

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

Access Statement for St Barbe Museum & Art Gallery

Introduction

Located in the heart of Lymington, in a converted school building, a level walk just off the High Street, St Barbe is both a dynamic museum and a highly-regarded art gallery.

The museum explores the history of Lymington and the New Forest coast, while the art galleries host an exclusive programme of exhibitions that regularly include works on loan from national and regional collections.

A member of the Visitor Quality Assurance Scheme, St Barbe's museum, art galleries, shop, cafe and tourist information point are all based on the ground floor. A wheelchair is available to borrow, and there is plenty of seating available around St Barbe. Information about the exhibitions is written in large text and magnifiers are also available. Welcoming and knowledgeable volunteers are always on hand to assist visitors.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01590 676969 or email office@stbarbe-museum.org.uk

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Pre-Arrival

- For full details and maps of how to reach us please see the 'Getting Here' section of our website. Alternatively you can plan your journey by car or public transport using a journey planning website. Simply enter your postcode and ours, which is SO41 9BH to get directions.

- The nearest railway station is Lymington Town Station, which is 0.3 miles (a 7 minute walk) via Cannon Street.
- If you require an accessible taxi you can book in advance. There are several providers including Zodiac Travel Ltd, Brockenhurst Tel: 01590 624337 - 5 mini buses with ramps and tail lifts.
- The nearest bus stop is on the High Street 500m from our main entrance.
- Our website includes a virtual tour.

Car Parking and Arrival

- St Barbe Museum & Art Gallery does not have its own car park, however there is a 93 space public pay and display car park on neighbouring Emsworth Road, which is 0.1 miles away, just a 2 minute walk. The car park has free parking for blue badge holders, and 6 disabled parking bays. The car park is well lit at night and is evenly paved.
- There is a drop off point at the main entrance with a dropped kerb.
- There are four steps up to the main entrance with handrails on both sides.
- The main entrance has a manual glass door, 1800mm wide.
- There is also a front side-access to the museum, up a gentle ramp, with handrails on both sides. This leads to an automatic door that is 900mm wide. There is also a doorbell, if the visitor needs extra assistance.

Main Entrance, Reception and Ticketing Area

- The main entrance, reception and ticket area is situated on the ground floor with step free, level access, throughout.
- If a visitor requires the help of a carer, the carer is admitted free of charge.
- A short-pile carpet covers the floor.
- The area is evenly well lit with fluorescent lights.

- There is a lowered section of the welcome/ticketing desk.
- A magnifying glass, pen and pad are available at the counter.
- Wheelchair loan is available, free of charge, on request.

Displays and Exhibits

- Interpretation boards are all in large text.
- A large print What's On brochure is available on request.
- The museum and galleries are on the ground floor, in an open plan layout.
- There is seating scattered around the gallery and museum.
- The art gallery floor is covered with a short pile carpet.
- The museum floor is wooden and even.

Public Toilets

- Public toilets are located on the ground floor with level access from the main entrance, shop and cafe areas.
- There is one disabled access toilet, which is kept unlocked and accessible.
- The door is 950mm wide/37.5 ins wide.
- There is transfer space on the right-hand side of the toilet for a wheelchair. This space is 920mm/36in wide.
- The toilet height is 490mm/19 ins.
- There are vertical rails either side of the wash basin.
- There is a horizontal rail on the side wall adjacent to the toilet.
- The toilet is lit with a round ceiling light.
- The floor is non-slip laminate
- The wash basin has lever taps

Catering

- The small self-service cafe area is situated on the ground floor, with step free level access.

- There are no doors to the cafe area, as the ground floor is open plan.
- Tables are well spaced apart, with a clear height from the floor of 720mm/28.5ins
- The chairs have upright backs and no arms.
- The floor is again covered with short pile carpet.
- The cafe is well lit with fluorescent lighting
- The cafe is self service but volunteers are always on hand to assist if necessary.

Shop

- There is a shop with a wide-range of souvenirs, books which can be accessed directly from the main entrance/ticketing area.
- The shop is level throughout.
- There is room within the shop for a large wheelchair to manoeuvre and turn.
- There are tall display racks and low tables accessible from a seated position.
- There is no background music
- Staff/volunteers are always on hand to assist,

Additional Information

- All our staff and volunteers receive regular training that includes disability awareness training.
- We have a set of evacuation procedures - should visitors require it, assistance is available.
- Our information brochures are available in large print.
- We welcome trained assistance dogs. A water bowl is available on request.

Future Plans

- Many improvements are planned for St Barbe Museum & Art Gallery as part of a £2 million redevelopment scheduled for 2016/17.
- Access improvements will include the introduction of a hearing loop at the ticketing/welcome area.
- Integrated easier access to the entrance of the building.
- An additional Disabled access toilet with emergency pull cord
- Improved cafe facilities

Contact Information

Address (Inc postcode): St Barbe Museum & Art Gallery New Street,
Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 9BH

Telephone: 01590 676969

Email: office@stbarbe-museum.org.uk

Website: www.stbarbe-museum.org.uk

Grid Reference: NQ6076595882

Hours Of Operation: Mon - Sat 10am - 4pm

Local Accessible Taxi: Zodiac Travel Ltd, Brockenhurst Tel: 01590 624337 - 5 mini buses with ramps and tail lifts.

Local Public Transport: Southwest Trains Brockenhurst to Lymington Town
Wilts & Dorset bus company x1 or x2