



Relaxation, romance and... ramps

Your guide
to an accessible
break in Bath

Welcome to your guide

When choosing where to go on your next English holiday the last thing you should have to worry about is whether or not the hotels and attractions are accessible. After all, holidays are meant to be fun!

That's why we've developed this guide containing places to stay and visit that have all worked through VisitEngland's rigorous Access For All process. This process ensures that:

- Key members of staff have completed disability awareness training, helping to ensure you receive a warm welcome and your needs are met.
- Hotels have been assessed under the National Accessible Scheme and awarded the appropriate ratings for mobility, hearing and visual impairments.
- Attractions and other venues have received an audit from a professional tourism access advisor and are working through plans to improve their accessibility.

- All venues have received a mystery visit from individuals with access needs.

- All venues have an access statement available on their website giving detailed information on their accessibility.

We've also teamed up with the Disabled Persons Railcard to bring you all the information you need should you wish to travel to your holiday destination by train.

We appreciate that everyone's access needs are different, so whilst we can't guarantee that every venue listed in this guide will meet your individual needs, we hope this provides a good starting point for researching your next holiday.

When in doubt, we would advise checking with the individual business or attraction before booking.

To find out more go to **[VisitEngland.com/accessforall](https://www.visitengland.com/accessforall)**

About Bath

For over 2000 years, Bath's majestic surroundings have enchanted everyone from the Ancient Romans to Jane Austen.

Experience the history and romance of this UNESCO World Heritage City for yourself at the unique Roman Baths, or by soaking up the atmosphere and impressive architecture on a fully personalised tour with Bath Parade Guides.

The accessible attractions don't stop there: delve into the lives of Georgian Lords and Chambermaids at the recently refurbished No. 1 townhouse on the stunning Royal Crescent, see the diversity and glamour of design styles across the

centuries at the Fashion Museum, or revel in the artistic mastery on display at the Victoria Art Gallery from 15th century art to contemporary design.

If you're passionate about food, there is a range of independent restaurants and bars that cater for all requirements, tastes and budgets – from dainty sandwiches and cream teas, to romantic fine dining and new takes on classic cocktails.

When you're done for the day you can retire to the comfort of the accessible and quiet Holiday Inn Express.

www.visitbath.co.uk/accessforall



Places to go

Roman Baths

The spring on this site has been in use for well over 2000 years, but it wasn't until the Romans arrived that the city gained its most famous attraction: the Roman Baths and Temple complex at Aquae Sulis. It became one of the wonders of Roman England and continues to amaze visitors to this day.

Recent renovations to the site provide an unforgettable experience for visitors and make the Roman Baths accessible to all. Improvements include a lift to the lower level museum, level access and ramps across ancient Roman obstacles.

BSL handsets are available free of charge and the audioguides are compatible with the 'T' switch on hearing aids. Printed copies of the audio tour are offered, as well as an enhanced descriptive audio tour and tactile sculptures and models.

The Roman Baths are open seven days a week, except for the 25th and 26th of December. Admission charges apply. Companions of disabled visitors can enter free of charge.

Tel 01225 477785
www.romanbaths.co.uk



Places to go

No 1. Royal Crescent

As one of England's finest Georgian townhouses, the iconic No.1 Royal Crescent is known the world over and provides the experience of stepping into Bath as Jane Austen knew it.

Re-opened in summer 2013, this magnificent house has granted access to previously unseen rooms that each tell their own unique story and bring to life the upstairs, downstairs world of our Georgian ancestors.

Two of the floors have step-free access and a multimedia virtual tour of all rooms is available upon request.

Other features include induction loops in selected areas, BSL/ large print guides, a lift and accessible toilets.

No.1 Royal Crescent is open every day from 10.30 to 17.30 except for Mondays, when it opens from 12.00 to 17.30. Last admission is at 4.30pm. Companions of disabled visitors can enter free of charge.

Tel 01225 428126

www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk



Places to go

Bath Parade Guides

With so much history hidden around every corner, one of the best ways to discover the city's rich past is to take a guided tour. As providers of professional tours for over 35 years, you're guaranteed to get the most out of your visit.

Offering truly tailor-made tours, the routes start wherever you choose, last as long as you want and finish wherever you like. You can also choose the theme of your tour - anything from architecture to the Royal connections of Bath.

Walking tours are hugely popular, providing a richer

experience for those with visual and hearing impairments. All routes are also accessible to wheelchair users. Coach tours are also available; you can even choose a combination coach and walking tour.

All tour guides have been through the national Blue Badge training programme, are fully qualified and are members of the Institute of Tourist Guides.

Tel 01225 337111

www.bathparadeguides.co.uk



Places to go

Victoria Art Gallery

Home to a multitude of influential artists over the centuries, it's not surprising that Bath has an incredibly impressive public art gallery.

The Victoria Art Gallery's collections, housed in the upper gallery, range from the 15th century to the present day.

Each season a new artist or group of artists are exhibited, with a range of paintings available for purchase.

The Gallery is accessible and has a single wheelchair lift, accessed via the ramped

entrance on Bridge Street, which gives access to both the ground and first floor.

Specific activities for those with access requirements are also provided. These include workshops, regular talks and handling sessions for people with visual impairment. A sign language interpreter can also be arranged in advance.

Tel 01225 477233
www.victoriagal.org.uk



Places to go

Fashion Museum

It's fitting that a city as beautiful as Bath should celebrate the virtues of style and design with its very own Fashion Museum.

Housed in the magnificent 18th Century Assembly Rooms, the Fashion Museum charts the ever-changing looks, designs, patterns and trends of the past 50 years. New and exciting exhibitions are unveiled on a regular basis and include profiles of famous designers, influential collections and guides to this season's big trends.

All floors of the Museum are accessible and are equipped

with ramps, a lift and level access throughout.

Other accessible features include audioguides compatible with the 'T' switch on hearing aids and a copy of the audio tour text (with reading torch).

The Fashion Museum is open seven days a week, except for the 25th and 26th of December. Admission charges apply.

Tel 01225 477789
www.fashionmuseum.co.uk



Places to stay

Holiday Inn Express

The Holiday Inn Express is a modern hotel located under a mile from Bath city centre's wealth of attractions and breath-taking architecture.

Hotel facilities include the Great Room lounge with licenced bar, free WiFi through the hotel and a complimentary hot and cold breakfast buffet.

All rooms feature a 32-inch flat screen TV, air conditioning, tea and coffee making facilities, plenty of space to hang your clothes and essential toiletries are available from reception should you need them.

Seven, purpose-built, accessible bedrooms have been designed to suit a variety of access needs and include handrails, roll-in showers, emergency cords and vibrating pillows.

All public areas are accessible courtesy of level access and a lift. There are also designated Blue Badge parking spaces in the car park.

Tel 01225 303 000
www.expressbath.co.uk



How to get there

Nearest accessible National Rail station: Bath Spa

- Advance Single tickets from London by train from £15.00 (or £9.90 with a Railcard)
- Advance Single tickets from Birmingham by train from £17.20 (or £11.35 with a Railcard)

Check out the latest offers from all of Britain's train companies at nationalrail.co.uk, and use the Cheapest Fare Finder tool to find the best value fare for you.

Save 1/3 on rail fares with a Disabled Persons Railcard

A Disabled Persons Railcard allows you – and one adult travelling with you - to get 1/3 off most rail fares throughout Great Britain. You may qualify if you have a disability that makes travelling by train difficult. Visit disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk, pick up a leaflet from a National Rail station, or call **0845 605 0525**.

Disabled Persons Railcard

Passenger Assist is a service provided by train companies to those who require assistance with any part of their train journey. Staff can help plan your journey, book tickets and make reservations; they can also assist at stations, with anything from boarding and alighting trains, changing platforms to finding your seat.

To book assistance call National Rail Enquiries on **08457 48 49 50** who will connect you to the correct train company Passenger Assistance team on your route.





National Accessible Scheme

Hotels that display one or more of the logos shown below have been independently assessed against demanding criteria.



Older and less mobile guests

If you can climb a flight of stairs, but banisters or grip handles would make it easier.



Part-time wheelchair users

If you have problems walking or can walk a maximum of 3 steps, or need to use a wheelchair some of the time.



Guests with hearing loss

If you have a slight hearing difficulty, are deaf, wear a hearing aid or have hearing loss.



Visually impaired guests

If you have difficulty reading small print, are registered blind, have poor sight or a visual impairment.

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Word document and audio formats at
[VisitEngland.com/accessforall](https://www.visitengland.com/accessforall)**

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