variety of surfaces which can become muddy and slippery when wet. There are a number of walks around parklands signified by way markers. Due to the natural topography of the area there are natural paths and surfaces which at times can undulate. The grounds feature a variety of slopes and cambers, some of which are quite steep and can be very uneven. There are also extensive grassed open parkland and wooded areas, grazed by sheep or cattle for much of the year.
- There are benches located at various points throughout the park and pleasure grounds.
- Step-free access into the gardens is accessed from the double gateway next to the Visitor Reception building by the main car park. This is partly surfaced but lead to lawned areas of grass, which can become soft when waterlogged.
- There is a 'Ha-Ha' wall at the front of the gardens and caution should be observed as this means there are steep, sudden and hidden drops.
- A free walks leaflet is available on arrival as well as online. The 4 suggested walking routes are not fully accessible due to the presence of livestock gates, a narrow bridge, and stone steps. The short walk, long walk, lakeside walk and wilderness walks are not suitable for manual wheelchairs.



The hidden Ha-Ha at the end of the gardens.

If you would like to discuss access before your visit, please contact the property office on 01332 842191 or email kedlestonhall@nationaltrust.org.uk

Date: February 2022