



## Access Statement for Wildwood Devon

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

### Introduction

Wildwood Devon is Devon's best British wildlife park where visitors can see and learn about British wildlife past and present, all housed in near-natural enclosures set in 45 acres of beautiful ancient woodland.

Wildwood is located on the Escot estate situated just off the A30 between Ottery St Mary and Honiton, off the Fairmile exit on the A30. Follow brown signs to Escot.

- We open at 10 am daily.
- Closing time varies with last admission at 3 pm or 4 pm (depending on season).
- Open every day except for Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

You should allow a couple of hours to go around the park, taking in the animal talks which are held throughout the day during weekends and school holidays.

- Gold memberships are available for special needs groups.
- We also have a *carer goes free* policy for each paying visitor requiring a carer.

### Dogs

No dogs, including guide dogs, are allowed in the park owing to the nature of our business. If you are visually impaired and use a guide dog, please contact the Wildwood office prior to your visit so we can make alternate arrangements.

Although your dog will not be allowed in the park, we can provide a staff member or volunteer to escort you during your visit. Please make your own arrangements for your dog while visiting the park. They should not be left in a vehicle in the car park.

If you have any queries or require any assistance please call **01404 822 188** or email [devon@wildwoodtrust.org](mailto:devon@wildwoodtrust.org).

We look forward to welcoming you.

### Facilities

- **Woodland** – enjoy walking through our ancient semi-natural woodland.
- **Animal enclosures** – large low-level viewing windows and ramps at enclosures where necessary, suitable for wheelchair users.
- **Accessible toilet facilities** – available in the Coach House Café outside the park. Please phone **01404 822188** in advance if you would like to have the change facilities readily available during your visit.
- **Play area** – separate play areas for under 5's in our Play Zone soft play.
- **Restaurant / café and shop** – single-storey buildings with step-free access, accessible pathways or ramps.
- **Parking** – space for coaches, extensive car parking, and a Blue Badge parking area.

**WILDWOOD**  
KENT

☎ 01227 712111  
✉ [info@wildwoodtrust.org](mailto:info@wildwoodtrust.org)  
🌐 [wildwoodtrust.org](http://wildwoodtrust.org)  
📍 Wildwood Trust, Herne Common,  
Kent CT6 7LQ

**WILDWOOD**  
DEVON

☎ 01404 822188  
✉ [visitescot@wildwoodtrust.org](mailto:visitescot@wildwoodtrust.org)  
🌐 [wildwoodtrust.org](http://wildwoodtrust.org)  
📍 Wildwood Devon, Escot Park,  
Ottery St Mary, Devon, EX11 1LU

Protecting, Conserving  
& Rewilding British Wildlife



Registered Charity No. 1093702

### **Pre-Arrival**

- Full details and maps: see the *Visitor Information* and *How to Get Here* sections on our website.
- Journey planning: use [www.transportdirect.info](http://www.transportdirect.info) (postcode EX11 1LU).
- **Railway stations:**
  - Honiton
  - Exeter
  - Accessible taxi option: W.A.V.E (01392 252525).
- **Bus stop:** Fordbridge, just under one mile from Wildwood (no seats or shelter).
- **Airport:** Exeter International – 9.5 miles away.

### **Car Parking and Arrival**

- Blue Badge spaces located next to the entrance kiosk.
- Possible to park directly outside entrance gates by prior arrangement if necessary.
- Free parking (no ticket/payment machines).
- Car park surface: gravel on compacted mud.
- Entrance path clearly marked with good signage.
- Entrance and shop suitable for wheelchairs.
- No lighting in the car park (hours follow daylight).

### **Main Entrance, Reception and Ticketing**

- Single-storey building with concrete ramp to the door.
- Inward opening, light door (clear width: 920 mm).
- Step-free, level access throughout.
- Evenly lit with overhead fluorescent lighting.
- Pen and pad of paper available to aid communication.
- Complimentary ticket policy for carers.
- Opening hours and ticket price signage clearly visible.

### **Attraction (Displays, Exhibits, etc.)**

- Animal talks delivered by educators during peak times.
- Roaming educators may provide artefacts (e.g. antlers) to touch.
- Interpretation boards with illustrations throughout the park.
- Majority of attractions outdoors, only a few sheltered buildings.
- Woodland paths are natural and uneven with tree roots/mud.
- Most paths are wheelchair friendly (marked in blue on the map provided at the entrance kiosk).
- Picnic benches scattered throughout the park.
- Maze has one route in and one route out avoiding bridges (staff available to assist).

### **Visitor Toilets**

- Wheelchair-friendly toilets located in the Coach House Café (outside the park).
- Additional toilets behind the Play Barn soft play zone (wheelchair-friendly).
- Emergency evacuation: megaphone with siren used; staff escort visitors to assembly points.

### **Catering (Café)**

- Cafe outside the park footprint open all year except Christmas and Boxing days
- Short distance from main entrance.
- Single-storey, step-free access.
- Ramp onto deck and into café.
- Double entrance doors (175 cm wide).
- Tables spaced apart, not fixed; wooden chairs without arms.
- More restricted space during holidays/weekends.
- Natural daylight with overhead lighting.
- No background music.
- Dietary requirements catered for.
- Food ordered at counter, delivered to tables.
- Staff available to assist with menus, specials, and signage.

### **Catering (Snack Shack)**

- Snack shack inside park, open on select days.
- Situated in soft play barn.
- Snacks, hot and cold drinks, ice creams available.

### **Grounds and Gardens**

- Woodland trail is mostly wide and unobstructed (gravel on compacted mud).
- Path narrows to 2 m in some places.
- Wooden plank walkways/bridges in wetlands area (covered with wire mesh).
- No steps, ramps used where levels change.
- Surfaces: natural debris, tree roots, potholes, puddles, mud.
- Picnic tables and benches at regular intervals.

### **Additional Information**

- Activities adapted for special needs groups (behavioural, learning, sensory, mental, or physical).
- Gold memberships available for special needs groups.
- Assistance dogs not permitted in the park. Instead, a staff member/volunteer can escort you around the park (arrange in advance).
- Dogs should not be left in vehicles while visiting.

### **Contact Information**

**Address:**

Wildwood Devon  
Escot Park  
Ottery St Mary  
Devon  
EX11 1LU

**Telephone:** 01404 822188

**Email:** [visitescot@wildwoodtrust.org](mailto:visitescot@wildwoodtrust.org)

**Website:** [devon.wildwoodtrust.org](http://devon.wildwoodtrust.org)

### **Hours of Operation**

- Open daily (363 days per year, closed Christmas Day & Boxing Day).
- Open 10 am.
- Close 4–5 pm depending on season (last admission 1 hour before closing).

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