



GAINSBOROUGH OLD HALL

## **Access Statement for Gainsborough Old Hall**

This access statement does not contain personal opinions as to our suitability for those with access needs, but aims to accurately describe the facilities and services that we offer all our guests/visitors.

### **Introduction**

Gainsborough Old Hall is 15th century Manor House in the center of Gainsborough, a small market town in mid Lincolnshire. The Hall is one of the best preserved examples of a timber framed building in the country.

There is an audio visual guide available for visitors to self guide around the site, a DVD film running downstairs for visitors with limited mobility and interpretation boards in the entrance.

There are also regular events, exhibitions and guided tours throughout the year.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01427 677348 or email [Gainsborougholdhall@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:Gainsborougholdhall@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

## **Pre-Arrival**

- Gainsborough is accessible to the A1 ( 8 miles away) and the M18 ( 12 miles away) via the main route through the town- the A631.
- Enter our postcode into Sat Nav- DN21 2NB for directions.
- The closest large towns are Lincoln (25 miles) and Scunthorpe (15 miles).
- Gainsborough is served by two railway stations. Central station connects to Hull with a limited service and is approximately quarter of a mile from the hall (a 15 minute walk). Lea road station is approximately half a mile from the Hall ( a 30 minute walk) on the main road out to Lincoln and has regular 1 hour services to both Lincoln and Sheffield and connections to London/Leeds mainline.
- Taxi ranks are 5 minutes walk from the hall, in the market square, taxis can also pick up and drop off within 22m of the main entrance.
- The bus station is within 10 minutes walking distance with regular services to Lincoln, Scunthorpe and the surrounding villages.

## **Car Parking and Arrival**

- One hour parking is available on all sides of the hall, there are also two pay and display car parks 100m away accessible from the main road (Bridge Street). There are disabled parking spaces and dropped kerbs next to the Hall and paths running directly up to the main entrance.
- The Hall also has a bay marked out for Coach Parking, 46m from the site on Gladstone Street.

## **Main Entrance, Reception and Ticketing Area**

- The pathways up to and around the main entrance are flat flagstones and tarmac surrounded by lawns. There is very good

street lighting during dark winter opening times and our own lighting over the main entrance, which has a slightly inclined ramp. There are markers around the site pointing towards the entrance.

- The ground floor is wheelchair accessible, there are ramps to the differing floor levels. The front entrance has an inner and an outer door, both are automatically operated. The width of the outer door is 90 cm, the inner is 110cm.
- Inside the main entrance immediately to the left is the admissions/reception desk and gift shop. To the right is the coffee shop. Both areas and the foyer beyond are carpetted. The rest of the hall is a combination of tiled and wooden floorboard surfaces.
- The reception and coffee shop are both heated and very well lit.
- There is WiFi in the coffee shop.

### **Attraction (displays, exhibits, rides etc.)**

- Visitors are offered a PDA device- an audio visual unit that will guide them around the Hall. Visitors with limited mobility can also use the PDA devices whilst in the coffee shop enabling virtual access to the upper floors.
- PDA devices are also loaded with a British Sign Language version of the commentary.
- Visually impaired visitors are offered a separate audio system tailored to their requirements.
- There is a DVD film of the hall continually playing in the downstairs Buttery allowing visitors to see the upper floors. The Buttery has space for wheelchairs and 12 seats and is well lit.
- The main foyer has large ( 1m x 1.4m ) interpretation boards describing the history and lineage of the Hall made with low reflection coatings and well lit.
- The west range of the hall has a display space, with a varied program of relevant exhibitions. This area is well lit with overhead lighting and seating in each of the 3 rooms.

## **Public Toilets**

- The public toilets are down a 148cm wide staircase with 9 steps (into the old wine cellars) and have disabled access via an electric wheelchair ramp which can be operated by a member of staff on request.
- The toilets are adjacent to the main reception area.
- The disabled toilet has wide access (98cm), an assistance alarm, low wash basin and dryer. There are hand rails next to the toilet and wash basin.
- There is a fold up baby changing unit.
- The toilet signage is high contrast with raised braille, the steps down have high contrast edging strips.

## **Catering**

- The coffee shop is adjacent to the main entrance and is level throughout. There is sufficient seating for 46 people.
- Tables are 70cm square with a knee clearance of 70cm.
- Coffee shop is carpeted throughout and well lit. The furniture is all bespoke made from oak in keeping with the fabric of the building
- The coffee shop is counter service with professionally trained staff on hand.
- A high chair is available along with childrens meals.
- Hot meals, deserts and home baked cakes are available. All produce is locally sourced with speciality teas and coffees, freshly made sandwiches and a specials board.
- The coffee shop can also cater for special dietary requests, group visits and buffets.
- The coffee shop area is very well designed for access by mobility scooter and wheelchair.
- There is a push button door entrance system and an assistance bell at the counter.

## **Shop(s)**

- There is a gift shop in the main reception area with a range of souvenirs and books. There is also an information unit carrying leaflets for other local attractions and info on bus routes, parking and accomodation.
- The shop display units are all low level. They are also on wheels and can be moved for access around the shop area.
- There are two well lit upright display units for jewellery and a low level unit by the counter. The shop is very well illuminated by overhead spotlamps.
- The facing wall of the shop has an original wall painting which has interpretation boards next to it and a modern facsimile of the original patterns. There is also information on the wall painting on the PDA system offered to visitors on entrance to the hall.

## **Grounds and Gardens**

- There are grounds surrounding the Hall and a formal raised Parterre garden in the courtyard with sensory elements. All the planting around the site is contempory with a Medieval formal garden.
- There are 4 wooden benches in the grounds 45cm in height and 2m long.
- There are 2 information boards in the grounds giving contact details and opening times.
- There are two bins provided for dog walkers.
- The entire site is enclosed by a well maintained low privet hedge and has a number of regularly pruned fruit trees within the boundary.

## **Future Plans**

- The BSL tour on the PDA unit will be turned into two tours, an adult version and a childrens version.

## **Contact Information**

Address (Inc postcode): Gainsborough Old Hall Parnell Street  
Gainsborough Lincolnshire DN21 2NB

Telephone: 01427 677348

Email: [Gainsborougholdhall@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:Gainsborougholdhall@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Website: [Gainsborougholdhall.com](http://Gainsborougholdhall.com)

Grid Reference: SK 81388 90004

Hours Of Operation: 10-4 Mon to Fri and 11-4 Sat (Winter hours)  
10-5 Mon to Sat 11-4 Sun (Summer hours)

Local Accessible Taxi: A1 Taxis, Gainsborough Tel; 01427 611330

Local Public Transport: Lincolnshire Stagecoach