

Dare Valley Country Park Accessibility Statement.



The purpose of this statement is to inform visitors to the site of the facilities in advance of their visit.

It allows individuals with accessibility requirements to make an informed decision on whether the site is suited to their circumstances.

This is not for wheelchair users only but advisory for people with any disability/hearing loss/mental or visual impairment/older people as well as families with young children.

The statement is factual and correct at the time of writing.

Dare Valley Country Park.

Accessibility Statement.

Opening Times:

Monday – 9am – 5pm

Tuesday – 9am – 5pm

Wednesday – 9am – 5pm

Thursday – 9am – 5pm

Friday – 9am – 5pm

Saturday – 9am – 5pm

Sunday – 9am – 5pm

Contact Telephone Number: 01685 874672.

Dare Valley Country Park is a 500 acre country park which has a number of walking, hiking and mountain biking trails as well as offering lakes, a caravan site and a hotel.

The hotel is currently closed to the public.

The site also boasts a café which serves hot and cold food and drinks.
If travelling to the park by car, contact the visitor centre to get an accurate postcode as the postcode currently available on Google will take you elsewhere rather than the park.

If using a sat nav or GPS please use the post code CF44 7PS.

This will bring you to the entrance of the park

Arrival



The park is accessed via a long driveway with a number of speed humps along the way.

Parking

The park provides accessible parking bays for blue badge holders plus parent and child bays. These are operated on a first come first served basis.

Access to the Courtyard from the Car Park

The car park is of a firm macadam tarmac, there is a pathway from the car park that leads to a set of wrought iron gates. Once through the gate, you are in the flag stone courtyard.



Access to Black Rock Café from the Car Park

The car park leads to a dropped kerb. There is a yellow metal gate that opens outwards. Beyond the gate is a ramp made from briquette style blocks leading to a large, manual glazed door. The door opens outwards. There is a balustrade to either side of the ramp.

There is a small play area situated outside the café with several tables and benches.

The Black Rock Café

The café is well laid out. There is upper-level seating which is accessible using the stairlift or via a flight of stairs. Staff are available to assist.



Access to the Black Rock Café from The Courtyard

There is a large, single leaf door operated by a push pad. The door is very wide and allows for good access. Once through the door, you enter a corridor which leads to a set of double wooden doors which are manually operated and these lead directly in to the café.

Accessible WC

The accessible WC is well laid out and offers a good circulation space. There is an emergency pullcord should there be an emergency.

Visitor Reception

Access to the reception is via a ramped approach, there is balustrade to both sides of the ramp. Adjacent to the ramp is a set of steps. There is tactile paving present. There is a handrail to both sides of the steps and both sets of handrails have the required downturns.

Entrance to the Visitor Centre

The entrance consists of a single leaf glazed door which is automated by a touch pad, this door leads to a porchway with another single leaf glazed door which opens at the time the pad is pressed outside. These doors open inwards.

Reception Desk

The reception desk has a reduced height section, there is a knee recess that is designed for a visitor who is in a wheelchair. The flooring within the reception area is a wooden laminate and has no undulations in it.

Hotel Accommodation

The hotel is not currently in operation.

It does offer the provision of accessible accommodation. There are two rooms located on the ground floor with wet room style bathrooms. There is also a lift with provision for ambulant disabled people to access the upper floor.

Access to the rooms is via a ramp leading to a paved pathway.

Room 15 (Accessible Accommodation).

There is a slight threshold to the manual, wooden door. Once the door is open, there is a Clear Effective Width (CEW) of 772mm.

Internal layout of the room consists of a set of bunk beds, a double bed and a breakfast bar style unit. This unit creates a pinch point between itself and the bunk beds, this has a CEW of 719mm.

There are no emergency pull cords within this room.

Accessible Bathroom

The bathroom is spacious and offers a good colour contrast between the walls and the sanitary ware. The bathroom is in the style of a wet room, has a shower seat and an emergency pull cord. The cord is linked to the visitor centre.

Access to The Park from The Courtyard

There is a wrought iron set of gates that lead out on to an inclined pathway, once on the pathway there are two routes to begin navigating the park. The park has a pathway all the way around the area.

Pathways to The Lake

The red pathway to the lake is of a compacted loose stone material. The pathway is not completely even. At certain points around the park there are bridges to cross the small streams, there is anti-slip coating present on all slats. The 5km pathway has a loose shale finish. The pathway to Aberdare is undulated. The main pathway to the lake is tarmacadam with speed humps at the start. There are a number of benches around the lake which are all set on grassland. The information boards are currently set on grassy areas. There are a number of gates around the park with wheelchair accessible stiles.



Dare Valley Country Park Caravan Site

Access to the site is via a twist lock which is coded. There is an accessible kissing gate to the side but the ground in this area can get wet.

Bathroom Facilities at Caravan Site for Disabled Visitors



The site offers a fully equipped changing places bathroom which is accessed via a code for guests of the camp site. There is a ramp to this facility with hand rail.

The code for the changing places bathroom is available from reception or Black Rock Café if required for visitors to the park.

Visitors wishing to use the hoist will need to bring their own sling.

Children's play area



Access to the main play area is accessed via a bridge which has a loose shale and mud pathway to it however there is a more suitable pathway located near the bridge which is a compacted stone and tarmac material. It has a slight incline leading to the adventure playground.

Bike Hire



The park also has the provision of a bike hire facility and is currently investigating what provision can be made for wheelchair accessible style hand bikes.