

Tours and guided walks



National Forest Walking Festival

Help for disabled visitors

The listings on pages 12-16 show which venues have disabled toilets and parking but many attractions have additional facilities for disabled visitors.

Groups are advised to contact the venues in advance to pre-book scooters and wheelchairs.

Some of the heritage properties are not accessible throughout due to stairs or historical features but there are facilities to experience the sites. These include the virtual tours at **Donington le Heath Manor House** and **Calke Abbey**, which also has a volunteer-driven buggy to help visitors to the house and gardens. **Sudbury Hall** has numerous stairs but its Museum of Childhood is accessible by lift. It can also provide large handled cutlery, two-handled mugs and a microwave.

	Wheelchair access throughout venue	Wheelchairs available	Scooters available	Hearing loop	Audio tours	Subtitles on audio visual	Braille/large print guides / menus	Virtual tour
Ashby de la Zouch Castle				✓	✓			
Barton Marina	✓							
Blue Cross Equine Centre	✓							
Bosworth Battlefield			✓	✓			✓	
Byrkley Garden Centre	✓	✓						
Calke Abbey				✓				✓
Champneys Springs	✓							
Conkers	✓							
Donington Grand Prix Collection	✓	✓						✓
Donington le Heath Manor House								✓
Great Central Railway					✓			
Kedleston Hall				✓			✓	✓
Melbourne Hall		✓						
Moira Furnace	✓							
National Brewery Centre	✓			✓				
National Memorial Arboretum	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Planters at Bretby	✓							
Rosliston Forestry Centre	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Sharpe's Pottery Museum	✓			✓				
Snibston	✓	✓		✓				✓
Sudbury Hall	✓	✓		✓				
Twycross Zoo	✓							

National Brewery Centre allows free entry to one carer accompanying a registered disabled person.

Snibston can provide wet-weather ponchos to wheelchair users, menus in braille/large print and water for access dogs. It also has seating around the museum for resting and offers pre-booked touch tours.

Most trails at **Conkers** are surfaced but some of the play areas are not accessible by wheelchair. Conkers staff will provide a personal tour of the wildlife trails to disabled visitors on the 8-seater pre-bookable buggy.

Great Central Railway has a special carriage for wheelchair users. A new lift has been installed at Loughborough Station and all other stations (Quorn, Rothley and Leicester) are fully wheelchair accessible.

A flat tarmac path through **Bradgate Park** gives access to disabled visitors and on Thursday afternoons between April and October, drivers with blue badge permits are permitted to drive through this stunning deer park to the visitor centre.

Rosliston Forestry Centre is one of the rare attractions that has adult changing facilities (adjustable table) and hoist tracking. It also caters specifically for disabled visitors in its fully accessible Forest Lodges with wet rooms, lowered work surfaces, adjustable beds and many other features.

Best Western Premier Yew Lodge Hotel has rooms designed for guests with disabilities with low level spy holes and hangers. Bathrooms have sliding doors, grab rails and one is designed as a wet room.

There are also large-number phones, interconnecting rooms for carers and hearing loops available.

Ramada Burton upon Trent can provide a vibrating pillow and hearing loop facilities in the conference rooms.

There are ground floor rooms in **Three Queens Hotel** and **YHA National Forest**, which also has designated disabled rooms with accessible toilets, wet rooms and emergency alarms. This modern hostel with double and family rooms has achieved Visit Britain's Accessibility Certificate Level 2. All amenities are on



Bradgate Park



Snibston

the ground floor and there is a hearing loop in the function room.

Upper Rectory Farm Cottages has level access, a disabled shower room, wide doors, large print information and parking up to the door.

Champneys Springs Health Resort has designated disabled rooms for treatments.

The National Forest Company has produced a suite of **Access for All** walks for mobility impaired visitors. These leaflets can be downloaded from www.visitnationalforest.co.uk and include Sence Valley Forest Park, Branston Water Park, Trent Washlands, Donisthorpe Woodland Park, Rosliston Forestry Centre, Sarah's Wood, Staunton Harold Reservoir and Thornton Reservoir.

Most visitor attractions listed in this guide run tours and there are regular walks taking place throughout the year.

Ashby de la Zouch Museum runs guided walks around the town in the summer and Grace Dieu Priory has a ghost walks programme. For more information on these contact **Ashby de la Zouch Tourist Information Centre** (contact details on page 28).

Historical Hauntings take groups on ghost walks around Tutbury, with tales of gruesome murders weaved into the fascinating history of this pretty village.

Learn more about birdsong on the Dawn Chorus Day walks or more about the history, flora and fauna of the area during the National Forest Walking Festival – both of which take place in May. Other special interest guided walks include moth and bat walks, mushroom forays and of course the llama treks that take place throughout the year.

The website www.visitnationalforest.co.uk has a full listing of forthcoming guided walks and tours.

If you are looking for a specific theme, personalised tour or a guide for a coach visit, email Leicester Shire Promotions on groups@goleicestershire.co.uk or call 0116 225 4000.