

Coleton Fishacre Access Statement

Brownstone Road, Kingswear, Devon, TQ6 0EQ

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Introduction

Coleton Fishacre is a 1920's Arts and Crafts style house set within 30 acres of grounds approximately 4.5 miles south from Brixham. The entrance is 1.5 miles along a country lane off the main Brixham to Kingswear road.

The property is situated in a rural location and is close to the South Devon coastline.

Visitors are advised to allow at least 3 hours for the visit including the house and gardens.

The original room layout within the house has been preserved.

There is generally poor mobile phone reception in the area, especially in the house and gardens.

Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property. This is signed at Visitor Reception, the house, shop and restaurant. Please ensure they are wearing their identity harnesses. All other dogs are welcome everywhere apart from in the house itself.

Path and floor surfaces around the property are tarmac, concrete, gravel, paving, granite sets, wood and carpet.

Natural light levels are controlled to comply with museum guidelines and standards.

Rucksacks and large bags are politely asked to be left in lockers located by the main entrance to the house for visitors when they visit the house. In addition to handbags only daypacks and daysacks are allowed into the house similar to those shown in the sizes below and must be carried on the front of the person or held down at their side;



Staff and volunteers are located around the property to provide assistance and information.

Two manual wheelchairs are available for loan from Visitor Reception. Pre-booking is advised by telephoning 01803 842382.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

There are brown signs from the main Paignton to Brixham road (A3022). Follow the signs for Kingswear and then the brown signs. The entrance is approximately 1.5 miles from the main road along a country lane.

There are 12 designated spaces for disabled people in a specified parking area. These are on a gravel surface and bays are not marked. The parking area is 15 metres from Visitor Reception. 4 of the bays are on a level area whilst the remaining 8 have a downhill gradient to the Visitor Reception.

The car park consists of a gravel surface and parking bays are marked. The car parking is a minimum of 15 metres from Visitor Reception.

The overflow car parking is located 400 metres away from the property and is grass. A volunteer driven electric minibuss is available from the car park to the Visitor Reception. The vehicle can carry 6 passengers but is not accessible for people who cannot transfer from their wheelchair.

The overflow car park has grass surfacing and can be off limits in wet weather.

Toilets

The toilets are located adjacent to Visitor Reception in the same building. There is level access from Visitor Reception to the toilets. There is an accessible toilet located in the same area.

The accessible toilet is located next to Visitor Reception. It has an inward opening door, the floor is tiled and there is an emergency pull cord.

There are no adult changing facilities but baby changing facilities are available on site.

All toilets are lit by light bulbs and natural light and have automatic hand driers.

There is a separate toilet located close to the main house entrance for visitor use. However, this toilet is not suitable for disabled use.

Visitor Reception

Visitor Reception is located adjacent to the main car park.

There are single doors to both the entrance and exit and both are outward opening.

The floor of this building is tiled with natural lighting provided on two sides of the building. Additional lighting is provided by the use of LED spotlights.

The reception area is fitted with two reception pods and two membership recruitment tables. Staff are able to come to visitors to assist with information and enquiries.

Three chairs with armrests and a corner bench area are provided.

Two manual wheelchairs are available for loan from Visitor Reception. Pre-booking is advised on 01803 842382.

House

The route from the Visitor Reception to the house is approximately 200 metres and is along paving slabs, tarmac and granite setts.

There is a significant slope from the Visitor Reception down to the main house entrance.

The main house entrance is fitted with ramped access to the front door.

The doors to the main entrance are manual opening inwards and staff and volunteers are able to assist. The main door is usually open but the internal door is normally kept closed. For access please knock and staff will arrange access to the building.

Wheelchair users have access to the ground floor of the main house. The information room for the house is located on the first floor. However, guides are available for visitors to the house.

Floor surfaces within the house are wooden, carpet, rugs and tiled.

All rooms within the house are lit by natural lighting and/ or artificial lighting.

There are two floors in the main house. Access is via two staircases in the property and a one way system is in operation with access to the first floor up the main stairway, 19 steps, and access down to the ground floor via the servant's narrow stairway.

Handrails are provided on all stairways.

Allocated seating is provided within the main house. Volunteers are stationed throughout the house to help provide information and assistance.

Tours of the house are self-guided and folders are available from the main entrance.

Powered mobility vehicles cannot be accommodated within the house. Access for electric and manual wheelchairs is accepted. Manual wheelchairs are available upon request.

Food & Beverage

The restaurant is located adjacent to Visitor Reception across a level courtyard.

The flooring of the restaurant is tiled.

There is an indoor eating area and three outdoor eating areas, one of which is covered.

Staff and volunteers can assist with entry as required.

Eating area is lit by natural light and spotlights.

The main food counter height is 990mm. Staff and volunteers can assist with carrying food to tables if required.

Circulation space in the restaurant is less than 1200mm. Staff can rearrange table layout to provide extra space, depending on the volume of visitors. Courtyard seating provides sufficient turning space and tables have removable seating to allow wheelchair access.

Highchairs are available along with microwave and bottle warmer.

Retail

The shop is situated within the same building as Visitor Reception.

There is one entrance into the shop and one exit which takes you back to the main car park. Both entrance and exit from the shop are level with no steps.

The entrance to the shop has an outward opening door and the exit is fitted with an inward opening one. Staff and volunteers can assist with their operation.

The flooring is similar to the Visitor Reception in that it is tiled. The lighting is natural light and spotlights.

There is circulation space of at least 1200mm between the display stands.

The till point is located to one end of the shop. Staff and volunteers are able to assist reaching items out of customers reach and are on hand to assist customers with their purchases.

Garden

A map of the garden is available for all visitors.

The gardens are located predominantly to the front of the house apart from the rill garden which is located to the side of the driveway to the house.

The majority of paths in the garden are gravel and tarmac. The garden is located in a valley leading to the South West Coast path and is steep in places. There are also a number of steps which are uneven in nature.

The more level paths are marked on the map in yellow and are wheelchair friendly.

The formal gardens to the front of the house are level and are accessible to wheelchair users, either from the house or from the main garden paths. There are steps between the two levels of the garden.

The rill garden has level access from the garden paths and is laid to lawn, which can be closed at times of wet weather.

The summerhouse, giving views of the lower garden and the sea is accessible from the lower terrace.

Contact details for more information

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