Facilities for visitors with disabilities

Toilets

All public toilets in the city have accessible facilities. These can be found at the Brooks Shopping Centre (Upper Parking level), Chesil Multi-Storey Car Park, Abbey Gardens, Market Lane, Middle Brook Street, Jewry Street and Worthy Lane Car Park. The RADAR scheme is in use and keys are available for loan or purchase (£3) from the tourist information centre.

Parking

There are special bays for disabled visitors in all city car parks. Parking is free in all Pay & Display car parks but payment is required in the Pay-on-Foot barrier-controlled car parks. Drivers must display their blue badges at all times and park their vehicles within the parking bays.

The Brooks Car Park has a Shopmobility service and a free ticket to exit this car park can be obtained by all Shopmobility users. In Winchester, disabled blue badge drivers may also park free of charge in residents' bays.

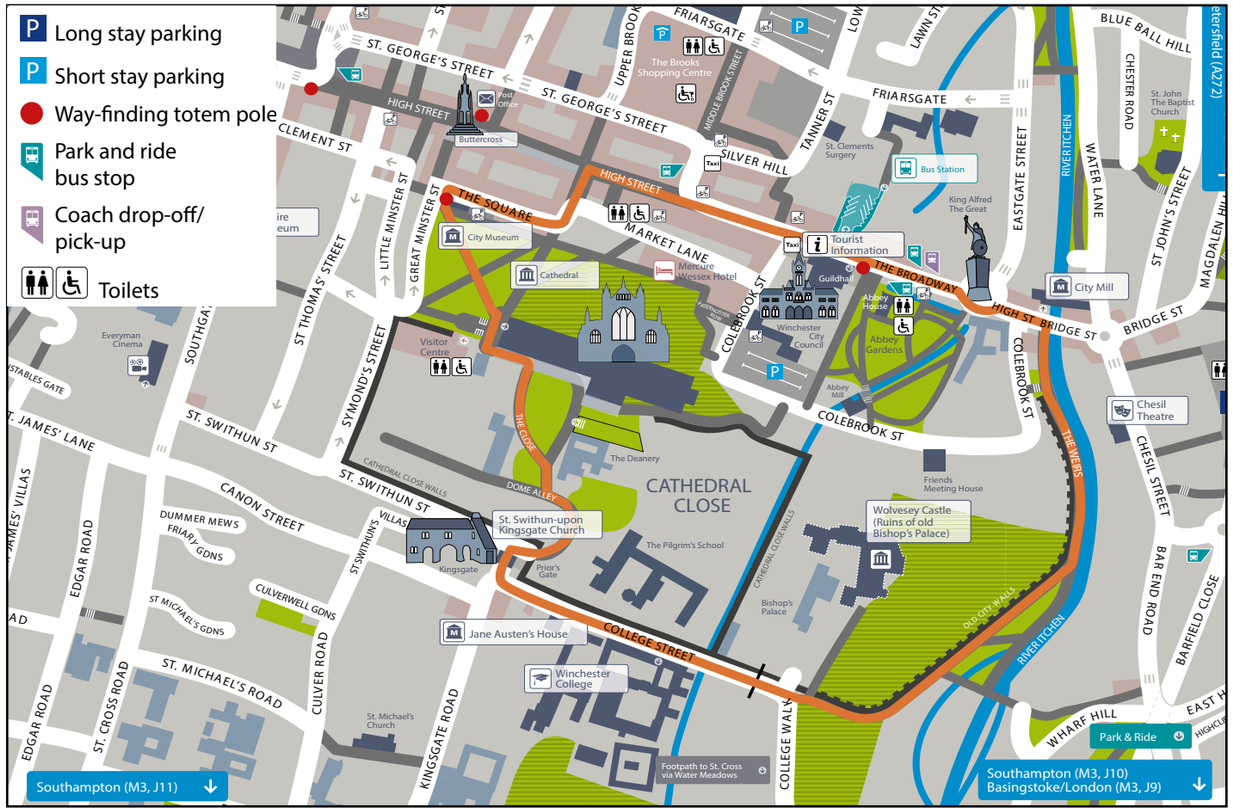
Accommodation

Visitors can search for accessible accommodation on:
www.visitwinchester.co.uk

Winchester Shopmobility,

The Brooks Car Park, Winchester Tel: **01962 842 626**

ACCESSIBLE TRAIL MAP



Shopmobility

Winchester's Shopmobility service is available to anyone who has difficulty getting around. Young or old, resident or visitor, anyone can hire a Shopmobility scooter or wheelchair for a small charge. Shopmobility operates from the Upper Parking Level of the Brooks Car Park, where there are 10 bays for disabled drivers' cars. Parking is free for customers using this service and Shopmobility is open Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4pm and Saturday (by prior booking only) 10am - 4pm, tel: 01962 842 626.

To exit the Brooks Car Park from the Shopmobility office, follow the yellow hatched path to the lift and go up to the Upper Shopping Level. From here a slope leads down to Middle Brook Street.



VISIT WINCHESTER

If you would like this leaflet in a larger format, please contact the tourist information centre

01962 840 500
tourism@winchester.gov.uk
visitwinchester.co.uk

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Winchester City Council

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ACCESSIBLE TRAIL

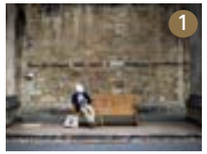
Winchester

Winchester's pedestrianised streets and extensive dropped kerbs make it especially wheelchair-friendly. Winchester City Council and Winchester Shopmobility have devised this trail to help wheelchair and pushchair users explore the historic city with confidence.

VISIT WINCHESTER

visitwinchester.co.uk

The trail passes some of Winchester's major visitor sites and is mainly on the level with just one ramp. The route is approximately one mile. We hope you enjoy this trip around some of the historic and beautiful places in Winchester. The tourist information centre is pleased to offer further assistance and information. Please let the team know if you have had any problems following the route.











Starting at the Winchester Tourist Information Centre, which is based in the magnificent Guildhall, turn right and head up the Broadway towards King Alfred's statue 1. A scholar, soldier, statesman, King Alfred restored Winchester after the Dark Ages and established it as a centre of power. A short distance ahead on the right is the Mayor's official residence, Abbey House 2.

If you have time, take a short detour around Abbey Gardens 3 on your right. There is always colour and interest here whatever the time of year. There is also a garden for the visually impaired to enjoy next to Abbey House. The park and house were built on the site of an Abbey founded by King Alfred's wife, Queen Ealhswith.

Back on the Broadway with the statue on your left, continue straight ahead towards the river.

The City Bridge 4 is said to have first been built by St Swithun, the 9th century bishop and patron saint of Winchester. It is the ancient river crossing place and entrance to the city.

Across the river you have the City Mill 5 built in 1744. It has an impressive millrace, an attractive island garden and a National Trust shop. (Only the shop is accessible to wheelchairs).











Turn right down the ramp alongside City Bridge and follow the river walk.

The River Itchen 6 is a fast-flowing clear chalk stream, world-famous for trout, and it rushes along here just outside the old city wall. To your right you will see the original Roman town walls. First built of stone in the 3rd century AD, the wall was regularly repaired and rebuilt following the original Roman lines.

Continue along the lower path following the river to Wolvesey Castle, which is located at the end of the path on the right behind the historic walls 7. Wolvesey Castle is the extensive ruins of the medieval bishop's palace (please be advised there is a gravel path so access can be difficult).

Opposite is Winchester College 8, founded by William of Wykeham in 1382 and believed to be the oldest continuously-running school in England.

Cross College Street (beware this road may be in use) and continue to the main college gate and past the headmaster's house.

The next building, now a private residence (please respect their privacy), is where Jane Austen 9 spent her final weeks receiving medical care. She died here and is buried in the cathedral.

At the end of College Street, turn right to face Kingsgate 10, one of two remaining gates of the old walled city of Winchester. Above the archways is a small church (this is not easily accessible).

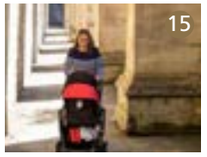
Continuing through the gateway, you come to the Close Wall, first built in Saxon times to separate the monastic communities from the rest of the town.













Turn right and go through Prior's Gate. On your right is the medieval Cheyney Court one of the most photographed buildings in Winchester 11, where bishops met to hear legal cases involving the areas they controlled, known as the Soke.

Passing through the medieval stables on your right, now used as music rooms, you will see the main buildings of Pilgrims' School 12 .

Ahead is the Deanery 13, originally built in the 13th century as the house of the prior of the cathedral. Other buildings in the inner close include the ruined chapter house.

Head towards the cathedral 14. You will walk through the Cathedral Close which is a beautiful and tranquil area, containing many buildings associated with the cathedral (please note during the Christmas period this can be a very busy area).

On reaching the cathedral nave turn left, walking beneath the flying buttresses 15 designed by architect T G Jackson to support the south nave wall in 1911. Take care as pedestrians and cyclists do tend to turn the corner at speed here.

At the west front of the cathedral 16, the ground floor of the cathedral is accessible, with a stair lift to the east end. Winchester Cathedral has been a place of worship for over 900 years, with fine Norman and medieval architecture, including the longest medieval nave in Europe, the tombs of the early English Kings, Jane Austen's grave and other treasures. The cathedral shop and award-winning café are accessible and worth a visit.











Take the diagonal path lined with trees either side 17, towards the City Museum 18, one of the first purpose-built museums outside London. The museum is fully accessible to wheelchairs and houses the wonderful Winchester model. Take care at the corner; The Square is not pedestrianised, so there is occasional traffic coming through. Originally The Square was part of the huge cathedral cemetery, and was used for storing corn and wood and holding animal markets in the 14th and 15th centuries.

Cross the road of The Square 19 and turn right heading down Market Street. On your left you will see the Eclipse Inn where Lady Lisle was executed on 2 September 1685 after she was found guilty of harbouring fugitives from the Battle of Sedgemoor. Note the Winchester Provident Dispensary, and the plaque commemorating Alice Lisle to the left.

Carry on down Market Street and turn left at the end heading towards the High Street 20, which started life some 2,500 years ago as a route leading to a crossing point of the River Itchen. It was the main thoroughfare for Roman, Saxon and medieval Winchester and lays claim to being the oldest street in any English city.

Turn right on the High Street and head back towards the Guildhall, don't forget to stop off at the Winchester Tourist Information Centre 21 for a souvenir or pop into eighteen71 for a bite to eat or cup of tea.

Alternatively turn left at Marks and Spencer's and head towards the Brooks Shopping Centre where you will find Shopmobility.

