

# Garden Map

Accessibility route

**P** Car park and information

Café

Disabled toilets

Dog waste bin

Parkland entrance

Picnic area

Play area

Refreshments

Shop

Steep drops

Toilets

Buildings

Buildings (no access)

Footpath

Roads

**1** Corinthian Temple

**2** Sun Monument

**3** Archer's Hill Gate

**4** Stainborough Castle

**5** Ha Ha Bridge

**6** Conservatory

**7** Union Jack Garden

**8** Fernery

**9** Victorian Flower Garden

**10** Azalea Garden

**11** Earl's Seat

**12** Lady Lucy's Walk

**13** Wentworth Castle (Northern College)

Buggy pick up/drop off point

Caution steps

Urban mobility scooter route

National Trust mobility scooter route

Steep gradient – use caution

Unsuitable route for mobility scooter

Use caution



# Enjoy your day at

# Wentworth Castle Gardens

## **Mobility scooter use**

The National Trust mobility scooters are larger than the standard mobility scooter and as such, give you the opportunity to reach key areas of the garden that wouldn't otherwise be accessible. Due to their size they are not suitable to take into the Long barn so we have a wheelchair for you to transfer into should you want to enjoy the shop and café. For your safety, it's really important that you keep to the paths outlined on this plan. Routes not marked out are not safe to access. We've marked on the map are areas where you need to take extra caution as the paths can be a little steep and at times uneven.

Play area: you are welcome to take the scooter into the play area and to the refreshment kiosk. Due to the gradient and tight turning areas you may need to exercise caution. We would be interested in hearing your feedback on how accessible this area is to help inform longer term work on the paths and layout of the play area.

## **Wheelchair use**

We do not recommend wheelchairs access the gardens as the paths are very steep and uneven to help you explore further you can use one of the mobility scooters free of charge or ask our buggy driver to give you a lift with your wheelchair up to the conservatory where you can explore the areas with hard paths.

## **Golf buggy access**

Our golf buggy and driver will help you access gardens and cafe. The buggy will take you from the car park to the long barn café/toilets/shop if required it can also give you a lift to the Victorian conservatory. Please speak to a member of staff for assistance.

## **Using your own mobility scooter**

We do not recommend you use your own mobility scooter beyond the conservatory because the terrain and gradient would make it unsafe. We would prefer you to use one of the National Trust off road 4X4 mobility scooters. Please ask the team for more information.

## **Accessible toilets.**

There are accessible toilets located in the long barn and in the conservatory.

## **What should I do if I get stuck?**

In the unlikely event that you run out of battery or get stuck please contact a member of staff or in an emergency call the Duty Manager on 07790 373829. Please change the mode to manual before you attempt to push the scooter.





## Wentworth Castle Gardens Access Statement

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### Introduction

Wentworth Castle Gardens has 63 acres of formal gardens and 500 acres of wider parkland. There is an 18th century 'Union Jack' garden, restored Victorian conservatory and hill-top folly Stainborough Castle. The parkland is grazed by Deer and Sheep in some areas. Throughout the gardens there are a number of pathways, some of which are steep in places. There are accessible paths marked on the visitor map which is available from the Visitor Welcome Building. Visitors with a disability may be accompanied by up to two essential companions during their visit. Essential companions will receive free admission when accompanying a paying visitor with a disability.

### Mobile signal

Mobile phone reception is good across the majority of the site although can be poor in some areas of the parkland. All staff on the site are connected via a 2-way radio system and can raise the alarm if needed. There is also public Wi-Fi in the Long Barn and Victorian Conservatory.

### Dogs

All dogs are welcome on short or fixed leads in the gardens and parkland, including Assistance Dogs. Only Assistance Dogs are permitted inside the buildings which include the café, shop and conservatory. Livestock do graze in the parkland, so it is essential that dogs are on a fixed or short lead at all times. There is dog water available at the Long Barn and Visitor Welcome Building.

### Arrival & Parking Facilities

#### By car:

The only vehicle access to Wentworth Castle Gardens is via Park Drive accessed off Lowe Lane near the Strafford Arms pub. The gated entrance is located approximately 2 miles from the M1 motorway. Wentworth Castle Gardens is signposted using brown highways agency signs from the M1 at junction 37. We recommend using postcode S75 3ET if following satellite navigation.

The Visitor Welcome building is located in the main car park. Please note there are no toilets in the main car park, the nearest toilet facilities are in the Long Barn which is 250 metres from the car park and Visitor Welcome Building.



A buggy service is available to take visitors with any additional access needs from the car park to the main facilities every day during normal operating hours, weather permitting. Please note that the buggy is accessible for wheel chair users. Users will need to self-transfer into the buggy from their wheelchair. Visitors arriving with their own electric wheelchair or mobility scooter will be able to access some of the site and maps will be available advising of the best routes to take.

#### **By bus:**

There is a bus stop for Wentworth Castle Gardens on Gillroyd Lane near the Strafford Arms pub, where the 23a, 24, 24a and 410 services stop. This bus stop for Wentworth Castle Gardens is at the bottom of the hill, there is no access to the site from the Northern College bus stop. The Wentworth Castle Gardens bus stop is approximately 800 metres up a gentle gradient to the Visitor Welcome Building in the main car park. Information about bus timetables can be found here <https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/>

#### **By train:**

There is a train station in Dodworth which is approximately 2 miles from the entrance to Wentworth Castle Gardens (Dodworth station, Station Road, Dodworth, South Yorkshire, S75 3JX) Trains are operated by Northern Rail with hourly services between Sheffield and Huddersfield. There is step free access at this station, for more information and access at the train station please use the link below.

<http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/stations/DOD/details.html>

#### **Accessible Blue Badge Parking**

Accessible Blue Badge parking can be found in the main visitor car park which has 10 spaces for Blue Badge holders. Please display your Blue Badge documentation on your dashboard for eligibility.

#### **The main car park**

The car park has a hard surface constituted of compressed limestone gravel with a tarmac entrance road. There is no additional charge for car parking. The path from the car park to the main visitor facilities is a tarmacked surface which is up a slope in places. The Car Park is approximately 250 metres from the Long Barn where the main facilities are located.

#### **Busy periods**

If all the Blue Badge spaces are occupied, we will always endeavour to find a suitable location for parking based on the circumstances of each visitor. We regret we cannot reserve parking bays in advance. At busy times such as weekends and school holidays we may use grass over flow parking. If you require assistance identifying a suitable parking space, please ask a member of our team.

## Toilet Facilities

### Main Visitor Facilities – Long Barn

- All are located on ground floor level in the Long Barn Building.
- Accessible toilet room with 90cm door width
- Transfers on right side
- Area lit by fluorescent lighting
- Baby changing facilities in the accessible toilet.

### Additional facilities- Conservatory

- All are located on ground floor level as you enter the Conservatory.
- The Conservatory is approximately 500 metres from the Long Barn.
- Accessible toilet door width 90cm, room width 110cm.
- Transfers on right side
- Area lit by fluorescent lighting
- Emergency pull chord fitted.
- Baby changing facilities in the accessible toilet.

### Visitor Welcome Building

- The main Visitor Welcome Building is in the main car park and has step free access up a ramp. There is seating available in the Visitor Welcome Building.
- There is a hearing induction loop available.
- There are two powered mobility vehicles available for use in the gardens. These can be pre-booked or borrowed on the day on a first-come, first-served basis if not already booked. The team will carry out a short assessment to ensure it is suitable for individuals needs. Each mobility scooter seats one person.
- The Visitor Welcome Building is in the main car park and is 250 metres from the Long Barn where visitor facilities are located.

### Conservatory

- The conservatory entrance is 500 metres from the Long Barn via a tarmac and uneven compressed gravel surface which slopes steeply in places. There is a buggy available to assist and this can bring visitors up to the conservatory entrance.
- The entrance doors are 160cm wide doors, with step free access. There are power assisted doors with a push button for access.
- Wheelchairs can access the Conservatory, but mobility powered scooters are unable to access this space. There is seating inside the conservatory and space to park a mobility scooter outside
- There is a rest space in the conservatory building near the information panels.
- Food & drink is not allowed in the conservatory building.
- Some of the exhibits in the conservatory have sound effects.
- Assistance dogs only.



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## Catering

- The café is located in the Long Barn, 250 metres from the blue badge spaces in the car park
- There are two wheelchairs for use in the Long Barn, these will be available for visitors using an off-road mobility scooter which will not be able to access the Long Barn. Small personal mobility scooters and electric wheelchairs can access the Long Barn.
- There is also a smaller catering outlet which is within the Playground.
- The surface outside the cafe in the courtyard is a Yorkshire stone flagged area just off a tarmac pathway.
- There are two entrances to the Long Barn at ground level, one of which is a double door at 1.8 meters wide metres and the other a single door at 1 meter wide and both doors swing outwards.
- The café has only few soft furnishings and the hard surfaces will cause sound echoes.
- The environment is well lit with some natural light, and supplementary artificial light provided by spot LED ceiling lights, and fluorescent strip lights.
- Staff will assist visitors on request, visitors can be seated if they experience difficulty queuing.
- The counter height for service is 90cm high and the drinks collection point is 94cm high. Staff are happy to come around the counter to serve visitors drinks or bring to the table.
- There are wooden and metal table & chairs outside the café for users wishing to sit outside.
- All dogs are welcome in the outside area and Accessibility Dogs are welcome inside all buildings.
- The Long Barn and outside area can become noisy at busy periods.

## Retail

- The shop is in the Long Barn building and shares the same space and entrance as the café.
- The shop floor is level.
- The shop counter is 75cm high.
- The Shop has no soft furnishings (e.g. carpet, wall hangings...) and the hard surfaces will cause sound echoes.
- There is no seating in the shop
- The environment is well lit with lots of natural light, and there is artificial light provided by GU10 LED bulbs directed at displays.
- There is circulation space of 120cm between all displays
- Tills have induction loops.
- Staff and volunteers are available to help reach down items that cannot be reached by customers.
- Staff and volunteers are always available to describe items and prices to customers if needs be.
- Wherever possible staff will support in transporting heavy / bulky purchases to a customer's vehicle.

## Garden



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- The garden is accessed via Visitor Welcome Building in the car park and then via a tarmacked pathway which has no steps but is steep in places. For those borrowing a powered mobility vehicle a map is provided highlighting steep slopes and steps around the gardens which are not suitable for these vehicles.
- From the Long Barn to the Conservatory is approximately 500 metres, from the Conservatory to Stainborough Castle is another 500 metres. Both routes are uphill in places.
- There are routes which are accessible to powered mobility vehicles which are marked on the map though these routes do take in some steep slopes.
- Path material varies throughout the garden, with compressed limestone gravel, grassy paths and tarmac. Routes may be compromised by weather conditions, please check before you visit if you wish to see a specific area.
- Paths in the garden have shallow and steep slopes in areas. There are paths at a steep gradient which are marked on the map.
- There are steps in the gardens to access the Victorian Garden with handrails and alternative step free access.
- Throughout the garden there are several gates which are opened manually.
- Fingerpost signage is used at the garden entrance and around the gardens. Other signage is provided on a 'pop up' basis using chalk boards or small A4 signs (temporarily). Tactile models or audio tours are currently not available.
- Garden benches are provided throughout the garden.
- Garden machinery is in operation throughout the year but is designed to be used at times when disruption will be minimal.
- Mobile induction loops are available for guided tours and activities in the garden, please speak to the team if you would like these to be used.

## Parkland

- The parkland consists of approximately 500 acres of mixed woodland, grazed meadow and lake and can be accessed through a gate near the Long Barn.
- The ground is undulating, with steeper slopes in places and pathways can be muddy.
- Staff are available during normal opening hours every day to suggest routes for those with mobility issues.
- The mainly grass paths in the Parkland can become rutted and muddy during the winter and prolonged wet periods.
- Throughout the estate there are gates to negotiate.
- Livestock graze some areas of the Parkland, so dogs must be kept on a short lead.
- Water features within the park are in the form of Serpentine lake.

## Contact details for more information

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