Avebury Access Statement
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Introduction
At Avebury, the world's largest prehistoric stone circle partially encompasses a pretty village. Millionaire archaeologist Alexander Keiller excavated here in the 1930s, and there is a museum in the Old Farmyard bearing his name.

Arranged in two parts, the Alexander Keiller Museum is divided into the Stables Gallery, displaying archaeological treasures from across the World Heritage Site, and the Barn Gallery, a seventeenth century threshing barn housing interactive displays and children's activities that reveal the story of this ancient landscape.

Avebury Manor, on the edge of the village, was transformed in a partnership between the National Trust and the BBC, creating a hands-on experience that celebrates and reflects the lives of the people who once lived here.

In the Old Farmyard you will also find the Circles Café, the National Trust shop and visitor toilets. Visitor information and tickets for Avebury Manor and Garden are found in the Barn Gallery of the museum.

Around Avebury there is a wider landscape comprising of around 1,600 acres of farmland to explore, including several important prehistoric monuments such as Silbury Hill and West Kennet Long Barrow.

The Neolithic monument of Avebury henge and stone circles incorporates very steep banks and ditches and covers a large area. The stone circle is approximately a mile in circumference. However, there are facilities for parking for blue badge holders in the centre of the monument with shorter walking distances to the key views in the stone circle.

Mobile phone reception at Avebury is patchy at best. National Trust staff and volunteers communicate by two-way radio, so we can assist if you need to get in contact with other areas in an emergency.

Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the site. All dogs are to be kept on a leads as there is often livestock grazing. Non-assistance dogs are not permitted to enter the Avebury Manor and Garden or any of the catering outlets. We do provide water bowls which are refilled regularly, or can be filled on request.
Arrival and parking facilities

Avebury's main car park is located on the A4361 between Swindon and Devizes, for sat-navs please use postcode SN8 1RD, SU 09965 69595. The car park has an uneven compacted gravel surface. It is approximately 300 metres from the stone circle and 500 metres from the Avebury Manor. Both are reached via a pathway which has sections of both tarmac and compacted gravel. There is no transfer vehicle available on site.

For accessible parking there are four designated spaces in the National Trust Car park in Avebury High Street. This is closest to the stone circle, it has a tarmac surface which is damaged in some areas.

There are two further designated accessible spaces available in our staff car park; this is closest to Avebury Manor and Garden and the Alexander Keiller Museum and has a compacted gravel surface. The staff car park is located on the A4361 immediately north of the village of Avebury. When driving north, immediately after the stone circle there are two tall gate pillars on the left hand side of the road. Turn left here and follow the track taking the first turn on the left into our staff car park.

If there are no spaces available in either of the High Street or staff car parks you can drop off / pick up passengers in Avebury High Street or the staff car park and park in the main visitor car park. For more information on how to find us please visit our website at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury.
Welcome Trailer (April-October, 10am-4.30pm)

During the summer months National Trust staff will be located in the welcome trailer in the main visitor car park. This is accessed by three deep metal steps and there is bench-type seating within the trailer. Staff will also be positioned outside at ground level to assist visitors who cannot use the stairs. There are also two picnic style chairs on the ground level. There is no induction loop available at the welcome trailer.

Two manual wheelchairs are available for loan on request: please ring us on 01672 539 250 to book one to meet you on arrival. NB these aren’t suitable for the whole site. Standard wheelchairs will find the access around the site very challenging.
The main visitor attraction at Avebury is the Neolithic stone circle, surrounded by a high earth bank and ditch with steep sides. Due to the uneven nature of the ground in some parts of the stone circle, visitors with limited mobility may find this area more difficult to access. There are no defined paths and the surface consists of rough grassland which is used for grazing sheep. Some areas can get very muddy and slippery during wet periods. Persons using standard wheelchairs and other walking aids may find these paths very difficult to use. There is step free access to all of the four quadrants of the stone circle. Some of the gates do have steps this varies from one or two steps to some steep flights. Please refer to the map when planning your visit.

The main bank in the South-East sector is open to visitors; this is reached by climbing a steep set of terraced steps without hand rails at either end, this can be challenging for anyone with limited mobility.
The Old Farmyard

Our main facilities are located in the Old Farmyard, immediately north-west of the stone circle. This is where you will find the Circles Café, National Trust shop, toilets and the Alexander Keiller Museum, Stables Gallery and Barn Gallery, as well as the entrance to Avebury Manor and Garden. The Old Farmyard has a mixture of surfaces including compacted gravel, historic cobbles and areas laid to lawn. There are picnic tables, children’s toys and a dovecote which can provide shelter. There is a pond with sloping sides.

The main visitor reception is located in the Barn Gallery. This is where you get tickets for Avebury Manor and Garden or the Alexander Keiller Museum. Entry to Avebury Manor and Garden, which includes Avebury Manor Tea-room is by timed ticket only - this is to ensure that visitor numbers do not exceed capacity within the manor. Staff will be able to advise on the best entry time and will help you plan your visit.

Alexander Keiller Museum: Barn Gallery

The Great Barn Avebury ©National Trust / Stefan Hastilow

The Barn Gallery of the Alexander Keiller Museum is a large wooden building with wood and concrete floors. The entrance has outward opening heavy double glass doors, opened with a pull handle. Staff/volunteers can assist with opening the door if required. The entrance doors open to a combined width of 1460mm.

The Barn Gallery houses the main visitor reception for Avebury providing general information and tickets for visiting Avebury Manor and Garden and the Museum.

The reception desk is 710mm high at its lowest point. Staff may also be located in the ticket kiosk during the colder months. Staff can assist visitors who are not able to reach above the desk. There is an induction loop available.
The barn is a dark space with little natural light. The reception desk is lit with LED lighting. The displays are lit individually with LED lights. There is seating available throughout the barn compromising of both wooden chairs and benches.

There are lots of interactive displays with tactile objects to explore, including a relief map of the landscape and a film about Alexander Keiller, the archaeologist who excavated here in the 1930s.
The Stables Gallery houses a secondary visitor reception and one gallery of the Alexander Keiller Museum. It is a stone building with hard floors. The ground surface outside the building is uneven historic cobbles, this can be difficult for standard wheelchairs.

The entrance is level through a heavy glass door; staff will provide assistance if required. The entrance door is 980mm wide.

The reception desk is 9100mm high, but staff will be able to assist those who can’t reach the desk.

The room is lit by a combination of natural light and LED lighting. There are chairs available, without armrests. There is an induction loop available.
Toilets
An accessible toilet is located behind the Barn Gallery in the Old Farmyard. Dimensions are 1.9m x 1.8m, it is left hand transfer. There is no natural light in the accessible toilets – light is LED lighting. There are automatic hand driers near to the sinks.

The Old Farmyard surface has sections of compacted gravel and cobbles. The cobbles can present a challenge to standard wheelchairs.

There is another accessible toilet in the High Street next to the Red Lion Pub. It is 1.9m x 1.8m in dimension, it is left hand transfer. There is no natural light here it is lit by LED lighting. There are automatic hand driers near to the sinks.
Circles Café (next to the Barn Gallery)

The main Circles Café is currently closed for re-development. There is a temporary café operating on the far side of the Barn Gallery in the Old Farmyard. The closest parking for blue badge holders is located in our staff car park. On arrival at the main car park you will be directed to the staff car park, which is around 30 metres from entrance. Surfaces between the staff car park and the cafe are extremely uneven in places, including a large area of loose gravel. The entrance is via level access.

There are double doors at the entrance to the café which are outward opening; during the warmer months these doors will remain open. Staff will provide assistance if required. The entrance doors are 1220mm wide. The café is lit by a combination of natural light and LED bulbs. The counter is 930mm high; staff will come around and provide assistance as required. Circulation space between the tables can be narrow (less than 1200mm wide). There is an induction loop available. Menus are available in large print, straws are available on request.

Most of the food and drink served in our catering outlets is prepared on site in our kitchens, using a wide range of ingredients. As a result, we can’t guarantee that any of our food and drink products are completely allergen free. If you have an allergy or intolerance and would like ingredient information about the food and drink served in our cafés, please ask the café staff who will be happy to help.
The main National Trust shop is located in the Old Farmyard. The closest parking for blue badge holders is located in our staff car park, or the High Street car park. On arrival at the main car park if you show your blue badge you will be directed to the staff car park which is about 30 metres from the entrance.

Surfaces between the staff car park or the high street car park and the shop are extremely uneven, including areas of loose gravel. The entrance to the shop is via a slight slope. There is a heavy glass door at the entrance to the shop which is inward opening. Staff will provide assistance if required. The entrance door is 750mm wide.

The shop is lit by a combination of natural light and fluorescent bulbs. There is plenty of circulation space between the display stands. There is an induction loop available. Staff will be on hand to help reach down items from the shelves and answer any questions about the products.
Avebury Manor

The manor house is around 500 metres from the main car park. The closest parking for blue badge holders is located in our staff car park. On arrival at the main car park if you show your blue badge you will be directed to the staff car park, which is around 20 metres walk from the manor entrance.

Surfaces between the staff car park and the entrance to the house are extremely uneven, including a large area of historic cobbles and historic paving. Usual access to the manor and garden is via the Monk's Garden through a gate which is 950mm wide, across areas of loose gravel and grass.

During the winter and on request an alternative route along a shorter paved path is available to access the manor. This is, through a gate 1400mm wide, which has a single 80mm deep step. A ramp is available to help with this step. Please ask staff about access when collecting your tickets from the museum.
The front door to Avebury Manor is a conventional wooden door which is 980mm wide. A volunteer will be present to open the door and provide any assistance. There is a slight threshold step 20mm, a portable ramp available if required.

The usual exit route is through a doorway at the rear of the house which is very narrow (600mm). Wheelchair users will be directed back out through the entrance.

The house is lit by a combination of natural light and normal incandescent bulbs. There are four sets of stairs over three floors in the house as well as narrow corridors and doorways throughout. There are seats in every room of the manor for visitors to use, some have armrests. There are volunteer room guides in most rooms.

There are 2 standard toilets available in the house; the nearest accessible toilet is located in the Old Farmyard.

Downstairs: the doorway between the Keiller Parlour and the corridor to the Kitchen is 770mm, and part of the floor level on this route is on a ramp. There is a tight turn from Kitchen to the corridor (not suitable for wheelchairs).
In the Kitchen there is a sound effect playing which some people might find disorientating. There are lots of interactive features here to explore such as bowls to stir, spices to smell, etc. There are two shallow steps from the Kitchen to the Servants Hall and three steps from the corridor to the South Porch, but this corridor is not suitable for wheelchairs.

Narrow corridors and steps can be avoided on the ground floor, meaning access to the Keiller Parlour, Tudor Parlour, Kitchen, Dining Room and Billiard Room is available for powered wheelchairs and mobility vehicles. There is space to turn a wheelchair easily in each room.

The main stairs: there are 15 steps to the first landing, 7 steps to the second landing for the Tudor Bedroom and then a further 6 steps to the Queen Anne Bedroom. Most handrails are 40mm wide on both sides except on the steps to the Queen Anne Bedroom, which is left hand side only.

The back stairs leading down from the Queen Anne Bedroom are much narrower than the main stairs. There are 11 steps down to the first landing, right handrail only, and a further 15 steps down to the ground floor, left handrail only.
Avebury Manor Garden

There is a map of the garden available on entry, staff can direct you to a route along flat access.

There’s a combination of surfaces in the garden including historic paving, grass and loose gravel and steps. There aren’t any significant slopes on the paths but some paths can be slippery particularly in wet weather. There are steps located at the Lion Walk, in the Half Moon Garden and in the Orchard.

Gates are located between most sections of the garden, some are spring loaded. There are benches throughout the garden with arm rests. There is a pond in the Topiary Garden with steep sides.
Avebury Manor Tea-room.

Our tea-room has seasonal opening hours so please check ahead of your visit.

It is accessed via a set of external stairs from the Topiary Garden with a handrail on the right going upwards. There are 11 steps, each 500mm high.

The entrance is a big heavy wooden door which is normally open when the tearoom is in use. The entrance door is 880mm wide. The room is lit by a combination of natural light, halogen lights and normal incandescent bulbs. The counter height is 980mm. Staff will assist visitors and serve food to the table.

Circulation space between the tables is narrow, but there are two tables near the door which seat four to five people and have wider space around them. There are no induction loops available.

Contact details for more information

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