

## Lullingstone Country Park - Accessibility Guide

Last updated: June 2023



Lullingstone Country Park is internationally renowned for its collection of ancient trees, spectacular wildflower displays and countryside walks, it is the perfect place to get back to nature. With a café on site that serves delicious homemade food and fresh coffee, a shop, and a play area, there really is something for everyone.

#### Accessibility at a glance:

- Changing Places toilet and 1 other accessible toilet
- Visitor Centre and gift shop accessible via level access from car park and manual double doors
- Easy access routes, ideal for wheelchair users and pushchairs. 2 Tramper mobility scooters available to hire (prior booking required)
- Meeting room for hire accessible on the ground floor.
- Blue Badge holders can purchase a reduced annual parking ticket

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



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### Facilities overviews

Level Access

- Changing Places toilet and 1 other accessible toilet
- Visitor Centre and gift shop accessible via level access from car park
- Some easy access routes, ideal for wheelchair users and pushchairs. 2 Tramper mobility scooters available to hire (prior booking required)
- Meeting room for hire is accessible from ground level.
- Blue Badge holders can purchase an annual parking ticket. Visit <u>Parking</u>
  <u>season tickets Kent County Council</u>

#### Hearing

• All staff have disability awareness training.

#### Visual

- Glass doors and full-height windows have contrast markings.
- Outdoor areas of the park walking routes do not have lighting fixtures
- Outdoor areas of the visitors centre has lighting fixtures
- Guide dogs facilities and water bowl on request



- The cafe is enclosed and may therefore be very noisy at busy times.
- 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

Lullingstone Country Park is located near Farningham. There is no nearby bus stop. Find Lullingstone Country Park and plan your journey.

## Parking

There are 6 hard standing allocated accessible Blue Badge parking spaces which are located in the car park nearest to the visitor centre. Hatched area present at side only.

If you are a Blue Badge holder, you can purchase a reduced annual season ticket in advance of your visit. The annual season ticket gives you access to all 9 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.







### Staff support

All staff complete disability awareness training and can help advise you on accessibility features of the park, including toilets, accessible walking routes, and play facilities.

Large print and alternative formats are available on request.

### Inside spaces

#### Information point and gift shop

The gift shop and information point is on the ground floor of the visitor centre and accessible through manual double doors through a lobby that contains the Trampers and visitor information.

The information point is available slightly to the left as you enter from the main doors. The information desk is 72cm tall and has no lip.

The information point does not have a hearing induction loop and information is not available in a digital format.

#### **Orchid Meeting room**

The Orchid Room is on the ground floor of the visitor centre and is available for hire on weekdays and weekends. The Orchid Room has its own male and female bathrooms which are not accessible to wheelchair users. However there is an accessible toilet and Changing Places toilet nearby on the same level, via some double manual doors.

#### Book the Orchid Meeting Room.

The Orchid meeting room does not contain a hearing induction loop.

From the entrance to the visitor centre head straight ahead with the information desk on your left. There are two entrances to the Orchid room on your right through manual doors. It is possible to exit the Orchid Meeting Room via the manual doubledoors that lead to a paved walkway outside.





### Cafe

The café is at ground level and can be accessed by a wheelchair through manual double-opening doors with a single door to the side of the building. Seating is available both inside the visitor centre for customers using the café, as well as at picnic benches in the café garden that are accessible to wheelchair users.

The serving desk is 800mm. The cafe does not have an induction loop.



Find out more about the café.



Outdoor spaces

### Play area

There is a play area at the side of the visitor centre in the park. This area is on level ground, with a rubber safety surface. It is surrounded by a fence but can be accessed through a level gateway.

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



#### Accessible routes

Lullingstone Country Park has easy access pathways leading from the car park to the visitor centre and play area, as well as flat, though unsurfaced, paths throughout the area. All facilities, including the toilets, café and shop are on the ground floor and fully accessible.

There is a riverside path that runs along the river Darent between Lullingstone Country Park and Lullingstone Castle. This is a 20 minute stroll. The path is mainly unsurfaced but reasonably flat, which makes access good during the spring, summer, and autumn months. It can be muddy in winter and will inevitably be slightly bumpy, with twigs, stones, and puddles at times.



View a map of Lullingstone Country Park (PDF, 3.7 MB)







#### **Mobility Scooter Hire**

2 Tramper mobility scooters are available for hire. Our Tramper's are rough terrain mobility vehicles that can help you explore more of Lullingstone Country Park. To book, call us on 03000 41 47 47 or emailing <u>kentcountryparks@kent.gov.uk.</u>

It costs £2 for a 2 hour session.



Before hiring a Tramper for the first time, you will need to complete a 25 minute practical induction session to show you how to safely control the Tramper. You can pre-book your training session by calling 03000 41 47 47 or emailing <u>kentcountryparks@kent.gov.uk</u>

You must be able to get on and off the Tramper unaided, as staff are not trained to help with this.



## Toilets

There are two accessible toilets across the country park situated in and around the main visitor centre.

- Toilet A One unisex accessible toilet located to the left of the visitor's centre which is open at all times. Right hand transfer.
- Toilet B One <u>Changing Places unisex accessible toilet</u> is located to the left of the visitor's centre. This requires a RADAR key to access and includes hoist and full adult changing facilities. The toilet supports both left and right-hand transfer.

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

#### Toilet A

1. Starting outside the main entrance to the visitor's centre facing the door



- 2. Turn left and follow the path along till you reach a crossroads.
- 3. Turn right at the crossroads and an accessible toilet is located in front of you behind a manual single door to the toilet block which also contains male and female and baby changing facilities.

The accessible toilet can also be accessed via the cafe. Leave via the double manual doors from the cafe and the accessible toilet will be behind a manual single door to the toilet block on your right.









### Toilet B - Changing Places

The <u>Changing Places unisex accessible toilet</u> is located next to the cafe adjacent to the car park and is accessed via a radar key.

- 1. Starting outside the main entrance to the visitor's centre facing the door
- 2. Turn right and follow the path along till you reach a crossroads.
- 3. Turn right at the crossroads and the Changing Places accessible toilet is located on the left-hand side and requires a RADAR key to access.

Facility Features include: Bench Height Adjustable, Adult Sized, Wall Mounted -Hoist - Ceiling, Loop - Peninsular Toilet Washbasin Height Adjustable, Non Slip Floor 12sq m Privacy Screen, Paper Roll, Colostomy Shelf, Unisex Signage in the room.

The Changing Places toilet can also be accessed via the cafe. Leave via the double manual doors from the cafe and the accessible toilet will be behind a manual single door to the toilet block on your right.







### 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.

All internal fire alarms are audible, no flashing lights.

### Assistance dog facilities

Assistance dog exercise facilities - dog friendly areas where dogs can be let off their lead which are visibly signposted at the parks.

Other assistance dog facilities - water bowls for assistance dogs. There is a tap for dog drinking water and bowls by the cafe.







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