

Accessibility statement

Introduction:

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum, is located approximately 3 miles from the market town of Tetbury. It is an outdoor attraction situated in approximately 240 hectares of land, inhabited by 15,000 trees.

Upon arrival, you will find the car park, with over 400 spaces, 21 of them dedicated disabled spaces.

The car park is located next to the Welcome Building where tickets, leaflets and information, free mobility scooter and wheelchair hire and toilets can be found.

The Welcome Building is approximately 50 metres from the car park, and is accessible via a short downhill slope.

The admissions team greet you upon arrival, with two admissions windows, both fully accessible to those in wheelchairs.

Disabled toilets are available at the Welcome Building once you have been through admissions.

At the back of the Welcome Building, you will find a seating area and 3D map to orientate yourself. Three paths greet you, one towards the old arboretum, one towards the main facilities and one DDA-compliant resin bond path towards Silk Wood and the main facilities.

Access to the Old Arboretum from the Welcome Building is a hard path and relatively flat; Silk Wood is steeply sloped if accessing via Skilling Gate or gently sloped if accessing via Waste Gate.

Rest benches are located along the length of the resin bond path. It is approximately 300m from the Welcome Building to the restaurant, 100m to the Old Arboretum and 100m to Silk Wood via Skilling Gate.

Connecting people with trees

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum,
Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8QS
0300 0674890 westonbirt@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt



Westonbirt, The National Arboretum is
cared for by the Forestry Commission.

Supported by:

the friends
of Westonbirt
Arboretum
Registered Charity 293190

Pre- arrival

Westonbirt Arboretum is situated in Gloucestershire on the A433, approximately three miles south west of Tetbury. Look out for the brown visitor attraction signs from the M4 and M5.

The nearest railway station is Kemble at approximately 12 miles. Taxis are available to hire from Tetbury or Malmesbury. Information on these is available on our [public transport pages](#).

There is a community bus service that runs infrequently, details can also be found on our [public transport pages](#).

Due to the nature of the location of the arboretum, there is no other means of public transport.

All of our leaflets are available in braille format and can be requested from the Forestry Commission [diversity team](#)

Car Parking and Arrival:

The car park at Westonbirt holds over 400 cars, with 21 dedicated disabled spaces. The distance from the car park to the Welcome Building varies depending on where you park, but from the disabled bays approximately 50 metres.

The car park is flat and tarmac, and alongside the disabled parking bays is a lit footpath to avoid having to cross any traffic.

Lighting bollards are present in the car park and lights come on whenever the natural light level drops.

Access to the Welcome Building from the car park is via a short slope downhill, and uphill upon exit.

Main entrance, reception and ticketing:

The admissions point is within the Welcome Building, which itself is step and slope free and has a flagstone floor.

Seating is available once you have entered Westonbirt through the barriers. Extensive lighting is available within the Welcome Building and the Christopher Mitchell Information Centre.

Westonbirt has an admissions policy in place for disabled visitors, which offers their carer free admission, details can be found on our [accessibility pages](#). Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters are also available to loan (pre-booked) from the Welcome Building. To book a mobility scooter or wheelchair please call our friendly admissions team on 0300 067 4861.

Attraction:

Westonbirt has over 26 kilometres of hard paths suitable for wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs. Other paths may be suitable depending on the ground and weather conditions.

The main paths in and around the facilities are lit and benches are situated across the arboretum.

The shop, restaurant and toilets are well lit and signposted.

Public toilets:

Toilets are situated both at the Welcome Building (upon arrival) and in the area of the main facilities (300m from the Welcome Building). Disabled toilets are available at both, with an adults changing room available in the toilets in the main visitor area.

Width of doors 89cm

Height of WC from floor to seat 48cm

Space to side of WC for wheelchair 142cm

Grab rail location right hand side 15cm and 33cm from toilet, left hand side has two both 35cm from toilet (one of which is for the sink).

Alarm cord monitored by Welcome Building staff during normal hours, 9am to 4.30pm daily.

Catering

The Westonbirt restaurant and café are situated approximately 300m from the Welcome Building.

There is level access to the café and gently sloped access to the restaurant. There is mobility scooter parking outside the restaurant.

The restaurant and café both have plenty of space for pushchairs. The restaurant has a lino floor; the café floor is level concrete.

There are vegetarian, gluten free and dairy free options available on the restaurant menu and table service is provided for cooked food.

Menus are clearly displayed on blackboards, but staff would be happy to relay these to any customers with visual impairments.

Seating is at wooden chairs and tables, highchairs are available.

Shop

Access to the shop is level if approaching from the Old Arboretum, but a gentle uphill if coming from the Welcome Building or Silk Wood direction.

The shop floor is flat and parquet. There is space to manoeuvre a pushchair or mobility scooter around the shop.

Staff in the shop would be more than happy to provide assistance if needed.

Grounds and Gardens

The arboretum comprises over 240 hectares. The main picnic area is situated on the Downs, which is a level but uneven expanse of grassland. Picnic benches are available in this area. The Old Arboretum represents one third of the arboretum and is relatively flat with some gentle slopes. Silk Wood represents two thirds of the arboretum and is more uneven, with some steeper slopes. Both have hard paths making them accessible for those with pushchairs, mobility scooters or wheelchairs and in most spots can accommodate two side by side.

The surface of the hard paths is gravel, other paths can range from grass to bark mulch.

Benches are located across the arboretum.

Additional information

We welcome assistance dogs across the arboretum. Non assistance dogs are welcome in Silk Wood. There are dog bowls available at the restaurant and Welcome Building and dog tie ups at the Welcome Building.

Signage is dark blue, with contrasting fonts for clarity.

Contact information:

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum

0300 067 4861

westonbirt@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

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