

# A detailed Access Guide to The Museum of The Gorge

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This Guide contains an overview of Access for:

## Visitors with physical and sensory disabilities



Assistance Dogs are welcome at all Museum sites.

- The information given in this booklet is a **detailed** guide about access to **the Museum of The Gorge**.
- The Museum of The Gorge car park is a local authority Pay and Display car park with tarmac surfaces. There are three designated Accessible parking spaces.

- **The Museum of The Gorge** was originally a warehouse built in the ornate gothic-style by the Coalbrookdale Company in c1834 to house cast-iron products waiting to be shipped all over the British Empire.
- The **Museum of The Gorge** uses film to explain the area's significance and you can see what the Gorge was like in 1796 with the help of a giant 12 metre long model. Spot a Royal carriage crossing the Iron Bridge, the cargo on a Severn Trow and a tiny figure toiling in a coal mine. Understand more about the area's history and discover why, as a World Heritage Site, it ranks alongside the Pyramids and the Taj Mahal in its importance in world history.
- The approach to the museum entrance is over hard surfaces either by steps or by ramp (1 in 12). The exhibition area is level and fully accessible.
- There are no refreshments in the museum but the town of Ironbridge has many cafés, restaurants and pubs alongside the wharfage and in the town square.
- Accessible toilets with side transfer and support rails are situated on the car park about 22 metres away from the museum entrance, entry is by RADAR key with ramp access to a level area with an outward opening door. The Ladies and Gents toilets within the museum building do not, regrettably, offer access for visitors with restricted mobility.
- The small 'Lady Chapel' within the museum is only accessible by steps but can be viewed at ground level.

## Key to symbols used in this guide:

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### **ACCESSIBLE \***

- A ramp or incline provide access for all visitors.

### **LIMITED ACCESS \*\***

- Small steps or uneven surface may limit access for visitors with restricted mobility and access is best achieved with the aid of a helper.

### **DIFFICULT ACCESS \*\*\***

- Large steps and restricted door widths make access difficult for those with restricted mobility and limited access may be achieved with the aid of a helper.



- Loop system available at the entrance and within the auditorium.



- Some tactile exhibits throughout the Museum. A 12 minutes audio visual film show explains the history of the Gorge and offers an excellent starting point for a visit to the Ironbridge Gorge Museums.



- Assistance Dogs are welcome.



- **External Accessible Toilets** with ramp access, side transfer and support rails situated on the car park about twenty-two metres from the museum entrance, entry is by RADAR key with ramp access to a level area with an outward opening door.

### **Rest Stops**

Seating is available inside the Museum of The Gorge. The auditorium also offers bench style seating and space for wheelchairs.

## ① Car Park



### **ACCESSIBLE \***

Local authority Pay and Display car park with level tarmac surfaces with 3 designated accessible parking places.

## ② Accessible Toilets



### **ACCESSIBLE \***

Accessible toilets with side transfer and support rails. Entry is by RADAR key with ramp access to a level area with an outward opening door.

## ③ Museum of The Gorge main entrance



### **ACCESSIBLE \***

Level access from tarmac car park to '1 in 12' ramp. Double glass doors, quite heavy, onto level brick paved flooring.



## ④ Museum of The Gorge exhibition entrance



### **ACCESSIBLE \***

Level access through single wooden door



**i** The Ironbridge Visitor Information Centre is located within the Museum of The Gorge for information about the Ironbridge Gorge Museums, local attractions, accommodation, travel and refreshments.

## ⑤ Model of the Ironbridge Gorge



**ACCESSIBLE \***

Twelve metre model of the Ironbridge Gorge as it was in 1796. View at wheelchair height.

## ⑥ The Lady Chapel



**DIFFICULT ACCESS \*\*\***

High step down onto uneven cobbled surface.

The film show in the auditorium (7) lasts approximately 12 minutes and runs on a continual loop - you may enter or exit the film show at anytime. Exit through the door at the other side of the auditorium to continue your visit.

## ⑦ The Auditorium



**ACCESSIBLE \***

Level Access through single wooden door into the dimly lit auditorium with bench-style seating and space for wheelchairs at floor level.



## ⑧ Exit from Auditorium



**ACCESSIBLE \***

Level access through a single wooden door - continue through this area to the shop and exit.

**The Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust is a Charitable Trust  
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**Customer comments**

If you have any comments to make on the Museum of The Gorge Access Guide please write them below, or speak to one of the reception staff, thank you.