

## Teston Bridge Country Park - Accessibility Guide

Last updated: June 2023



Teston Bridge Country Park combines 32 acres of grazed meadow, river walks, a children's play area and of course the picturesque 14th century Teston Bridge, this country park makes the most of its beautiful natural setting on the banks of the River Medway.

#### Accessibility at a glance:

- Accessible unisex toilet
- Level access picnic area and play area
- Blue Badge holders can purchase an annual parking ticket

If you have other accessibility queries in advance of your visit, please call 03000 41 35 00 or email <a href="mailto:kentcountryparks@kent.gov.uk">kentcountryparks@kent.gov.uk</a>. If you require a text phone, <a href="mailto:BT">BT</a> RelayUK offers a free intermediary service.



The content in this guide covers accessibility information about the following:

- Facilities overview
  - Level Access
  - Hearing
  - Visual
  - Sensory
- Getting there
- Parking
- Outdoor spaces
  - Play area
  - o Cafe
  - Accessible routes
- Toilets
- Fire safety and emergency evacuation procedures
- Assistance dog facilities

## Facilities overview

## Level Access

- 1 accessible toilet
- Easy access routes, ideal for wheelchair users and pushchairs.
- Blue Badge holders can purchase an annual parking ticket. Visit <u>Parking</u> season tickets - <u>Kent County Council</u>

## Hearing

There should be no hearing related barriers at Teston Bridge Country Park.

## Visual

Outdoor areas of the park walking routes do not have lighting fixtures

## Sensory

 Around the park there are metal rub plates, sculpted benches and other wooden sculptures which we encourage visitors to interact with for a tactile experience.

## Getting there

Teston Bridge Country Park is located near Maidstone and can be reached by car or public transport.

Find Teston Bridge Country Park and plan your journey.

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There are 2 hard standing allocated accessible Blue Badge parking spaces which are located in the main car park nearest to the start of the easy access route to the picnic area. Hatched area present at side only.

There is an accessible route from the car park as well as the wooden platforms. The car park does include other routes to picnic areas and walking routes, however these require crossing small wooden platforms across river trenches with no handrails available, which may not be appropriate for wheelchairs or strollers.

If you are a Blue Badge holder, you can purchase an annual season ticket in advance of your visit. The annual season ticket gives you access to all of our country park car parks free of charge during the year.

You can purchase your season ticket <u>online</u> or call 03000 41 72 72. Have your Blue Badge number and credit or debit card handy for reference.





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# COUNTRY PART

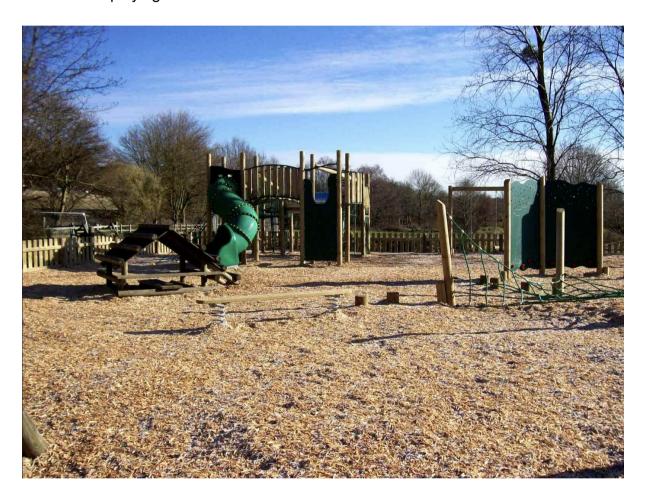
# Kent Country Parks

Outdoor spaces

## Play area

There is a play area in the park that can be reached by an easy access pathway.

The play area is on level ground and is surrounded by a fence but can be accessed through a level gateway. The play area features easy access ramps, low level games with wood chipped impact absorbing surfacing to help prevent injuries while children are playing.



## Cafe

Although we do not have a café, there is a mobile catering facility most days within the car parking area. This is not managed by Kent County Council (KCC). The cafe serving desk does not have an induction loop.

## Accessible routes

There is an easy access path from the car park to the lock area, returning on the same path. The route is surfaced and flat.

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The routes include gravel and hard standing pathways, with occasional slopes. The riverside walks are on grass which can be very muddy and uneven.

Benches are available at equal distances on the main easy access pathway circuiting the main picnic area. Please be aware that rubbish bins are primarily located across grass walkways and not immediately accessible from hard standing pathways.





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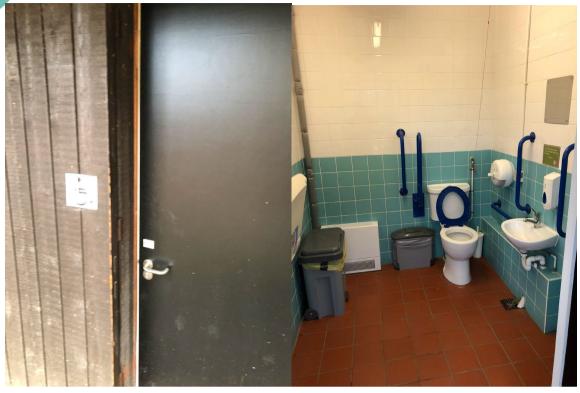
Toilets

There is one unisex accessible toilet that is accessible from the car park via level access up a slight incline to the right hand side of the toilet block as you approach from the car park. The accessible toilet is the first door on your left. Left hand side transfer.

Toilet facilities are available at all times when the park is open to visitors even if the cafe and shop are closed.







Fire safety and emergency evacuation procedures

Standard evac procedures include provision for disabled visitors. All Kent Country parks have muster point locations at each site which will be suitable for all visitors.

## Assistance dog facilities

Assistance dog exercise facilities - dog friendly areas where dogs can be let off their lead.





