Brimham Rocks Access Statement

Brimham Rocks, Summerbridge, Harrogate, HG3 4DW
T: 01423 780688
E: brimhamrocks@nationaltrust.org.uk

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 tranquility 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. The Visitor Centre Shop sells a range of souvenirs, gifts and local products.

Things to see and do: regular guided walks, orienteering, geocaching, yoga, photography workshops, 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 in the main visitor area and on the moorland between February and August.

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 9pm but is locked thereafter. 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.

A tramper mobility scooter is 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.
There are payment machines in the car park. The cost to park a car is £6 for 4 hours or £9 all day. Minibuses and motorhomes are £12, coaches are £18 (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.**
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.
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, membership recruitment and a small retail offer. 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.

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

The area in front of the Visitor Centre and Shop 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.

Activities Centre
Adjacent to the Shop is the new Activities Centre, used as an indoor space for bookable and drop-on 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 Activities 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 Activities 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: July 2019
**Brimham Rocks**

1. Car Park
2. Surprise View
3. Cave inset Rocks
4. Blacksmiths Arms
5. Smallest Tube
6. Nature Trail
7. Lower Loop
8. Eagle
9. Castle Rocks
10. Visitor Centre and Shop
11. Diving Bear
12. Drinks and Refreshments
13. Well
14. Vale of Oman and Balloon
15. Rocking Stones
16. Oyster Shell
17. Flowers pot
18. Mushroom Rock
19. Middle Crags

- Information
- Refreshment Kiosk
- Toilets
- Picnic Area
- Trig Point
- Mobility vehicle accessible route
- Extra caution required due to steep gradient
- Route unsuitable for mobility vehicles beyond this point

**Facilities**
Accessible toilets are located behind the refreshment kiosk.

**Refreshment kiosk, shop and visitor centre**
Please note opening times vary. The refreshment kiosk serves hot and cold drinks and snacks and the shop has a selection of local products. More information on the site can be found in the visitor centre.

**Access for Everyone**
Further information on our Access for Everyone policy is available on the National Trust website and from the welcome building in the car park.