



## **Sutton Hoo Access Statement**

National Trust Sutton Hoo  
Tranmer House  
Woodbridge  
Suffolk  
IP12 3DJ

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This guide can also be made available in a large print version by contacting the Estate Office on the details above.

## Welcome

Sutton Hoo is home to one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time. Here you can discover the incredible story of the ship burial of an Anglo-Saxon king and his treasured possessions, as well as the stories of the people in its past. We want to make everyone's experience at Sutton Hoo accessible and enjoyable.

## Introduction

1. Sutton Hoo has several buildings, including Visitor Welcome, High Hall exhibition, Tranmer House, Sutton Hoo Shop, Second-hand bookshop, Kings River Cafe and Keepers Kiosk as well as plenty of outdoor areas to explore including the Royal Burial Ground, Viewing Tower and estate walks. The landscape has different levels of accessibility, and this guide aims to explain this in detail, so that you can plan and make the most of your visit.
2. Mobile reception is good across the site. If you need to call property staff in an emergency, please ring the Duty Manager on 07967 440148.
3. Assistance dogs are welcome in all buildings and areas of the site. Non-assistance dogs are welcome in the Visitor Welcome building, the Sutton Hoo Shop, and some areas of the Kings River Cafe. Dogs are allowed on all footpaths including the Royal Burial Ground but must be on a lead at all times during their visit to Sutton Hoo.

## Arrival & Parking Facilities

1. Sutton Hoo is located near the town of Woodbridge, a short distance from the A12 and A14 roads. The nearest train station is Melton (Suffolk), approximately 2 km from the site.
2. We have 9 parking spaces available for Blue Badge holders in the Visitor car park with additional spaces which we make available on busy days. They are located approx. between 10-15 mtrs from the entrance to the Visitor Welcome building.
3. The surface of the car park is made up of tarmac roads and gravel parking, including the Blue Badge parking area. The overflow car park, located approx. 180 metres from the Visitor Welcome building, has a grass surface.

## Toilets

Accessible toilets can be found in various locations around the site, as follows:

### Shop

Located behind the till point  
Baby change facility available  
Automatic hand dryer  
Well-lit

### Walkers Toilets

Located to the side of the High Hall  
exhibition  
Automatic hand dryer  
Well-lit

### Tranmer House

Two toilets, located at either end of corridor  
Automatic hand dryers  
Well lit  
One has a sliding door, one has a push door

## Visitor Welcome building

1. There is level access to Visitor Welcome and automatic door openers.
2. The floor surface of the building is hard tile.
3. We have two manual wheelchairs available. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like to make use of one of these to visit inside buildings.
4. We have four powered mobility vehicles and two all-terrain wheelchairs that allow easier access across the outdoor areas of the site. These should be booked in advance, when possible, to guarantee use. You can do this by emailing [suttonhoowelcome@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:suttonhoowelcome@nationaltrust.org.uk) or by contacting Visitor Welcome on 01394 389714. We ask for at least 24 hours' notice of a booking. Full training is given to users. The powered mobility vehicles and all terrain wheelchairs cannot be used indoors. A manual wheelchair is located at Tranmer House and there is also one available at the Visitor Welcome building for use in the High Hall exhibition.
5. Essential companions for disabled visitors are entitled to free entry.

## **Courtyard and Ship sculpture**

1. The courtyard has a hard boned gravel surface. The sculpture is accessed by a ground level ramp onto a plinth. The plinth is on various levels which create a step off. Wheelchair users should go back to the ground level to disembark. The plinth has studs around the edge to remind wheelchair users they are near the edge with a drop.

## **High Hall exhibition**

1. The High Hall is approx. 30 metres away from Visitor Welcome across the Courtyard. The route is level access across bonded gravel and paving. Please be aware that there is no access for hired powered mobility vehicles inside the High Hall and a manual wheelchair must be used.
2. The doors are open and there is level access throughout the High Hall.
3. There is a short introductory film on a loop in the cinema room. The seating is stepped, but the back row is level with the ground floor and has spaces for wheelchair users.
4. There is an accessible toilet outside High Hall (facing left).
5. The High Hall is staffed by volunteers who can assist with any enquiries.

## **Tranmer House**

6. Tranmer House is approximately 250 metres from Visitor Welcome. Please be aware that there is no access for hired powered mobility vehicles inside the house.
7. The route to Tranmer House is a combination of gravel and tarmac.
8. There is level access into Tranmer House.  
The front door is either already open or can be pushed open easily.
9. There is a manual wheelchair available in Tranmer House.
10. The parts of the house open to the public are all on the ground floor, on level access. The floors are hard wood surfaces.
11. There is seating located in each room, which visitors are welcome to use.
12. The house is staffed by volunteers who can assist with any queries.
13. There are two accessible toilets in the rear corridor of the house.
14. The exit from the house is via French Doors which open onto a ramp to the veranda and a compacted hoggin path which leads out to the Royal Burial Ground.

## **Food & Beverage**

1. The Kings River Café is located in the same building as the shop directly opposite the Visitor Welcome building. The cafe allows well behaved dogs on short leads.
2. At the far end of the café, automatic doors open out onto a veranda where dogs are welcome. The veranda has both steps and a ramp leading out into the site.
3. Please advise staff if you require assistance to be seated.
4. The café serves a range of foods for different dietary requirements, and our catering staff will be happy to talk through your needs.

## **Keepers Kiosk**

1. The kiosk is situated at the side of Tranmer House and accessed via a grass and gravel area.
2. Visitors are served through a window hatch. This is at a high level, but staff are happy to come out and discuss your requirements with you.
3. The kiosk operates on limited hours, usually during busy days, so please do check to see if it is open the day of your visit.

## **Retail**

1. The shop is located in the same building as the cafe, directly opposite the Visitor Welcome building.
2. The shop has automatic door openers and level access throughout. A shallow ramp connects the shop and cafe.
3. There is good circulation space between the display stands.

## **The Royal Burial Ground**

1. The Anglo-Saxon Royal Burial Ground is located approximately 600 metres from the Visitor Welcome building
2. The route to the Royal Burial Ground is partly via a path of compacted hoggin with other sections of the route across uneven terrain. The Royal Burial Ground is uneven terrain with slight dips and bumps.
3. Personal mobility vehicles and all terrain wheelchairs are available from Visitor Welcome to assist visitors with access across uneven ground.
4. You must pass through various gates to enter the Royal Burial Ground.

## **Viewing Tower**

1. The route to the Viewing Tower is accessible by Personal mobility vehicles and all terrain wheelchairs only.
2. There is an accessible platform on level one of the tower, accessed via a ramp.
3. Beyond the accessible platform there are nine runs of nine steps (total 81 steps) leading to the top of the tower.

## **Countryside**

1. A map of Sutton Hoo walks showing accessible paths is available from Visitor Welcome and guided instructions can be downloaded from the website.
2. Most walking routes are across uneven and often over steep ground with occasional steps on some routes.

## **Second-hand Bookshop**

1. The bookshop is located off the Courtyard opposite the Ship Sculpture.
2. There is level access into the bookshop from the courtyard.
3. The space between the bookshelves can be quite narrow, so may not be suitable for larger powered mobility vehicles.



## Site Map

### Key

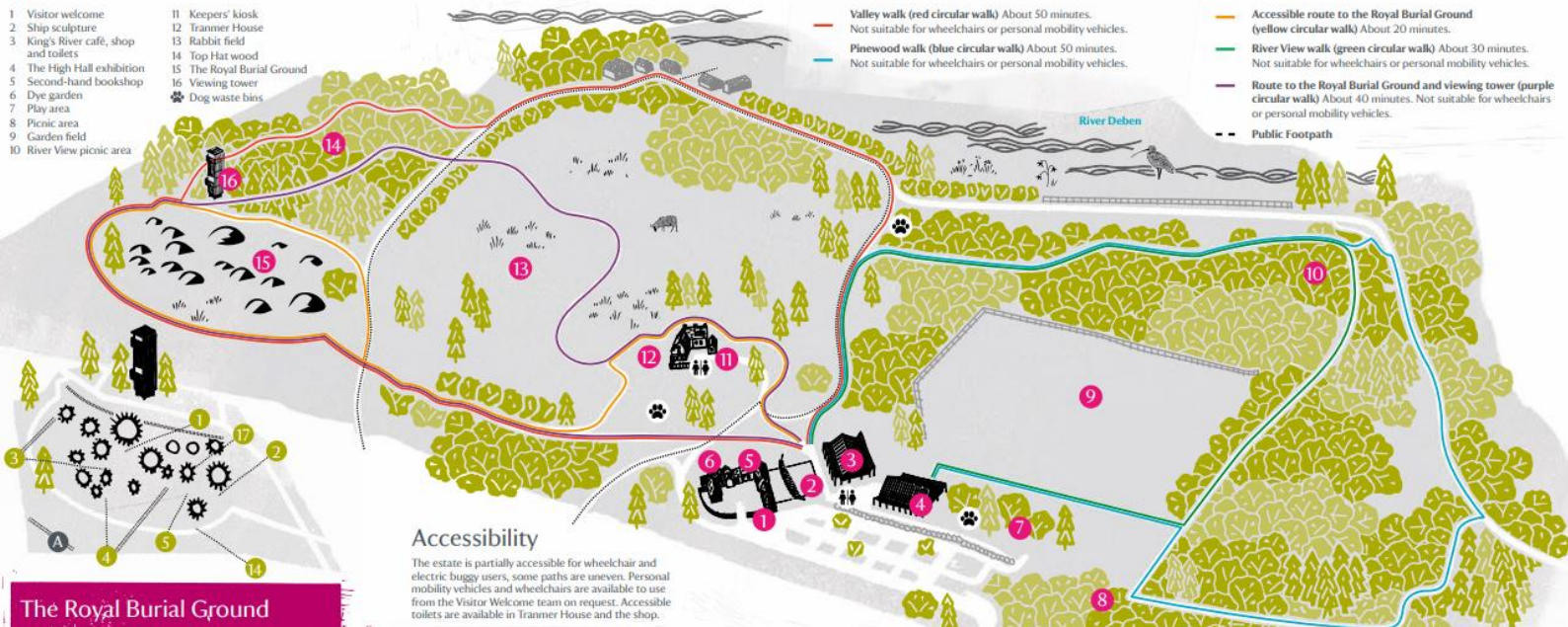
- |                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Visitor welcome                     | 11 Keepers' kiosk          |
| 2 Ship sculpture                      | 12 Tranmer House           |
| 3 King's River café, shop and toilets | 13 Rabbit field            |
| 4 The High Hall exhibition            | 14 Top Hat wood            |
| 5 Second-hand bookshop                | 15 The Royal Burial Ground |
| 6 Dye garden                          | 16 Viewing tower           |
| 7 Play area                           | Dog waste bins             |
| 8 Picnic area                         |                            |
| 9 Garden field                        |                            |
| 10 River View picnic area             |                            |

### Walks

Please be aware that some walking routes may change seasonally. Please follow the fingerpost signs to ensure you are on the correct route. Please keep dogs on leads at all times. Thank you.

- **Valley walk (red circular walk)** About 50 minutes.  
Not suitable for wheelchairs or personal mobility vehicles.
- **Pinewood walk (blue circular walk)** About 50 minutes.  
Not suitable for wheelchairs or personal mobility vehicles.

- **Accessible route to the Royal Burial Ground (yellow circular walk)** About 20 minutes.  
Not suitable for wheelchairs or personal mobility vehicles.
- **River View walk (green circular walk)** About 30 minutes.  
Not suitable for wheelchairs or personal mobility vehicles.
- **Route to the Royal Burial Ground and viewing tower (purple circular walk)** About 40 minutes. Not suitable for wheelchairs or personal mobility vehicles.
- **Public Footpath**



### Accessibility

The estate is partially accessible for wheelchair and electric buggy users, some paths are uneven. Personal mobility vehicles and wheelchairs are available to use from the Visitor Welcome team on request. Accessible toilets are available in Tranmer House and the shop.

The Royal Burial Ground

## Contact details for more information

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We hope that you enjoy your visit and welcome any feedback you have on any aspect of your experience.