

Beatrix Potter Gallery Access Statement

Charming 17th century building home to an annually changing exhibition of Beatrix Potter original artwork.

Address:

Main Street, Hawkshead, Cumbria

Telephone: 015394 36355

Email: hilltop@nationaltrust.org.uk (Please contact Hill Top Office for information)

Points to note

- The Gallery is in a 17th century house over two floors. There is no lift, the stairs are narrow, as are the doorways and there are some low beams.
- Light levels are low throughout the Gallery to protect the collection.
- Mobile phone reception is available with Orange (EE), O2 is available in the village.
- The majority of the exhibition is on the first floor. Although there are touch screen displays showing interpretation and a selection of works from the collection on the ground floor.
- There is a step down from the front door.
- Assistance dogs are welcome and a water bowl is available near the entrance.
- Visitors need to hand over large bags to be stored before entering the Gallery
- Access is difficult for any visitors with restricted mobility, further details are given on the map and later in this document.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

- There are brown signs at the edge of Hawkshead village and parking is in the main Lake District National Park car park 150m away.
- The route between the car park and the Gallery is flat and surfaced with tarmac.
- There are 10 spaces designated for disabled people in the car park.
- It is possible to arrange to drop off visitors at the front door of the Gallery.

WCs

- There are toilets (charges apply), including a 'Radar' disabled toilet in the Hawkshead car park.
- There are no toilets at the Gallery.

House

- The Beatrix Potter Gallery is accessed via a door 76 cm wide with a step down of 14 cm.
- There is an immediate turn to the right through another door of 76 cm wide.
- At this point visitors are moving from daylight to an area of subdued lighting.
- The entire ground floor is on one level with fairly even wooden floorboards.
- There is no fluorescent lighting.
- Minimal soft furnishings although it is generally a quiet building.
- Door widths on the ground floor range from 75 cm to 81 cm
- One of the touch screen units is set on a table 83 cm height. Which can be accessed when seated.
- There is visitor seating available in each room. Some of our seats have armrests.
- This is a small building and although individual rooms are not staffed, members of the team will always be nearby to assist.
- There are two flights of stairs in the building. The first set has 11 steps and is 52 cm wide taking the handrail into account. These steps are steep and of varying height. There is a low beam at the start of this flight of steps and there is a handrail. The second flight of steps has 10 steps 20 cm deep and is 70 cm wide. There is a handrail and a low doorway on the ground floor.
- Upstairs on the first floor the 17th Century wooden floorboards are extremely uneven and can be slippery depending on visitor's footwear.
- Upstairs the light levels are kept deliberately low (less than 50 lux) to protect the fragile watercolours.
- The rooms have minimal tungsten/LED lighting. The display cases are lit with either fibre-optic or LED spot lights.
- The paintings are in wall-cases approximately 108 cm from the floor. With other items placed in table cases approximately 88 – 95 cm high.
- There are two steps from Room 3 to Room 4 and a further step down from the upstairs landing to Room 6.
- The entrance to Room 6 upstairs has a low doorway of 167 cm
- There is a low sloping ceiling on the upstairs landing.
- The upstairs rooms and landing are all small.
- Door widths:

Bottom of ascending stairs Room 2	54cm
Top of ascending stairs Room 3	60cm
Room 3 into Room 4	84cm
Room 4 onto landing	64cm
Landing into Room 5	74cm
Landing into Room 6	74cm
Top of descending stairs Landing	74cm

Catering

- There is no catering facility at the Gallery although there are plenty in the village of Hawkshead.

Retail

- The retail area is situated within room 7. See accompanying plan.

Garden

- No garden

Contact details for more information

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Date 30.08.2019

Map

Add any maps with access features marked to the back of the Statement