

5

Fountains Abbey

A5



Brief Description: Founded in 1132, Fountains Abbey is set in 650 acres of formal garden and deer park. This World Heritage Site offers an estate circuit of up to 3.5 miles (6.5km). The tarmac roads in Studley Royal Deer Park are suitable for cycling but they are also used by motorists.

Access and Facilities: Accessible Toilets, Ample Blue Badge Parking, Braille Guides, Changing Places Toilet (at Visitor Centre), Wheelchair and Mobility Scooters available for hire, booking is essential; call 01765 608888 for reservations.

Features of Interest: Benches, Bird Hide, Cafés, Church, Deer Park, Events, Follies, Fountains Abbey, Hall, Ornamental Gardens, Picnic Areas, Refreshments, Shop, Viewpoints, Visitor Centre, Water Gardens, Water Mill, Wildlife.

Public Transport: The 139 bus operates a daily service from Ripon Bus Station to Fountains Abbey Visitor Centre.



Location: The Visitor Centre is situated 3 miles (5km) west of Ripon off the B6265 on Abbey Road, HG4 3DY.

What3Words: fries.coach.acoustics.

Additional Blue Badge parking and level access to the Abbey grounds can be found at West Gate Car Park on Fountains Lane, HG4 3EA. **What3Words:** lifelong.fashion.spurtd.

Blue Badge parking is also available at Studley Royal Deer Park, accessed via Studley Roger on Studley Lane, HG4 3DY. (Charges still apply) **What3Words:** lecturing.mandolin.tight.

There is an admission charge to access the Abbey grounds. There is no charge for National Trust Members or carers.





Route Details: Nearly all paths are tarmac, with a few gradients. Roads through the Deer Park are also used by vehicles.

There is easy access from the West Gate to areas from which the abbey can be viewed.

The abbey is approached via 180m (200 yards), of level grass and may be toured using a wheelchair.



Safety Notes: Due to the steep gradient down from the visitor centre, the National Trust (NT) advises wheelchair users to enter the estate from the West Gate. Alternatively, a free accessible minibus service runs from the visitor centre to the valley floor. (See timetable at admissions desk). The **C** symbols on the map represent pathways the NT advise wheelchair users not to use.

The path from the visitor centre is unsuitable for any self drive vehicle. 3 wheeled vehicles are not allowed on the estate.



TRAIL CARD & MAP KEY

	Suggested Route		Viewpoint
	Alternative Route		Motorcycle Barrier
	Slope/Hill (Level)		Speed Humps
	Linked Trail		Steps (and how many)
	Suitable for Cycling		Café
	All-Terrain Chair Route		Public House
	Trail Start Point		Bench/Seat
	Parking		Picnic Area
	Information Board		Playground
	Bus Stop		Cattle Grid
	Accessible Toilet		Trees/Wood
	Accessible Fishing Platforms		Lake/Pond
	Accessible Gate (Manual Wheelchairs & Scooters)		Landmark Building
	Gate not Accessible to Wheelchairs		
	Caution		

Each card has a letter & number (for example **A3**) in the top right hand corner. It describes the **surface** and **slope** of the **most difficult** parts of the main route. With the map and text, this will help you to decide whether to do the whole route or just the easier sections. The bicycle symbol indicates all or part of the route is suitable for cycling.

Surface Quality (in dry weather)

- A** - Smooth (tarmac, paving, concrete, etc.)
- B** - Quite Smooth (short grass, compacted earth/stone, etc.)
- C** - Uneven (worn grass, loose stone, some ruts, tree roots, etc.)
- D** - Rough (long grass, soft earth, sand, gravel, severe ruts, roots, etc.)

- 1** - Gentle (up to 1:20)
- 2** - Quite Gentle (up to 1:16)
- 3** - Fairly Steep (up to 1:12)
- 4** - Steep (up to 1:8)
- 5** - Very Steep (over 1:8)



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