# Access Guide

**Falls of Clyde** **wildlife reserve**

# Key contact details

## Address

Falls of Clyde Visitor Centre

New Lanark

South Lanarkshire

ML11 9DB

## Office telephone

01555 665262

## Email

[fallsofclyde@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:fallsofclyde@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk)

# Before your visit

* The Visitor Centre is open Thursday to Monday, from **10am – 4pm**.
* The Visitor Centre is currently unmanned, although **non-members are asked to pay £3**.
* Scottish Wildlife Trust **members enjoy** **free entry**.
* Although some sections of the walks are accessible, due to the terrain and gradient of paths, visitors with access issues, particularly using a wheelchair is unlikely to be able to complete any of the full walks.
* Assistance dogs welcome.

The Trust will promote and provide, where practical, access to its wildlife reserves for all individuals, irrespective of age and ability in accordance with the location, terrain and nature conservation requirements of the reserve.

# Getting to the reserve

The Falls of Clyde reserve lies approximately 1 mile south of the town of Lanark, and is reached through the historic village of New Lanark, signposted from all major routes. The main entry to the reserve is at New Lanark village.

## By car

Follow directions to Lanark, after which you can reach the reserve by followingthe **brown signs for New Lanark World Heritage Site** until you arrive at the site entrance.

Parking is in the[**New Lanark top car park**](https://goo.gl/maps/mvd36JqrVJUXggPG7)

From the New Lanark car park, walk down into the village, through the iron gates and down the steps to the right of the New Lanark Visitor Centre, **following the signage to the Falls of Clyde reserve**. Details for blue badge holders overleaf.

## By bus

There is a bus service available between Buchanan Bus Station in Glasgow and Lanark. You can then take the hourly number 135 bus from Lanark to New Lanark. For timetables, visit [Traveline Scotland](https://travelinescotland.com/)

## By train

Two trains every hour run from Glasgow Central or Motherwell to Lanark, full details can be found on the [Scotrail](https://www.scotrail.co.uk/) website. There is a taxi stance and bus stop just outside the station.

# Blue Badge holders

* Blue Badge holders may park in designated parking spaces in New Lanark village. There are 4 designated spaces in front of the main [New Lanark visitor centre entrance](https://goo.gl/maps/CpR6aJB9zRQW98ff8) and 4 at the front entrance of the [New Lanark Mill Hotel](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/@55.6637438,-3.7827884,107m/data=!3m1!1e3).
* With prior arrangement, it is also possible for Blue Badge holders to park outside the visitor centre. This involves driving along a busy, predominantly pedestrianized area, so pre warning is advised. Call 01555 665262 to arrange this.
* If using the parking spaces outside the New Lanark Visitor Centre, you can go to their Visitor Centre reception desk and ask to use their lift. This lift will take you down to the outer ground level and allows you to avoid a large section of the walk to Falls of Clyde Visitor Centre. The lift holds a maximum of 8 people standing (630kg) and provides audio alerts to floors and door movement.
* If parking in any of the New Lanark designated spaces the walk to the Falls of Clyde Visitor Centre is straight forward but fairly long. The entire route is on a wide, smooth tarred surface. If following the Scottish Wildlife Trust signs, they will advise you to come off of the tarred surface and walk along an uneven cobbled path. This, however, isn’t fully accessible (leads to a deep gravel path and set of stairs), so it’s advised to continue down the slope on the tarred surface until you reach the Falls of Clyde Visitor Centre.

# Visitor Centre

* The Visitor Centre is currently unmanned so it’s important that you call ahead if you have any special requirements or need assistance.
* Access is through a single backwards opening door 106cm wide.
* The inside of the Visitor Centre is fully accessible, with a level, smooth surfaced floor and adequate space between exhibits for full manoeuvrability. The workbenches, exhibits and viewing window are all at a good height for wheelchair users.
* There is a fixed loop hearing system in place within the Visitor Centre.
* There is a fully accessible education room, the Clyde Room, situated next door to the Visitor Centre. This is used for activities and events. The room is accessed via a glass door, the flooring is again flat and smooth and there is adequate space within for manoeuvrability.

# Reserve trails

* The two reserve walks: the Clyde walkway (5km) and the woodland trail (3km) are reached via a flight of stone steps leading from the Visitor Centre to the reserve entrance.
* Although some sections of the walks are accessible, due to the terrain and gradient of paths, visitors with access issues, particularly those using a wheelchair, are unlikely to be able to complete any of the full walks.
* Parents with buggies/pushchairs may also encounter difficulties with certain sections of the path due to flights of steps, or muddier areas on the Corehouse side.

# Toilet and baby change facilities

Fully accessible toilets and baby change facilities are available in the New Lanark Visitor Centre. They can be found in the foyer of the main Visitor Centre reception, in the Mill Pantry cafeteria (accessed via a ramp) and in Robert Owen’s School.

# Events

* The ranger team runs an events programme throughout the year. Events are held both in the Centre and on the reserve. Details can be found in the [Scottish Wildlife Trust’s Events & Activities Guide](https://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/our-events/).
* A lot of the events include activities that take place across the reserve and therefore aren’t fully accessible, for full details please call or email the Falls of Clyde office in advance.