

## Attingham Park Access Statement

Atcham, Nr Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 4TP

T: 01743 708170 (administration office, 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri) 01743 708154 (Visitor Reception, daily from 8am)

E: [attingham@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:attingham@nationaltrust.org.uk) (Mon-Fri)

### Introduction

Attingham Park is a large estate of 4,000 acres which welcomes around 470,000 visitors annually. The estate consists of: Grade 1 Mansion (1782) which houses the Mansion Tearoom as well as show rooms open to the public. Grade II\* listed stable block (1782) which houses the main café on site – The Carriage House, toilets, shop and second-hand bookshop. Grade 2 listed Parkland including Pleasure Grounds, Walled Garden, and Deer Park. The property also has a large play area – The Field of Play.

Please note that opening times may differ for various parts of the estate e.g The Mansion is not open all year round, please check opening times before visiting.

1. There is mainly level ground throughout Visitor Reception, the Stables Courtyard around the Pleasure Grounds, Walled Garden, and outside the Mansion. There are slopes on grass and stone paths through the Deer Park and wider Parkland.
2. Mobile phone signal is good across the outside areas of the site with limited connectivity inside the buildings. In emergencies Visitor Reception is manned throughout opening hours and can be contacted on: 01743 708154.
3. Assistance dogs are welcome in all buildings and dogs are welcome on site; there is a clear dog policy available for use.
4. Large bags may need to be stored while visiting the Mansion.

### Arrival & Parking Facilities

1. The site is easy to find and is on a main road (B4380), and is signed with brown signs from Telford and Shrewsbury.
2. There are 20 disabled parking spaces permanently available outside the Visitor Reception which is located in the carpark. Spaces are between 15 – 80 metres from Visitor Reception.
3. The carpark is completely stone chipped and tarmacked throughout. Occasionally on busy days we use the field at the rear of the car park for overflow, which is uneven mown grass. The surface of the main disabled parking spaces is stone chip or tarmac. Additional disabled spaces are made available on busy days with car parking teams working to direct people to available spaces.
4. A visitor shuttle is available from March to October (dependent on volunteer availability, please ring if you would like to check if it is running). The shuttle can be requested from the Stables Courtyard. Unfortunately the shuttle is not wheelchair accessible. It seats up to 5 visitors.
5. The shuttle can take you between the Mansion, Stables and Walled Garden.

6. Visitors can drop off passengers in front of Visitor Reception during busy times before finding a space to park in the main car park.
7. Coach parking: coaches can drop off alongside Visitor Reception before parking in designated area of the car park, or along the back drive, as directed by Visitor Reception on the day.

## WCs

1. The nearest Visitor Toilets to the car park are in the Stables Courtyard, approximately 175 metres away. This includes female, male, baby changing, and an accessible toilet. The Stables accessible toilet is 2180mm X 2180mm, lit with LED lighting, has a hand dryer, and is a right hand transfer.
2. Additional toilets are available adjacent to the Mansion. The Brewhouse toilets at the Mansion include a Changing Places facility. This is accessed by the Radar key system and spare keys are kept at Visitor Reception and at the Mansion. The facility has a hand dryer, blue towel and LED lighting. It is 360m from Visitor Reception and 185m from the exit of the Stables Courtyard.
3. There are additional toilets at the Walled Garden and in the Field of Play, these do not include accessible toilets.

## Visitor Reception

1. The Visitor Reception building is located adjacent to the main carpark and is a new building with large glass windows/sides and wood finish. The interiors have a level vinyl floor, and the path leading up to it and under the welcome canopy is pressed gravel.
2. The Visitor Reception building is on level ground.
3. The main entrance door is 1800mm wide.
4. The main entrance door is a sliding mechanism, opened manually, and remains open during visiting hours. There is an additional exit in use at busy times, these are double doors which open outwards manually, the doorway of which when fully open is 1555mm wide. Staff will assist with opening this door.
5. In the reception area there are till 'pods', 1000mm in height. Staff stand to the side or in front of the pods to discuss payment options and other enquiries, only standing behind the pod to undertake till transactions.
6. The area is lit by natural light and LED bulb lights.
7. There is no seating in the Visitor Reception building, seating can be provided if needed, but may not have arm rests. The Visitor Reception building has two additional 'Membership Rooms' that have chairs and a table inside.
8. There is no induction loop at Visitor Reception.
9. Some members of staff have particular communication skills including British Sign Language (BSL) at basic level.
10. There is one manual wheelchair and two 'Tramper' 4x4 powered mobility vehicles available for loan at the property. They cannot be booked in advance and a donation is requested for use of the PMVs – this money is directly used to maintain the vehicles.

## House

1. It is 245m to the back of the Mansion (level access) and 300m to the front (entrance via stairs) from Visitor Reception.



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2. The paths throughout are tarmac or tar chip and spray. There is a slight slope down to the back of the Mansion and on entering the Outer Courtyard under the clock tower there are some cobbles.
3. Level access to the Mansion is via the back entrance through the Rotunda. There is signage indicating this. Entrance via the front door (Portico) is up 10 steps with hand rails either side of the wide staircase.
4. The Rotunda door is 1120mm wide and is either kept open, or is openable by the visitor or with assistance from the volunteer. The door opens inwards and there is a small lip on the threshold stone.
5. The front entrance Portico door is 1210mm wide and is either kept open, or is openable by the visitor or with assistance from the volunteer. The door opens inwards and there is a small step up.
6. Most of the rooms contain furnishings, but due to the size and nature of the spaces in all rooms there is some element of sound echo.
7. Most of the Mansion is lit with natural light, supplemented by LED lighting from chandeliers, sidelights and some directional spots. The Dining Room is usually presented as an evening scene and it can take a few seconds to adjust to low lighting; torches are available on request . Some rooms on dull days can be darker than normal.
8. There are three floors in the Mansion visit. The Basement is fully accessible with level stone floors and matting in places. The main show room level or Ground Floor is accessible via a lift which is operated on request. The lift is narrow and small and cannot fit larger electronic wheelchairs in. Visitors in wheelchairs must be able to descend the Portico steps (see above) in the case of a fire so access to this floor may not be possible depending on individual circumstances. A trained member of the team will discuss access options with you on arrival. The First Floor is only accessible to those who can walk up the stairs and back down 64 steps to the Basement.
9. The stairs in the Mansion are well lit with staircases dedicated to ascending and descending. The Nash Staircase (used for ascending) has wide and even treads with handrails either side. The Best Back Stairs is 64 steps in total from the top to the bottom and is narrow in places. There is a handrail either side, and the steps are well lit and are either stone or wood-covered stone with even treads.

10. There are no narrow corridors or doorways (less than 750mm).
11. In most rooms there is space to turn a wheelchair. On busier days this may prove difficult, but the route is linear and one way and volunteers can assist in finding space.
12. There is seating in each room which is identified clearly. There are no arm rests on any of the available chairs.
13. Mansion Volunteers are stationed throughout the rooms in the Mansion are able to help with any queries.
14. There are toilets on the first floor of the Mansion available for use, these can only be accessed via staircases. The nearest toilets outside the Mansion are in the West Pavilion, and nearest accessible toilet is the Changing Places facility in the Brewhouse Toilets (Radar Key required).
15. Guided tours are available, however due to the nature of the acoustics, hearing loops are not available.
16. Room laminates are available in each room and if requested large print versions can be provided. There is also a braille guide available, please ask for this on entry to the Mansion.
17. Powered mobility vehicles are not allowed in the Mansion but wheelchairs are available for loan. Electronic wheelchairs are welcome in the Mansion, but as above may not be suitable for the lift.
18. Quiet areas are available in the Basement and in the Picture Gallery to wait for other party members/family groups.

## **Carriage House Café (including 'Grab and Go' takeaway counter)**

1. The Carriage House Café is in the Stables Courtyard approximately 250 metres from the Visitor Reception.
2. Outside the Carriage House Café the surfaces are blue brick or resin bonded gravel. There are some areas of cobbles underneath both entryways to the courtyard. Inside the building there is level flooring or ramp access to all areas of the building.
3. There is level access into the Carriage House Café which is all on the ground floor, and level or ramped access between the three seating areas inside. There is level access to the 'Grab and Go'.
4. The entrance door to the Carriage House Café is manual opening, with two doors with handles, opening outwards, 1490mm in width. The entrance door to the 'Grab and Go' is also by manual opening, 1490mm in width. The staff team can assist with opening the doors if required.
5. The surfaces within the Carriage House Café are predominantly hard surfaces and may cause echoes.
6. There are windows in all seating areas of the Carriage House Café, the servery area has a skylight. All areas have wall and/or ceiling lights to supplement this.
7. If visitors experience difficulty queuing and accessing seating in the Café staff are available to help them.
8. Circulation space between tables varies in the seating areas, staff can move tables and chairs to assist with seating if required.
8. There are induction loops at till points

10. Ordering food is via the till points and menus are on large print on the wall. Hot food orders are delivered to the visitor's table

## **Retail – Stables Shop and Second-hand Bookshop**

1. The Stables Shop is around 250 metres from Visitor Reception. The Second-hand Bookshop is 360 metres from Visitor Reception.
2. The floor in the Stables Shops is concrete and brick, with some historic track lines running through part of it.
3. The Stables Shop is at ground level, there is a very small lip on the stonework between the Stables Courtyard and entrance to the shop.
4. The entrance door to the shop is opened manually, it is a historic doorway and the single door opens inwards using a historic catch/handle. The door is 1040mm wide and is usually open or part way open. The retail team can assist with opening the door.
5. There is a similar entrance to the Second-hand Bookshop. The door opens inwards and is 900mm wide. The Second-hand Bookshop is on the ground floor and first floor level. The first floor is only accessible by stairs – the bookshop team can help bring books on particular subjects down for visitors to see if required.
6. The Stables Shop has no carpets or wall hangings and is predominantly hard surfaces. The Second-hand Bookshop has no carpets or wall hangings, books are displayed on tall bookcases throughout the rooms on the ground floor, and on shelves on the first floor.
7. There is natural light in all areas of the Stables Shop and Second-hand Bookshop – both are supplemented with display lighting and over-head lighting.
8. There is circulation space of 1200mm between display stands.
9. There is no induction loop in either of the shops.
10. Staff are available to lift down items on higher up shelves, or lift up from lower levels.
11. There is no price list for the shop, but staff are available to help with checking the prices for customers.

## **Garden – Walled Garden and Orchard**

1. The Walled Garden is 550m from the Stables Courtyard and is accessed via a hoggin (compressed sand and gravel) path. Mostly flat and even in places, some areas are sloped with a high point in the middle. The path can be muddy in wet weather.
2. The Walled Garden and Orchard is all on a level surface.
3. The paths in the Walled Garden are hoggin (compressed sand and gravel), the paths in the Orchard are hoggin and grass paths.
4. There is a single step into each of the Glasshouses in the Walled Garden. The Bothy has a sloped entrance.
5. The Walled Garden has doors on each entrance which are pinned back and locked open during opening hours.
6. There are blackboards in the garden and orchard with interpretation on, also large photos of the Walled Garden during its restoration.
7. There are iron benches throughout the garden, and deckchairs during the warmer months. There are picnic benches in the Orchard.
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## Field of Play

1. The Playfield is 620m from the Stables Courtyard and is accessed via a hoggin (compressed sand and gravel) path. Mostly flat and even in places the path can be uneven and muddy especially after inclement weather.
2. The Field of Play is a large open field with man-made and natural play objects in it. There are toilets here, but there is no accessible toilet, the closest is at the Stables Courtyard or the Changing Place at the Mansion.
3. The Playfield is mainly grass surfaced which can get muddy during the winter and inclement weather.
4. The Playfield is accessed by two inwards opening gates which are 1600mm wide. They are weighted to close automatically behind the visitor.

## Walks in the Parkland

### Mile Walk

1. The Mile Walk starts from the Stables Courtyard. It is a circular route which is 2km in length, there are additional walks bearing off the path at times.
2. The paths are mostly flat with some cambers. The path is a mixture of hoggin (compressed sand and gravel) and gravel and can become uneven and muddy in inclement weather.
3. The River Tern runs along one side of the walk with gentle slopes of grass down to the banks and the path is set far back from the water. In times of flooding the water does rise, but not to the paths.
4. There are iron bench seats placed around the Mile Walk.
5. Walks leaflets (including a map) can be collected from Visitor Reception.
6. There are no steps, stairs or gates on the Mile Walk route. Other walks branch off the Mile Walk path and these will have gates in parts.

### Deer Park and Parkland Walks

1. The further Parkland walks are on rough and uneven terrain, with either woodchip or grass paths. We do not recommend that PMVs or wheelchairs venture beyond the Mile Walk unless visitors are using one of our hired 4x4 Trampers.
2. There are ponds and water features throughout the wider parkland.
3. There are seats around the walks, but fewer benches and more natural log seating.
4. There are gates and bridges on the wider Parkland walks.

## Contact details for more information

T: 01743 708170

E: [attingham@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:attingham@nationaltrust.org.uk)

Date: Reviewed August 2018