



WESTON PARK

ACCESS STATEMENT FOR WESTON PARK

Introduction

Weston Park is a seventeenth century stately home built in 1671 and situated in 1000 acres of Parkland. Facilities comprise the House which has ground floor rooms open to view, the Stables building is adjacent and has a Refreshment facility on the ground floor with offices and children's education facilities on the first floor. Close by within the Stables Courtyard there is an auditorium, activity room and toilet facilities all on the ground floor. Woodland walks, the formal gardens and an adventure playground are within easy walking distance.

The Granary building has been converted to a Granary Grill & Deli both on the ground floor; with an Art gallery situated on the first floor accessed by either a staircase or a lift. A stair climber is also located in the building to aid access to the Grill restaurant which has two steps down into the actual seating area. It is also feasible and practical for visitors to access the Grill via the patio area in the Granary courtyard, which offers a gentle slope into the building.

Pre-Arrival

Please do contact us prior to visiting Weston Park to ensure we are open. You can phone, fax or e-mail us; all details are at the end of this statement. Sadly, Weston has no public transport services. The nearest train station is at Albrighton (6.5 miles from Weston), Telford (8 miles), and Wolverhampton (14 miles). A local taxi company and be contacted on 01902 840000 (Codsall Cars) or 01952 222222 (Diamond Cars).

Arrival & Car Parking Facilities

Our public car park will hold 300 cars and we have a number of dedicated accessible parking spaces. Parking is free and car parks are gravel, tarmac or grass and are signposted from the entrance. Admission is paid in the Admissions Office at the end of the Granary courtyard.

Main Entrance & Reception

Access to the House and accessible toilets involves no steps. Access to the Stables Refreshments area and auditorium are via permanent ramps/slopes of anti slip materials. Water bowls for service dogs are provided in the Stables Courtyard. Lights in the Stables and auditorium are all dimmable. The reception office is located on the first floor; a stair climber is available along with staff to assist.

Public Areas – General (Internal)

The House has a lift which can be made available for public/guests to use if accompanied by a staff member. There is a public telephone situated in the Stables Courtyard with seating nearby during the public open season. The auditorium has a loop system to assist with hearing the 6 minute Capability Brown film. A baby changing room is provided which is on the ground floor and wheelchair accessible, it also has two breastfeeding booths for privacy if required. Water bowls are situated in the Stables courtyard. Dogs are allowed in the park but not in the House (except for assistance dogs) as long as they are kept on a lead. There are four accessible toilets; one in the main public toilet area, one in the House and two in the Granary building.

Public Areas – WC

Public toilets are on level surfaces with the exception of the Park toilets which have one step up for access. All accessible toilets have pull cord alarmed sirens with anti-slip floor surfaces. These toilets are lit inside and are fitted with handrails.

Restaurant/Dining Room, Bar, Lounges & Coffee Bar

Lighting is dimmable in all catering areas. Tables and chairs are wooden and movable. Menus are available in large print and in Braille upon request. Chefs will cater for any special dietary requirements. Our picnic area is on grass with a gentle grass slope for access. A variety of seating is available from benches and large tables (in timber) to metal framed seating and cast iron tables. These are all movable. For the restaurant waitress service is available but this is also extended to the Stables refreshments area if required.

Laundry

No public access to the house laundry, trained staff only to use laundry facilities, which have front loading machines on a level ground floor surface.

Cafe & Deli

Located within the Granary Building, the Cafe is on ground level with two access points offering a one way system. The Deli is accessed via 2 steps. Staff will provide an alternative access point to avoid the steps upon request. Assistance is available for access and three wheelchairs are available to borrow from the Admissions Office. The counter is high but staff are easily able to assist customer's needs at their level if required. The room is light and bright.

Treatment Room/s

There is a first aid treatment room situated in the Stables Courtyard with seating, a sink and basic medical supplies. The room is only used by First Aiders treating any injuries and will contain privately up to 3 people.

Leisure Facilities

There are no leisure facilities to insert in this category

Outdoor Facilities

Garden Walks, Formal Gardens, a Maze, an Orchard and an Adventure Playground. All accessible on one level with 70% of the formal gardens available to wheelchair users (stair climber available for remaining 30%). The playground has a variety of equipment to cater for all age groups. The playground is maintained by the park maintenance team who have had training from ROSPA.

Woodland walks are accessed by gravel pathways which are regularly checked by the gardening team. Pea gravel is used which does compact down to form a smooth surface. However, on occasions of heavy rain downpours this can lead to pools of water which can inhibit access temporarily. Woodland walks are accessed via large wooden doors which are propped open on public open days.

Conference & Meeting Rooms, Banqueting, Clubs & Entertainment

House conferencing rooms are on two levels, ground floor rooms are spacious with large door access and parking on tarmac very close by. Rooms have good light (plenty of natural light as well), chairs are movable although tables will be configured to suit requirements and are less flexible. The accessible toilet is located nearby with ramp access out of the Orangery if required.

Upstairs conferences are accessed via two staircases or the lift if required, and then two steps down to enter the room. The room has a fixed boardroom style layout and has two toilets nearby. Disabled guests would need to use Charles bedroom which is on the same floor but is larger in size with better access. This could be arranged if required using staff; this issue has not arisen yet but is part of a contingency plan. The meeting room has good natural light but is also served with dimmable spotlights.

Bedrooms

Weston has 28 bedrooms, all different; some have en-suite facilities while others have private bathrooms nearby. One bedroom is designated for accessible use as it is wheelchair friendly and has a more accessible bathroom. All guests are escorted to their bedrooms and because the house is only used on a group/private basis then the occupants' circumstances are obtained in advance. The house butler will be briefed of any disabilities which will determine his actions in the event of a fire.

The building has a modern fire alarm system which "sounds" there are no lights or pads in bedrooms but the butler would go to this bedroom to wake a guest in the first instance of the alarm sounding during the night. There are TV's, radios, and electric blankets in all rooms. They are furnished to a high standard with natural light with no kettles or minibars. A butler service for food and drink is available.

Bathroom, Shower-room & WC (ensuite or shared)

All bedrooms have their own spacious bathrooms comprising both a bath and shower option. Some have separate shower cubicles; others have showers running into baths. All taps are conventional twist operated.

Self catering Kitchen

N/A

Caravans, Holiday Homes & Twin Units

N/A

Touring Facilities (Holiday Parks)

The caravan field can host caravan rallies during summer open months. In the field a permanent toilet block is located comprising two ladies and two gents' toilets with one handwash basin in each. Toilets are accessed by one small step up, natural light is low and there is no electric light due to the remoteness of the location. Ralliers are made aware of this and sometimes for larger rallies the organisation will bring in additional toilet blocks. There is no hot water available. Waste bins are in situ and the facility is cleaned on a daily basis when in use.

Boats – Narrow Boat, Cruiser & Hotel Boat

N/A

Attractions (Displays, Exhibits, Rides etc)

The Weston Park Miniature Railway is privately owned but does offer one accessible carriage converted to carry a wheelchair. There is ramp access to and from the station.

Grounds and Gardens

Seventy per cent of the formal gardens are accessible by wheelchair, with use of the stair climber this becomes 100%. All other paths are stone/gravel based and are usable by all abilities. The Rose Walk and Shrewsbury Walk do have gradients which can be difficult in parts for wheelchairs. A map is available from the admissions desk and these areas are highlighted by staff so that if assistance is required then Weston Park personnel would assist to push any manual propelled wheelchair. Resting seats are provided on most walks. The public areas include close access to four pools and interpretation boards at four locations which are large print.

Additional Information

All full time and seasonal staff undergo Fire, Health & Safety and customer service training annually. Public Season signage is displayed to inform visitors of our attractions using the colours blue

background and white lettering. Some signs are permanently in use year round, mobile networks tend to work outside in the park but not always inside buildings due to the thickness of the walls. Registered carers are allowed in free of charge providing the disabled person pays the admission fee.

Contact Information

Address: Weston Park Enterprises Limited

Weston under Lizard

Nr Shifnal

Shropshire

TF11 8LE

Telephone: 01952 852100

Website: weston-park.com

Grid Reference: SJ807106

Hours of Operation: office 9.00am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, 24hr voicemail facility for enquiries

For residential guests a 24hr contact number for the butler will be provided.

Emergency number: House Security Officer 01952 852151

Local Carers: N/A

Local Equipment Hire Companies: N/A

Local Public Transport Numbers: N/A

Local Accessible Taxi Numbers: Codsall Cars 01902 840000, Diamond Cars 01952 222222

Switchboard: 01952 852100

We welcome your feedback to help us continuously improve, if you have any comments please phone 01952 852100 or e-mail enquiries@weston-park.com