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# Cogges Manor Farm Access Statement

Cogges is a unique heritage site with a 13th century Manor House and 18th century farm buildings. We are a rural destination which presents some challenges when it comes to accessibility but we are committed to providing an inclusive visitor attraction as much as possible.

**Contact details**Cogges Manor Farm, Church Lane, Witney OX28 3LA
T: 01993 772602
E: ops@cogges.org.uk

## **Transport & Approach**

Low floor S1 and S2 accessible buses stop at the top of Church Lane on Oxford Hill, approximately 5 minutes level walk away. Nearest rail stations are Finstock (4.9 miles), Combe (5.3 miles) and Shipton (7.4 miles). These do not have full step free access or staff assistance. Oxford (11 miles) is the only station that has reasonable step free access and staff assistance. Oxford station is served by the S1 bus route, which stops near the site. Accessible taxis are also available. There is a public footpath and cycle route from Witney down Church Lane, which is about a 10 minute walk.

**Parking and drop off**

There is on site Blue Badge parking and drop off from Church Lane in front of the entrance (OX28 3LA). There are currently building works in progress and as a result there are no specified disabled parking bays, though the whole area is restricted to blue badge parking. Surfaces are level and there is a ramp to the entrance to the farm and to the café (outside the pay barrier).

There is free parking in Cogges Hill Road (OX28 3FR) car park to the South of the site. Access to the farm is via a path across a bridge and field. This path is unsuitable for walking aids with small wheels and flat shoes should be worn. An alternative tarmacked path is in place.

Cycle stands are provided in the café courtyard

## **Café and Gift Shop**

Both of these are outside the pay barrier and do not require tickets. They are wheelchair accessible via ramps.

**Entrance and access on site**

Entrance to the farm has good clear width and level or ramped access.

Outside paths are a mixture of grass (short mown around the house) and compacted crushed stone. Routes are relatively level, with few significant inclines. Some of the grass paths in the further reaches of the site can be uneven and muddy in periods of wet weather. The Manor House can be reached on stone paths at all times.

The threshold to the stables and introductory film is cobbled and may present some difficulties. Any visitors needing assistance should ask a member of staff or signal on arrival to the site. A ramp to the viewing platform is in place.

## **The Manor House**

Wheelchair access to the Manor House is via the porched doorway to the North of the building. There are several level changes in the house. Routes and doorways are narrow, so ramps are short and steep and require a narrow wheelchair (max width 610mm/24inches). A folding wheelchair is available to use at the house (please ask a member of staff or signal on arrival to the site). Ramps are in place to allow access to all rooms on the ground floor. The main staircase and back service staircase are steep, with winders and there is no lift access to upper floors. A film showing the upper floors is available on a television in the Dining Room on the ground floor.

Audio soundscapes and audio visual displays are in place in most of the rooms in the Manor House. Some are motion triggered on entry. All can be turned off to provide a calmer environment if required. Please ask a member of staff or signal on arrival if you would like to have these turned off during your visit.

## **The Barns**

Access to the Barns is currently restricted to events and private hires. The surface across the farmyard is crushed stone with a light gravel covering. Entry into the Wheat barn is uneven with a marble cobbled floor in the entrance. A ramp inside provides access to a level flooring area. The Barley Barn has a concrete floor with some irregularity and a slight lip into the barn.

## **Toilet facilities**

Accessible toilets are available in the block in the disabled car park (with accessible ramp), which services the café and in the toilet block next to the farmyard (no ramp needed).

## **Baby changing**

Baby changing facilities are available in all toilets on site (from September 2021)

## **Assistance dogs**

Assistance dogs are permitted in all parts of the site. It should be noted that there are poultry free roaming onsite.