

Date: 20/07/2020 Kate Price, Assistant Ranger

Wilderhope estate access statement

Introduction

The Wilderhope estate comprises of a beautiful Elizabethan manor house restored by John Cadbury in 1936. The interiors are unfurnished, but the architecture and charm of the manor are still a sight to behold. The manor is leased to and ran by the Youth Hostel Association (YHA) so access to some rooms are limited. The manor has its own apple orchard, is set within sensitively managed farmland and backs onto the Wenlock Edge woodland which is also looked after by the National Trust. Please note that this access statement only covers the outdoors/countryside estate and not the manor house itself.

Parking and facilities

There is one free to use medium sized car park at the back of the manor house which is a hard standing without marked bays. It is signposted with brown National Trust signs from nearby village Longville in the dale. There is seating on the terrace however the availability of this for the public depends upon whether the manor house has been booked for a private function. Otherwise there is no outdoor seating on the rest of the estate. The YHA provide catering to the public on occasion and access to the Manor's toilets but you would need to contact them directly to confirm availability of these facilities.

Footpaths and bridleways

There are a number of footpaths across the estate, across the farmland and up onto both the Wenlock Edge ridge and the smaller Stanway Coppice ridge. Two waymarked trails start from this car park (Wilderhope Coppice walk and Longville Coppice walk) and both include styles. The Wilderhope coppice walk also includes a small flight of steps and the Longville Coppice walk involves two kissing gates. There are no routes around this site which are suitable for pushchairs, wheelchairs or mobility scooters. Some of the paths are steep and the ground is uneven in places. The surface of the footpaths is a mix of grass fields, loose stone covering and bare earth. The Wilderhope coppice walk also crosses a small stream in two places. The routes are 2km and 3km in length respectively.

Livestock

The tenant farmer has a mixed operation with crops, sheep and cows on the estate. Public rights of way cross through grazed fields so dogs should always be kept on a lead or under close control and the countryside code should be followed at all time, for example leaving gates as you find them. All dogs are welcome, including Assistance Dogs.

General

Mobile phone reception is poor at the site. In an emergency call the emergency services directly.

Wilderhope Manor Address:

Pilgrim Cottages

Longville

Much Wenlock

Shropshire

TF13 6EG

National Trust Shropshire Hills Property Office:

Carding Mill Valley

Church Stretton

SY6 6JG

Contact details for the YHA at Wilderhope

T: 01694 771363

E: wilderhopemanor@yha.org.uk

Contact details for more information:

National Trust

Shropshire Hills office

T: 01694 725000

E: wilderhope@nationaltrust.org.uk



