

The Wheelchair User's Guide to  
Accessible Tourist Attractions for

# Shropshire



2007/08

# Introduction



Cover image: Nipstones

Welcome to our improved and extended guide for 2007/8. This year with further funding, as well as updating and adding to the attractions we include we have been able to provide many more places to stay within Shropshire. In addition we have also been able to give more detailed descriptions of their accessibility.

This brochure has been researched and compiled by Frank Napper a wheelchair user and Chairman of the Disabled Holiday Information Group with the assistance of his wife Sue. Its aim is to help address the complex and often confusing tourist information that faces those who have limited mobility when making decisions about where to visit and stay. Shropshire is one of England's lesser known counties but with its unspoilt and varying landscape and unique towns and villages it makes an excellent holiday destination. This is designed to give wheelchair users an insight into the kind of attractions on offer in the county and its surrounding borders. We also hope that it will prove useful to local residents who are wanting to plan a successful day out.

Every place mentioned in this brochure has been visited and assessed for accessibility by the researcher using his average sized wheelchair.

For further information:

visit: [www.disabledholidayinfo.org.uk](http://www.disabledholidayinfo.org.uk)

email: [info@disabledholidayinfo.org.uk](mailto:info@disabledholidayinfo.org.uk)

Or write to us at: **Disabled Holiday Information,**  
P.O.Box 186, Oswestry,  
Shropshire, SY10 1AF.

## Shrewsbury and the surrounding area



Shrewsbury is the county town of Shropshire and has a wealth of beautiful black and white buildings. The town is built on two hills and that means that a large part of it has steep inclines and therefore disabled visitors may need a strong pusher to assist them. However there are disabled parking spaces at various points throughout the town and a park and ride scheme with level access buses that stop at the top and bottom of the town.

**Guided walking tours** help you explore the many shuttes and passages that make Shrewsbury unique. They start from the Visitor Information Centre situated in the square. When booking it is advisable to mention you are using a wheelchair, as the guide will bear this in mind when selecting a route. Please note that some of the streets have cobbles and uneven surfaces.

**The Music Hall** which is also in the square, offers a wide programme of events and is wheelchair friendly. Please book in advance tel: 01743 281281. It also has a café and disabled toilet.

**The Old Market Hall** lies opposite and houses a cinema and coffee shop. It has a lift to the first floor and a disabled toilet. To ensure a wheelchair space please book in advance using the Music Hall number.

**The Dingle sunken garden** is a short walk from here and is situated in the town park, in spring and summer it has beautiful displays of floral bedding. The park also provides pleasant riverside walks.





**Shrewsbury Abbey** is situated just over the English bridge and dates back to 1083. During the dissolution in 1540 much of the building was demolished but the original Norman arches remain. There are ramps to assist access.

The Shropshire Wildlife Trust has a small shop, herb garden, countryside displays and a disabled toilet. It is housed on the site of the old abbey buildings across the road.

**Telephone 01743 284280**



**The Regimental Museum** is housed in the castle at the top of the town. Most of it is wheelchair accessible but you may need some assistance to negotiate the steeply inclined ramped entrance. There is a small shop and disabled toilet.

**Telephone 01743 358516**

**Attingham Park** is situated about 4 miles southeast of Shrewsbury on the B4380. The house built in 1785 is now owned by the National Trust. Access to the first and ground floors is very good. The tea room is not wheelchair accessible but there is a kiosk that provides hot drinks and snacks, that is situated in the stable block. There are some wheelchair friendly paths through the parkland. There is disabled parking, a disabled toilet and a powered buggy is available on a first come basis.

**Telephone 01743 708123**



**The Old Canal Towpath** that runs from Ditherington to Uffington is one of several wheelchair friendly footpaths in and around Shrewsbury. There is an all ability trail at Haughmond Hill that winds through woodland and a wheelchair path at Merrington Green near Bomere Heath. Information about these can be obtained from the V.I.C at the Music Hall.



**St. Peters Church** at Meverley which is about 10 miles west of the town was built in 1406. This beautiful black and white timbered church can be accessed via a ramp, that is housed under a staircase inside the main door. You may need assistance for this and to negotiate a small step into the churchyard.



**Church Stretton** is about 15 miles south of Shrewsbury on the A49. It is an interesting small town with a good selection of shops, a reasonable proportion of which you can access. There is an antiques centre with a lift to all floors. There are several cafes and restaurants within the town that have wheelchair access.



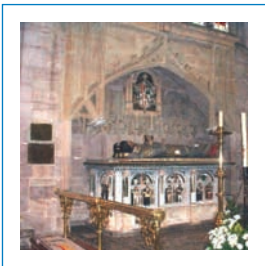
**Carding Mill Valley** is nearby and you can access it from the All Stretton road. It is a beautifully scenic part of the Shropshire countryside that is owned by the National Trust. About halfway along the valley there is a tearoom, shop and disabled toilet. Unfortunately due to the unspoilt naturally hilly terrain, the pathways are unsuitable for wheelchairs but there are wonderful views from the car park and picnic area. If you go back into Church Stretton and follow the signposts to The Burway you can drive up the very steep single tracked road on to the Long Mynd. These are the hills that tower above the town on the Welsh side, the views over the surrounding countryside are some of the most beautiful in England.

## *Ludlow and the south of Shropshire*



**Ludlow** is situated at the southern end of Shropshire near the Herefordshire border. It is packed with interesting historic buildings and is a thriving market town with many individual shops. Being built on a hill, the centre of the town is level but either side is quite steep. There is a market held in the main square every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday throughout the year. There are disabled parking spaces at various points throughout the town and in the 3 car parks. There is a disabled toilet in the main car park just off the square. The Assembly Rooms in Mill Street has a lift to all floors and has a café bar and disabled toilet. It is an arts centre with a cinema and live theatre. There are a variety of cafes and restaurants (a lot with outside eating areas) in the town that have wheelchair access.

**The Museum** which is housed at the rear of the Visitor Information Centre in the main square, gives a fascinating insight into the history of the town and the surrounding area. It has level access throughout. There are also displays of archive material in the Museum resource area at the library. This is accessed through an archway adjacent to 'Floribunda' the florist off the Bull Ring.



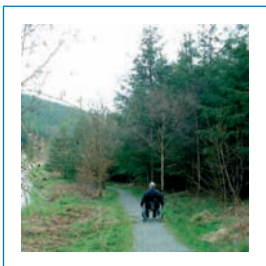
**The Parish Church of St. Laurence** is situated off of Church Street which is adjacent to the main square. It is a magnificent building that was originally built in 1199. The next three hundred years saw many alterations and additions to the building. There is access to most of the church via ramps but you cannot get into the Chancel, however it is possible to get close enough to see into it.





**Ludlow Castle** built in the late 11th century as the border stronghold of the Marcher Lord Roger De Lacy, is situated at one end of the square. The entrance is across a cobbled surface but once inside it is mainly down to grass. The information boards explaining the history are at a good height for wheelchair users. You can access all the main areas but obviously not the towers. There is a gift shop and a disabled toilet on site. Opposite the shop is the newly opened Castle Tearoom with its courtyard area and garden terrace.

This also has an accessible toilet. **Telephone 01584 873355**



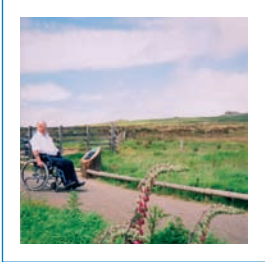
**Mortimer Forest** which borders the town to the southwest has an all ability trail. Starting from The Vinnalls car park, the trail is marked with blue signposts. It runs around a figure of eight circuit for approximately a mile and a quarter. Although the surface of the paths are excellent, there are some long steep inclines so you will need either a strong pusher or to have good upper body strength yourself.



**The Spaceguard Centre** is at Knighton on the A4113, 12 miles from Ludlow. It is a working astronomical observatory established in 1996 to observe Near Earth Objects and the threat they pose to life on earth. Day tours are at 10.30 am (1st May to 1st Nov only), 2 pm and 4 pm Wednesday to Sunday. It is possible to access all of the observatory except for the telescope platform. There is a disabled toilet on site. As the observatory is situated at the top of a hill, there are 360 degree panoramic views over the surrounding countryside.

**Telephone 01547 520247**

**The Offa's Dyke Centre** is back in Knighton and along with tourist information about the area, it also has a small exhibition with interactive displays. There is a good disabled toilet here ( Radar key operated ), please ask at the desk if you don't have a key. **Telephone 01547 528753**



**The Stiperstones Nature Reserve** is reached by taking the A488 from Knighton towards Shrewsbury until you get to Plox Green, then turn right onto a minor road signposted Snailbeach. Follow the road through Stiperstones to The Bog where there is a signpost to the reserve. There are disabled parking spaces in the reserve car park and a gate to an all ability path with a good surface, a tapping rail and several benches. The path is approximately 500 metres long and there are 5 information points along the route. These have braille instructions and maps as well as audio recordings giving information about the area with local legends and stories.



**The Bog Visitor Centre** is just down the road from the reserve. This has recently been updated to provide wheelchair access and an accessible toilet. It is staffed by a team of local volunteers who serve light snacks and sell locally made craft ware.



**The Secret Hills Discovery Centre** is 7 miles north of Ludlow on the A49 at Craven Arms. The centre is fully accessible throughout. It includes free entry to Onny Meadows, where there is an all ability trail that goes down to a raft that goes out over a pond. There are many interactive displays that explain the history of the local landscape and a simulated hot air balloon ride. There is a café which serves meals as well as snacks. There is also a gift shop and a gallery that offers a programme of exhibitions, workshops and community projects. Near the entrance is a disabled toilet and there is free parking on site.

**Telephone 01588 67600**





**The Shropshire Shuttle Buses** operate three different routes starting from the Secret Hills Discovery Centre, the Carding Mill Valley and the village of Bridges and all the buses are wheelchair accessible. They allow you to relax and explore the hills, valleys and villages of this beautiful part of Shropshire whilst someone else does the driving and you can concentrate on the views. If you wish you are able to swap from one shuttle to another to see as much of the area as possible. Only one wheelchair can be accommodated at a time so it is essential to pre-book the service and the friendly staff will help you plan your route to ensure you enjoy your day fully. It is possible to spend a whole day in the area picking up the bus in Meole Brace just outside Shrewsbury at 10am and returning from Church Stretton at 17.35 in the afternoon.

**Telephone 01588 673888**

**Clee Hill** is approximately 6 miles to the east of Ludlow on the A4117 and there are stunning views over the south of the county and on into Herefordshire, from the viewpoint on the main road. It is possible to take a small turning and drive up to the summit car park where there are also splendid views.



**Acton Scott Working Farm Museum** is about 12 miles north of Ludlow further up the A49. Most of the site is wheelchair accessible but it is important to bear in mind that it is a farm and that the paths may be muddy. The farmyard where the young animals are housed has a cobbled surface that you might find difficult to negotiate. Having paid at the main entrance please ask for directions to the disabled parking area that lies directly behind the café. There are lots of activities and events that take place throughout the season and there is plenty to see. There is a gift shop that also sells local produce, as well as the café and a disabled toilet. **Telephone 01694 781306**

## Oswestry and District

**Oswestry** is a medieval market town in the northwest of the county, that retains much of its original character. It has a good selection of shops, both well known stores and interesting smaller outlets. There is good access to most of these and plenty of dropped kerbs. There is a Radar key operated disabled toilet in the central car park.



**St Oswald's Church** in the town centre is well worth a visit, especially for the beautiful stained glass windows and the fact that part of it dates back a thousand years.

**Cae Glas Park** nearby provides a pleasant place to sit and has attractive floral displays.



**The Heritage Centre** which is situated just behind the church has tourist information and a café that it is possible to access and that serves good lunches and light snacks.

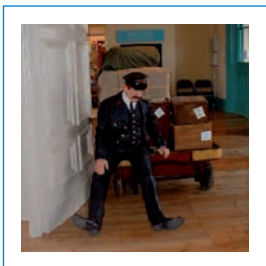
**Themed guided walking tours** are available starting from the Heritage centre. Both Victorian and Medieval trails are conducted by costumed guides and have routes that are suitable for wheelchair users. Pre-booking is not necessary and they start at 2.00pm every Saturday. The tours are an excellent way to learn about the turbulent history of a town set in the Marches where border conflicts between Wales and England were constantly being fought over the centuries.

For more information phone **01691 662753** or e-mail: [guides@oswestry-welshborders.org.uk](mailto:guides@oswestry-welshborders.org.uk)



The newly opened **Cambrian Visitor Centre** is housed in the old railway station in Oswald Road. It has a video display, a small exhibition, tourist information, a shop selling souvenirs and craft as well as a themed cafe.

There is also an accessible toilet on site. **Tel 01691 655111**



[www.cambrian-visitor-centre.co.uk](http://www.cambrian-visitor-centre.co.uk) Unfortunately at the present time the adjacent Oswestry Railway Museum has two high steps at the entrance so it is not accessible for wheelchairs. However if you contact the museum beforehand on **01691 671749** (from 12.30 until 5.pm) they will make every effort to assist you if possible. There are long term plans to provide a fully accessible purpose built museum.

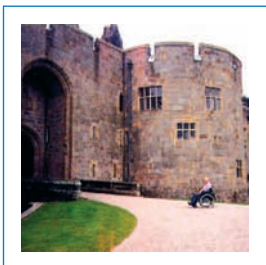
**Park Hall Working Farm** is approximately one and a half miles from the town. It has good disabled access to most of the site and a disabled toilet. There is plenty to see and do but some of the children's activities are only suitable for the able bodied. There are lots of events and attractions throughout the year.

**Telephone 01691 671123**

**Chirk Aquaduct and Viaduct** are in the village of Chirk Bank just off the B5070 Approximately 15 minutes north of Oswestry. If you park by Monks Bridge on the canal, there is a hard surfaced towpath, that takes you along beside the canal and over the aquaduct. There are splendid views over the Ceiriog Valley and the river below.



**Chirk Castle** is a medieval border castle about a mile from the aquaduct on the outskirts of Chirk. There is access to the staterooms on the ground and upper floors via a wheelchair stair climber operated by a member of staff. It is important to book this service in advance (**Telephone 01691 777701**). The stair climber can only accommodate a standard wheelchair, therefore it may be necessary to transfer from your own to one of theirs. A large area of the extensive gardens are also accessible, look out for the wheelchair sign on an arched gateway as this is the disabled entrance. The castle tearoom can be accessed via the entrance just past the main door and there is a disabled toilet on the other side of the courtyard. There is a



courtesy bus from the car park to the castle. If you cannot transfer to this it is possible to park outside the castle entrance. Please state if this is necessary when collecting your tickets.

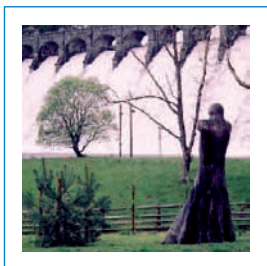
**Betty's Coffee Shop** which is situated at the Derwen College, just off of the A5 near the Orthopaedic hospital at Gobowen, is a good place for lunch. It has excellent access and serves tasty home made meals and wonderful cakes. Also on site is a small garden nursery, the Orangery Restaurant, several craft shops and the Earth Centre. The latter has examples of different wildlife habitats and a 750 metre accessible trail through a five year old arboretum. **Telephone 01691 661234**



**Ellesmere** is approximately 6 miles from Oswestry and is known as Shropshire's Lake District. On the edge of the town is The Mere and there is a wheelchair friendly path that goes around part of the lakeside. There is a visitor centre (where in spring Heron watching takes place) and nearby is The Boathouse Restaurant, which serves meals and light snacks. Although there is not a disabled toilet in the restaurant, just a few yards away there is a Radar key operated public toilet. There is also an accessible towpath along the canal from the wharf in the town centre.



**Lake Vyrnwy** is nestled between the Welsh mountains and is approximately 20 miles from Oswestry. If you take the A483 Welshpool road out of Oswestry and turn right at Llynclys, you can follow brown signs all the way to the lake. There is a beautiful 7 mile drive around the lake dotted with good picnic areas. At the far end is a turning to Bala, if you take this and go over the bridge, on the left hand side is a forest track where you can park. From here it is possible (with an able assistant to push the wheelchair) to follow the forest track for



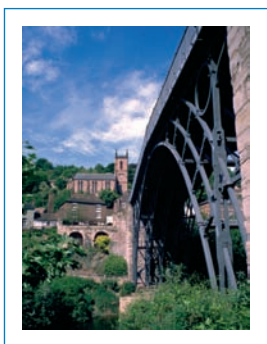
approximately half a mile. It goes along an attractive river valley at the end of which is a waterfall and picnic site. The track has several steep inclines and requires considerable effort but if you can manage it, the view is worth it. Returning to the dam at the beginning of the drive, there is disabled parking, a toilet, craft shops and cafes. If you cross over the dam and turn right and take the first right again, at the end of the lane there is parking and a wheelchair friendly sculpture trail. Some of the trails around the lake have been opened up for wheelchair access by a local organisation called Woods, Hills and Tracks in association with Severn Trent.

**St Melangell's Church** is reached by taking the B4396 from Vyrnwy to Pen-y-bont Fawr. Then turn left on to the B4391 to Llangynog where you turn left up a small lane. Follow the lane for roughly 1 mile to reach the church. St Melangell is the patron saint of hares. The church with its 12th century romanesque shrine is a peaceful place to visit. There is a small step into the church that can be negotiated with assistance. The nearest disabled toilet is in the public car park at Llangynog.



## ***In and around Ironbridge***

**Ironbridge** is a world heritage site and offers a wide variety of attractions. As well as having ten museums and the famous Iron Bridge, there are a variety of small shops and cafes, some of which are accessible. The majority of the museums are wheelchair friendly but because certain areas are not accessible, the entrance fee is halved for wheelchair users and a companion. A passport ticket (valid for one year) is available allowing you to visit each museum at your leisure and is



cheaper than individual ticket prices. We have visited the following four museums. **Telephone 01952 884391**

**Blists Hill museum** is not completely accessible due to the hilly site but there is plenty for wheelchair users to see and do. It is a fascinating insight into the Victorian age, some places such as the bank have wheelchair access at the side. There is a disabled toilet on site and an accessible café.

**Coalport China museum** is another museum to feature on the passport. There is a special disabled entrance to part of it through some side gates. There is a hands-on workshop where you can model and paint the clay.

**The Museum of Iron** is housed in the Great Warehouse opposite the old furnace that produced cheap cast iron products. It displays a huge range of the items that were made locally by the Darby family.

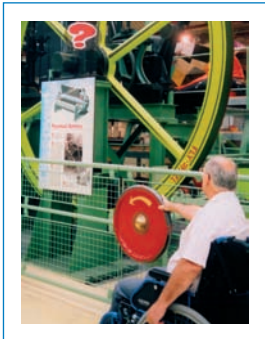
**The Ingenuity Experience** is situated on the same site. It is an interactive technology centre making engineering come alive for children and the young at heart. It allows you to enjoy a 'hands on' experience with machinery and technology.

**Telford Town Centre** is approximately four miles north of Ironbridge. It has a large indoor shopping complex with easy access and disabled toilets. There are disabled parking spaces near the entrances. It has a good variety of cafes all with good access and an indoor market.

**Telford Town Park** is adjacent to Telford town centre and covers an area of 450 acres. It has several lakes and many pathways suitable for wheelchairs. There is an enchanting woodland called Wonderland that is especially for young children. During the weekends in summer there are open air concerts held in the park.



Picture courtesy Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust







**Hoo Farm Animal Kingdom** is on the outskirts of Telford at Preston-on-the-Weald Moors, signposted off the A442. The site has level access throughout although some of the paths are gravelled and you might need assistance from someone pushing. There is a lot to see and do, with events such as sheep racing and animals to pet and feed. There are a lot of paths some going through woodland in part of which is 'Hoollee Town', a magical kingdom inhabited by small furry creatures. There is a gift shop, a cafe that is open weekends and school holidays and a disabled toilet.

**Telephone 01952 677917**



**Wroxeter Roman City** is along the Severn valley north of Ironbridge. In ancient times it was called Viriconium and covered a large area. Although there is only partial access to the site it is well worth a visit. Information about the site is given via hand held audio units and it is possible to see all the areas mentioned on the units, although sometimes from a different angle. You will need assistance to help negotiate the site. There is ramped access to the shop, small museum and an accessible toilet.

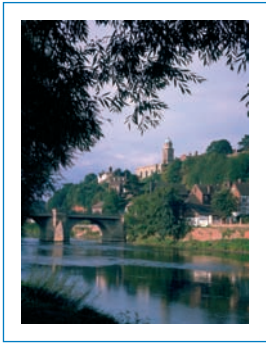
**Telephone 01743 761330**



**Wroxeter Vineyard** is about half a mile further along from the roman city. It is possible to take a tour of the vineyard with lunch and wine included. Whilst the site is mainly level you may need the assistance of a pusher around parts of it. There is a disabled toilet, a cafe and a shop on site selling their produce.

**Telephone 01743 761400**

## The Bridgnorth Area



**Bridgnorth** is approximately ten miles south of Ironbridge. The town is divided into two parts: The High and The Low Town and it has an interesting selection of shops and old buildings. The Castle Tearooms which are situated in East Castle street have good access for wheelchairs and serve meals as well as light snacks. Several interactive trail guide packs for the town are available from the visitor information centre. New for 2007 is a geological trail around the High Town that has been trialed by a wheelchair user. It can be completed in approximately an hour at a leisurely pace. There is one slight incline at the start of the trail which should not present a problem to wheelchair users with good upper body strength or those with a reasonably fit pusher. If users wish to miss out this section there is still plenty to see on the rest of the trail, so please do not be discouraged. The trail is free and will also be downloadable from the Abberley and Malvern Hills European Geopark website [www.geopark.org.uk](http://www.geopark.org.uk)

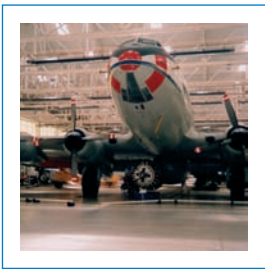


**The Severn Valley Railway** is on the edge of town. It has especially adapted carriages for wheelchairs accessed via a ramp and a disabled toilet on the train. There is a tearoom, shop and disabled toilet on the station at Bridgnorth. If you wish to travel all the way to Kidderminster it will take one and a quarter hours to get there. There is a three quarter of an hour wait before the return journey, which will give you time to visit the small railway museum and the tearooms. It is necessary to contact the railway before hand to check what time the adapted carriages are running to avoid a long wait. New for 2007 is a museum at Highley Station that is wheelchair accessible with a disabled toilet (not visited).

**Telephone 01299 403816**

**Ray's Farm** is at Billingsley approximately 6 miles south of Bridgnorth on the B 4363. The site is partially accessible. It is possible to see around the animal and owl enclosures including entry into a paddock where you can pet the pygmy goats. However the outer paddocks and woodland walk are not wheelchair friendly. The café and gift shop are wheelchair accessible. There is a disabled toilet but it has limited dimensions.

**Telephone 01299 841255**



**The Royal Air Force Museum** at Cosford is approximately ten miles east of Telford on the A41. There is excellent access throughout the large site, accessible toilets, a shop and a restaurant. Some of the staff have worked with aircraft all their lives and are very willing to share their knowledge with you. It is advisable to allow at least half a day for your visit as there is plenty to see. New for February 2007 is a large Cold War Exhibition that is fully accessible with a lift to the upper floor. There will also be books with tactile diagrams available for those with visual impairment. (As opening date is after going to print this has not been visited)

**Telephone 01902 376200**

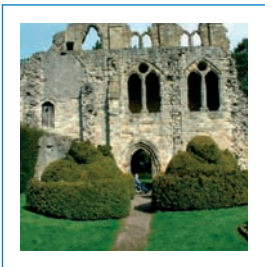


**The Albrighton Moat** is a couple of miles further along the A41 towards Wolverhampton from Cosford, watch out for the brown sign pointing to a left hand turn. The centre is set around an ancient moat and is especially designed for disabled visitors. There are fishing and leisure facilities as well as picnic areas. The gardens are divided into 35 themes including a sensory garden. There are refreshment and toilet facilities as well as excellent access throughout the site. If you wish to fish or loan a wheelchair then please book in advance, open weekdays only.

**Telephone 01902 372441**



**Much Wenlock** is approximately eight miles north west of Bridgnorth on the A458. It has an interesting selection of small shops and old buildings. There is a small museum situated to the rear of the V.I.C, that explores the history of the local area. On Saturdays there are stalls selling local produce etc situated underneath the Guildhall and in front of the library. Wenlock Pottery and Craft Centre has a shop, small tea room and disabled toilet. There is also a disabled toilet in the main car park.



**Wenlock Priory** is several hundred yards walk from the town centre and is now owned by English Heritage. It is a very old site and a religious house was first founded here in AD680. There is a free car park opposite the priory and ramped access to the entrance. There are audio guides available from the shop to make your visit more informative and enjoyable. The site is level, although at the start there is some loose gravel. There is a disabled toilet, please ask for the key at the gift shop.

**Telephone 01952 727466**

## ***Around and about Whitchurch***



**Whitchurch** is one of the main towns in North Shropshire and has an interesting selection of old buildings. In Roman times it was called Mediolanum and the High Street is built over part of Watling Street, the main Roman road connecting London and Chester. There is a good variety of shops but unfortunately not all of them are accessible. The Heritage Centre that contains the Visitor Information Centre, houses an exhibition about the local area and its former inhabitants. It is fully accessible via a ramp and there are several adjoining craft shops.

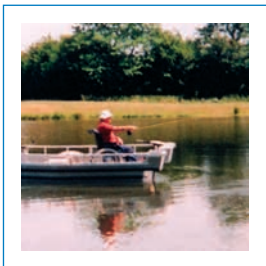


**St. Alkmunds Church** dominates the town and its' tower houses a public clock that is a good example of the work of J.B.Joyce. This local firm was established in 1690 and they are the oldest clock makers in the world. There are many other examples of their work throughout the town. The church has some beautiful stained glass windows and is an unusual design. It can be accessed via a ramp, if this is not in place please ask in the church for assistance (provided you have a companion with you). Opposite the church is a small scented garden with a seat.

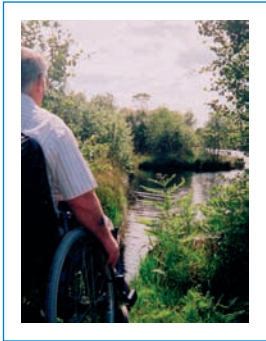


**Grindley Brook** is a mile north of Whitchurch on the A41. There are three locks in a staircase here and it is fascinating to watch canal boats negotiating this feat of engineering. There is a small café/shop with indoor and outdoor seating, alongside the canal. There is a fairly steep incline to the top of the locks but having negotiated it you can wheel along the level towpath.

**The Cheshire Workshops** are about 14 miles north of Whitchurch at Burwardsley in Cheshire. It is possible to watch the ancient art of candle making here or even have a go yourself. There are also other crafts such as glass making on show. There is a large shop, a restaurant/ tea rooms and disabled toilet facilities on site. Most of the workshops are accessible and there is free parking. **Telephone 01829 770401**



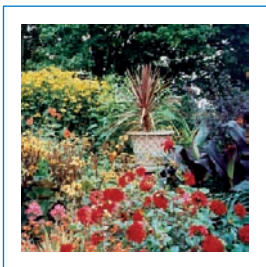
**Dearnford Trout Fishery** is on the outskirts of Whitchurch on the B5476 Wem road. The lake which covers a total of 15 acres is stocked with Rainbow and Brown trout. There is excellent access to the lakes edge and an especially adapted boat for wheelchair users. There is tuition available to those new to the sport, please give at least 24 hrs prior notice when booking, **telephone 01948 665914**. New for 2007 is an accessible lodge with a disabled toilet. The fishery is open all year and the staff are on hand to offer advice and assistance.



**Whixall Moss National Nature Reserve** is situated near Whixall signposted off of the A495 Whitchurch to Ellesmere road. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty, an SSSI and is home to some rare wildlife including 27 species of dragonfly. There is a track (rough and stony in places) that follows the route of an old disused railway line that runs for approximately 2 miles across the Mosses, it is gated at both ends. It is possible to drive along this, if you park to one side of the track, parts of it are suitable to wheel along to see this beautiful countryside in more detail. Disabled visitors may borrow a key from the NNR site manager at The Manor House Office  
**Telephone 01948 880362.**



**Market Drayton** is an interesting, mainly level market town with many fine buildings and a good selection of small shops. There is a car park by the bus station that has a disabled toilet. There is the Festival Drayton Centre that has a theatre/cinema, tearoom, disabled toilets and excellent access throughout. You can purchase a discovery trail leaflet from the Visitor Information Centre that explains the history of some of the towns buildings. It is necessary to bypass some of the route that is unsuitable for wheelchairs. St. Mary's Church is featured in the town trail and is well worth a visit. It dates back to 1150 and features some beautiful carved screens. Access to the church is good with internal ramps.



**Wollerton Old Hall Garden** is in the village of Wollerton 4 miles west of Market Drayton on the A53. It is a three acre plantsman's garden, divided into garden rooms. Most of the site is accessible to wheelchairs and there is a café, plant sales and a disabled toilet. It is open on Fridays and Sundays throughout the season, **tel 01630 685760** to confirm opening times.



## ***Useful Contacts***

### **Shopmobility:**

Shrewsbury	tel: 01743 236900
Oswestry	tel: 01691 656882
Telford	tel: 01952 238005

### **DIAL Shropshire:**

Disability information advice line	tel: 01743 240404
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### **Visitor information Centres:**

Shrewsbury	tel: 01743 281200
Oswestry	tel: 01691 662753
Oswestry Mile End	tel: 01691 662488
Telford	tel: 01952 238008
Whitchurch	tel: 01948 664577
Ironbridge	tel: 01952 884391
Ludlow	tel: 01584 875053
Bridgnorth	tel: 01746 763257
Much Wenlock	tel: 01952 727679
Church Stretton	tel: 01694 723133
Ellesmere	tel: 01691 622981
Market Drayton	tel: 01630 653114

### **Links to other useful websites:**

[www.shropshire.gov.uk/aboutshropshire.nsf](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/aboutshropshire.nsf)  
[www.shropshiretourism.info](http://www.shropshiretourism.info)  
[www.shrewsburytourism.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburytourism.co.uk)  
[www.visitsouthshropshire.co.uk](http://www.visitsouthshropshire.co.uk)  
[www.bridgnorthshropshire.com](http://www.bridgnorthshropshire.com)  
[www.ironbridge.org.uk](http://www.ironbridge.org.uk)  
[www.pco.powys.org.uk/woodhill](http://www.pco.powys.org.uk/woodhill)  
[www.virtual-shropshire.co.uk](http://www.virtual-shropshire.co.uk)

## Places To Stay

All of this accommodation has been visited and accessed by the researcher using a self propelled wheelchair.

Please note however that whilst we have tried to ensure that the accommodation included will meet most wheelchair user's needs we strongly advise you to consult with each provider about your own specific requirements.

### Shrewsbury Area



**The Sandford House Hotel Shrewsbury:-** This hotel has a separate annexe (accessed through a side gate and via a ramped pathway from the pretty courtyard garden) that includes two wheelchair accessible rooms. It is the only one within the town's boundaries with en-suites with a wheel-in shower (portable folding shower seat available) and toilet (no room to side transfer). The comfortable and compact rooms have twin beds that can be arranged as a double if required. Breakfast is served in the rooms. This could be suitable for accompanied wheelchair users.  
**Tel: 01743 343829 [www.sandfordhouse.co.uk](http://www.sandfordhouse.co.uk)**



**Lyth Hill House Lyth Hill, Nr Shrewsbury:-** This attractive and friendly bed and breakfast accommodation is situated on Lyth Hill overlooking the beautiful Shropshire countryside just five miles south of Shrewsbury. There are four rooms, two of which (one double and one super king/twin) have en-suites with level access showers and room to side transfer to the toilets (one left hand and one right). There is a pretty wheelchair friendly garden and the property has a ramped entrance. Mobility aids including a wheelchair and portable hoist can be arranged with prior notice. The breakfast (with extensive menu) is served in the dining room and guests also have use of a pleasant lounge and a heated indoor swimming pool. This could be suitable for accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users.  
**Tel : 01743 874660 [www.lythhillhouse.com](http://www.lythhillhouse.com)**



**The Sleep Inn** is situated in Sitka Drive to the south of the town with easy access from the M54 and A5. This newly opened hotel has four accessible rooms, three with low level baths and one with a wheel-in shower. The hotel specifications are to a high standard including wider corridors and access around the hotel is extremely good. The accessible rooms are of an excellent size with access to either side of the bed for wheelchair users. In this particular hotel, access to the en-suite wheel-in shower is good but not ideal however the company were diligent in their efforts to ensure a fully accessible room was added to the already existing building plan. (NB. All new Sleep Inns both proposed and under construction will now include an accessible room with a wheel-in shower). The accessible rooms have the option of an interconnecting adjoining room for families or persons travelling with a carer. There is a bar and restaurant on site and designated parking spaces in the car park. This could be suitable for accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel: 01743 276020 [www.hotels-shrewsbury.com](http://www.hotels-shrewsbury.com)**



**The Travelodge Battlefield, Shrewsbury:-** Two good sized rooms, one smoking and one non smoking with sufficient wheelchair turning space to allow right or left hand transfer to the double bed. A single bed can be added to the room for a child or carer if required and the wardrobe has a lowered rail. The en-suite wheel-in shower room has good wheelchair turning space and room to allow side transfer to the toilet. There is a fold down seat in the shower and the controls are within reach when seated. There is designated parking on site and adjacent to the lodge is an accessible restaurant. This could be suitable for accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel : 0870 191 1620 [www.travelodge.co.uk](http://www.travelodge.co.uk)**

**Newton Meadows** approximately 6 miles north of Shrewsbury at Harmer Hill on the A528:- There are three pleasant level access self catering cottages, one sleeping up to 4 people and two sleeping up to 7 people. Each has a wheel-in shower room with



turning space and room to side transfer to the toilet. They all have an easily accessed open plan kitchen/dining/lounge area and a sun room leading to an outside patio. The smaller of the cottages has one ground floor bedroom with twin beds with sufficient underneath clearance to allow use of a portable hoist. It also has an upstairs bedroom with en-suite bathroom. The other cottages have one twin and one single ground floor bedroom (beds allowing use of a portable hoist) and one twin and one double bedroom upstairs with a separate bathroom. Guests may also access the grounds that include a pond. A portable hoist can be arranged with prior notice.

**Tel: 01939 290346 [www.newtonmeadows.co.uk](http://www.newtonmeadows.co.uk)**

## Ludlow Area



**Southcot** is pleasant bed and breakfast accommodation in an Edwardian house situated in the attractive and historic town of Ludlow in south Shropshire near the Hereford border. Access to the property is via a ramp and there is off road parking. On the ground floor there is a twin bedroom with an en-suite wheel-in shower room and toilet (with grab rails but no room to side transfer). Breakfast is served in the dining room across the hall. This could be suitable for accompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel: 01584 879655 [www.southcotbandb.co.uk](http://www.southcotbandb.co.uk)**



**The Clive, Bromfield, Ludlow:-** The property is situated on the main A49 a short distance from Ludlow and is accessed via a ramped entrance from the adjacent car park. There is one attractive, spacious twin bedded room and the beds are positioned to allow right or left hand transfer and with sufficient underneath clearance to allow use of a portable hoist. The en-suite shower room has room to side transfer to the toilet and a fold down seat in the shower (N.B. the shower controls although at a low level are not easily reached when seated on the seat). There is a portable ramp on site that allows

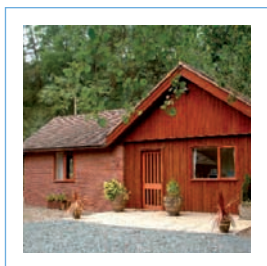
access to other ground floor bedrooms and the conference suite. Also on site is the Clive bar and excellent restaurant with ramped access via the bar entrance and a good sized accessible toilet in the foyer. This could be suitable for both accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel : 01584 856565 [www.theclive.co.uk](http://www.theclive.co.uk)**



**Tugford Farm, Tugford, Nr Craven Arms:-** Bed and Breakfast twin bedded room with a spacious en-suite wheel-in shower on a working farm in picturesque south Shropshire. This very attractive accommodation has good outside access via a hard surfaced path and shallow ramp. There is ample internal wheelchair turning space and clearance under the electric bed to allow a portable hoist. A raised toilet seat is available and other equipment can be hired in. Access to the breakfast room in the farmhouse is across a hard surfaced path and through widened doorways and via a shallow ramp. This would be suitable for both unaccompanied and accompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel:- 01584 841259 [www.tugford.com](http://www.tugford.com)**



**Shuttocks Lodge, Norbury, near Bishop's Castle:-** Attractive self catering lodge on one level set in peaceful rural countryside close to the Longmynd and Stiperstones. There is level access into the property from a gravelled drive. Good proportioned bedroom with king sized (zip and link) bed with sufficient underneath clearance to allow a portable hoist and ample wheelchair turning space. There is an en-suite wheel-in shower room (no seat or shower chair) with turning space and room for side transfer to the toilet (no grab rails). There is an attractive lounge/dining room with access through french doors and over a small sill on to an outside eating area. The small kitchen does not have sufficient floor space to be able to access the units and sink easily from a wheelchair because of this wheelchair users will need to be accompanied.

**Tel: 01588 650433 e-mail: [shuttockswood@btconnect.com](mailto:shuttockswood@btconnect.com)**



**Goosefoot Barn Cottages:-** 'Munslow' self catering cottage is set in a secluded valley in the beautiful South Shropshire countryside. There is level access to the property around a paved path. The accommodation comprises of a spacious kitchen (The kitchen units and appliances can be accessed from a wheelchair) and pleasant lounge area, a separate bedroom with king sized divan bed allowing wheelchair access on the right hand side and a shower room with a level access shower (with shower stool) and room for side transfer to the toilet. There is also an outside courtyard eating area. Dogs are welcome by prior arrangement. This would only be suitable for accompanied wheelchair users as access to the property is through a five bar farm gate.

**Tel: 01584 861326 [www.goosefootbarn.co.uk](http://www.goosefootbarn.co.uk)**



**The Byre, Gravel Bank, near Minsterley:-** Attractive self catering converted cow byre on one level set in a beautiful valley with magnificent views over the surrounding countryside towards the Stiperstones. There is level access into the property from a concreted drive. The accommodation is a spacious studio apartment with a fold down double bed that has sufficient underneath clearance for a portable hoist. Also available is a single bed that can be placed adjacent to the double bed. Wheelchair users can reach the units and cooker in the kitchen area from their wheelchair. There is a very large en-suite wheel-in shower room with a shower chair and access for side transfer to the toilet. This could be suitable for both unaccompanied and accompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel: 01743 891412 e-mail: [yj.hart@virgin.net](mailto:yj.hart@virgin.net)**



**Strefford Hall 'Swallows Nest' Cottage, Craven Arms:-** Very attractive ground floor self catering cottage with ramped entrance set in farmland. Good wheelchair access throughout including en-suite wheel-in shower with seat. Adjoining kitchen and lounge with french doors on to accessible outside eating area. The bedroom has wheelchair access to either side of the bed and underneath clearance for a portable hoist. Male guests



might need to bring an electric shaver socket adaptor. This could be suitable for accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users. **Tel: 01588 672383 [www.streffordhall.co.uk](http://www.streffordhall.co.uk)**



### **Brook House Farm, Wall under Heywood, near Church Stretton:-**

Self catering converted barn with a double bedroom and adjoining twin bedroom. There is level access into the property across a shallow gravelled area. It is all on one level and contains a good sized, well equipped kitchen and a small attractive lounge. The double bedroom has a compact en-suite wheel-in shower and toilet (no room for side transfer) but no wheelchair turning space. Wheelchair users will need to be accompanied and able to stand to access the toilet easily.

**Tel: 01694 771308**

Also opening early December 2006 is a **new Travelodge** on the outskirts of Ludlow that will have three accessible rooms with wheel-in showers. **Tel: 08700 850950 [www.travelodge.co.uk](http://www.travelodge.co.uk)**

## **Oswestry Area**



**Moreton Park Lodge Gledrid:-** This is just ten minutes north of Oswestry on the A5. It has two accessible twin/double rooms and one accessible family room (sleeping up to four) situated on the ground floor. The twin/double rooms have zip linked beds that allow for right or left hand transfer and wheelchair turning space. Each has an en-suite wheel-in shower room and toilet. A fold down z-bed is available on request. One of the rooms has a wheeled shower chair. The family room has a pull out sofa bed and a double/twin on a mezzanine floor above. It also has a good sized en-suite wheel-in shower room with room to side transfer to the toilet. Breakfast is served in the adjacent Lord Moreton restaurant and bar which has a children's playroom. This could be suitable for accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel : 01691 776666 [www.moretonpark.com](http://www.moretonpark.com)**

Also on the site is the extensive Moreton Park Garden Centre where there are shops, a café and another restaurant.



**The Lion Quays, Moreton, Oswestry:-** The hotel is situated on the A5/483 approximately three miles north of Oswestry. Set in attractively landscaped grounds adjacent to the Llangollen canal, the hotel has six accessible rooms, five with wheel-in showers and one with a bath. All contain zip linked divan twin beds that can be converted to a king sized double and the rooms are spacious enough to allow wheelchair turning. The en-suite has room to side transfer to the toilet, low level shower controls and a wheeled shower chair. A portable hoist can be hired by prior arrangement. Also on site are two bars, a restaurant and an accessible courtyard garden. Breakfast is served in the conservatory. This could be suitable for accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel : 01691 684300 [www.lionquays.co.uk](http://www.lionquays.co.uk)**



**Lane Farm, Criggion:-** Bed and Breakfast twin room accommodation on a working farm set in lovely countryside on the Shropshire/Welsh border. Attractive room with en-suite wheel-in shower and toilet (with room for side transfer). Breakfast is served in the farmhouse dining room. There is level entrance to property across a concreted yard. This could be suitable for a wheelchair user accompanied by a companion.

**Tel: 01743 884288 [www.lanefarmbedandbreakfast.co.uk](http://www.lanefarmbedandbreakfast.co.uk)**



**The Red Lion Coaching Inn, Ellesmere:-** two B&B ground floor wheelchair accessible rooms in the courtyard of the Inn. Both have en-suite wheel-in accessible shower rooms with fold down seats. Each has twin beds that can be zipped together to form a double. The furniture can be flexibly arranged to create more space if needed. Breakfast is served in the inn, access to which is up a steep ramp that will require assistance to negotiate. There is parking on site. This could be suitable for accompanied wheelchair users. **Tel: 01691 622632 [www.ellesmere.info/redlion/](http://www.ellesmere.info/redlion/)**



**The Stables, Sutton Farm, West Felton:**- this is self catering accommodation that sleeps 8+ . The accommodation is on two levels with separate accessible entrances to each area. The lower area has a room with a double sofa bed, kitchenette and en-suite accessible wheel-in shower and toilet (with room for side transfer). The rest of the accommodation is connected internally by several steps and comprises of ground floor shower room, kitchen and lounge and upstairs bedrooms. Wheelchair users can access these other ground floor rooms by wheeling along the patio and in through a second door. The outside patio has two sets of tables and chairs and fantastic views over the surrounding countryside towards Wales. Up to 2 dogs are welcome but please bear in mind it is a working farm. This could be suitable for accompanied wheelchair users. Contact details  
**Tel: 01691 610230 [www.virtual-shropshire.co.uk/thestables/](http://www.virtual-shropshire.co.uk/thestables/)**

## Ironbridge Area



**The Old Rectory, Stirchley, near Telford:**- This pleasant and comfortable bed and breakfast accommodation is situated in Stirchley village on the outskirts of Telford close to Ironbridge. The twin bedded room has ample wheelchair turning space and sufficient underneath clearance to allow use of a portable hoist. The furniture can be rearranged to allow right or left hand transfer to the bed. The well proportioned en-suite has a wheel-in shower, good access to the basin and room to side transfer to the toilet. There is ramped access to the property from the adjacent hard surfaced car parking area. Breakfast is served in the rectory dining room. This could be suitable for both accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users.  
**Tel: 01952 596308 e.mail [Hazelmiller@waitrose.com](mailto:Hazelmiller@waitrose.com)**

**The Owl House, Moreton Nr Newport:**- This attractive self catering cottage is set in the peaceful countryside of east Shropshire close to the Staffordshire border. Entrance to the property is across slabs from a gravelled drive. There is a well equipped kitchen and a good sized lounge with french doors leading on to a paved



patio with a barbecue, table and chairs. There is a shower room with wheel-in shower and toilet (with grab rails and room to side transfer). The twin bedroom has ample turning space and access for either right or left hand transfer. Guests also have use of the heated outdoor swimming pool and extensive gardens. This could be suitable for accompanied wheelchair users.

**Tel: 01952 691305 [www.owlhouseshropshire.co.uk](http://www.owlhouseshropshire.co.uk)**

## Bridgnorth Area



**The Bulls Head Inn, Chelmarsh:-** This offers one attractive self catering cottage and two comfortable bed and breakfast rooms set in the grounds of a village inn in the peaceful South Shropshire countryside. All three have ramped access and level pathways from the carpark. The self catering cottage has a lounge with wheelchair turning space and a compact kitchen. The double bedroom has right hand transfer to the bed and sufficient underneath clearance for a portable hoist. The en-suite wheel-in shower room allows side transfer to the toilet. This could be suitable for an accompanied wheelchair user. The twin bed and breakfast room has both right and left hand transfer to the divan beds. It has an en-suite wheel-in shower room with room to side transfer to the shower chair and toilet. This could be suitable for both accompanied and unaccompanied wheelchair users. The double bed and breakfast room has right hand transfer to the bed with sufficient underneath clearance for a portable hoist. It has a compact en-suite wheel-in shower room with turning space in the shower area that allows side transfer to the toilet. Self propelled wheelchair users might need to remove their footrests to access the en-suite facilities. This could be suitable for accompanied wheelchair users. Breakfast is served in the pleasant conservatory in the inn where guests can also enjoy homemade lunches and evening meals.

**Tel : 01746 861469 [www.bullsheadchelmarsh.co.uk](http://www.bullsheadchelmarsh.co.uk)**

**Tugford Farm** listed under Ludlow area is within a short distance of the Bridgnorth area.

## Whitchurch Area



**Roden View** is at Whixall approximately 5 miles north of Wem. They offer bed and breakfast accommodation in a beautiful rural area situated close to the National Nature Reserve at Whixall Moss. The accessible accommodation comprises of one double room and an en-suite with wheel-in shower and room for side transfer to the toilet. There is level access to the entrance across a gravelled driveway. The shower end of the bathroom is narrow and some assistance may be needed so this could be suitable for an accompanied wheelchair user.

**Tel : 01948 710320 [www.rodan-view.co.uk](http://www.rodan-view.co.uk)**



**Milebank Farm** offers pleasant bed and breakfast accommodation set in farmland on the edge of Whitchurch in the north of Shropshire. There is level access across a concreted yard into the reception area. The bedroom has twin beds with sufficient underneath access for a portable hoist and the furniture can be arranged to allow transfer to either side of the bed. There is a spacious en-suite shower room with a shower stool, a separate support frame and room to side transfer to the toilet. In addition there is a separate comfortable sitting room for guests use and an accessible toilet in the reception area. Breakfast is served in the adjoining dining room with views across the surrounding countryside. This could be suitable for both unaccompanied and accompanied wheelchair users. **Tel: 01948 662042**  
**[www.milebankfarmbandb.co.uk](http://www.milebankfarmbandb.co.uk)**

**Newton Meadows** listed under Shrewsbury is four miles south of Wem and so could also be suitable.

**The Lion Quays** and **Moreton Park** listed under Oswestry are about 20 miles from Whitchurch and therefore could also be suitable.



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**Shropshire**  
County Council

For further information visit our website at  
[www.disabledholidayinfo.org.uk](http://www.disabledholidayinfo.org.uk)

Or look out for the other guides in our series:-

The Wheelchair Users Guide to Accessible  
**Activities in and around Shropshire**

The Wheelchair Users Guide to  
**Accessible Countryside Sites and Trails in Shropshire and the Borderlands**