

Access Statement

Woolsthorpe Manor

Water Lane, Woolsthorpe by Colsterworth, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG33 5PD.

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Introduction

Woolsthorpe Manor, known throughout the world as the birthplace and family home of Sir Isaac Newton, is held by the Trust for its importance in shaping the modern view of the world and its role in contributing towards the inspiration which generated modern scientific thinking. Breaking free of a world dominated by faith and superstition, in the grounds of this humble manor, Newton started to experiment, an almost unheard of notion at the time, but a concept that would later change the world.

- Situated in Woolsthorpe by Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, 8 miles from Grantham
- A small manor house with various outbuildings and the look and feel of a farm
- Grade 1 listed buildings
- Uneven surfaces
- Site is sloping with gravel paths
- Manor House is set over 2 levels and has limited lighting and one main staircase to first floor
- Raised door frame accessible by ramps
- Historic orchard (home of famous apple tree) and main orchard both sloped

Visitor information

- Staff and volunteers based across the site available to assist visitors with any additional requirements
- Mobile phone reception is weak in the buildings, best reception is in the garden
- Assistance dogs welcome
- Due to limited open space, other dogs are not allowed; free local dog walk route available
- Dogs are welcome in the car park
- Light levels low in the house for conservation and atmospheric merit
- No facilities to hang wet coats, wet umbrellas can be left near the door
- Prams need to left outside manor house, baby sling
- Access folder available for manor house
- Ground floor of manor house and Science Centre accessible, first floor for both buildings accessible by stairs only
- Photography allowed across the site (no flash in manor house)
- Welcome map given to all visitors

Arrival & Parking facilities

- Train – Grantham (8 miles)
- Infrequent bus service – 608 Grantham-South Witham
- Situated just off the A1, follow the brown signs
- Postcode for satnav is NG33 5PD
- Cycle rack available outside ticket office
- Main parking in large visitor car park (signposted)
- Limited parking in small car park adjacent to ticket office
- Designated disabled parking available in small car park – few metres from ticket office
- Please notify ticket office as alternative drop off can be arranged near to the manor house
- Uneven surfaces in both car parks
- Motor scooters can be used but transfer to a manual wheelchair required to access the manor house
- Wheelchair available for use

WCs

- Accessible toilet – left hand transfer but rails all around, door opens outwards
- Baby changing facilities with table
- Well-lit with artificial lights
- All WC's have automatic hand dryers
- Access in lower yard near to ticket office

Visitor Reception and Shop

- One main entrance from Water Lane and both car parks
- Sloping gradient to entrance
- Cobbled flooring
- Small VRB and retail space with 3 doors
- Entrance door opens inward – lift latch if closed
- Reception desk manned by VS team at all times during opening
- Side flap available at lower level
- No induction loops
- Limited natural lighting but good artificial fluorescent lights
- Wheelchair available for use

Manor House

- Access to manor house via sloping hill upwards, past historic orchard to front door
- uneven surfaces, slippery in wet weather
- Alternative route via lower courtyard and around the back of the manor house – still uneven surfaces, grassed areas and slight slope upwards
- One entrance for visitors, slightly raised door frame and low door frames throughout the house
- One main staircase to 1st floor, handrail on left
- Limited numbers to house, only 7 allowed in Red Chamber at any one time
- On free flow days at least 3 volunteers available in the house for assistance (carrying radios)
- On tour days, only 12 per tour lead by a guide
- No WC's in house
- No armrest on chairs (available in all rooms along with some window seats)
- Large print access guide available
- Braille guide available
- No access to wheelchairs beyond ground floor
- Restrictions on mobility scooters due to raised door frame on entrance, wheelchair available
- Prams to be left outside, baby sling available
- Low level lighting for conservation and ambience
- Ambient sounds throughout
- Ground floor rooms have removable ramps for access: Parlour, Hall and Kitchen
- No access to basement level for visitors
- Rush matting flooring in most rooms, stone floor in kitchen

Catering

- Limited space for prams and wheelchairs in coffee shop
- Uneven cobbled surfaces
- High counter but volunteers/staff available to assist wheelchair users
- Limited circulation space
- Menus not available in braille or large print
- A small, limited catering offer
- Sandwich/drinks fridge will require volunteer/staff assistance for higher shelves

- Most products served by volunteers/staff who will assist where possible (ie: finding a table or carrying trays)
- No induction loops
- Limited natural light, fluorescent lighting

Science Centre/Light Workshop

- Ground floor fully accessible
- Uneven surface
- Interactive experiments manned by Science volunteers
- Fluorescent lighting
- Limited natural light
- Light Workshop only accessible by a staircase, no lift
- No induction loop

Film Room/Activity Room/2nd-hand bookshop

- Wooden flooring in Activity Room and Film Room
- Film has optional subtitles and large print transcript
- Light available
- Benches and padded chairs available
- Low tables and benches for activity room
- Slight ramp to the 2nd hand bookshop
- 2 entrances to this building – one via a step and the other via the bookshop (uneven surface with a ramp to lead to Activity Room/Film)
- Bookshop had very uneven cobbled flooring
- Limited lighting in bookshop
- Seating available in all areas

Historic Orchard

- 3 entrance points to the historic orchard which change throughout the year for conservation and visitor safety
- Relatively steep gradient up from ticket office
- No steps
- One gated access which can get slippery and therefore can be closed off accordingly
- 4 benches available in historic orchard
- Limited written interpretation, occasional Orchard Talks
- Home of the famous Flower of Kent tree
- Walking routes are mowed into long grass to move people safely around

Contact details for more information

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Date

5 September 2016



Disabled Car Park location

- Uneven/rocky/cobbled paths across the site
- Uneven grassy surfaces in both orchards
- Sloping gradients
- Low light levels in some areas

