

## **Brimham Rocks Access Statement**

Brimham Rocks, Summerbridge, Harrogate, HG3 4DW

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### **Introduction**

Brimham Rocks with its spectacular rock formations and panoramic views across Nidderdale has attracted visitors from far and wide for centuries. Sculpted by 320 million years of ice, wind, and continental movement, these rocks have taken on magical shapes such as the Dancing Bear and the Druid's Writing Desk. The site provides a natural playground for those seeking adventure, while visitors looking for tranquillity can explore the moorland with its rare wildlife habitat and globally significant plants. Brimham is a great place for walkers, climbers, nature spotters and artists, as well as families looking for the freedom to explore. Some of the most iconic rock formations can be viewed only ten minutes' walk from the car park, but wander a little further and you'll find beautiful woodland, a secluded pond and wide open moorland.

**Note:** nearest toilets 600 yards from car park.

**Eating & shopping:** the kiosk serves hot and cold drinks and snacks, including cake, sandwiches and sausage rolls. Picnic benches are available with additional indoor seating at the visitor centre (Brimham House, first floor). There is a second-hand bookshop on the ground floor of the visitor centre (Brimham House).

**Things to see and do:** regular guided walks, orienteering, geocaching, family nature activities and climbing taster days. The visitor centre and welcome building provide information on the story of the geology, social history and ongoing conservation work.

**Dogs:** All dogs are welcome at Brimham Rocks, but for the enjoyment of all our visitors we ask that you keep your four-legged friend on a short lead at all times.

Mobile phone signal is reasonably reliable across the site, so in the event of an emergency you should first contact the relevant emergency service on 999, then report to a member of staff on the above telephone number as soon as you are able.

### **Arrival & Parking Facilities**

The site is easily accessible from a number of major road networks, and is indicated by brown signs leaving the B6165 from Harrogate and B6265 from Ripon. Welcome signs mark the entrance to Brimham Rocks. A gate positioned 10m from the site entrance is kept open daily from 9am until dusk but is locked outside of these hours.

The entrance road into the car park is 160m long and has a firm surface with three speed bumps. The car park surface is firm, but uneven in places with a top layer of loose gravel, bays are divided by raised timber sleepers.



There are three marked, designated spaces for disabled users. These are level, firm spaces with a top layer of loose gravel. The spaces are separated by a shortened raised timber that delineates the bays but was designed not to interfere with wheelchairs either side of the vehicles.



Two tramper mobility scooters are available to hire free of charge for the duration of your visit. To book this facility please contact the Estate Office on the number above.

Alternatively, there is a parking drop-off and pick-up point located close to Brimham House, the Kiosk and the Shop. **Drop-off should be arranged with staff present in the car park.** Whilst driving to the drop-off point vehicles should be mindful of pedestrians, not exceed 10mph and turn on hazard lights for the whole journey. There are two barriers that need to be opened and closed immediately behind your vehicle.



One of two barriers on the main track

There are payment machines in the car park. The cost to park a car is £6.50 for up to 4 hours or £10 all day. Minibuses and motorhomes are £12, coaches are £15-20 (all must be pre-booked). Parking is free for National Trust members. Blue badge holders park for free with the display of their badge.

## Visitor Paths

There are several routes leaving the car park. The most accessible follows the main vehicle track between the Car Park and the Visitor Facilities. The track is 540m long and undulates, gaining 24m of ascent over its length. It averages 3-4m in width. The surface is uneven but firm with a covering of loose gravel. The surface is suitable for pedestrians, pushchairs, mobility scooters and powered wheelchairs. Extra care should be taken over drainage channels. **Please be aware that there may be traffic along this track.**





Main track at Brimham Rocks

After 89m, a resin-bonded footpath branches from the main track. This smooth, stable path meanders through the main rocks area over 458m and is 1.5m in width. It is suitable for pedestrians, pushchairs, mobility scooters and powered wheelchairs. A map of the accessible route is included at the end of this Access Statement.



Start of the resin accessible path



Steep steps leaving the car park

The second formalised path leaves the car park up steep steps close to the bike racks. It is an average of 1.20m wide and is not a stable or firm surface along its full length. It is suitable for pedestrians.

### **Public footpaths.**

There are various public footpaths crossing the site. These are not surfaced and are rough underfoot but are kept clear of vegetation during the summer months. They are often crossed by stiles or gates as they enter / leave National Trust land. These are checked for condition monthly but if you notice any problems with them in the meantime, please report this to a member of staff.

### **Visitor Facilities**

#### Welcome Building

The Visitor Welcome Building is located in the lower car park. The Welcome Building is used for information and membership recruitment. It is accessed by two steps without a handrail and has a decked veranda. The door is inwards opening, but is usually kept open- staff can assist if the door is closed. Inside the building has a wooden floor and no soft furnishings, it is lit only by natural light.





## Kiosk

The refreshment kiosk is approximately 540m from the car park. It is sited on a flagged patio, which may be slippery when wet. The ground is made up to the flags from the surrounding area for easier access. Visitors place and collect their orders at a counter 105cm high, though staff will be happy to help carry food and drinks. An induction loop is in operation.



## Seating / Picnic Benches

There is no accessible indoor seating, but 15 picnic benches are provided on a grassy area nearby, 12 of these benches are accessible for reduced ambulant visitors.



Indoor seating is available in the Visitor Centre, this seating is accessible only via two sets of steps. Undercover outdoor seating is available in the Dancing Bear activity centre, next to the Visitor Centre, accessed via a steep stone flagged path (uneven in part).

## Second-hand bookshop and Visitor Centre.

The shop is accessible by a vehicle ramp to the west. Powered wheelchairs, mobility scooters and accompanied wheelchairs can get to within ten metres of the building via this route, after this the path becomes uneven and there are two steps.





Vehicle ramp to the Shop and VC





Step to the Visitor Centre patio

Alternate access is available to the east of the Visitor Centre, up a set of steps.



Steps to the Visitor Centre and second-hand bookshop

The area in front of the Visitor Centre and second-hand bookshop is flagged and may be slippery when wet.

Access into the shop is through a 95cm doorway with a small step. Inside the floor is flagged and there is ample space to navigate a wheelchair or powered mobility scooter between the displays. The shop is lit by natural and LED light, and an induction loop is in operation.

Access to the upstairs exhibition space is via a steep spiral staircase that is narrow in part. The bottom four steps have white lines along the edges; a hand rail is in place for the upper steps. Upstairs the floor is carpeted and uninterrupted.



Spiral steps to the exhibition room

## Activity Centre

Adjacent to the Shop is the Dancing Bear Activity Centre, used as an indoor space for bookable and drop-in events (see What's On calendar for details). As with the Shop, visitors in powered mobility vehicles or wheelchairs can get to within 10m of the Activity Centre via the vehicle ramp to the west. After this the route is cobbled and uneven. A vehicle drop-off and pick-up point is available outside the Activity Centre and can be arranged through speaking to a member of our car park team.

## Toilets

Toilets are located behind the Kiosk. Access to the men's toilets is up three steps and a narrow passage. There are four urinals, three toilets (including one reduced ambulant toilet) and baby changing facilities.

Access to the ladies toilets requires two steps; there are six toilets (including one reduced ambulant toilet) and baby changing facilities.

There is an accessible toilet to which there are no steps and a wider door. The toilet has a fixed hand rail to the left and a pull down hand rail to the right. The toilet is lit by artificial light





and has an automatic hand drier and pull down emergency alarm. The accessible toilet also has baby changing facilities.



### **Contact details for more information**

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**Date: November 2022**



## Brimham Rocks

- 1 Car Park
- 2 Surprise View
- 3 Cannon Rocks
- 4 Blacksmith's Anvil
- 5 Smartie Tube
- 6 Watchdog
- 7 Lover's Leap
- 8 Eagle
- 9 Castle Rocks
- 10 Visitor Centre and Shop
- 11 Dancing Bear
- 12 Druid's Writing Desk
- 13 Idol
- 14 Yoke of Oxen and Meerkat
- 15 Rocking Stones
- 16 Oyster Rock
- 17 Flowerpot
- 18 Mushroom Rock
- 19 Middle Crag
- 20 'Balancing Act' poem


 Information


 Refreshment Kiosk

 Toilets

 Picnic Area

 Mobility Vehicle accessible route.

 Extra caution required due to steep gradient.

 Route unsuitable for mobility vehicle beyond this point.

### Access For All

Further information on our Access For All policy is available on the National Trust website and from our recruitment vehicle.

### Kiosk

The Kiosk is available as shown on the map with an accessible picnic bench in front.

### Facilities

Accessible and less amulant lavatories are available behind the kiosk.

