



Martin Mere
Wetland Centre

Welcome

This picture guide will help you find your way around our buildings so that you know what to expect when you visit the centre.

There is also a little bit of information about facilities in our grounds.

Please ask on arrival if you would like a colour print out of this guide.



On arrival there is a large car park with up to 20 blue badge holder parking spaces.



There is a slop down to the main entrance door. The entrance door has a push button for access. There are sensors in place so that the doors do not close when people are waiting. Throughout the year foot mats are in place to walk over in order to access the building. This is to help prevent the spread of bird illnesses.



This is the reception where you will be greeted by a friendly member of staff. If it is busy, there may be a short wait time.



In the foyer you will find a membership desk, the shop, large windows to look at the wildlife and an information desk. You will be welcomed by volunteers on the information desk to give you directions and any information that you would like to know.



To the right, you will see the gift shop extends further.



To the left, you will see a large open exhibition hall where you can often find art exhibitions and activities.



Past the exhibition hall, there is an exit next that leads you to the Mere Side Café.



As we continue to walk through the building, you will see a long corridor. On this corridor you will find the large accessible toilet with a changing table and hoist, a picnic room and the family craft room.



The large accessible toilet has an adjustable height changing table and hoist available as well as an accessible toilet. This toilet facility does not have a hand dryer.



The family craft room offers a variety of paid and free crafts at the weekends and during school holidays. There is a tray available for people with additional needs to do crafts on their knee if they are unable to get close to a table.



Outside the door to the Mere Side Café there is an outdoor picnic area. The Mere Side Café building is the large building directly ahead of you.



Automatic doors give you access to the Mere Side Café where you will find ladies, gents and accessible toilets with baby changing. The internal doors are also automatic and will open as you approach.



Inside the café there is seating for 100 people plus an outdoor veranda overlooking swan lake. Baby feeding station includes high chairs, a microwave, bowls and a bottle warmer. There is free water provided. Please ask the staff for any dietary requirements or look at our website for a sample menu.





Past the Mere Side Café, a green gate provides access into the grounds to see and hear large numbers of waterfowl, otters, storks, cranes, flamingos and swans. In addition there is a canoe safari and wheelchair friendly boat tours, pond dipping, den building, a tepee village and plenty of areas to explore. There is a small play area by the canoe safari and within Wild Walk there are swings, wobbly bridges, stepping stones and balancing beams.



Back in the building, the main entrance into the nature trail and waterfowl gardens is through the retail shop.



To the left of this entrance all of the wheelchairs are stored that can be requested on arrival. They are free to hire. A mobility scooter can be requested in advance for a small fee by emailing info.martinmere@wwt.org.uk. There is also access points to the play area, nature trail and the grounds.





To the right of this entrance is the adventure playground along with a food and drink kiosk, ladies, gents and accessible toilets with baby changing facilities.



The play area has a bark substrate with sand play and water play in designated sections. There is a large slide that is only accessible via climbing a rope. The minimum age for the play area is 2.





Straight ahead of you is the access to the nature trail that includes 9 hides. Straight ahead is the Discovery hide that is DDA compliant.



The entrance to the Discovery hide is double doors and there are large windows with comfy seats available in this hide. The hide overlooks the mere that is full of wild swans and geese in autumn and winter.



From the Discovery hide you can go left or right, through these gates to the nature trail. The nature trail is not a circular loop. Please refer to the access statement for details of the hides and how far they are from the Discovery hide. All gates leading onto the nature trail are self closing and do make a noise when closing.



Hides have either lower windows for wheelchair accessibility or large glass windows for wildlife viewing. Some of the hides can appear dark upon entering.



The majority of the hides can be accessed via concrete paths although some may have a small slope approaching them. The United Utilities hide has a steeper sanded slope with a lip at the top.





From the Harrier Hide and United Utilities hide we have a reedbed walk that also has 3 hides on it. This pathway can get muddy in wet conditions and would not be suitable for a wheelchair. Mobility scooters would be fine over the hard standing pathway from United Utilities hide and you would be able to access the first two hides.





Back at the building, before you walk to the Discovery hide, turn left and you are now entering the waterfowl gardens to see and hear large numbers of waterfowl, otters, storks, cranes, flamingos and swans. In addition there is a canoe safari and wheelchair friendly boat tours, pond dipping, den building, a tepee village and plenty of areas to explore. There is a small play area by the canoe safari and within Wild Walk there are swings, wobbly bridges, stepping stones and balancing beams.



Metal gates are used throughout the grounds to separate the themed bird areas.



The grounds have paved pathways. There are benches all around the grounds as resting points.



Species labels tell you all about the birds that you can see.



There are different ground substrates around the grounds including boardwalks over water, compacted stone and bark.



At the canoe safari the boat has a ramp to allow for wheelchair access. The canoe are Canadian style canoes that allow for 3 people to sit in them. There is a large print health and safety briefing available for the canoes upon request.



There are 3 points around the grounds that have hand dryers. Outside the café, in the WOW area by the aviary and in Wooded Wetlands.



The exit back to the car park is at the main entrance via an automatic door.