

Access Statement

Bamburgh Castle is situated on a volcanic outcrop bordering the North Sea. The site covers almost nine acres including 14 state rooms, extensive grounds and battlements, the Armstrong and Aviation Museum, The Clock Tower Café, Tack Room Kiosk, Victorian Stables covered eating area. We have WC facilities including disabled toilets and baby change areas.

Getting Here

The Castle is 51 miles from Newcastle-upon-Tyne and 78 miles from Edinburgh. The nearest train station is Berwick-Upon-Tweed, 21 miles away and the village is serviced by buses from both Berwick and Newcastle. **Find out more about travelling to and around Northumberland by public transport** <u>here.</u>

Castle Buggy Shuttle Service

We offer a complimentary pick up and drop off shuttle service that operates from the Castle car park to the Stateroom entrance for visitors who are unable to walk up the hill to the Castle from the car park. To request this service, please ask the car park attendant on arrival.

Disabled Parking Facilities

Forward parking is available for visitors with limited mobility in the Castle car park. A limited number of spaces are available within the within the castle grounds for any visitor who are not able to use the Castle buggy. Please notify the car park attendant on arrival.

Ticket Office

The ticket office is fitted with an induction loop with prices displayed in a large font. It is accessible by wheelchair and motorised chair and is fitted with a low counter. A wheelchair is available for visitors to use.

Main Entrance

The main entrance is not accessible by wheelchair due to the width of the medieval doorway. A separate entrance 10 metres before the main entrance provides access to the building and inside of the main entrance point.

Castle Rooms

The first five castle rooms are accessible by wheelchair with a ramp (1:6) leading into the Kings Hall. For visitors who have some independence from the wheelchair it may be possible to access further areas of the castle. All areas of the Castle, with the exception of the dungeon are well lit.



From the Kings Hall to the Cross Hall and Cross C A S T L Hall Porch, three steps each with a rise of 19cm. Hand rails to both sides 92cm apart.

From the Cross Hall Porch to the Captains Landing, six steps each with a rise of 11cm. Hand rail to right hand side only. This gives you access to the Billiard Room and Faire Chamber.

From Faire Chamber passage to Armoury in the Keep, 14 steps each with a rise of 17cm. Hand rails to both sides 72cm apart. Gives you access to the Armoury and Court Room situated in the Keep.

Descending from the Court Room to the Keep Hall 28 steps each with a fall of 17cm. Hand rails both sides 72cm apart.

Descending from the Keep Hall to the Bake House passage there are a total of 16 steps, broken by two landings. Each with a fall of 17cm interrupted handrails to both sides.

One small step of 9cm rise leads to the Bake House off the passage. Bake House Passage to Scullery, two steps 13cm and 9cm rises respectively. No hand rails.

The Gift Shop is situated at this level.

From the Dungeon passage down into the dungeon are 2 steps with 17cm falls, hand rails to both sides 72cm apart and 3 to exit with 17cm rises, hand rails to both sides. There is a low ceiling in the dungeon and low light levels.

On exiting the castle there are 11 steps with 19cm rises. Hand rails to both sides 72cm apart.

Surfaces throughout the castle rooms are either wooden floors or smooth stone flags.

Touch Tours

We offer guided Touch Tours for visitors who are visually impaired which includes touching key items relating to the Castle's history with a Guide who will give further information about the items. Touch Tours must be pre-booked in advance by emailing administrator@bamburghcastle.com



State Room Audio-Visual presentation

Situated alongside The King's Hall an audio-visual presentation continues the tour of the Castle for visitors who are un-able to continue to see the full tour.

Accessible Facilities

There are two wheelchair accessible toilets in the grounds. One is located between the Crewe Entrance and the First Small Room in the main castle buildings. The second is located adjacent to the main toilet facilities in the stable block. This area is also equipped with a baby changing unit. Both are fitted with alarms.

Gift Shop

Situated below ground level the shop is currently inaccessible to wheelchairs, however the ticket office carries a selection of branded and locally produced gifts.

The counter is fitted with a hearing loop and the shop is well lit with a mixture of natural and fluorescent lighting. Prices are a mix of large font type on white card and traditional price labels.

Clock Tower Tea Café

Housed in the old Castle library the café is inaccessible to wheelchairs. There are 22 steps up to the café in sets of 11, 1 and ten each with a rise of 15cm.

The Tack Room Kiosk

Selling take away food and drink in the courtyard, the Kiosk is accessible to standard sized wheelchairs. Restricted space inside makes it unsuitable for large wheelchairs or scooters.

There are outdoor seating and tables in the courtyard between the Kiosk and Café and furthered covered seating and tables available in the Victorian Stables which are fully accessible.

The Grounds and Battlements

The cannon-lined Battery Terrace is accessible by steps only. At the lower end there are nine wide steps with no handrail. At the upper end there are twelve steps down to the terrace all with 15cm risers. Whilst there are no handrails there are railings to one side. Access to the upper battlements is via steps at either end, at the south end there are 19 steps each with a 15cm rise and no hand rail. At the northern end (Next to Telescope) there are 24 steps all with a 15cm rise and no

handrail.



The south terrace overlooking the Farne Islands can be accessed by following the path behind the chapel.

There is a tarmac path to the West Ward where the Armstrong and Aviation Museum is located. This path is steep and wheelchair users would need assistance to ascend.

The Armstrong and Aviation Museum

The Museum has a 77cm door frame ad is step free throughout.

Emergency Procedures

The public areas are equipped with Fire Alarm sounders. When they are activated, castle staff implements an evacuation procedure ensuring that those that need support are given it and that the building is clear before the fire services arrive.

Feedback

We value your feedback and hope to make your visit to Bamburgh welcoming and enjoying to all visitors. Should you have any feedback on either this statement or any other aspect of visiting Bamburgh Castle then please contact Visitor Services Manager Karen Larkin via administrator@bamburghcastle.com