The image shows the interior of the Roman Baths in Bath, England. It features a large, shallow pool of water in the foreground, with several massive stone columns and arches in the background. Two ornate, black metal torches with flames are mounted on the walls. The lighting is warm and ambient, highlighting the textures of the ancient stone.

THE
ROMAN
BATHS
BATH

Access Statement for the Roman Baths

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

**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**

Introduction

The Roman Baths and Pump Room is located in Bath city centre next to Bath Abbey.

The Roman Baths is a member of the Visitor Attraction Quality Assurance Scheme. Although there are numerous steps and uneven pavements, lifts are available and 90% of the site is accessible to wheelchair users.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01225 477785 or email romanbaths_bookings@bathnes.gov.uk.



Pre-Arrival

- Bath Spa railway station and the bus station are a 10 minute walk from the Roman Baths.
- Accessible taxi services operate throughout the city. These include Abbey Taxis 01225 444444 and Bath Spa Taxis 01225 313131.
- Bristol airport is an hour away by car.
- London is 1½ hours on the train.
- Drop off points for coaches are less than a 5 minute walk away.
- There is a variety of pavement and road surfaces in the surrounding area, including paved and cobbled.
- Shopmobility, with electric scooters to hire, is located less than a 10 minute walk away from the Roman Baths at the Council's One Stop Shop, close to the railway station.
- We have a level access accessible toilet near the entrance.
- There are tactile exhibits and displays throughout the site.
- Wheelchairs are available to borrow.
- A map of the site is provided for wheelchair users.
- Audioguides include British Sign Language.
- A clearly-worded leaflet with high quality photography describes the main facilities, attractions, directions and opening times. The leaflet includes our address, contact numbers, 24 hour information line, website and an e-mail address. It is widely distributed to tourist venues, hotels, guest houses, caravan parks and Tourist Information Centres within a 2 hour drive.
- Special leaflets are also produced for late night opening, our events programme, the Pump Room restaurant and about Spa water. The leaflets are available in large print or Braille on request. All this information can be found on our website www.romanbaths.co.uk
- An Access Statement and "Information for visitors with Autism" document are available on our website.
- Our website accessibility complies with code standards (e.g. CSS and HTML) and WC3 WAI guidelines.



Car Parking and Arrival

- The nearest paying car park is approximately a 5 minute walk. See <http://visitbath.co.uk/travel-andmaps/parking-in-bath> for further information.
- There are accessible parking bays in the city centre. With a blue badge, you can also park in permit and pay and display on-street parking spaces without limit. When parking on-street you need to display your blue badge at all times.
- Parking on yellow lines is permitted for a maximum of 3 hours except where there is a ban on loading and unloading. Both the blue badge and time clock must be clearly and correctly displayed. Please note that blue badge holders are not necessarily exempt from the tow away scheme if the parked vehicle is creating a hazard.
- Three park and ride car parks are available at the North, South and West of the city.
- There is level access to the front door in Abbey Church Yard.
- The double front doors are always open during opening hours.
- The front door opening width is 1320mm (52in).



Main Entrance, Reception and Ticketing Area

- The main reception and ticketing area is on the ground floor. There is level access from the front door.
- Seating is available in this area.
- There is wooden parquet flooring.
- Lighting in this area is made up of chandelier, fluorescent and decorative lighting.
- Low counter height is provided for wheelchair users. There is a loop for hearing aid users.
- Free admission for carers/helpers. For up to date admission charges to the Roman Baths visit the website www.romanbaths.co.uk
- Assistance dogs are welcome but other dogs are not permitted.
- There are no charges for admission to the Pump Room only.
- Bath & North East Somerset Discovery Card Holders receive free entry to the Roman Baths.
- Your admission ticket includes free use of an audioguide, an optional guided tour around the baths every hour, on the hour, and a taste of hot Spa water.
- You can pick up a free audioguide at reception. They have a "T" switch compatible for hearing aid users and a large print script of the audioguide is also available. They also have an adjustable volume control.
- The BSL tour and the tour with enhanced audio description for visually impaired people are also collected here. The BSL tour takes 2 ½ hours to complete. There are numerous tactile models and maps throughout the site for visually impaired visitors.
- The Pump Room overlooking the Sacred Spring, the terrace overlooking the Great Bath and various ground floor meeting rooms are fully accessible to wheelchair users. Lifts provide access for wheelchair users to the underground areas, such as the Mezzanine level with teaching space, lower museum, the Great Bath and East Baths and Temple Precinct, representing about 90% of the site. Lift details: Max load 400Kg, Max length 1,200mm.
- There is a maximum of four wheelchair users allowed in the underground areas at any one time.
- Baby carriers are offered free of charge as an alternative to baby buggies, which are not permitted in the underground areas for safety reasons.



Underground areas

Approximately 90% of the underground areas are accessible to wheelchair users. People with other forms of limited mobility may also find access difficult, due to the number of steps and the unevenness of the Roman remains. There are 13 sets of steps around the site, taking visitors over the Roman remains, but these can be avoided by using the lifts. Seating is available in each area.

The visitor exit is on the Stall Street (west) side of the site but this involves climbing up two flights of steps, so wheelchair users and others requiring level access need to return to the entrance hall via a lift in order to leave the building.

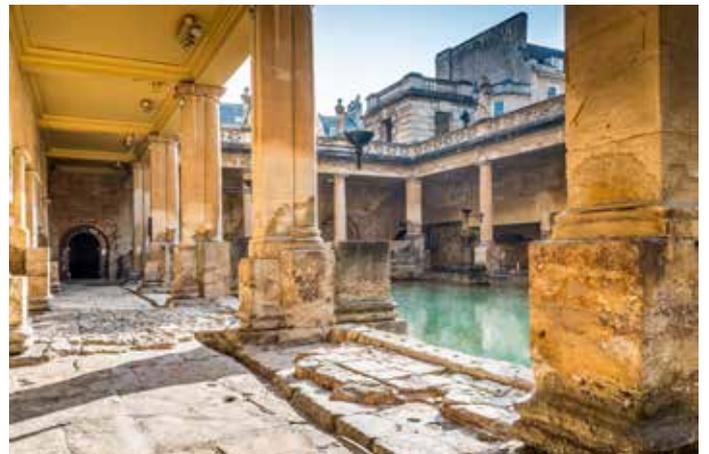
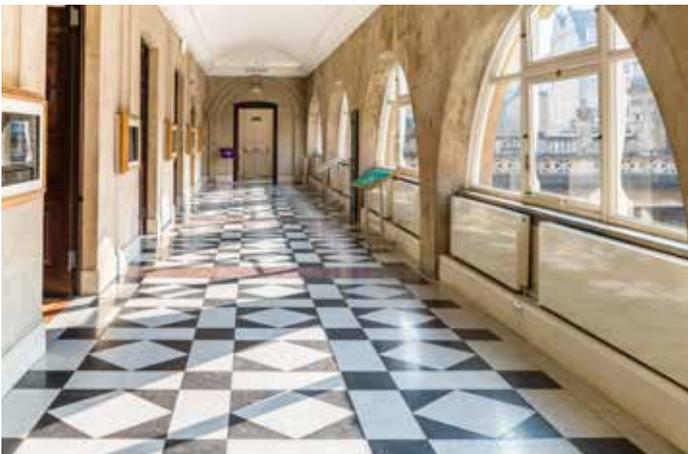


Attraction (displays, exhibits, etc.)

- A family audioguide in 12 languages, included in the ticket price, with a Children's audioguide in English, French and German and a personal Bill Bryson audioguide in English.
- A British Sign Language tour is also available on a mobile device and many of the commentaries have enhanced audio description to help visually impaired visitors; please ask at reception.
- Information sheets are available in many different languages and also Braille.
- Computer animations, film reconstructions and models of the site as it used to be 2,000 years ago are on display.
- There are projections of life-sized bathers using the freezing plunge pool and other Roman characters engaging in various activities around the site.
- Personal guided tours around the baths are provided free of charge every hour, on the hour.
- Roman costumed characters provide first person interpretation every day.
- There is seating in all the main areas
- There is a variety of floor surfaces including vinyl, marble, glass and pavement.
- There is various lighting throughout the museum. There are some dark areas e.g East Baths.
- There are many stairs throughout the museum but they can be avoided using the four lifts.



There is seating in all the main areas



There is a variety of floor surfaces including vinyl, marble, glass and pavement

Public Toilets

- There are two blocks of Ladies and Gentlemen's WCs on site, one of each at the beginning and again at the end of the visit.
- The Pump Room – Ladies to the right of the main reception with level access and Gents to the left of the main entrance and down a flight of stairs.
- In the museum – Ladies and Gents off the exit stair half landing. There is no level access to these toilets.
- The unisex accessible toilet with level access next to the reception hall. Door width: 890mm (35in); with emergency pull cord and response provided. Support rails but limited transfer space on the left: 540mm (21in) width. Height of WC from floor to seat: 480mm (18 ¾ in). From far wall to front of toilet: 1420mm (55 ¾ in). There is a basin with mixer lever tap. The nearest full size wheel-chair accessible WC is at the Victoria Art Gallery in Bridge Street.
- The fire alarm includes a flashing light.
- The surface of the floor is non-slip laminate.
- There are baby changing facilities in both the Ladies and Gents.

Catering

- Elegant restaurant in the historic Pump Room, on the ground floor, with moveable seating and most tables with central support columns, giving good access for wheelchair users.
- Table service is provided and staff are always willing to give advice about menus.
- High chairs are available.
- We can cater for visitors with special dietary requirements.
- The Pump Room, Reception Hall and two meeting rooms in the Pump Room are available for private hire.
- Level walkway from main entrance.
- Hearing loop in the Kingston Room and Reception Hall.
- Wifi available.
- Adjustable lighting.
- Moveable furniture.
- The Roman Baths is available for private hire. Access for wheelchair users is via lifts, with a maximum of four users at any one time.
- Contact Bath's Historic Venues for details bath_venues@bathnes.gov.uk

Shops

- Level access from the street through wide double doors. Steps up to the shop from the museum and down to the shop from the Pump Room. Wheelchair users can exit the Pump Room on to Abbey Church Yard and re-enter the shop from Stall Street (30 metres).
- There is bright lighting on merchandise in the shop.
- All items are clearly priced and with low level displays. Staff are available to help if required.
- Low counter height for wheelchair users and hearing loop. There is also a smaller shop in the lower museum, accessible to wheelchair users.
- Both shops stock unique products to the Roman Baths.



Additional Information

- Allow at least two hours for your visit.
- Staff are all trained in disability awareness and customer care.
- Evacuation routes are clearly marked and staff are well trained in handling evacuations.
- Waterbowls are available for assistance dogs.
- No smoking is permitted anywhere.
- A First Aider is always available on site.
- There is clear signage throughout the site.
- There is no storage service for luggage or coats. Luggage can be stored at the Backpackers Hostel in Manvers Street, five minutes from the Roman Baths, for a small fee.

Future Plans

- Improving the lighting and interpretation in the East Baths
- Providing a second accessible toilet.

Contact Information

Address

The Roman Baths, Stall Street, Bath BA1 1LZ

Telephone

01225 477785

Email

romanbaths_enquiries@bathnes.gov.uk or romanbaths_bookings@bathnes.gov.uk

Website

www.romanbaths.co.uk

Hours Of Operation

Open daily except 25 and 26 December. Opening hours vary throughout the year.
Please check our website.

Local Equipment Hire

Shopmobility Bath One Stop Shop Bath BA1 1JQ

Tel: 01225 481744

Email: shop_mobility@bathnes.gov.uk

Local Accessible Taxi

Abbey Taxis 01225 444444, Bath Spa Taxis 01225 313131