



Transport Museum Wythall

Accessibility and What to Expect During Your Visit

The Transport Museum Wythall is a welcoming and friendly museum in the north of Worcestershire, just off J3 of the M42. This document is designed to help you understand the layout of the museum and what to expect before you visit.

We would remind you that many of our exhibits were designed long before the law changes in accessible design, but we make every effort when it is safe to do so, to enable visitors to experience the pleasures of historical local transport and battery electric vehicles.

Please note that during the season, we do move exhibits around, but the general layout remains the same.

We hope that this helps in planning your visit and should you have any questions please either call us on 01564 826471 or email us at enquiries@wythall.org.uk

Entry

As you enter the museum you will pass through large metal gates and into the main car park. Please note that on major event days, the parking will be limited to blue badge holder as most of the parking is offsite and serviced with one of our shuttle buses. Note, we do have one low floor access bus on this service.





Parking

As you enter the car park volunteers in hi-viz jackets will guide you to a relevant space. We have a number of blue badge spaces available near the admissions cabin.



Admissions

Once you are parked, make your way to the admissions kiosk where you can pay for entry. Do note we have free tickets for a carers and other discounts. More of these are referenced on our website www.wythall.org.uk



Access to Information

Throughout the museum, you will see exhibits with QR codes attached. Access our free Wi-Fi with your smartphone or tablet, then point the camera at the QR code. You will be taken to a page of information that can be read to you in English or translated into the language of your choice. Some of the pages have additional video that helps bring the exhibit to life. Don't forget to complete the survey!



Try it out now or go to www.wp.wythall.org.uk

Inside the Museum

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Once you have entered the museum site, in front of you, over the crossing, is the entry to our first hall. Throughout the museum there are volunteer guides wearing blue t-shirts or dressed in historical costume.



This team is an invaluable source of help to all our visitors especially when it comes to helping with any type of disability. If in doubt. Ask!

Now you are inside you will find displays and information about transport in the Midlands from c1900.



On the right-hand side as you enter is a video room where you can see old films from our archives.



Main Hall

As you leave the display area, you will enter the main hall where there is a display of old buses. You can enter these if a guide is available.



All our halls are large and airy, but this also means they can be loud and echoey. There is unlikely to be any noise from vehicles in the halls as they tend to be static on open days, but there is always a hubbub of people.

Exit the Main Hall

Leaving the main hall through the large roller doors, you will see a large area in front of our workshops. On open days, there will be vehicles moving around. Any movements will be overseen by banksmen, but please take extra precautions.



The building in front of you is the engineering and restoration workshops. These are typically out of bounds for visitors for health and safety reasons, however, access with a guide can be organised though care must be taken as this is a working environment.



To the right is a newer building that contains many of our single deck buses and coaches. During open days, some of these are placed outside to allow better access to those under cover.



Café and Toilets

Turing left, takes you alongside the main hall and towards the café. This is situated up a staircase or via a ramp.



The entrance to the café is on the right, the toilets are on the left. The café and shop can become quite full during lunch times or when a bus journey returns as people tend to come for tea and cake.





Due to the age and design of the buildings, both areas can become quite cramped, loud and busy.

Just outside the café is a children's playhouse and an area for eating outside, often serviced by a Burger Van.



The toilets are outside the café on the left, clearly marked. We have one disabled unit with changing facilities.



The disabled unit has an alarm system if help is required.

Scania Hall and Battery Electric Vehicles

Behind the café is the Scania Hall. This contains another collection of buses, tending to be focused on our Midland Red fleet. As you can see, the space between exhibits is sufficient for most wheelchair users though care is advised.



Similarly with the access to the battery electric hall that is at the rear of the Scania Hall.



Outside Space and Children/vulnerable adults

So far, we have explored the inside workings of the museum. We have a lot of space outside that is available for picnics and just sitting in the sun. It is quieter and note that as the museum only has one main entry point, safe, though parents and carers should always remain vigilant.

On the left of the admissions kiosk, is a large picnic area with toys and Ernie the milk float. He has chalkboard sides to draw on.



Over the railway bridge on the right is access to another grassed area. The picture below look back from the new grassed area. This area can also be accessed from our Battery Electric hall without steps.





Mother and Baby Room

The newly grassed area contains a new kiosk for tea and coffee and a mother and baby room for the 2023 season. The spaces are clean and tidy and relatively quiet.



The Miniature Railway

This is run by a separate organisation but is an integral part of the museum facilities. There is a large station with signposts and volunteers to guide you onto the platform. The trains are either steam or diesel. The steam trains emit smoke and occasionally ash. The diesels put out some smoke.



The queue can get busy and the train quite full. It runs around the site and each journey takes about 8 minutes.

Bus Rides

Bus rides are free and can be taken from the bus stop behind the railway station. The buses we use are usually pre-1980 and not suitable for wheelchairs. However, for those who have some mobility, there are volunteers available to help access the buses with additional steps as needed.

The rides are typically 30 minutes in duration. There is always a conductor on board should you need assistance.



Summary

The Transport Museum Wythall is keen to be as accessible as possible whether you have a physical or mental disability. If you have more suggestions, please contact us.

Sebastian Amos – Trustee
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