

Access Statement for Goddards House and Garden

27 Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, York, YO24 1GG

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Introduction

Due to the current pandemic, the National Trust are following government guidance, which means we have made changes to how we open the site to visitors. Please read the following updated access statement to learn more about the site and what is currently available to visitors.

Goddards is situated 1.5 miles to the south of York city centre, on the A64, just south of York Racecourse. The property has a flat, partly tarmacked approach along a short, mixed-use pedestrian and vehicle drive.

Whilst the garden lies on a very gentle slope and has low level terracing and some stone and gravel paths, much of it could be passable to wheelchairs users or for pushchairs.

1. Mobile phone reception is very good. The phones are currently not manned at Goddards so contact is via nearby Treasurer's House as above or email.
2. Assistance dogs are welcome and a bowl of water can normally be found by the side entrance to the house. All dogs are welcome on leads in the gardens (except the vegetable garden) but dogs are not permitted in the house apart from assistance dogs.
3. To enter Goddards House and access the toilet, there are two low, wide steps (15cm each in height) at the front door with a 1.5m long ramp to one side. There is no lift in this grade 1 listed building.
4. The rest of the House is currently closed.

Arrival and Parking Facilities

1. Goddards is easy to find on foot or if travelling by bus. It is on a main bus route from York Railway Station – the most frequent service being No.4, alighting at the Marriott Hotel next door to Goddards. From the road, there is no brown tourist attraction car signage to Goddards, follow the address as 27 Tadcaster Road. Parking space is limited due to the dual purpose as a Regional Office, we provide **parking only for disabled visitors**. All other visitors are asked to arrive on foot, by bus or on a bicycle where possible.
2. There are 7 designated accessible spaces for cars used by disabled visitors in front of the house or in the car park, which is situated a few moments' walk from the front door and garden. The parking areas are deliberately kept informal, without markings and hard surfaces, to reflect the family home feel of the property.
3. The car park surface is loose with small gravel stones and can become damp and a little muddy after periods of rain. Grass verges surround the car parking area.
4. We will do our best to assist or advise any visitor with specific mobility needs. Please consult a member of staff on site or contact us ahead of your visit.
5. Visitors can use this area as a dropping off point ahead of parking if needed for your household.

Bus

If you are coming to Goddards by bus from York city centre, there are a number of service routes that stop just outside the entrance gate and as advised above, the No. 4 and No.12 bus services are most frequent from York train station.

Pedestrian approaches

There are standard width footways on both sides of Tadcaster Road and leading directly to Goddards entrance. Pedestrians should be mindful of bus, taxi and cycle traffic when entering and leaving the premises.

Taxi or private car drop off

It is recommended that visitors arrange to be dropped off inside the entrance gates; there is usually sufficient space for a small vehicle to turn just beyond the entry archway.

WCs

1. The toilet at Goddards are those of the original house and have not proved adaptable to modern standards for toilets meeting all disabled visitor requirements.
2. The ground floor WC is just inside the house and to the left of the main front entrance door. It has a large entry/waiting space, large enough for a wheelchair user or large pushchair to manoeuvre. It then leads to a toilet cubicle measuring 1.2m x 1.6m. **There is no grab-rail or alarm, so it is recommended that anyone visiting the WC has assistance close-by.**
3. There is a nappy-changing place for a baby/small child in the ground-floor WC.
4. The toilets have good natural light and supplementary lighting is activated automatically.
5. Paper towels and light switches are in reach for anyone using a wheelchair.

Visitor Reception is temporarily located outside the front door and the house is closed, except for access to the toilet.

1. As a former family home, materials used in the building are varied and include wood, tiled and stone surfaces, as well as some carpeted floors. A few areas of cobbled path outside provided for decorative purposes can largely be circumnavigated. Noise levels tend to be low, with attenuation assisted by curtains and wall coverings.
2. To enter Goddards, there are two low, wide steps (15cm each in height) at the front door with a 1.5m long ramp to one side. An inner lobby of 2.2m length offers shelter before entering the main house.
3. The inner entrance door is 117cm wide and opens inwards. It is necessary to give the easy to grip latch a quarter turn. The welcoming staff are always very close-by and will readily come to assist any visitor encountering difficulty.
4. There is natural light that varies according to cloud cover and time of day. Internal lighting is average, not fluorescent, and window blinds are sometimes used to protect furnishings from strong sunlight.

5. The property is working towards raising money for an induction loop, but there isn't currently one in the property.
6. Wheelchair loan is currently not available.
7. There isn't enough space to use manoeuvre most powered mobility aids in the house.

Catering

1. There is currently no indoor catering or tabled seating.
2. A small takeaway option is available from the terrace at the rear of the house. This can be access through a bricked arch and paving slabs.

Garden

1. There is a map of the garden showing options for routes round the garden and information about path surfaces which can be provided by the welcome team.
2. There is a route into and around most of the garden avoiding steps and following gravel paths.
3. Access to the lavender terrace and lower terraces, each paved and a minimum of 1.5m wide, is via different sets of stone or brick steps. The steps are no more than 6 in number and 18cm in height. There are no formal handrails, but stone or brick low level parapets give some informal grab or rest opportunities.
4. You will find paths of gravel, paving, grass and occasional infill spaces with cobbles and brick. Paving can be slippery when wet or after leaf-fall.
5. The gradient of the garden is mostly slight and slopes are gentle throughout and on the majority of, but not all, paths. Steps are indicated in red on the map shown below.
6. There are no gates to open on the main routes through the garden.
7. Wooden and stone benches, some with armrests, are positioned at many points throughout the garden where it is possible to rest and admire the pond, features, planting, colours and scents of the formal and less formal garden spaces.

Contact details for more information

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