

Anglesey Abbey, Gardens & Lode Mill

Anglesey Abbey includes a charming house, working mill and a garden full of surprises and wildlife areas.

Contact details

National Trust, Anglesey Abbey, Quy Road, Lode, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB25 9EJ

Telephone: 01223 810080

Email: angleseyabbey@nationaltrust.org.uk

Points to note

- There is reasonable mobile phone reception across most of the site.
- Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property and this is signed on the Visitor Reception entrance door. There is a water bowl in front of the Reception entrance building which is refilled regularly or can be filled on request.
- Light levels in the house are kept low to protect the collection.
- There are 5 manual wheelchairs and 5 single and 1 double mobility scooter available for loan – prior booking recommended, telephone 01223 810086.
- The garden has three areas of water; a large quarry pond off the arboretum, the Lode water stretch from the Mill along the rear of the property and a wildlife pond in our Wildlife Discovery Area.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

- There are brown signs from A14, A11 and Quy Road. The entrance is signed and the main car park is directly outside the visitor centre.
- The main car park surface is tarmac with two reinforced grass car parks. The grass car parks are reasonably flat with gravel and mesh roadway and gravel footpath which takes you down to the visitor centre. Spaces are unmarked in this area, parking areas are defined by wooden sleepers.
- There are designated spaces for disabled people, on a firm surface, in the main car park. These spaces are the shortest distance from the Visitor Reception.
- Cycle racks are in 3 locations in the tarmac areas of car park.
- There is a separate area for limited coach parking – coaches must be pre-booked.
- There is a transfer buggy, which can take 5 visitors regularly between the Visitor Reception and the House. This is not accessible for people who cannot transfer from their wheelchair. The transfer vehicle does not serve the car park but wheelchairs are available for this purpose.

Toilets

- There are toilets within the Visitor Reception building, including a right-hand transfer accessible WC with space to turn a wheelchair through 1500mm diameter circle. There is another single cubicle available in a toilet block near the house but this does not have restricted access. There are no adult changing facilities but baby changing facilities are available in the Visitor Centre and at the Toilet Block near the house. All the toilets have automatic hand driers, stone floors and brick wall surfaces, with fluorescent lights.

Visitor Reception

- This large wooden building with white roof is right next to the car park. The entrance is along a paved pathway with bollards. The entrance has double sliding automatic doors.
- The surfacing in this area is mostly stone, with full length windows at either end to provide natural light. Fluorescent lighting is used to up and down light the space.
- The reception desk is approx. 1000mm high but there is a lower area, approx 750mm high, which the reception team can also use for admission and membership enquiries. The reception area is large with space to turn. The restaurant, shop and toilets are all accessed via the reception area. There is limited seating within the reception area and more seating available in the restaurant and limited seating in the plant centre.

Gardens

The gardens of Anglesey Abbey offer an abundance of interest and colour throughout the year.

- There is a slight downward slope on the pathway from the Visitor Reception building down to join the main path to the house. This pathway is used by all visitors and vehicles including the mobility scooters and transfer buggy. Alternative routes are available through the winter walk and in the summer season, across the lawns.
- The path from the Visitor Reception to the House is approximately 900 yards long and takes around 10 minutes to walk at a moderate pace. The route is relatively straight with a fine gravel surface. There are also a few benches regularly positioned along the route. The route is lined with trees which can create a 'dappled' effect on the path if the sun is out.
- The circular route via the Winter Garden is winding but relatively flat and runs through the garden, down past the mill and along a narrower bark chipped pathway by the river, round the back of the herbaceous border and the undulates on hard standing path through a tree shaded area with a steep decline and incline at the exit and then arrives at the house.
- Access to our Rose Garden is down a set of 3 steps on a gravel pathway. Anyone unable to use the steps, using a wheelchair or mobility scooter can access the Rose Garden by following the longer pathway.
- All bark paths are accessible by wheelchair or mobility scooter in good weather.
- Hoe Fen is our Wildlife and Discovery Area accessed by our woodland bark chipped footpaths and in summer months across the lawns. It is a popular place for children to play.

House

- The immediate pathway in front of the house is used by vehicle and foot traffic and consists of fine gravel and tarmac, but there is grass either side which can be walked on if the gravel is difficult.
- The entrance to the House is up 3 steps, each approximately 150mm high. Alternatively level entrance of approximately 800mm width can be made with entry via the domestic wing entrance. This will give access to a limited of rooms on the ground floor. Please speak to a member of our team for assistance.

- The floor surfaces are generally carpeted or stone but the rooms all contain a lot of artefacts which assists with minimising echo. Some of the objects may be touched, please ask a room guide for more information.
- The lighting is fluorescent and kept to a low level to maintain the atmosphere and to protect the collection.
- Seating is available if required, please ask the room guides for assistance. There is usually someone in each room.
- Rucksacks and large bags are required to be left in the entrance area in a cupboard which is monitored at all times.

Bookshop

- This is in a small building near the House Courtyard. This has a level entrance of approximately 800mm width, stone floors, and brick walls with book shelves along them. This is open most days.

Catering

- The restaurant is situated in the Visitor Centre. The doorway is over 1000mm. This is usually open to at least 90 degrees and is power assisted. The door opens outwards with a push to open button function. Any team members can assist if required.
- There is some outdoor seating with tables which can accommodate wheelchair users.
- The counter is over 850mm high. Catering team members are available to assist with service and carrying trays.
- The width between the tables is approximately 1000mm.
- Members of visitor groups can sit at tables if queuing is difficult and one member of the group can ask catering staff for assistance.
- The floor and wall surfaces are stone and brick and the lighting is fluorescent. The chairs legs of the chairs and tables have 'rubber feet' to minimise noise.

Retail

- The entrance is level and via the reception area. The floor is stone and the lighting is fluorescent.
- The doorway is over 1000mm in width.
- The counter is over 800mm high but staff and volunteers are able to assist with service here and with lifting and carrying goods if required.
- There is circulation space between the tables of around 1200mm and some of the goods on the central tables are reachable by wheelchair users and children. There is space here to use a powered mobility vehicle or powered wheelchair.

Mill

- The entrance is via a large uneven step approximately 100mm in height. There is a ramp available giving wheelchair access to the ground floor. Please speak to a member of our team for assistance.
- Access to the first and second floors are via very steep wooden stairs. The floor is wood and the lighting is low level fluorescent. The doorway is 850 mm in width.
- When the waterwheel is in operation the mill is very noisy. Our staff/volunteers will warn our visitors before operating.

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