



PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A MUCH-REDUCED ACCESS STATEMENT FOR 2021 DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS.

ACCESS STATEMENT

This access statement does not contain personal opinions as to the suitability for those with access needs but aims to accurately describe the facilities and services that we offer all our guests/visitors while opening under COVID-19 restrictions.

Introduction

Situated out in lovely countryside with views of the South Downs, only accessed by car, as public transport is three miles away. Open for a few weeks each year whilst the white wood anemones and bluebells are flowering in our 23-acre ancient oak wood.

For 2021 the open dates are **12 April to 19 May**. Please read the visitor information on the website (<https://www.bluebellwalk.co.uk/visitor-information>) for the current state of the bluebells.

Beatons Wood is where one can see the profusion of bluebells and two ponds. This has a wide circular gravelled path 800 metres long, levelled and lightly gravelled to avoid it being slippery, making it suitable for those with mobility issues, and seats every 150 metres to rest and admire nature's beauty. Slight incline in places but more seats available in those areas.

There are no Farm Trails or other paths open in 2021.

The Bluebell Walk started in 1972 raising money for local charities and this concept continues today, with over £1,000,000 in today's money raised to date by 76 different local charities.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance, please phone 01323 485151 or email info@bluebellwalk.co.uk



Pre-Arrival

All visits must be pre-booked online at www.bluebellwalk.co.uk. You must arrive within your chosen time slot and show proof of booking.

Access is easiest by car.

The nearest railway station with a taxi service (01323 484444) is Polegate, which is 5 miles away, or Berwick 3 miles away. Both these stations are on the mainline from Victoria to Eastbourne.

The nearest bus stop with taxis available (01323 844464) is Hailsham, which is 3 miles away. Buses arrive from Hastings, Heathfield and Eastbourne.

Car Parking and Arrival

There are designated disabled parking spaces with free parking on the hardened road verge of Tye Hill Road, adjacent to Bates Green.

Tickets must be pre-booked and will be checked on arrival.

Main Entrance

'Meet and Greet'ers in high visibility jackets are there to answer any questions or queries.

Dogs are welcomed but please they must remain on leads, so preventing any disturbance to the wildlife.

Attraction (displays, exhibits, etc.)

The usual stalls and animals will not be present this year.

Around Beatons Wood we have many display panels describing the flora and fauna one might see.

In the main car parking field in a shady corner, there are picnic tables with spaces to accommodate wheelchairs.

Public Toilets

We have one accessible toilet about 50 metres from the Entrance, with a slight incline and handrail to a wide entrance door. It is large and designed for wheelchair users. It has all the necessary rails, low level washing basin and an emergency alarm cord.



Contact Information

Address: Bates Green Farm Tye Hill Road Arlington Nr Polegate East Sussex BN26 6SH

Telephone: 01323 485151

Email: info@bluebellwalk.co.uk

Website: www.bluebellwalk.co.uk

Hours of Operation: 10.00am to 5.00pm on the days we are open. (Last booked entry 4.00pm.)

Local Accessible Taxi: Polegate Taxis 01323 484444

Local Public Transport: None

The Blue Walk

This is the only Walk open in 2021 It runs through the Bluebell Wood and is lightly gravelled to allow access for wheelchair users, but there is a slight incline on the way back. Wooden benches are situated approximately every 150 yards on this walk.

We are not able to provide mobility scooters or wheelchairs in 2021.

Picnics

The picnic tables in the shady corner of the large car park field are wheelchair accessible.

Group visits

We are unable to accept organised group bookings in 2021.