

## **Alderley Edge Countryside Access Statement**

### **Introduction**

This property covers around 300 acres and is popular, with over 250,000 visitors each year. There are 3 principle habitat types here: woodland, pasture and small pockets of heathland. The site has a varied and in places, rugged topography with many features including ancient quarries, mine entrances, shafts, natural rock escarpments, steep slopes and hidden valleys.

### **Arrival & Parking Facilities**

The car park entrance is accessible from a T-junction from the B5807 – Macclesfield Road. There is a brown sign on the opposite side of the road, pointing to the entrance. . The car park surface is tarmac and marked with white lines to show 152 spaces and arrows to indicate the one-way system. There are hatched lines to show areas that cannot be parked in. There are 6 marked designated disabled parking spaces. There is one, low, speed hump across the entrance to the car park.

### **Parking Charges**

There are pay and display machines at the car park. The cost to park is £3.00 for up to two hours and £5 for all day, or free for National Trust members who can present a valid parking sticker. Unfortunately coaches are not permitted due to space restrictions.

### **Access Information**

Access from the car park to the various woodland walks is via a compacted, crushed stone path by the side of an oak-framed information shelter and onto a wider track, which is also a driveway to both the National Trust Estate Office and neighbouring farm and associated vehicles may be present.. The track can also become muddy and possibly slippery in wet weather. Directly across the track is the main access into the woods and the point from which most of the trails commence.

Adjacent to the car park, and accessed via a hand-gate, is a small picnic area with 5 picnic benches. This is a grassy area which can be uneven. With the exception of assistance dogs, dogs are not allowed in this area.

**Assistance Dogs** are welcome at Alderley Edge. Dog walking is a popular activity and we welcome responsible dog owners. In the interests of all visitors and the environment, we ask that dog owners ensure that they pick up after their dog, and dispose of waste at home, as there are no bins available on site. Livestock also graze certain areas across the site throughout the year; please ensure dogs are kept under control.

### **Mobile Phone Reception**

Mobile phone reception across the property varies between networks.

### **WCs**

Located in the car park are separate male and female toilets which open from 9am until the car park closes. There is one accessible toilet that uses the Radar Key national scheme, please note this toilet is not equipped with an emergency alarm.

## Catering

The Wizard Tearooms are open Tuesday - Sunday but may present some access restrictions as the doorway is narrow and space inside is restricted. The toilets in the tearoom are not specifically accessible.

The Wizard Pub is adjacent to the Macclesfield Road and 60m or so and across the track from the National Trust Car Park. There is also a Wizard Tea Room next to the pub. Both the pub and tea room have outdoor seating areas. Neither is managed directly by the National Trust. Please check their websites for full details.

## Trails

There are 5 way-marked trails at Alderley Edge, ranging from 1 – 2 miles in length and over varying terrain. Colour-coded way-marker posts indicate the direction of the routes all of which start from the timber-framed shelter in the car park. A walks leaflet which compliments the trails is available from the Countryside Office or the National Trust recruiter, based at the car park, when he is on site. The trails are all named and perhaps the easiest route to access is the Wizard's Wander, which is colour coded blue; it is approximately ½ mile in length and has crushed stone surfaced paths and is generally fairly flat with gentle moderate slopes. Other walks are generally longer and tend to include varying terrain, though many are surfaced with compacted, crushed stone. Steps are rare unless you have ventured well away from the car park, as are the steeper slopes. Gates are present at a small number of locations where paths exit the site.





**Contact details for more information**

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