



The Weir Garden Access Statement

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Introduction

The Weir Garden is situated on a steep bank which drops down to the River Wye. It is a ten acre informal riverside garden with a short walk to a walled garden. The Weir mansion is privately let and visitors to the garden cannot see inside. Inside the riverside garden there is an open rockery with two small ponds and the walled garden is a short walk from the riverside garden and access is across a grassy track. The walled garden itself is on a slight slope and has gravelled pathways throughout. Please bear in mind The Weir is a small garden with limited access although we will do our utmost to accommodate all visitors. Access to the garden is free to all National Trust members (please remember to get your card scanned upon entry) and there is a standard fee for non-members. Please note, we do not have a card machine on site so payments can only be taken in cash form, we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

NB- Mobile phone signal is fairly good across the site apart from inside buildings. In an emergency, please make contact on the phone number as soon as you are able.

Arrival and Parking Facilities

On approaching the drive to The Weir you will notice a brightly coloured banner hanging on a board, turn here and follow the driveway which steers to the left from the main road and follow for 300 yards until you see an open wooden gate on the right. Drive through the gate to enter the main carpark, on busy days you can park on the grass just before the wooden gate, this is our overflow. The car park surface is firm with a layer of loose stone on top. There are no designated disabled bays as the car park is not marked out however staff are happy to either guide you to a second car park with easier access or to park you as close to the garden as possible. The Visitor Reception hut is visible from the carpark; this will be your first port of call before entering the garden.

If you are planning to visit us as part of a group then please do get in touch beforehand by either email or phone so we can assure everything runs smoothly for you on the day.

Our carpark has very limited parking for buses so please do notify us beforehand so we can allocate a space on the day.

Walks

The main pathway circles around the whole of the riverside garden which is a hard track with some loose stones and prominent tree roots. There are many ups and downs though out the garden with steep climbs. Apart from the main pathway there are also several cut-through pathways which include slippery steps, bridges, steep climbs and narrow pathways. There is no way-marked route; you are welcome to go whichever way around the garden you prefer.



The WCs, tea-tent and second-hand bookshop can be found by following the straight pathway just after the Visitor Reception hut and is about 600 yards from the car park. Alternatively, staff can guide you to a second car park which sits just behind this area if the pathways are too challenging.

Down the far end of the garden there is a natural play area, you come off the main pathway to enter this, the surface is hard ground and a loose covering of bark here. Please note the natural play area is around 150 yards from the river and there is no physical barrier but a wildflower verge so children should be supervised at all times. There are deckchairs and picnic benches scattered around this area in which you are very welcome to use.

As previously mentioned, there is also an open rockery garden in the main riverside garden, to access this you must either climb up or down stone steps (depending on which route you have taken) these can become very slippery in wet weather or when frosty. There are two small but quite deep ponds here so please supervise your children at all times.

Our policy on dogs

Apart from service dogs, we do not allow dogs inside the garden due to the nature of the site. You are welcome to exercise your dog in the car park on a lead however it is strongly advised that you do not leave your dog in your car. Alternatively, there are three National Trust properties within Herefordshire which allow dogs into their grounds; Berrington Hall, Croft Castle and Brockhampton, please do check their dog walking policies before you visit.

Catering

We have a simple tea-tent on site for visitors to top up on tea, coffee and cake. An honesty box is provided and it is all self-serve. If you do require assistance, either let Visitor Reception know beforehand so we can assure somebody is there to meet you or pop your head into the second-hand bookshop just opposite the tent and ask the shop volunteer or office staff for a hand.

Visitors are welcome to picnic anywhere in the garden; they can either bring their own blanket or make use of the seating dotted around the garden.

