

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 our visitors.

Introduction

Beale Wildlife Park is a 35-acre park with wildlife and gardens to enjoy. The wildlife includes rare species of animals, and the beautiful gardens are an oasis of calm. The Park is located alongside the River Thames near Pangbourne in Berkshire.

The aims of Beale Wildlife Park is the conservation of animals, the education of the public in caring for animals, the importance of caring for the planet and awareness of species under threat. Finally, the Park offers a great day out for people of all ages and abilities. The park continues to improve its facilities to welcome visitors and we all believe in maintaining high standards of customer care and visitor enjoyment.

There is a wide range of activities. There are the animal enclosures, gardens, play areas including rope play, pirates play areas and the Toddler Village. In the spring and summer there is a paddling pool and sandpit.

All activities are on ground level with paths around the park and ramps to all areas. The restaurant and shop can be easily accessible by wheelchair.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01889 976480.

Pre-arrival

The best way to reach Beale Wildlife Park is by car. For directions of how to find us, please see the directions on our website

[How to get here | Beale Wildlife Park and Gardens \(bealepark.org.uk\)](https://www.bealepark.org.uk)

There is a pavement alongside the A329 from Pangbourne station to the Park. If entering the Park by foot there is no pavement until you have reached the coach park where you will turn left for reception.

Attractions

The main form of interpretation are informative animal signs. These are A4 in size (with a minimum font of 11).

Currently we do not provide translations, braille or large print versions.

Some of our events (particularly Halloween) use lower lighting levels than usual.

There are plenty of benches and seating areas throughout the Park.

Animal experiences are available (see our website for details).

The paths are all on one level made from different materials such as gravel, tarmac and concrete. In the main the paths are smooth with the occasional bumps created by tree roots.

Car Parking

There are five car parking places allocated to those with disabilities please put the blue badge on display. If these spaces are occupied, please ask at the Ticket Office if there are any alternative spaces.

Ticket Office

The path to the ticket office is 277cm wide. The right hand door (used by day visitors) is 146cm wide (opening inwards). The left hand door, which is used by annual season ticket holders, is 82cm wide and pushes inwards.

The Ticket Office includes a low level welcome desk (76cm) and high level desks at 95cm. The width of the route for day visitors is 200cm and the way through the ticket office for annual season ticket holders 120cm (at the narrowest part).

The doors to the Park are 150cm wide.

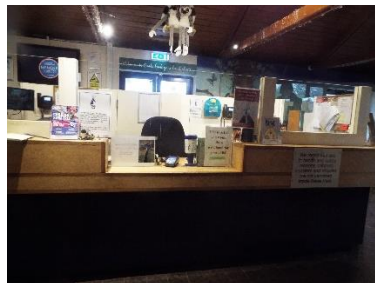
There are two wheelchairs available which can be pre-booked with the Administration Office (admin@bealepark.org.uk) or 0118 976 7480. In case of late arrival, the wheelchairs will remain reserved for 30 minutes after the booked time. However, after that they will be available for other visitors if they require them.

Toilets near the Ticket Office

These toilets include a toilet for disabled visitors which has a door with a width of 96cm (and pulls outward). The toilet seat is 56cm high from the floor which is non-slip. There are lever taps at the basin.



Car parking for less abled visitors



Low-level serving desk – Ticket Office



Toilets for less abled visitors near the Ticket Office

Toilets in the centre of the Park

There is a ramp leading up to the toilet doors which is 160cm wide.

The door to the ladies toilets is 82cm wide and pushes inwards. The floor is non-slip.

The door to the gentlemen's toilets is 82cm wide and pushes inwards. The floor is non-slip.

There are two separate toilets for visitors with disabilities located at the far end of the building. The doors pull outwards and are 90cm wide. The toilet seat is 49cm from the floor.



Central toilets – facilities for less abled visitors.



Low level basin in the main ladies toilets (in the men's toilet there is one low level basin).



Ramp leading up to the central toilet block.

Railway station

The double gates leading up to the platform are 200cm wide. There is a slight ramp leading up to the platform which is 240cm wide. The exit gate is 200cm wide with a concrete ramp leading to a grass area (if necessary, the Train Driver will help you exit via the entrance gate which leads to tarmacked path).

There is an adapted carriage ('Duncan') which is 86cm wide with a ramp which is 126cm wide. The carriage also includes two standard seats for family and friends. Please call prior to your visit if you require this carriage.



'Duncan' the accessible carriage



The exit gates from the railway platform.

Details of animal enclosures with viewing areas (other areas can be viewed easily)

Area	Dimensions	Additional information
Tapir	105 cm from floor to window	Window viewing to inside enclosure.

Meerkat	96 cm from floor to window Barrier Height 91cm from floor	Window viewing to inside enclosure and external enclosure barrier.
Prairie Dog	Barrier Height 91cm from floor	Viewing over external barrier to enclosure
Banded Mongoose	Barrier Height 99cm from floor	Viewing over external barrier to enclosure
Twilight zone	External door width 78cm Internal Door Width 82cm	There very low lighting in this area. There are window viewings within ranging from 38cm to 83cm from ground level.
Asian Short-clawed Otters	There are two Perspex viewing windows - one is 20cm from ground level the second is 55cm.	Viewing window into enclosure
Kookaburra/Burrowing Owl	120cm from floor to window	Viewing window into enclosure
Genets	100cm from floor to window	Viewing window into enclosure
Macaw/Armadillo	106cm from floor to window	Viewing window into enclosure
Cavy	78 cm from floor to window Barrier Height 106cm from floor	Window viewing to inside enclosure and external standoff barrier.
Croc Creche and Python	109cm from floor to window	Viewing windows into enclosure

Armadillo and Macaw – Window and Barrier	Banded Mongoose Barrier	Otter – Window and Barrier	Twilight Zone – External Doors
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Play areas

Rope play

The gate to the rope-play area is 147cm side with a latch bolt opening into the rope-play area. The ground is sand and grass.

Main play area

The main play area is flat with a mixture of gravel, bark chippings, paving and soft play surface.

The indoor soft play area has a door which is 92cm wide opening inwards. The internal doors to the play areas are 82cm wide each.

Changing Rooms

The door pulls outwards and is 116cm wide. The cubical doors push inwards and are 54cm wide.

Party Room

The entrance is 102cm wide with a door that pushes inwards. The flooring is laminated.

Gardens

The Courtyard garden is paved throughout. There are slightly raised brickwork defining areas.

Using the pathway from the Courtyard Garden to the Cabybara enclosure the path changes from gravel to a decked bridge (with a slight ramp either side).

There is a pathway from the Cabybara enclosure along the side of the Pampas Grass walk which is 110cm at its narrowest and made with gravel. Halfway down there is a viewing platform to an enclosure which is currently empty (December 2019), to view this there is a ramp made from a gravel path which is 150cm wide.

The elephant bridge has a slight incline/decline. The bridge is made of metal with a non-slip finish which leads to a tarmacked path (180cm wide)

To access the Inner Lake edge there are five ramps (with a gravelled finish) leading down to the water's edge. The pathway around the lake is 240cm wide. There are a number of benches surrounding the lake which are 43cm high.

The Japanese garden has paths of gravel which are 210cm wide. The three bridges are made with decking.

The area near the frog fountain is made of concrete. There is a ramp going down one side and five steps the other.



Ramp leading to the one of the Japanese bridges.



Gravel paths alongside the Inner Lake.



Gravel paths in the Japanese Garden.

Catering

The restaurant is currently closed for refurbishment – access details will be updated following these works.

Gift Shop

The door to enter the Gift Shop is 280cm wide. At the narrowest point, the space between the retail shelving is 180cm wide. The counter is 90cm high. The flooring is non-slip.

Exit

The exit doors are 170cm wide and lead back out to the car park.

Administration office

Path to the administration office is 122cm wide with a gate which is 92cm wide and opens forward towards the office building. There is a slight lip into the main admin office.

The path from the office into the Park is 148cm wide with a gate which is 150cm wide opening outwards.

Beale Centre

Double door is 190cm wide with a slight lip (1cm) which opens towards the inside. Flooring is lino.



Beale Wildlife Park Access Statement

The toilet facilities include a toilet for disabled visitors. The door to the toilet is 86cm wide with the toilet door also 86cm which is a pull door. The toilet seat is 48cm high. The area has a non-slip floor and alarm. There are lever taps at the basin.

The outside area overlooking the Inner Lake is a mix of paving stones and gravel.

Contact Information

Address (including postcode): Beale Wildlife Park, Lower Basildon, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 9NW

Telephone: 01189 976480

Email: admin@bealepark.org.uk

Website: www.bealepark.org.uk

Grid reference: 51.2955 (N), 1.640 (W)
SU6179078122

Hours of operation: 7 days a week all year other than Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Open hours may change, please refer to the website.