

Access Statement for Newarke Houses Museum



This access statement does not contain personal opinions as to our suitability for those with disabilities, but aims to accurately describe the facilities and services that we offer all our visitors .

Introduction

Leicester is very privileged in having Newarke Houses Museum, dating back six hundred years. It is a Grade 2 listed building situated near to the City Centre next door to De Montfort University campus, Leicester Castle and Rupert's Gateway.

Over the centuries Newarke Houses Museum has had many lives. These include being used for houses for notable Leicester gentry and merchants such as William Wyggeston. In 1645 it was involved in the Siege of Leicester and it has also been used as a school for boys. Newarke Houses Museum opened to the public in 1953 as a museum.

Newarke Houses Museum hosts a regular events programme including talks, and seasonal children's events. The museum is available for private hire with our newly refurbished garden galleries available at competitive rates.

Newarke Houses Museum is accessible on all floors via a lift.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require assistance please telephone 0116 2254980 or email museums@leicester.gov.uk

Pre Arrival

- Free admission
 - For full details and maps of how to reach us please see the directions section of our website, alternatively you can plan your journey by car or public transport using www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk simply enter your postcode and ours, which is LE2 7BY to get directions.
- The nearest railway station is a 10 minute walk away on London Road. Taxis are available at the station. If you require an accessible taxi you can book this in advance on 0116 251 5105
- Newarke Houses Museum is located in Leicester City Centre next to De Montfort University campus in the Newarke..The nearest car park is 5 minutes walk away at the Holiday Inn Hotel.(NCP car park).
- For more details including local bus information please visit Google Maps To plan your journey to Leicester please visit Leicester travel pages. All links can be found on our website:

www.leicester.gov.uk/museums

Car Parking & Arrival

The Newarke Houses Museum has no car park and therefore no accessible parking. There is pay and display parking on the Newarke outside (Blue badge holders can park for free).You can also drop people off outside the museum and then go and park the car at a nearby car park. The nearest car park is 5 minutes' walk away at the Holiday Inn hotel.Please call 0116 2254980 for further details.

- The entrance doors are large and automatic and are very accessible.
- We have 2 floors in the museum and 2 mezzanine levels. Our lift will drop you at any of the 4 levels.
- The city also has 3 park and ride facilities on the outskirts of town.

Main Entrance & Reception

- The main entrance and reception is suitable for wheelchairs and the area is well lit with spot lights.
- The floor area in reception and most of the ground floor is made of stone with a lift situated in the room on the left of the reception area.
- There are seats available in the reception area.
- The reception and counter area is used for information, shop purchases and tickets for events
- There is a hearing loop system in place
- There is a wheelchair loan available for inside the museum.



Attractions & Displays

Newarke Houses museum and gardens incorporates the museum of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

The museum is composed of two historic houses, Wygston's Chantry House and Skeffington House and tells the social history of Leicester. Discover the history of the Regiment, including a recreation of a First World War trench with sound and lighting. The museum displays include a cinema experience, (picture below) a collection of toys from Tudor to present day and a play area for children to try various games. Visit to find out more about Leicester's famous son Daniel Lambert and visit a 1950s street scene inspired by Wharf Street that includes the Jolly Angler public house, a grocer and a pawnbroker, with sounds and conversations from the times. Through oral histories, archive film, computer interactives and collections, discover the histories of Newarke Houses, the surrounding historic area and contemporary Leicester.



Above is a photo of the panelled room and the street scene. The street has been made the same level to allow wheelchair access.



View of Regimental Galleries with ramped access.



Cinema area with ramped access in the toys and games.

We also have beautiful gardens which are partly accessible to wheelchairs. See photos below.



Please Note: The interpretation boards are made up of text, images and some artefacts. The text is not very large and therefore visually impaired visitors may struggle to read the smaller print.

Public Toilets

- Newarke Houses Museum has one accessible toilet and ladies and gents all situated on the ground floor.
- The accessible toilet does not require a lock it has a twist lock, a grab rail and an emergency alarm.
- The sink in the accessible toilet is fitted with a lever tap, mirror and hand drier.

Additional information

- Assistance dogs are welcome and water can be provided upon request.
- Selected staff have received disability training
- We have a wheelchair available for use.

Contact Information

- Address: Newarke Houses Museum, The Newarke Leicester LE2 7BY
- Telephone: 0116 2254980
- Email: museums@leicester.gov.uk
- Web: www.leicester.gov.uk/museums