Chedworth Roman Villa access statement

To avoid disappointment please book in advance, especially at busier times such as weekends and bank holidays. However, where space is available on weekdays, pre-booking may not always be necessary. If you do not book we cannot guarantee admission.

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Introduction

1. Please contact us, either in advance of your visit, or once onsite if you require further Access information and our staff will be happy to assist.
2. All contact points around the property, including handrails, door handles, toilet flushes and taps will be sanitised regularly, but please do exercise caution and wash your hands regularly using soap and water, or using hand sanitiser.
3. Mobile phone reception is very poor – in an emergency ask for the Duty Manager.
4. Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property.
5. We are a breast-feeding friendly property.
6. We do have a wheelchair available for visitor use. Please contact us in advance of your visit to arrange.
7. The ground is generally uneven due to the nature of the site.

Sensory considerations

- All our outdoor paths are either tarmac, metal grating, compact gravel, or grass; we have no highly polished floors.
- There may be a short queue for the toilets or to speak with the Visitor Welcome Team. We expect to be slightly quieter in the afternoon.
- We have no security checks, escalators, revolving doors, fluorescent lighting, flashing lighting, background music or construction work on site.
- There are background sound effects of talking in the West Range building, and the lighting levels are lower.
- You may occasionally hear gardening machinery (mowers, strimmers, hedge-cutters), but this work is usually done outside of opening hours.
- There may also occasionally be forestry noise from the estate workers in the woods around the property.
- Some paths have narrow points so there may be a need to carefully pass other
visitors.

- The hand soap in our toilets is fragranced and there is a herbal smell in the West Range, but there are no other artificial scents on site.
- There are numerous areas around the site which should offer ‘quiet spaces’, particularly the Lower Courtyard and end of the North Range.

**Arrival & Parking Facilities**

- There are brown signs from the A429, about 4 miles from the villa. Follow the small white and green signs which state ‘Roman Villa’. The property is not located in Chedworth village.
- The main car park is located near the Visitor Centre and is tarmacked. There are marked parking spaces, and two disabled parking bays near the entrance.
- Pre-booked tickets are checked in the Visitor Centre by the Visitor Reception Team. Please also have your membership card with you if you are a National Trust member.
- There are overflow parking areas in the layby and Woodland Carpark. The Woodland Carpark has a natural earth surface and no marked parking bays.
- There are 13 steps descending from the Woodland Carpark onto the road to the villa entrance. The steps are wooden and have wooden handrails on either side. There is a marked pathway across the road to the villa entrance.
- Cycle racks are available at the front of the Visitor Centre.

**WCs**

- There are WCs in the Visitor Centre, including an accessible WC and baby changing facilities. There are no adult changing facilities.
- Access is via the front door into the Visitor Centre. The toilets are located behind the reception desk, through the door on the left.
- The WCs have motion sensor lighting, and use energy saving bulbs.
West Range

- The route from the Visitor Reception to the West Range is along a tarmac path and then across a gravel surface held firm by a metal framework to create a smooth surface.
- The West Range is a timber building with a high ceiling and with some metal exterior access features and interior walkways and handrails.
- There are large windows along one side of the building which allow a large amount of natural light into central area. Other areas have artificial lighting, either energy saving or LED spotlights.
- The entrance to the West Range is either up 6 metal steps or via a platform lift.
- The steps have a handrail to the right as you ascend and are approximately 150mm high.
- The platform lift is designed for independent use with buttons which must be held down to enable the lift to move.
- The door to the lift can be pulled open and it opens outwards. The platform is 900mm wide x 1400mm long.
- The operating buttons are approximately 750mm high and encroach by about 100mm for part of the interior space. The buttons must be pressed continuously to be activated.
- Once at the top of the lift, the door opens outwards and there is a space of approximately 1000mm x 1600mm to turn towards the entrance door to the West Range.
- The entrance door is manually operated and opens outwards and is approximately 800mm wide.
- Immediately inside the doorway is a metal walkway with a 1:12 gradient. This levels out to a flat surface round to the left and continues along a wooden surface to the central area of the building. There are small gaps in the metal walkway so that you can look down onto the mosaics below if you wish.
- To the left of the entrance corridor, there is a room with a moving visual image on the far wall and the sound on conversation. This room would have been the dining room and the audio visual is designed to give an idea of how the room would have felt.
- The central area of the building has a wooden floor with stone edging.
- On the other side of the central area, there is background audio effects to indicate that that area used to be the baths. The floors in each area are wood with small gaps between the metal strips so that you can look down into the mosaics below if you wish.
- The exit from the West Range is down a metal ramp of approximately 1:12 gradient and 1200mm width to a door which opens manually outwards onto a gentle metal surfaced slope which leads out to tarmac. The door is approximately 840mm wide.
- The step-free exit route from the site is via a wooden ramp at the bottom of the Central Courtyard and through the wooden gates that lead out to the carpark past the Victorian lodge.
Nymphaeum

- The Nymphaeum is a pool of still water with a small pipe through which water pours slowly into the water.
- The tarmac path leads round to the left from the West Range up to the Nymphaeum.
- There is a step of approximately 130mm along this route. The slope increases as you get closer to the Nymphaeum and the very top area is a short distance with a gradient of approximately 1:6.
North Range

- The North Range is accessed across the corner of the grassed area in front of the West Range. This grass route leads around to a tarmacked path. Some areas of the grass with heavy footfall tend to become very muddy and have been covered with woodchip or matting as a temporary solution.
- The area of the North Bath House has wooden steps with handrails. Interpretation of this area is located at the bottom of the steps.
- There is a short slope up from the grassed area onto the tarmac. This slope is approximately 1:5 gradient.
- The tarmac path is over 1000mm wide apart from a turn onto the path closest to the raised heat room and cold plunge bath area which narrows to approximately 650mm. There are level grassed areas around this path which can be used if you require more space.
- It is possible to enter some of the rooms along the North Range pathway. There are short slopes up into each one and all have grass surfaces apart from the room furthest from the West Range which has a gravel surface.

Wheelchair access along the left side

Date 19/07/2021

Map

Attached to this document is a step-free access map of the site (please see last page).