Snowshill Manor and Garden Access Statement

During the Coronavirus pandemic, you must pre-book on our website and parts of our site will be closed, so please check our website for full details.

Snowshill,
near Broadway,
Gloucestershire,
WR12 7JU
01386 852410
snowshillmanor@nationaltrust.org.uk
https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/snowshill-manor-and-garden

Points to note

• Please contact us, either in advance of your visit, or once on site, if you require further Access information and our staff will be more than happy to assist.
• We have laminated Access maps available to borrow at the entrance gate, which will show an overview of the site on one side and a detailed map showing the steps around the garden, on the reverse. These will be sanitised between each user.
• All contact point around site, including metal hand rails, door handles, toilet flush handles and taps will be sanitised three times a day, but please do exercise caution and wash your hands regularly, using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser.
• There is reasonable mobile phone reception across most of the site.
• Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property.
• The garden has two areas of water, a small pool by the byre, and a larger pool by the model village, neither of which are fenced off.
• We are a breast-feeding friendly site.
• Our transfer golf buggy service will not be running during the Coronavirus pandemic, due to the difficulties of social distancing and unfortunately we will not have wheelchairs available to borrow.
• Some steps in the garden do not have handrails.
• We allow picnics anywhere in the gardens, but the recommended spot is in the orchard at the bottom of the steps down from the visitor entrance, which has lovely views over the valley. There are also chairs and tables laid out at social distances across the café terrace, which can be used for picnics, while the café is closed.

Sensory Considerations

• All of our outdoor paths are either tarmac, gravel, paving stones or grass; we have no highly polished floors.
• Post lockdown, we are re-opening with limited visitor numbers, so queueing should be minimal. There may be a short queue for the toilets or to speak to our Visitor Welcome Team. We expect to be slightly quieter in the afternoon.
• We have no security checks, lifts, escalators, revolving doors, fluorescent lighting, flashing lighting, background music or construction work on site.
• You may occasionally hear garden machinery (mowers, strimmers, hedge-cutters), but this work is usually done outside of visitor opening hours.
• We are not currently operating a one-way system around the garden, and some paths are narrow, so there may be a need to carefully pass other visitors, whilst ideally maintaining social distancing.
• The hand soap in our toilets is fragranced and there are fragrant plants in the gardens, but there are no other artificial scents on site.
• There are numerous areas around the garden which should offer 'quiet spaces', particularly in the orchard at the bottom of the steps from the visitor entrance, in the old orchard near the Manor and on the lawns below the Priest's House cottage.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

• There are brown signs from Broadway. The entrance is signed and the car park is down a short driveway.
• During the Coronavirus pandemic, the Visitor Reception building will be closed and your pre-booked tickets will be checked on the drive through your car window. You will then be directed into the main carpark and will access the site via a pedestrian gate between the Reception and Toilet buildings. There will be Stewards on hand to assist.
• The main car park surface is gravelled with embedded space markers.
• There are 6 designated spaces for disabled people, on a firm surface, in the main car park, directly in front of the Visitor Reception building. If you have a temporary disability or require parking close to Visitor Reception, but do not have a Blue Badge, please alert a member of staff.
• Cycle racks are available alongside the Visitor Reception building.
• Areas of the main car park are occasionally roped off for coach parking.
• There is an overflow car park accessed by a steep concrete slope on the left of the main drive, which acts as both an entrance and exit for cars and some pedestrians. This carpark is grassed and the spaces are not marked. To access the property, walk back down the entrance slop or parallel steps and either across the main carpark, or along the concrete perimeter path to the Visitor Reception building.

WCs

• There are WCs immediately next to the Visitor Reception building, including a right-hand transfer accessible WC with space to turn a wheelchair through 1500mm diameter circle. There are no adult changing facilities, but there is a dedicated baby changing room, which includes a nursing chair. During the Coronavirus pandemic, all hand-dryers across the site will be out of action and there will be paper towel dispensers available. The WCs have stone floors, brick walls, and feature lighting.
• There is a right-hand transfer accessible WC to the right of the Ice Cream Parlour at the Café.
• There is no access to toilets in the garden, during the Coronavirus pandemic.
Route to the Garden from Visitor Reception

- There is an approximately 1:8 gradient slope from Visitor Reception down to join the main path to the Garden. There is a flight of steps as an alternative, with 25 steps broken into three sets of 10, 7 and 8 steps each. There is a metal handrail on both sides of the steps.
- The path from Visitor Reception to the Gardens is approximately 500 yards long and takes around 10 minutes to walk at a moderate pace. The route is undulating with a tarmac surface. There are areas of grass on either side which can be used to social distance, if you encounter other visitors. There are also 8 – 10 benches regularly positioned along the route. The route is lined with trees which can create a 'dappled' effect on the path if the sun is out, and there is a level wooden bridge to cross over a stream about halfway along the route.

Garden

- The garden is set on a hillside and is designed as a series of ‘outdoor rooms’, each enclosed by hedging or low walls. Each section has at least one bench and is separated by steps, most of which are stone, some of which have handrails and most have uneven surfaces. Path surfaces vary between gravel, paving stones and grass.
- The vast majority of the garden can only be accessed via steps and wheelchair accessibility is therefore very limited. There are lawns above the main orchard, giving lovely views over the orchard and valley beyond, which are wheelchair accessible.
- There is a ‘haha’ at the far end of the garden from the entry point, and there are two areas of unfenced water towards the centre of the garden. There is a building, Sancta Maria Byre, with a cobbled floor and horse-drawn carriages close to the areas of water.
- The garden also contains a dovecote and so there are often a large number of pigeons and doves around the lawns.
- Please see the current map of the garden for more information.

The Café, Shop, Manor, Priest’s House, Cellars, Second-hand Bookshop and Garden Toilets are all currently closed during the Coronavirus pandemic, but this is subject to change, so please check our website.

Date
25/06/2020

Please be aware of uneven paths and steps. Please take care in wet weather when paths can become very slippery.

Accessible area of the garden, with no steps

45m walk to the Cottage

A series of 6 steps with a height of 16cm. No handrail

8 worn steps with a height of 18cm. A handrail is available. (Alternate route available from the long border)

3 steps with a height of 15cm. No handrail

15 steps with a height of 16cm. No handrail.

2 steps with a height of 17cm. A door width of 80cm

3 steps with a height of 19cm. No handrail

4 steps with a height of 16cm. No handrail

13 worn steps with a handrail

3 steps leading to the byre

3 steps with a height of 15cm. No handrail.

Cinder path on a slope with 11 steps leading to the gate at the end.