

Peckover House and Garden Access Statement

Peckover is a Georgian townhouse with a two acre Victorian garden. The Peckovers who lived here from the 1790s were a family of wealthy bank managers and Quakers.

Contact details

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Points to note

- There is a good mobile phone reception across most of the site, except in places in the basement.
- Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property and this is signed on the Visitor welcome sign on the front gate.
- Light levels in the House are kept low where necessary to protect the collection from light damage.
- There is a manual wheelchair available for loan in the House, and a PMV available to loan for the Garden.
- The garden has two areas of water, a small pool by the Victorian Summerhouse (photo 1), and another pool by the Rustic Summerhouse (photo 2). The pool near the Rustic summerhouse is fenced off and raised, whereas the other pool is not.



1) Victorian Summerhouse pool



2) Rustic Summerhouse pool

Arrival & Parking Facilities

- There are brown signs on the approach to Wisbech and around the town.
- There are black pedestrian tourist signs around the town directing people to the property.
- The property doesn't have its own car park, being in a town location. However, there are several free car parks in Wisbech. Our recommended ones are Chapel Road and Somers Road – both signposted by the highways signs. The distance from both car parks is approx 500 yards/460 meters.

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- The road directly outside the property has double yellow lines but can be parked on with a blue badge displayed.
- Cycle parking is available in our courtyard and we have available one lock for loan.
- It is possible to arrange to drop off visitors at the front of the property, and they can then sit and wait for the rest of their party in Visitor Reception.

WCs

- There are WCs in the House basement area down steep steps, and there are additional toilets, including a disabled toilet at the Reed Barn. There are no adult changing facilities but baby changing facilities are available in the Reed Barn. All the WCs have automatic hand driers, stone floors and brick walls surfaces and are adequately lit.

Visitor Reception

- The reception is situated in the 'Banking Wing' to the left of the house (photo 3) and is accessed via a stone path with gravel either side, and up two small steps approx 4 inches/10 cm high each (photos 4 and 5) and then through the reception door which is approx 36 inches/91 cm wide.
- The surfacing in the reception area is carpeted and is well lit. There is an induction loop fitted.
- There are is a seat provided for anyone that wishes to sit.



3) Path leading to Visitor Reception



4) First step into Visitor Reception



5) Second step into Visitor Reception



House

- The House is accessed via Pre-Booked Tours only.
- The immediate area in front of the House (to the right of Visitor Reception) is only used by pedestrians and is gravelled.
- The entrance to the House is up 3 steps, each approximately 3.5 inches/9cm high (photos 6 and 7). There is no ramp or handrail available, but volunteers can help if needed to give a steady hand.
- There is an alternative entrance/exit for those that cannot make these steps and is in Visitor Reception. However, there are steps via this entrance as well (photo 8). The House loan wheelchair can be brought right up to the doorway at the top of the steps.
- The floor surfaces are mostly wooden with a stone Hallway. There are some carpets/rugs in some of the rooms.
- Some of the objects may be touched.
- The lighting is kept to a low level to maintain the atmosphere and to protect the collection where possible/needed.
- The showrooms are spread over three floors – Basement/Kitchen, Ground and First floor. For those that cannot make it down the steps to the basement or up them to the First floor, we have a photographic album available which shows all the rooms.
- There are numerous chairs which visitors can sit in throughout the House.
- There is a handling collection in the Basement/Kitchen, and in the Museum Room.
- Rucksacks and large bags are required to be left in the Visitor Reception area.
- Wheeled powered mobility vehicles and powered wheelchairs cannot be accommodated in the House due to the entrance steps and narrow corridors and turning circles.
- If you require use of a quiet space, please indicate this to the Tour Leader who will be able to find a suitable area for you.



6) Approach to front entrance of the House



7) Stone steps to House entrance – no handrail



8) Alternative entrance to the House with handrail

Bookshop

- This is located in the Reed Barn building and has level access. The approach to the bookshop is gravel and paved path.
- The bookshop is unstaffed.



9) Courtyard area at the Reed Barn tea room

Garden

- The garden paths are gravelled (photo 12)
- Access to the garden is via a gateway approx 36 inches/90cm wide, with a portable ramp situated down the step (photo 13)
- The courtyard area that leads to the garden is uneven and potentially hazardous, so please take care when walking across it and try and follow the black tarmac 'path' (photo 10)
- The area outside the Stables is made up of cobble stones (photo 11)
- Wheelchairs and the PMV are allowed on the grass
- PMV users are asked to follow the set route given by the Duty Manager at the time of loan/instruction, as some of the gateways are too narrow for larger PMV's – a map is provided (see example at the end of this document)
- There are lots of seats in the garden for visitors to use



10) Courtyard leading to the garden



11) Cobbles outside the Stable block



12) Gravel path in the garden



13) Access into the garden via ramp

Date

January 2021

Map

PMV map of accessible route around the garden

Peckover House and Garden

