

Battle Abbey Event Access Guide

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Details at a glance:

Dates:

Saturday 11 October and Sunday 12 October 2025

Times:

10am – 5pm

Location:

Battle Abbey, TN33 0AE

Tickets:

- English Heritage members can book discounted tickets
- Essential companions of disabled visitors can visit with free ticket (no paperwork needed)
- Book online in advance to save 15%
- Buy tickets on the day at the entrance

Event Times

Saturday and Sunday:

- **11am – 11.30am** Bay-eux Watch: Tale of a Tapestry
- **11.30am – 12pm** Falconry: The Noble Art of Hawking
- **12pm – 12.30pm** Warriors of 1066: Cavalry and Infantry
- **1pm – 1.30pm** Bay-eux Watch: Tale of a Tapestry
- **1.30pm – 2pm** Falconry: Harold and the Hawk
- **3pm – 4pm** The Battle of Hastings
- **4pm – 4.30pm** Bay-eux Watch: Tale of a Tapestry

Getting Here

By car (parking):

Disabled visitors can park in the Battle Abbey car park next to the main entrance.

There are **89** spaces on a firm surface.

Alternative car parking is available via Powdermill Lane. This is on open fields and approximately **940 metres** from the main event space.

By train:

Battle is the closest station to the site and it's approximately **900 metres** uphill to the abbey.

By bus:

The nearest bus stop to the main entrance is called 'Abbey' and is serviced by the number **95** and **1066** buses.

Main Entrance

If you park in the Battle Abbey access car park, the Gatehouse will be your main entrance.

There are **9** steps in total to get into the entrance and shop.

A step-free route is available via the central archway over cobbles.

If you need assistance just ask a member of the team. There is also a call button at the bottom of the steps that you can press.

Field Entrance

If you park in the 'on-field' parking then you will enter the event from the south (this is not the usual entrance).

It's **940 metres** over uneven grass from this parking area to the main event space.

You can buy a ticket at this temporary entrance with cash or card.

There is no seating along the route from the field car park to the main event area.

Arrival and Welcome

Staff and volunteers will be waiting to welcome you at both entrances. They will sell or scan tickets and membership cards and give you information about the event.

Disabled visitors are entitled to bring an essential companion with them free of charge. You can get this ticket online or when you arrive. You do not need to show any paperwork.

There is a visitor information point on the battlefield where you can find out more about the event and what's happening during the day.

Our British Sign Language (BSL) Interpreter and BSL Guide will be meeting and greeting visitors at the Gatehouse entrance on Saturday between **10am and 11am**.

Getting Around

The site is made up of gravel pathways and natural surfaces – grassy fields which can become muddy.

In wet weather the grounds can become boggy and difficult to pass.

There is some temporary trackway laid over the grass on the battlefield.

Although the route to and around the battlefield is step-free, there are steps to get into some buildings, such as the Gatehouse museum and rooftop, and parts of the Dormitory Range.

British Sign Language

Saturday 11 October

There is a British Sign Language (BSL) Interpreter covering Saturday's main events.

They will be at the Gatehouse Entrance from **10am to 11am** to meet and greet visitors and then in the **BSL Zone** on the battlefield.

Deaf BSL Guide Peter Brown is also running a tour at **12pm (midday)**. Meet in the **BSL Zone**.

To find out more you can watch our [Battle BSL video](#) here on our website.

- **10am – 11am** BSL meet and greet (Gatehouse Entrance)
- **11am – 11.30am** Bay-eux Watch: Tale of a Tapestry
- **12pm – 1pm** BSL Tour with Deaf Guide Peter Brown
- **1.30pm – 2pm** Falconry: Harold and the Hawk
- **3pm – 4pm** The Battle of Hastings

Access Viewing Area

There is a viewing area in the main events field set aside for visitors with access needs.

It has a firm, temporary surface, some foldable seating and a banner marking the entrance.

There is a volunteer providing support in this space so please ask them if you need help.

Temporary accessible toilets are located **20 metres** from the viewing area.

Toilet Facilities

There are both permanent and temporary toilet facilities provided for this event.

In the **visitor centre** there are permanent:

- Male and female toilets
- Accessible toilet
- Baby changing facilities

There are 'portable' toilets, including enlarged access facilities located on the battlefield.

There is also a temporary baby changing facility next to the visitor information tent.

Seating

There are benches and picnic tables dotted around the site, but there is very little seating in the battlefield.

You are welcome to bring your own outdoor seating and picnic blankets with you.

There are a number of accessible picnic tables outside the cafe and near the visitor information tent on the battlefield.

There is limited shade and shelter on site so please come prepared for the weather conditions on the day.

Sensory Information

Battle Abbey is very busy on event days and there will be queues and crowded areas.

We expect the busiest arrival times to be between **10am and 11.30am**

The battlefield will be noisy throughout the day, with activity expected to peak between **3pm and 4pm** when the main re-

enactment takes place. There will be shouting, fighting, and galloping horses on display.

There are a number of areas on site, away from the battlefield, which will be much less crowded and quieter, such as the **Walled Garden**.

We have a small supply of ear defenders for both adults and children which you can pick up from the visitor information tent.

Food and Drink

There are many different tents on the battlefield selling a variety of food and drink.

There are gluten free, non-dairy and vegan options available.

There is some seating provided for eating and drinking but this tends to get very busy. Please consider bringing your own portable seating if you are able.

There are a number of tables dotted around the site which you are welcome to use for your own picnic.

Feedback

We are always looking for ways to improve access and inclusion at our sites.

If you would like to make a comment or suggestion you can:

Email: customers@english-heritage.org.uk

Call: 0370 333 1181

Write: English Heritage, The Engine House, Fire Fly Avenue, Swindon SN2 2EH

If you booked a ticket online, you can also fill in our post-visit survey. Just look out for an email and follow the link

If you would like to make a comment about this pre-visit guide and how it could be improved please email access@english-heritage.org.uk

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