South Yorkshire Countryside Directory for People with Disabilities

Third Edition

Whatever your needs, access to and enjoyment of the countryside is rewarding, healthy and great fun. This directory can help you find out what opportunities are available to you in your area. Get yourself outdoors and enjoy all the benefits that come with it...

With a foreword by Lord David Blunkett











This directory was designed for people with a disability, though the information included will be useful to everyone.

South Yorkshire is a landscape and culture steeped in a history of coal mining, steel industry, agriculture and the slightly more light hearted tradition of butterscotch production in Doncaster! In recent years the major cities and towns have undergone huge transformations but much of the history and industry is still visible today including steel manufacturing in Sheffield, the medieval streets of Rotherham and the weekly town centre market in Barnsley – a tradition held since 1249!

For those that enjoy the outdoors, South Yorkshire is equally diverse. You can enjoy the many tracks and trails of the spectacular Peak District National Park or the Trans Pennine Trail, the rolling fields of corn and windmills of Penistone, and the wildfowl delights of Rother Valley Country Park – an opencast coal mine turned local nature reserve.

Whatever your chosen form of countryside recreation, whether it's joining a group, getting out into the countryside on your own, doing voluntary work, or investigating your local wildlife from home, we hope you get as much out of it as we do.

There is still some way to go before we have a properly accessible countryside. By contacting Open Country or another of the organisations listed here, we can help to encourage better access for all in the future.



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Foreword



I am very pleased to lend my name to this excellent publication and above all the work that is being done to open up access to the glories of the countryside, the enjoyment of nature and what others take for granted.

I know from my own experience (I own a tandem but clearly need not a passenger but a front seat driver), and I've long enjoyed walking in the Peak District and beyond.

Yorkshire has equal glories to the wonderful vista around Sheffield, and I know that right across Yorkshire and North Derbyshire, so many people have their well-being restored, their life force renewed and their communing with nature facilitated, by being able to get out into the countryside.

For those with any form of special need, particularly where this involves having to overcome physical and sensory challenges, even small adaptations can make a difference and personal support where needed can be crucial.

Protecting our precious countryside, the walks and bridle paths – from both natural erosion and man-made hazards – helps to bring alive equality in practice as well as ensuring that families in all their guises, can enjoy nature together.

Much emphasis quite rightly in the past, through the Disability Discrimination Act and the Equality Act 2010, have concentrated attention on physical barriers and other impediments within an urban environment. It is so vital not to forget that nature is a free gift for all of us, and all of us need to be able to access it.

Lord David Blunkett

Using the Directory

Throughout the Directory you may see some symbols. These are to help you see what kind of facilities or information is available. Please also contact individual places to ask what they can offer people with disabilities.

Key:



Blue Badge parking is available



A wheelchair accessible toilet is available



Scooters / wheelchairs are available for loan



Large print leaflets are available



A Braille guide is available

South Yorkshire covers a large geographical area. Sometimes we divide sections into areas to make it easier for you to find local information.

These areas are:

- Barnsley
- Doncaster
- Rotherham
- Sheffield



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Walking & Outings

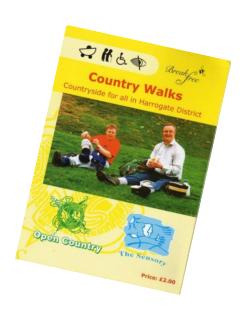
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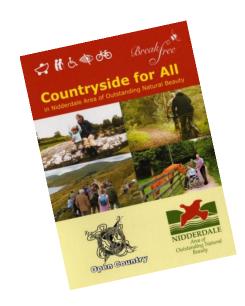
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Breakfree



Open Country have produced four Breakfree packs for Harrogate District, Nidderdale AONB and Wharfedale (web-based).





Great for short walks, nature trails, children, cycles and people with disabilities.

The packs have clear, colour maps for each place, with all the information you need to help plan your day.

Call Open Country on 01423 507227 and we will gladly post them to you.

Breakfree: get healthy and discover your local green space!

General Contacts

Disabled Ramblers

www.disabledramblers.co.uk

The Disabled Ramblers help mobility-challenged people get back out into the countryside. Able-bodied helpers are welcome to support members and to help with loading scooters and other jobs. About 30 rambles are run each year across England and Wales – mostly from March to October. They ramble in all weathers and over a variety of terrain. The rambles are graded according to difficulty; some are suitable for shopping buggies and power chairs, whilst others need larger scooters capable of travelling over rough ground.

Ramblers Association

Tel: 020 7339 8500

Email: ramblers@ramblers.org.uk

www.ramblers.org.uk

Britain's walking charity, working to safeguard the footpaths, the countryside and other places people go walking, and to encourage more people to take up walking. They provide information and publications and promote walking for all throughout England, Wales and Scotland. There are several local groups across Yorkshire, each group has its own walks programme with walks ranging from easy to strenuous. You can search for a group near you on their website.

Walking for Health

Tel: 020 7339 8541

Email: walkingforhealth@ramblers.org.uk

www.walkingforhealth.org.uk

Walking for Health encourages more people to become physically active in their local communities. They support the largest network of health walk schemes across England, offering regular, short, easy group walks with trained walk leaders that are free and accessible to all. Walks take place in the local community, lasting between 30 and 60 minutes, mainly on level ground and are led by trained volunteer walk leaders. There are many walks in the South Yorkshire area; some are wheelchair accessible.



Local Contacts

Barnsley Council

Tel: 01226 773136 (Park Services)

www.barnsley.gov.uk

You can download a series of walk routes from the council's website. The Countryside Ranger Team also organise guided walks and events.

Bradfield Walkers are Welcome

www.bradfield-walkers.org.uk

The 'Walkers are Welcome' group have produced a leaflet 'Wheely Easy Walks', detailing walking routes in the Bradfield area suitable for mobility-impaired walkers, especially users of wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Canal and River Trust

Tel: 0303 040 4040

www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

There are several parts of the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation that have accessible walking routes, with flat, tarmac paths. Contact the Canal and River Trust for more information or have a look at their 'Accessibility Map' which has information on towpaths and access points.

Doncaster Council's Countryside Team

Tel: 01302 300798

Email: countryside.interpretation@doncaster.gov.uk

www.doncaster.gov.uk/countryside

Based at Sandall Beat Wood, the team provide a series of varied events to help you explore Doncaster's countryside, wildlife and heritage, including regular walks throughout the year.

Doncaster Council

Tel: 01302 735403 (Health Walks) www.doncaster.gov.uk/walking

The council's website details a number of walks, from gentle introductory routes to more challenging ones guaranteed to get your heart rate up a bit! You can also download the 'Doncaster Walking for Health' timetable and find details of self-guided walks.

Get Doncaster Walking

https://getdoncastermoving.org

A partnership of organisations committed to help Doncaster's communities to become healthier and more vibrant by increasing

participation in physical activity and sport. There is a programme of guided walks at levels to suit all abilities; some are wheelchair accessible.

National Trust

Tel: 01433 670368

Email: peakdistrict@nationaltrust.org.uk

www.nationaltrust.org.uk

The National Trust runs several guided walks and events at Longshaw, Burbage and the Eastern Moors, near Sheffield including heritage walks and Nordic walking.

Peak Walking Adventures

Tel: 07870 778585

Email: cath.lee@peakwalking.com

www.peakwalking.com

Cath Lee leads guided walks in the Peak District. A fee is charged. She specialises in hill and moorland walks but also provides guided walks for people with special needs or requirements and can arrange for the hire of an off-road wheelchair to make paths and tracks more accessible.

Rotherham Doorstep Walks

Tel: 01709 822932

www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow

Rotherham Council's Doorstep Walks are a collection of short routes ranging from 1.5 miles to around 6 miles, some of which are suitable for wheelchair users; you can download the walks from the council's website.

Sheffield City Council

Tel: 0114 250 0500

Email: parksandcountryside@sheffield.gov.uk

www.sheffield.gov.uk

There are a number of walk routes and leaflets to download from the council's website, you can also request a copy of the 'Easy Going Trails' booklet which details 20 short walking routes following reasonably level and firm paths with no stiles, barriers or flights of steps.

Sheffield Shamblers

Email: organiser@shamblers.org.uk

www.shamblers.org.uk

A friendly, relaxed, sociable walking group that leads walks around Sheffield and the Peak District. Walks range from short health walks to more challenging hikes of up to 12 miles.

Sheffield Visually Impaired Walking Group (SVIWG)

Tel: 0114 236 6685 / 07979 414693

www.sviwg.co.uk

SVIWG offer regular walks, in and around the Peak District and South Yorkshire, ranging from 4 to 7 miles, accompanied by trained volunteer guides.

Step Out Sheffield

Tel: 07505 639524

Email: stepoutsheffield@gmail.com www.healthwalksinsheffield.btck.co.uk

A voluntary group providing weekly health walks of 30 to 60 minutes in several locations across Sheffield. All abilities are welcome.

Trans Pennine Trail (TPT)

Tel: 01226 772574

Email: info@transpenninetrail.org.uk

www.transpenninetrail.org.uk

Or you can telephone your local authority:

Barnsley: 01226 772696
Doncaster: 01302 734586
Rotherham: 01709 336003
Sheffield: 0114 205 3303

A 215-mile coast to coast route between Liverpool and Hull, with extensions to the seaside towns of Southport and Hornsea. As well as being great for cyclists, much of the trail is used by walkers and horse riders and is ideal for people of all ages and abilities. Mostly following old railway lines and canals, many sections are wheelchair accessible and being off road is great for all the family. You can purchase maps that cover the entire trail, or ask your local councils for more information.

Weekend Wanderers

www.weekendwanderers.org.uk

A friendly group of walkers who enjoy fresh air and scenic countryside. Group members are of mixed ages and abilities and walks are usually around 8 miles, with nothing too strenuous. Non-walkers are also very welcome, enjoying trips to tearooms and places of interest. The coach leaves Doncaster on the first Sunday of the month.

Open Access

Tel: 0300 060 2091 (Open Access Contact Centre)

Email: openaccess@naturalengland.org.uk

www.gov.uk/right-of-way-open-access-land/use-your-right-to-roam

Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW), the public can walk freely on mapped areas of mountain, moor, heath, downland and registered common land without having to stick to paths. This major new right to walk freely over mapped 'access land' was completed across

England on October 31st 2005. The right of open access includes using a wheelchair or mobility scooter. Clearly, most areas will not be very accessible, but you can view the CRoW maps for further information, or give the Contact Centre a call. Access land is shown on the new OS maps with the symbol on the right:

Permissive Access

Tel: 0300 060 1114 (Environmental Stewardship Permissive Access Team) http://cwr.naturalengland.org.uk

Increasingly, permissive rights of access are created under the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) farm conservation schemes. On their website you can find details and maps of more than 1,800 walks and rides and areas of open access, though only a small proportion have access for all. Printed copies are held by some councils. These rights of access are often only for a few years, and more are being added. Currently there are 3 DEFRA sites in South Yorkshire with access, however none of them are listed as 'Easy Access'.



Please note that paths are subject to natural erosion and their quality may vary over time, though maintenance of the paths should be ongoing. Please ring your local council's Access Officer or Open Country if you would like to report or comment on any accessible paths.

There are many local parks and recreation grounds that are accessible in and around the towns and cities of South Yorkshire. Contact your local authority or Tourist Information Centre for more information.

Barnsley

Dearne Valley Country Park

Off Pontefract Road, Barnsley, S71 1HS

Tel: 01226 774535

www.discoverdearne.org.uk/sites/dearne-valley-park

Access is off Pontefract Road, where there is a car park (with a height barrier) and an accessible path leading across the River Dearne and past the lake. Access in the southern, flatter half of the site is generally straightforward with tarmac paths, but some paths towards the northern edge can be steep, including Cliffe Wood. The flat, wide, grassy route of the old Barnsley Canal provides easy access from west to east. The nearest accessible, 'Changing Places' toilet is at Barnsley Town Hall, off Church Street.

Worsbrough Mill Country Park

Worsbrough Bridge, Barnsley, S70 5LJ

Tel: 01226 774527

Email: worsbroughmill@barnsley.gov.uk www.worsbrough-mill.com/country-park

Over 200 acres of country parkland with a large fishing reservoir and working water powered corn mill. The water and its margins attract a wide variety of birdlife and are a haven for wildlife. The restored working corn mill, dating from 1625, still produces stone ground flour (available in the shop). The 'Badger Walk (2 miles) and 'Fox Walk' (1¼ miles) are suitable for wheelchair users. You can extend your walk by following the Trans Pennine Trail, to Silkstone Common (just under four miles, one way). The route follows an old railway line, and is fairly flat, though it is steadily up hill to Silkstone Common. It has good, firm paths suitable for wheelchair users, with rest stops and picnic areas along the way.

Doncaster

Campsall Country Park

Churchfield Road, Campsall, Doncaster, DN6 9LN Tel: 01302 300798 (Sandall Beat Community Environment Centre)





Email: countryside.interpretation@doncaster.gov.uk www.doncaster.gov.uk

Campsall Hall was the home of the Frank family until 1956. Original features in the park include examples of London plane, Wellingtonia, beech and yew which were first planted by Richard Frank. The track around the lake is suitable for wheelchairs, and offers a disabled platform for anglers (see *Fishing* - page 40); however, if parking at the main car park, you have to walk down a fairly steep grassy bank which could be unsuitable for wheelchairs in winter. You can, however, access the lake, avoiding the grass slope, via Back Lane, though parking is limited.

Lakeside Walk

Lakeside Boulevard, Doncaster, DN4 5PJ www.jeffswheelchairwalks.org.uk





A pleasant 1.5 mile walk around a man-made lake on the outskirts of Doncaster, with plenty of water birds to see. Paths are mostly tarmac. Blue Badge parking at the Lakeside Village retail park (customers only), or there is roadside parking close to the lake. There is a 'Changing Places' toilet at the retail park, along with cafés and restaurants.

Rotherham

Harthill Reservoir (The Tom Wakefield Way)

Off Woodhall Lane, Harthill, S26 7YQ

Tel: 01709 822932

www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow

One of Rotherham council's 'Doorstep Walks'. A flat, easy, surfaced route just under one kilometre in length. The central section of the trail crosses a long narrow bridge where available width is reduced to 90cms. Parking is available in the village by the shops. A walk leaflet can be downloaded from the website above.

Rother Valley Country Park

Mansfield Road, Wales Bar, Sheffield, S26 5PQ

Tel: 0114 247 1452 Email: info@rvcp.co.uk

www.rvcp.co.uk







A flat, easy three mile walk around the park suitable for wheelchairs, enjoying the sights and sounds of the countryside. There are shorter versions of the walk and rest places along the way. Accessible toilets are available in both the male and female toilets next to the café. Wheelchairs and mobility scooters are available to hire for free if you provide a Blue Badge, passport or driver's licence. There is a small farm, as well as water

sports and adapted cycles available (see *Outdoor Pursuits* – page 30 and *Cycling* – page 37).

The Old Mineral Line Trail

Steadfolds Lane, Thurcroft, S66 9LT

Tel: 01709 822932

www.rotherham.gov.uk/prow

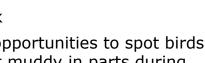
Another of Rotherham council's 'Doorstep Walks'. A pleasant two mile walk (one way) along an old railway line with a tarmac surface and resting places along the way. There is a large layby at the north end of the trail on Steadfolds Lane where you can park. A walk leaflet can be downloaded from the website above.

Thrybergh Country Park

Doncaster Road, Thrybergh, Rotherham, S65 4NU

Tel: 01709 850353

Email: thrybergh.countrypark@rotherham.gov.uk



A 1¾ mile level walk around the reservoir, with opportunities to spot birds and stop for a drink at the café. The path can get muddy in parts during wet weather. Accessible toilets and Blue Badge parking are available and wheelchairs can be hired during the spring and summer months.

Sheffield

Damflask Reservoir

Loxley Road, Low Bradfield, S6 6SQ www.yorkshirewater.com

Surrounded by woodland within the Peak District National Park, Damflask Reservoir lies in the picturesque Loxley Valley. The 3.5 mile walk around the reservoir is level and has a good surface suitable for wheelchairs, though there are some steep gradients in places, where manual wheelchair users may need assistance. Parking is along the roadside. The nearest accessible toilets are in Low Bradfield on Mill Lee Road, by the Bradfield Parish Council Offices – RADAR key required.

Ecclesall Woods

Abbey Lane, Sheffield, S7 2QZ

Tel: 0114 235 6348

Email: woodland.discovery@sheffield.gov.uk

www.sheffield.gov.uk/discoverycentre

Located between Ecclesall Road South and Abbeydale Road South is the largest, semi-natural woodland in South Yorkshire. There is an 'Easy Going Trail' in the woods across the road from the Discovery Centre. The



centre runs public events in spring and autumn and craft courses throughout the year. Car parking is available off Limb Lane, with accessible parking next to the Discovery Centre off Abbey Lane.

Five Weirs Walk

www.the-rsc.co.uk/the-blue-loop





The full walk from Meadowhall along the banks of the River Don to Sheffield city centre is about five miles, where walkers can enjoy industrial architecture and semi rural areas. Keep a look out and you may see herons or maybe a flash of a kingfisher. The path is mainly on tarmac and crushed stone with some road crossings and small gradients where manual wheelchairs might need assistance. Blue Badge parking and accessible toilets are available at Meadowhall Shopping Centre, which is at the beginning of the route. You can get a tram back from the city centre at the end of the walk, or join/leave the route at various points; a map is available to download from the website above.

Langsett Reservoir

Car park off the A616, Langsett, Sheffield, S36 4GY Tel: 01226 370770 (Langsett Barn)

www.yorkshirewater.com

P &

A two mile circular walk following one side of the reservoir on fairly good paths; though there are some steep slopes in places which may require a strong pusher. You can also walk along the dam (a smooth tarmac pavement) for a good view of the reservoir. Accessible toilets and picnic area in the car park, café and pub a little further down the A616 which can be reached by the end of the dam, but take care crossing the road.

Norfolk Heritage Park

Guildford Avenue, Sheffield, S2 2PL

Tel: 0114 286 0400

Email: centreinthepark@sheffield.gov.uk











The park, opened in 1848, was laid out by the Duke of Norfolk and incorporates a main circular carriageway with two avenues, leading to the main gates. There are five Grade II listed buildings within the park. Blue Badge parking is located in the main car park and there is level access from here to the Centre in the Park building where there is a café and accessible toilets. Health walks take place on Fridays (contact 'Step Out Sheffield' for more details - see *Walking Clubs & Contacts* - page 6).

Ulley Country Park

Pleasely Road, Aughton, Sheffield, S26 3XL Tel: 01709 850353 (Thrybergh Country Park)





A reservoir built in 1871, now a picturesque park rich in birds and other

wildlife. The paths around the reservoir offer good views of the surrounding countryside. Walks around the park are approximately one mile in length and fairly easy going with good resting areas. Blue Badge parking is available next to the information centre. There is a small café run by the 'The Friends of Ulley Park' generally open on the third Sunday of the month.



Underbank Reservoir

Underbank Reservoir, Oaks Lane, Stocksbridge, Sheffield, S36 4GH

This Yorkshire Water reservoir has recently improved large parts of its previously inaccessible footpaths, allowing wheelchair users to navigate around the reservoir using a mixture of the new and old footpaths, and roadside pavements. There is a wheelchair accessible kissing gate that can be opened with a RADAR key. Parking is on the roadside; you can access the reservoir at several points but try Smithy Moor Lane as it is quieter. There are toilet facilities at Langsett Reservoir 2.5 miles along the A616 (see *Easy Going Walks* - page 11).

Notable others outside of South Yorkshire

Chesterfield Canal

Tapton Lock Visitor Centre, Lockoford Lane, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S41 7JB

Tel: 01629 533020

Email: countrysideservice@derbyshire.gov.uk

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/taptonlock







Built in 1777 the canal skirts the southern boundary between Norwood and Turnerwood. There is plenty of wildlife to spot as you walk along the towpath (known as Cuckoo Way). Tapton Lock Visitor Centre provides a great place to start exploring the canal, and is fully accessible. Tramper mobility scooters are available to hire.

Peak District National Park

Tel: 01629 816200

Email: customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

The Peak District was Britain's first National Park, established in April 1951. The National Park Authority aims to make recreational facilities available to as many people as possible and provide a number of opportunities:

- Health Walks are designed for people who are unable to access the Ranger Guided Walks and take place throughout the National Park. The walks provide a high level of support for people of all ages and abilities who do not have the confidence to go for a walk alone. Community Transport is available for anyone unable to get to the start of a walk using their own transport. The walks are around three miles and are graded easy or moderate. There is always an easy walk available and they take place once a month between February and November. Contact the Health Walks Co-ordinator on 01629 816200.
- **Miles Without Stiles** routes are suitable for people of all fitness levels and those with limited mobility, including wheelchair users, families with pushchairs and scooters, and the visually impaired. Routes can be downloaded from their website.
- Roll and Stroll are fully accessible wheelchair walks offered to care homes for adults with learning difficulties as well as individuals and carers. They help people get outdoors and active and give them the opportunity to meet new people and broaden their experience. For more information contact the Rangers on 01298 84992.

Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve

Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire, NG21 9HN

Tel: 01623 824643

Email: sherwoodforest@rspb.org.uk

www.visitsherwood.co.uk

A beautiful ancient woodland with a diverse flora and fauna. There is an accessible path to the Major Oak (1.5 miles) and other surfaced trails around the forest. The visitor centre has a café, shop, accessible toilets, 'Changing Places' facilities and Blue Badge parking.





Contacts

Jolly Holidays

Tel: 01277 355565

Email: enquiries@jollydaysholidays.co.uk

www.jollydaysholidays.co.uk

Provides supported holidays for adults with mild to moderate learning disabilities in the UK and abroad. They offer activities to suit everyone. Some of the holidays are fully wheelchair accessible.

Trio Supported Holidays

Tel: 07908 8135917 / 07788713369

Email: holidaystrio@gmail.com www.triosupportedholidays.co.uk

Trio Supported Holidays are provided with experienced individuals specialised in giving support and friendship to adults who may require extra support to enjoy holidays they may find difficult to experience through the mainstream holiday outlets. They aim to provide full inclusion throughout.

Visit England

www.visitengland.com/accessforall

The National Accessible Scheme (NAS) is a national scheme which helps you find accommodation to suit your needs, independently assessed by trained assessors against demanding criteria. Assessed properties will have facilities such as handrails, ramps, level-access showers, hearing loops and colour contrast. See their website for tips and advice on holiday travel in England and to find NAS accredited accommodation.

Barnsley

Cannon Hall Farm

Bark House Lane, Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4AT

Tel: 01226 790427

Email: info@cannonhallfarm.co.uk

www.cannonhallfarm.co.uk



One of the largest farm attractions in the UK. Animals include sheep, pigs, goats, cows, llamas, meercats and ferrets. There is a farm shop, tearooms, restaurant, accessible toilets and a large barn area to eat your picnic lunch. The farm is mostly wheelchair accessible with smooth tarmac paths and ramped access overlooking the large barns. There are some slopes where manual wheelchair users may need assistance, particularly the path down to the animal barns. A manual wheelchair is available to borrow for free, but a deposit is required – please ring the farm shop to reserve on 01226 792746.

Cannon Hall Museum Park & Gardens

Bark House Lane, Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4AT

Tel: 01226 772 002

Email: cannonhall@barnsley.gov.uk

www.cannon-hall.com

Cannon Hall is a stunning Georgian country house museum set in 70 acres of historic parkland and beautiful landscaped gardens. Everything except some of the grounds (due to steeper slopes) is wheelchair accessible. Accessible toilets are available in the tea room adjacent to the upper car park which has Blue Badge parking.

Elsecar Heritage Centre

Wath Road, Elsecar, Barnsley, S74 8HJ

Tel: 01226 740203

Email: elsecarheritagecentre@barnsley.gov.uk

www.elsecar-heritage.com

An interesting history and craft centre, set in the attractive conservation village of Elsecar and surrounded by beautiful South Yorkshire countryside. There are plenty of independent shops to look around, whilst learning about Elsecar's history and legacy.

Wigfield Farm

Haverlands Lane, Worsbrough, Barnsley, S70 5NQ

Tel: 01226 216474

Email: wigfieldenquiries@barnsley.ac.uk

www.barnsley.ac.uk/shops-services/wigfield-farm









Located approximately two miles to the south west of Barnsley, next to Worsbrough Mill Country Park (see *Easy Going Walks* - page 8). A mix of farm animals, small animals and horticulture makes this a lovely day out with shop and café. The site is gently sloping and all buildings are single storey, making the farm suitable for people with restricted mobility. The Trans Pennine Trail is nearby and provides a good, scenic cycle route to the farm. Cycle parking facilities are provided outside the café.

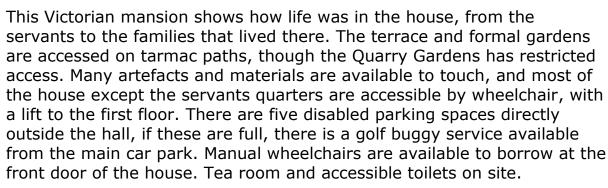
Doncaster

Brodsworth Hall & Gardens

Brodsworth, Doncaster, DN5 7XJ

Tel: 01302 722598







Conisbrough Castle

Castle Hill, Conisbrough, Doncaster, DN12 3BU

Tel: 01709 863329

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/conisbrough-castle





One of Europe's finest examples of medieval castle architecture, Conisbrough Castle has over 800 years of history. The path to the castle is fairly steep and manual wheelchair users may need assistance. Wheelchair access to the keep is restricted due to several steep steps. Blue Badge parking at the visitor centre.

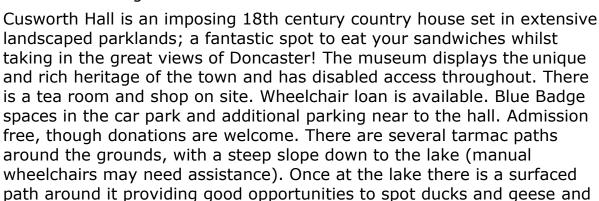
Cusworth Hall, Museum & Country Park

Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, Doncaster, DN5 7TU

Tel: 01302 782342; Café: 01302 390959

Email: museum@doncaster.gov.uk

www.doncaster.gov.uk



Doncaster Museum & Art Gallery

Chequer Road, Doncaster, DN1 2AE

Tel: 01302 734293

other water birds.

Email: Heritage@doncaster.gov.uk

The museum tells the story of Doncaster from the end of the last ice age to the present day and includes displays on natural history, archaeology, local history and fine art. There is a hearing loop at the reception desk. A PenFriend tool and illuminated magnifiers are available to borrow, as well as a manual wheelchair and walking frame. Outside, there is a small garden courtyard with plenty of seating.

Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Brockholes Lane, Branton, Doncaster, DN4 6TB

Tel: 01302 535057

Email: Heritage@doncaster.gov.uk www.yorkshirewildlifepark.com

A wildlife park with over 300 different animals! The majority of the pathways throughout the main park are level and wheelchair accessible, with shallow gradients in areas. Manual wheelchairs are available to hire, but best to book in advance. Discounted admission for disabled visitors and free entry for carers, but you need to provide ID (ring for details).









Rotherham

Clifton Park & Museum

Clifton Lane, Rotherham, S65 2AA

Tel: 01709 336633

www.cliftonparkrotherham.co.uk



You can enjoy learning about the history of Rotherham Borough, the house, its owners and their servants. The park has gardens to relax in, a museum, play park, water splash, tennis, bowls, adventure golf, and land train (with a wheelchair accessible carriage). There is a network of wheelchair and pushchair friendly paths throughout the park. Mobility scooters are free to hire for a returnable deposit from the garden house and a manual wheelchair can be borrowed for the use inside the museum. 'Changing Places' and accessible toilets, gift shop and café on site.

MAGNA Science Adventure Centre

Sheffield Road, Templeborough, Rotherham, S60 1DX

Tel: 01709 720002 www.visitmagna.co.uk





A hands-on experience, with interactive science and technology exhibits and displays. Set within a former steel works, it can be a bit chilly, so don't forget your coat! The building is wheelchair accessible and carers are admitted free.

Roche Abbey

Maltby, Rotherham, S66 8NW

Tel: 01709 812739 / 0370 333 1181

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/roche-abbey



Founded in 1147, the fine early Gothic transepts of this Cistercian Abbey in South Yorkshire still survive to their original height. There is a side gate for easy access onto the site for wheelchair users. Access is available to most parts of the castle on grassy paths with some slopes. Accessible toilets are located in the Abbey House. Refreshments are available and picnics welcome. Two Blue Badge spaces at the entrance.

Rosehill Victoria Park

Old Warren Vale, Rawmarsh, Rotherham, S62 7HJ

Tel: 01709 822453





Rotherham's third major Victorian park which stretches over 36 acres and includes mature woodland, a bandstand and drinking fountain, bowling green and tennis courts, children's play areas, a cafe and a miniature railway. The cafe has accessible toilets; a RADAR key can be borrowed from inside.

Wentworth Family Farm

Wentworth Garden Centre, Hague Lane, Wentworth, Rotherham, S62 7TF

Tel: 01226 744842

Email: info@wentworthgardencentre.co.uk

www.wentworthgardencentre.co.uk

Animals include llamas, alpacas, pigs, ponies, sheep, goats, foxes, meerkats, peacocks and various aviary birds. Accessible toilets and café are located in the garden centre. Wheelchairs are available to hire but you need to book in advance.

Sheffield

Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet

Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield, S7 2QW

Tel: 0114 272 2106 Email: ask@simt.co.uk

www.simt.co.uk/abbeydale-industrial-hamlet



A unique 18th century industrial works. There is plenty to touch and handle, with Braille labels on the objects and interactive displays. Access is limited in places due to the nature of it being an old building but the café and museum are accessible, and there are videos of the inaccessible areas which can be viewed on tablet and smart-phone devices at reception. PenFriends are available at reception. Closed on Fridays and some Saturdays due to wedding ceremonies. Free admission for carers.

Bolsover Castle

Castle Street, Bolsover, S44 6PR Tel: 01246 822844 / 0370 333 1181

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/bolsover-castle

Just outside South Yorkshire, with spectacular views over Derbyshire, the fairy-tale Stuart mansion, was designed to entertain and impress. Blue Badge parking available close to the castle. Terrace Range, Venus Garden and parts of Riding House and Stables have level access with good viewpoints. The Little Castle is not accessible to wheelchair users but interpretation boards are located in the Riding House. Audio tapes are available at the entrance and there is an audio visual display of the whole site in the castle. Café and accessible toilets on site. Manual wheelchairs are available for use and for those unable to walk the few steps into the castle there is a 10-minute video of the interior.

Graves Park & Animal Farm

Hemsworth Road, Sheffield, S8 8LL

Tel: 0114 250 0500







Sheffield's largest park occupying over 200 acres on the southern edge of the city. There is plenty to explore including parkland, woodland and a lake as well as facilities for tennis, bowls, miniature golf and orienteering. Accessible paths and toilets on site. The animal farm is near the Hemsworth Road entrance and provides a home to some of the rarest breeds of farm animals in the country. You can get close to the animals and there's a children's 'pets corner'. Free entry.

Hodsock Priory

Hodsock Priory, Blyth, Nottinghamshire, S81 0TY Tel: 01909 591204 www.hodsockpriory.com







Outside of South Yorkshire, but well worth a visit, Hodsock Priory gardens are opened to the public mid-February to early March and again around April and May to allow enjoyment of their snowdrop and bluebell spectacular (dates vary year to year). Preferred routes are identified for less able visitors and the footpaths immediately around the house and formal gardens are wheelchair accessible. Other routes are across grassland and woodland and can get very muddy which can be difficult for wheelchairs, motorised vehicles and pushchairs. Tea room, refreshment kiosk and accessible toilets on site.

Peace Gardens

Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH

Tel: 0114 273 6895

Email: citycentre.management@sheffield.gov.uk

An award-winning public space officially opened by The Prince of Wales in 1998. The plantings draw inspiration from the rich tradition of English flower gardening. The gardens have flat, concrete paths suitable for wheelchair users, with a 'Changing Places' toilet at the nearby Town Hall, off Surrey Street. Wheelchair access is only available via Norfolk Street. There is a car park with Blue Badge spaces on Charles Street, or limited parking spaces are available for Blue Badge holders on Surrey Street. Whilst you are there pop into the nearby Winter Garden (see next page).

Sheffield Botanical Gardens

Clarkehouse Road, Sheffield, S10 2LN Tel: 0114 250 0500 www.sbg.org.uk







A 19-acre garden, first opened in 1836, containing themed garden areas, a temperate glasshouse, ponds, cafe, shop and some interesting features, including a fossilised tree and bear pit! The site has gently sloping, tarmac paths and there are a few sets of steps, but there are alternative,

wheelchair-friendly routes. Blue Badge parking available via the Thompson Road entrance. Scooters are available to hire for free but must be booked in advance. Free entry.

Tropical Butterfly House

Woodsetts Road, North Anston, Sheffield, S25 4EQ

Tel: 01909 569416

Email: info@butterflyhouse.co.uk

www.butterflyhouse.co.uk

The centre is home to a tropical house, bird of prey centre, animal nursery, pets' corner and nature trail with a daily programme of animal encounters and shows. The site is wheelchair accessible except for a small corner of the butterfly house which can be viewed from an alternate platform. Wheelchairs can be hired for a deposit, but need to be booked in advance. Café, gift shop, accessible toilets and picnic areas on site.

Weston Park Museum

Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TP

Tel: 0114 278 2600

Email: info@museums-sheffield.org.uk

www.museums-sheffield.org.uk/museums/weston-park

The museum and gallery house important collections of cutlery, ceramics, natural history and archaeology, as well as artefacts from Sheffield's history. Disabled access, including Blue Badge parking, is on Mushroom Lane (parking spaces at both top and bottom) and there are accessible toilets on both ground and upper floors. Large print 'find out more' sheets are available in the exhibitions along with versions of all interpretation and their brochures and flyers. Hearing loops are available in the activity rooms and shop. The adjacent Weston Park is a pleasant place for a stroll, with level, tarmac paths.

Winter Garden & Galleries

Winter Garden, 90 Surrey Street, Sheffield, S1 2LH

Tel: 0114 273 6895

Next to the Peace Gardens (see previous page) and the Millennium Galleries. One of the largest temperate glasshouses to be built in the UK during the last hundred years; it is a stunning green world in the heart of the city. There are more than 2,500 plants from around the world. A 'Changing Places' toilet is located at the nearby Town Hall, off Surrey Street. There is a car park with Blue Badge spaces on Charles Street, or limited parking spaces are available for Blue Badge holders on Surrey Street.







Sports & Outdoor Pursuits

2. Sports and Outdoor Pursuits

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Sports Clubs & Contacts

Activity Alliance

Tel: 01509 227750

www.activityalliance.org.uk

This charity works to make active lives possible for people with disabilities, by supporting and helping organisations improve how they cater for disabled people and advocate for the benefit of active lives for the disabled.

British Blind Sport

Tel: 01926 424247

Email: info@britishblindsport.org.uk

www.britishblindsport.org.uk

A national organisation which helps blind and partially sighted people to get active and play sport.

Disability Sport Yorkshire

Tel: 01924 372382

www.disabilitysportyorkshire.org

Aims to address inequality in access to sport for disabled people in Yorkshire.

Phab Clubs (North Region)

Contact: Rebecca Hargreaves

Tel: 01254 824784

Email: rebecca.hargreaves@phab.org.uk

www.phab.org.uk

A national organisation which creates opportunities for all ages and abilities to take part in sport and outdoor activities. Provides information about local groups which are accessible for both disabled and non-disabled people.

Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind

5 Mappin Street, Sheffield, S1 4DT

Tel: 0114 272 2757 Email: info@srsb.org.uk

www.srsb.org.uk

They work to provide opportunities and support for blind and partially sighted people in Sheffield and organise a wide range of sport and leisure activities.

UK Deaf Sport

www.ukdeafsport.org.uk

Sports Clubs & Contacts

Aims to encourage and provide opportunities for deaf people to participate in sport, as well as promoting the ability and success of deaf athletes.

WheelPower - British Wheelchair Sport

Tel: 01296 395995

Email: info@wheelpower.org.uk

www.wheelpower.org.uk

This organisation aims to help create and maintain an environment for people in wheelchairs to become part of a sports team or take up some form of wheelchair sport. They have a directory for finding local disability sporting clubs around the UK.

Within Reach

Tel: 0114 273 4266

Email: hello@withinreach.org.uk

www.withinreach.org.uk

A Sheffield based charity which aims to increase sustained opportunities for disabled people who wish to take part in sport and physical activity.

Yorkshire Sport Foundation

Tel: 0330 2020 280

Email: info@yorkshiresport.org (see website for local contacts)

www.yorkshiresport.org/what-we-do/disability-sports

A County Sports Partnership, supporting organisations across the nine districts of South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire and dedicated to improving the access to physical activity and sport for disabled people. See their website for details about upcoming local sporting events and clubs.



Aerial Sports & Activities

Aerobility

Tel: 0303 303 1230

Email: info@aerobility.com

www.aerobility.com

A registered charity founded in 1993 offering disabled people the opportunity to fly an aeroplane. They provide 'experience of a lifetime' trial flying lessons for as many terminally ill and disabled people as possible every year, as well as subsidised flying days for other disability charities and at-cost instruction and qualification flight training to disabled people.

Flyability

Tel: 0116 289 4316 (BHPA office) Email: contact@Flyability.org.uk

www.flyability.org.uk

Flyability is the disability initiative of the British Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association (BHPA) and strives to motivate disabled people to become involved in the sport of hang gliding and paragliding and to train as pilots.

The Frank Morgan School of Flying

13a Hall Way, Humberside International Airport, Kirmington, Ulceby, Lincolnshire, DN39 6YH

Tel: 01652 688859 / 07891 219954

Email: info@flyatfranks.org

www.flyatfranks.org

Lessons and one-off flights available for disabled people, contact them for your specific needs. Toilets and clubhouse are fully accessible.

Archery

Chantry Bowmen, Sheffield

Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park, Bawtry Road, Sheffield, S9 1UA

Tel: 0114 2664145

Email: info@chantrybowmen.org.uk

www.chantrybowmen.co.uk

Provide beginner courses currently on Friday evenings which cater for all abilities including visually impaired people and wheelchair users.

Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind Archery Group

Northern General Hospital Spinal Injuries Unit Sports Hall, Herries Road, Sheffield, S5 7AU

Tel: 0114 246 5515

Currently run an archery group from 10am to 2pm every Wednesday for people with visual impairments.

Yorkshire Archery Association

Email: yaa.sec@googlemail.com www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk

For a list of clubs and contacts plus tips on how to get started.



Caravanning & Camping

Caravan Site Finder

www.caravan-sitefinder.co.uk

Check out this site for information, tips and lists of accessible caravan sites across the country.

Pitchup

www.pitchup.com

The website has information and tips on camping with a disability and enables you to search for accessible campsites and holiday parks.

Canals & River Cruises

Ethel Trust Community Barge

Tel: 07722 678168

Email: ethelbarge@gmail.com

www.etheltrust.co.uk

A volunteer run charity providing boat trips to a wide range of community groups in South Yorkshire. They provide subsidised or free trips, and offer both day and residential outings. The 57-foot-long barge 'Ethel', is fitted with accessible toilets and showers, along with accessible seating and sleeping facilities, safety rails and hydraulic lifts. The barge operates from Victoria Quays, Sheffield during the winter months before moving to Thorne, north of Doncaster, for the summer boating season.

Safe Anchor Trust

Shepley Bridge Marina, Huddersfield Road, Mirfield, West Yorkshire, WF14 9HR

Tel: 01484 715572

Email: admin@safeanchor.org.uk

www.safeanchor.org.uk

An award-winning charity in Mirfield, near Dewsbury, providing canal boat trips for community groups which for reasons such as illness, special needs or social exclusion have no access to the waterways. Lift for wheelchairs and accessible toilet on-board. No charge is made for the trips; donations are appreciated as they rely solely on voluntary contributions and donations.

<u>Caving</u>

Poole's Cavern

Green Lane, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 9DH

Tel: 01298 26978

Email: info@poolescavern.co.uk

www.poolescavern.co.uk

Over in the Peak District, this cave offers great accessibility for wheelchair users who can access the main chamber, which is 100m/300ft long. There is a constant temperature of 7°C in the cavern, so dress warmly! Blue Badge parking, accessible toilets, cafe, picnic area and shop on site.

Climbing

Awesome Walls Climbing Centre

Garter Street, Sheffield, S4 7QX

Tel: 0114 244 6622











Although they provide no specific equipment which is specialised for disabled people, the wall is accessible and staff are able to assist individuals to climb safely regardless of ability. Blue Badge parking and accessible toilets are available.

Climbing for All, Sheffield

The Foundry Climbing Centre, Unit 2, 45 Mowbray Street, Sheffield, S3 8EN

Tel: 0114 279 6331 (The Foundry Climbing Centre)

Email: cfasheffield@gmail.com

A Sheffield based charity with the aims to assist teens, adults and children in climbing regardless of any sort of disability. They currently run sessions from the Foundry Climbing Centre.

Orienteering

British Orienteering

Tel: 01629 583037

Email: info@britishorienteering.org.uk

www.britishorienteering.org.uk

Orienteering is an exciting and challenging outdoor sport that exercises mind and body. The aim is to navigate between control points marked on an orienteering map. As a recreational activity, it doesn't matter how young, old or fit you are, as you can run or walk making progress at your own pace on the courses planned to suit you. Orienteering can take place anywhere from remote forest and countryside to urban parks and playgrounds. You can use the website to search for permanent orienteering courses and events near to you. The site also provides information on TrailO, a form of orienteering competition where people of all levels of physical ability, including wheelchair users, can compete on equal terms.

South Yorkshire Orienteers

www.southyorkshireorienteers.org.uk

South Yorkshire Orienteers boasts over 200 members with an age range of 5-85 years. There is a wide range of ability within the club. You can contact them via their website.

Outdoor Centres

Dukes Barn

School Lane, Beeley, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 2NU Tel: 01629 733039





Email: info@dukesbarn.org

www.dukesbarn.org

This outdoor classroom provides facilities for people of all ages and abilities to access outdoor activities such as hill-walking, rock scrambling, abseiling, climbing and caving. Both day and residential services are available. They specialise in allowing disabled people to participate in outdoor activities and gain a sense of personal achievement through completing such activities.

Hatfield Outdoor Activity Centre

Old Thorne Road, Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6EQ

Tel: 01302 841572



The centre offers raft building, bushcraft, climbing, kayaking and canoeing activities for day activities and residential. The residential facility is fully accessible and lifts and hoists are available to help wheelchair users into the water. Advanced notice about the need for hoists and other accessibility equipment must be made when booking.

Parson House Outdoor Pursuits Centre

Houndkirk Road, Sheffield, S11 7TW

Tel: 01433 631017

Email: info@parsonhouse.com

www.parsonhouse.com

Set in the heart of the Peak District National Park, on Burbage Moor. Surrounded by breath taking views and beautiful countryside; the ideal place to participate in outdoor activities.

Rock Lea Activity Centre

Peak Activities Ltd., Station Road, Hathersage, S32 1DD

Tel: 01433 650345 www.iain.co.uk

Based in the Peak District National Park, the centre runs and leads events for groups and individuals. Their trained staff can cater for deaf and blind people, and aim to provide accessible outdoor activities for people of all abilities.

Underbank Outdoor Activity Centre

Underbank Reservoir, Oaks Lane, Stocksbridge, Sheffield, S36 4GH

Tel: 01782 722226

www.underbankactivitycentre.co.uk

A range of outdoor pursuits including canoeing, raft-building, abseiling and sailing as well as archery, climbing and orienteering. Whilst no







specialist equipment is provided for wheelchair users, the activity centre is wheelchair accessible and individuals can be supported to take part as much as possible. Phone for advice and more details prior to booking.

<u>Skiing</u>

Disability Snowsport UK

Tel: 01479 861272

Email: admin@disabilitysnowsport.org.uk

www.disabilitysnowsport.org.uk

Disability Snowsport UK gives people with disabilities the chance to learn and master skiing and snowboarding in a safe and supported environment whilst allowing you to experience the joy and freedom of the sport. The club also runs skiing holidays. The nearest local group is:

Contact: Judy Ekins, Xscape Yorkshire, Colorado Way, Glasshoughton, Castleford, WF10 4TA

Tel: 07818 448307 Email: j.m.ekins@open.ac.uk

Water Sports

Manyers Waterfront Boat Club

The Boathouse, Station Road, Wath-upon-Dearne, Rotherham, S63 7DG

Tel: 01709 878984

Email: info@mwbc.org.uk

www.mwbc.org.uk

They offer a wide range of water sport activities with accessible equipment such as access dinghies and kayaks for disabled customers.

Rother Valley Country Park

Mansfield Road, Wales Bar, Sheffield, S26 5PQ

Tel: 0114 247 1452

Email: info@rvcp.co.uk / rvwatersports@gmail.com

www.rvcp.co.uk/WaterSports.aspx

A wide range of accessible water sports are on offer with instructors and courses also available. They have a disabled access sailing boat for those wanting to learn to sail.







Cycling

Cycling Clubs, Contacts & Maps

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

www.barnsley.gov.uk

Check out their website for details regarding cycle lanes and routes around Barnsley, as well as national and regional cycle routes. The council have produced 'Barnsley Cycling Guides' a set of six cycle rides spread across the Barnsley borough.

Bikeability

Email: contactus@bikeability.org.uk

www.bikeability.org.uk

Bikeability is 'cycling proficiency' for the 21st century, giving everyone the skills and confidence for all kinds of cycling. You can search their website to find a Bikeability Cycle Trainer near to you.

British Cycling (Breeze Rides for Women)

www.letsride.co.uk/breeze

British Cycling's Breeze programme organise guided cycle rides for women from 3 to 30 miles. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Cycle Sheffield

Email: info@cyclesheffield.org.uk

www.cyclesheffield.org.uk

This voluntary organisation campaigns for a Sheffield which is safe and enjoyable for people to cycle around. They also provide advice on routes and information on how to get involved in cycling around Sheffield.

Cycle Penistone C.I.C

off St. Mary's Street, Penistone, Sheffield, S36 6DT

Tel: 01226 872310

Email: info@cyclepenistonecic.com

www.cyclepenistonecic.com

A bike shop that offers a good selection of hire bikes including tandems and disability inclusion bikes.

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/transport-streets-parking/cycling

The council's website provides details about local cycling clubs, help and advice for cyclists, information about their cycling strategy as well as interactive and downloadable cycle maps.

National Cycling Centre

Stuart Street, Manchester M11 4DQ

Tel: 0161 223 2244

Email: NCCAdmin@eastlandstrust.org

www.nationalcyclingcentre.com

For the more adventurous, how about trying lapping around the Manchester Velodrome? They run taster sessions, usually on alternate Thursdays, on the back of a track tandem that cater for disabled or visually impaired riders.

Open Country

Community House, 46 East Parade, Harrogate, HG1 5LT

Tel: 01423 507227

Email: info@opencountry.org.uk

www.opencountry.org.uk

 Our Tandem Clubs provide rides for people with visual impairments and learning disabilities, and, together with sighted volunteers, members can enjoy the freedom and excitement of cycling. We have clubs in Harrogate, Ripon, Wakefield, Wetherby and York that run from March to October.







Sandall Beat Community Environment Centre

Sandall Beat Road, Off Leger Way, Doncaster, DN2 6JP

Tel: 01302 300798

Email: countryside.interpretation@doncaster.gov.uk

They hire out a wide range of bikes for people with a disability that can be used to cycle around the various trails through Sandall Beat Wood. There is a small hire fee and bikes must be booked 24 hours in advance.

Sheffield City Council

Email: transport@sheffield.gov.uk

www.sheffield.gov.uk

Maps, suggested rides, information on coaching and local cycling schemes, as well as cycle parking locations can all be found on Sheffield City Council's website.

Sheffield Cycling 4 All

Hillsborough Park, Sheffield, S6 2AS www.sheffieldcycling4all.org

This volunteer-run organisation provides regular, inclusive cycle rides, offering a wide range of accessible bike including side-by-side tandems and wheelchair trikes. There is a small fee for hire, but carers go free. All public sessions take place at Hillsborough Park and are run by a qualified and experienced cycle leader. Private group sessions are also available and the bikes can be transported outside of Hillsborough Park.

South Leeds Stadium (John Charles Centre for Sport)

Middleton Grove, Leeds, LS11 5DJ

Tel: 0113395 0000

Email: jccs@leeds.gov.uk https://active.leeds.gov.uk

The stadium, run by Leeds City Council has a variety of adapted cycles available for use, including hand cycles, quad cycles and wheelchair tandems. There are regular sessions through the week. Bookings can be made through the stadium. At other times, all the bikes can be booked out for private hire. A small charge is made for use of the bikes, but carers come free. A bar area, café and accessible toilets are available.

Sustrans

Tel: 0117 926 8893 (Head Office) / 0113 245 0006 (Yorkshire & Humber)

Email: reception@sustrans.org.uk

www.sustrans.org.uk

Sustrans works on practical projects to encourage more people to walk and cycle. They also produce information on the National Cycle Network



and have many maps and cycle routes available to download or purchase, including:

- Barnsley to Old Moor (Route 62 & 67) 12 mile round trip (available online) from Barnsley Town Centre to RSPB Old Moor Reserve (see Accessible Wildlife Watching - page 50).
- Doncaster Greenway North (Route 62) from Bentley to Doncaster, 9 miles, available online.
- Penistone to Dunford Bridge (Route 62) starting at Penistone Train Station, 6.5 miles each way, available online.
- The Peak District Cycle Map (26) pocket sized map which shows the NCN and local routes around the Peak District, available to purchase.

Tandem Club

Contact: Disabilities Liaison Officer

Tel: 01732 848432

Email: disabilities@tandem-club.org.uk

www.tandem-club.org.uk

Can help with questions relating to disabled and visually impaired tandem riding. The club cannot offer tandems for loan but can advise on groups who do. They produce a bi-monthly talking journal on CD.

Trans Pennine Trail (TPT)

c/o Barnsley Council, PO Box 597, Barnsley, S70 9EW

Tel: 01226 772574 (National Office) Email: info@transpenninetrail.org.uk

www.transpenninetrail.org.uk

A 215 mile coast to coast route between Liverpool and Hull, with extensions to the seaside towns of Southport and Hornsea. Much of the trail has level, surfaced, traffic-free paths. South Yorkshire has a vast number of trails, covered by three maps, which can be ordered from the TPT office or from their website.

Cycling Events

National Bike Week

www.bikeweek.org.uk

Bike Week brings together cyclists for events and a celebration of cycling all around the country. The event usually takes place in June but events still take place through to September and beyond.

Tour de Yorkshire

www.letour.yorkshire.com

A three day European-level cycle race round the towns and lanes of Yorkshire. 'Spectator Hubs' have disabled parking, accessible viewing areas and toilet facilities.



Cycle Routes

The following are the longest, best-surfaced and most enjoyable trafficfree routes that we can find in South Yorkshire. Most of them are fully accessible to wheelchair users.

Most routes are part of the National Cycle Network and can be downloaded in the 'Route Mapping' section of the Sustrans website:

www.sustrans.org.uk

Doncaster Greenway North

Tel: 0117 926 8893 (Head Office) / 0113 245 0006 (Yorkshire & Humber)

Email: reception@sustrans.org.uk

www.sustrans.org.uk/ncn/map/route/doncaster-greenway-north

The Doncaster Greenway is a 9 mile, mostly traffic free route which links the areas of Woodlands and Highfield in the north, to Bessacarr and Rossington in the south of the borough. The North route connects Highfields Country Park and the ancient monument at Castle Hills, as well as linking up with parts of the TPT and other local bridleways. Leaflets are available to print or download from the Sustrans website.

Five Weirs

www.the-rsc.co.uk/the-blue-loop

Blue Badge Parking and accessible toilets are available at Meadowhall Shopping Centre, which is at the beginning of the route; a map is available to download from the website above. The Five Weirs route runs from Meadowhall along the banks of the River Don towards Sheffield City Centre, a distance of around 5 traffic-free miles. The path also connects to the Sheffield and Tinsley canal towpath, the Upper Don Walk and the Trans Pennine Trail.

Howden & Derwent Reservoirs

Fairholmes Car Park, Derwent, Bamford, Sheffield, S33 0AQ







Tel: 01433 651261

Email: derwent.cyclehire@peakdistrict.gov.uk

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting/cycle

The trails around both these reservoirs are great off-road cycling routes. Start and finish at Fairholmes Car Park by the Derwent Cycle Hire Centre,

where there are accessible toilets. An $11\frac{1}{2}$ mile circular route, most of which is on tarmac roads or forest trails. You can hire bikes, mobility scooters and trampers. There is a refreshment kiosk at the visitor centre which provides a great place to rest and refresh afterwards!

Longdendale Trail

Torside Car Park, B6105, Glossop, SK13 1JF





We have included this 6½ mile linear trail as it represents some of the best and most accessible off-road cycling anywhere. The trail takes you along part of the former Great Central Manchester to Sheffield Railway, and offers magnificent panoramic views of the Upper Longdendale Valley. Start at Torside Reservoir car park on the B6105 off the A628. There are accessible toilets here and you can head towards either the historic Woodhead Tunnels or Hadfield Railway Station.

Peak District National Park Trails

Tel: 01629 816 200

Email: customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting/cycle

Less than 10 miles from the centre of Sheffield, the Peak District offers a huge variety of cycle routes with a range of difficulties and lengths. Cycles are available to hire from Ashbourne, Parsley Hay, and Derwent cycle centres. Each centre differs in terms of the available bikes to hire, though there are a wide range of cycles, including adult and children bikes, tandems, tricycles, hand-crank, electric, wheelchair cycles and various mobility scooters. Some 'easy-going' routes, the maps of which are available on their website, include:

- **Carsington Loop** This 8 mile off-road route takes you around Carsington Water with some short up and down sections.
- High Peak Trail Domlow to Cromford. Along an old railway line, this 17.5 mile route connects to the Tissington Trail too.
- **Manifold Trail** Hulme End to Waterhouses. Another disused railway line turned cycle/footpath, though part of the track has traffic. About 9 miles in total.
- **Monsal Trail** Bakewell to Blackwell Mill, Wyedale. A flat, 8.5 mile linear route along a former railway line.
- Thornhill Trail Thornhill Lane to Yorkshire Bridge. This is a short 2 mile route from Thornhill to Ladybowers Reservoir.
- **Tissington Trail** Parsley Hay to Ashbourne. Along the old Ashbourne to Buxton railway line, with links to the High Peak Trail, a 13 mile route.

Rother Valley Country Park

Mansfield Road, Wales Bar, Sheffield, S26 5PQ

Tel: 0114 247 1452 Email: info@rvcp.co.uk

www.rvcp.co.uk



The cycle centre at Rother Valley has a wide range of accessible bikes to hire. The track around the main lake and northern lake is around three miles, and is off-road and accessible, though the park is also connected to the TPT for those who want to venture off north towards Sheffield or Rotherham, or south towards Chesterfield or Poolsbrook Country Park (around 10 miles away). The country park has a small farm, a café, and accessible toilets.

Trans Pennine Trail (TPT)

c/o Barnsley Council, PO Box 597, Barnsley, S70 9EW

Tel: 01226 772574 (National Office) Email: info@transpenninetrail.org.uk

www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/cyclists/traffic-free-cycling/central

There are a number of great routes on the TPT which pass through South Yorkshire, as well as within it. Here are just a few, further information for each can be found on their website or by calling the local authority in the area (see page 6 for contact phone numbers):

- The Dove Valley Trail. From Worsbrough Mill Country Park, the route goes westwards through and out of Stainborough, veering south and around Nabs Wood, past Wentworth Castle and back into Stainborough, finishing at Worsbrough, where there are accessible toilets and a cafe.
- Dunford Bridge to Penistone. Beginning at a car park in Dunford Bridge, the route extends to Wortley 21 miles away, though it can be shortened by returning at Penistone. There are no road crossings, however take care of traffic around Millhouse Green.
- Old Moor to Old Royston or Sprotbrough. The TPT runs near to the RSPB Old Moor Reserve (see page 50), which has accessible bird hides, toilets and a café. To Old Royston it is a 20 mile return journey, but can be shortened by returning at the beginning of the Dove Valley Trail (Aldham Junction) or Stairfoot. To Sprotbrough its a 21 mile return, but can be shortened at Conisbrough.
- Rother Valley to Tapton Lock. Rother Valley Country Park has various accessible bikes to hire, lots of water sports, and wheelchair accessible footpaths around the lakes (see top of page). The Tapton Lock Visitor Centre by Chesterfield Canal (see page 12) is also great in terms of accessibility. The

- route is around 24 miles but can be shortened at various points along the way.
- Sheffield/Rotherham (Tinsley Canal) Starting at either end of the canal, you can cycle along this 8 mile traffic-free towpath and pop into the Magna Science Centre (see page 18) or pick up the Five Weirs route too (see page 35). The route is only short, but is mostly off road.
- **Timberland Trail** An 8½ route for walkers, cyclists and horseriders linking the villages of Elsecar and Wortley. The trail also accesses other paths and bridleways including the Dove Valley and Upper Don trail. Parts are accessible to wheelchair users. Other parts are steep and on-road.
- **The Upper Don Trail** Traffic free from Penistone to Barnsley. Joins up with the Dove Valley Trail. Stop off for a break at either Worsbrough Mill Country Park (page 8) or Wigfield Farm (page 15).



Open Country does not profess to be an authority on fishing; the entries here are just a sample of fishing areas that we know are accessible. Inclusion in this guide may indicate easy access, wheelchair accessible platforms or toilets. We would always advise you to contact the site management before visiting.

Do remember that all fresh water fishing in England requires both a permit from the owner or manager of the water in question and an Environment Agency National Rod Licence. Licenses are available to buy online at www.gov.uk/fishing-licences, at Post Offices and tackle shops, or by ringing 0344 800 5386. You may be eligible for a concessionary licence.

Angling Trust

Tel: 0343 5077 006

Email: admin@anglingtrust.net

www.anglingtrust.net and www.fishinginfo.co.uk

The Angling Trust represents all game, coarse and sea anglers in England. They lobby government, campaign on environmental and angling issues and run national and international competitions. You can search for your nearest fishery or club on their website.

British Disabled Angling Association (BDAA)

Email: info@bdaa.co.uk

www.bdaa.co.uk

The BDAA was founded in 1996 to develop opportunities for disabled people of all ages and abilities to access the activity of fishing in the UK.

Canal & River Trust

Tel: 0303 040 4040 (Customer Services Team) www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/see-and-do/fishing

You can search the Canal & River Trust's online directory, which lists over 6,000 fishing venues nationwide. There is also information about fishing guidelines and a fish species guide.

Environment Agency Flood Information Service

Tel: 0345 988 1188 (24-hour Floodline)

Type talk: 0345 602 6340 (for the hard of hearing)

https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels

For information on levels in your local rivers you can call the number above. Alternatively, you can check the online map using the link above.

Sheffield Disabled Fishing Group

Tel: 0114 265 1752

This group enables its members to participate in fishing trips across the North of England by organising trips to local ponds. The group began in the 1980's and runs around 20 trips each fishing season.

Key:

T Trout fishing

C Coarse fishing

C Bakers Pond

Springfield Road, Swinton, Mexborough, S64 5SN www.ravenfieldponds.co.uk/waters/bakers-pond

Recent works have taken place to improve the site, making it accessible for disabled anglers. Accessible toilet on site.

C Candy Corner Fisheries

Wroot Road, Finningley, Doncaster, DN9 3DZ

Tel: 07769 902731

Email: info@candycornerfisheries.co.uk

www.candycornerfisheries.co.uk

This complex consists of four well stocked lakes and is situated near Wroot, in the outskirts of Doncaster. The best suited pegs for wheelchair users are on the match lake, which is often busy at weekends, so best to call in advance to reserve a spot.

C Campsall Country Park

Churchfield Road, Campsall, Doncaster, DN6 9LN

Tel: 01302 300798 (Sandall Beat Community Environment Centre)

Email: countryside.interpretation@doncaster.gov.uk

www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/culture-leisure-tourism/parks

The track around the lake is suitable for wheelchairs, and offers a disabled platform for anglers, however if parking at the main car park, you have to walk down a steep grassy bank which would be unsuitable for wheelchairs in winter. You can access the lake, avoiding the grass, via Back Lane.

C Damflask Reservoir

Damflask Reservoir, Loxley Road, Low Bradfield, S6 6SQ (nearest postcode)

A large reservoir with many different fish. See page 10 for more information about walks around the reservoir.

C Dearne Valley Park Lake (Hoyle Mill Lake)

Dearne Valley Country Park, 191 Pontefract Road, Barnsley, S71 1HS

Tel: 01226 773136

Email: parksservices@barnsley.gov.uk

www.discoverdearne.org.uk/sites/dearne-valley-park

Easy to miss, this lake has a variety of fish including tench, carp, and roach, and is close to Dearne Valley Country Park for parking. The lake is accessible to wheelchair users.

C Delves Lake

Lakeside Mews, Field Side, Thorne, Doncaster, DN8 4AA

The lake is close to the centre of Thorne on the Selby Road leading towards Snaith on the A614. The lake has a variety of concrete and wooden pegs suitable for disabled anglers. Toilet and café on site.

C Elsecar Reservoir

Off Armroyd Lane, Elsecar Park, Elsecar, Barnsley, S74 8EY

Although the reservoir is managed by Barnsley MBC, the fishing rights belong to the Elsecar Colliery Angling Club. Parking is available at nearby Elsecar Heritage Centre where there are accessible toilets and a café.

C Fleets Dam

Smithies Lane, Barnsley, S71 1NL

Regular match venue with over 70 pegs, some of which are accessible to wheelchair users.

C Highfields Country Park

Great North Road, Woodlands, Doncaster DN6 7RA

Access to the lake is next to the Indian restaurant. The site is run by Doncaster Council and Woodlands Angling Club, and is wheelchair friendly.

C Lewden Spring Fishery

Station Rd, Worsbrough, Barnsley, S70 4SY

Tel: 01226 249174

This fishery is very disabled friendly, as it is completely flat with good hard standing pegs, with room for wheelchair access as well as an accessible toilet.

C Milton Pond

157 Milton Rd, Hoyland, Barnsley S74 9BG (nearby pub car park) Set just off the roadside, there are two separate ponds, both suitable for wheelchair users.

C Mitchell & Darfield Pond (Pit Pond)

Bradberry Balk Lane, Wombwell, Barnsley S73 8HR (nearest postcode) Renowned for its tench fishing, the pond has over 25 pegs, and is suitable for wheelchair users.

C Nethermill Fishery

Barnsley Road (A628), Penistone, Sheffield, S36 8AD

Tel: 07770 670042

www.nethermillfishery.weebly.com

Good access for disabled anglers, as parking is very near to the lake. Toilets on site.

C Ravenfield Ponds

Phoenix Sports and Recreation, Brinsworth Pavilion, Bawtry Road, Brinsworth, S60 5PA (Ravenfield Ponds Angling Club)

Tel: 01709 363 788

www.ravenfieldponds.co.uk

This fishery is part of Ravenfield Park, situated in a secluded valley near to Old Ravenfield near Rotherham. There are currently 6 fishing lakes, with several car parks (some very close to the bank for increased accessibility) and vehicle access is by key only, making it very safe car parking. Check out their website for more information about each pond.

C Rother Valley Country Park

Mansfield Road, Wales Bar, Sheffield, S26 5PQ

Tel: 0114 247 1452 Email: info@rvcp.co.uk

www.rvcp.co.uk

Lots of things to do as well as fishing here. Both lakes are available for angling, as well as the banks of the River Rother, with accessible pegs for wheelchair users. Accessible toilets and café on site.

Thrybergh Country Park

Doncaster Road, Thrybergh, Rotherham, S65 4NU

Tel: 01709 850353

Email: thrybergh.countrypark@rotherham.gov.uk

The Country Park lies between the villages of Thrybergh and Hooton on the A630. Accessible toilets and parking facilities available, as well as some wheelchair accessible fishing platforms.

C Thurnscoe Reservoir

Thurnscoe Reservoir, Lidget Lane, Thurnscoe, Rotherham, S63 0DQ Fairly small lake with lots of pegs including a few which would be suitable for disabled anglers.

C Tin Mill Dam

Soughley Lane, near Deepcar, S35 7DL (nearest postcode)

Tel: 0114 2883728 www.tinmilldam.co.uk

Just off the A616 Stocksbridge Bypass, this stretch of the River Rother and the ponds make up Tin Mill Dam, with numerous pegs including some suitable for disabled anglers. Parking is available close to the ponds.

C Tyram Fisheries

Bawtry Road, Hatfield, Woodhouse, Doncaster, DN7 6DR www.tyramfisheries.co.uk

Three lakes with plenty of angling pegs for everyone. There is also a cafe and accessible toilet on site.

C Ulley Country Park

Pleasely Road, Aughton, Sheffield, S26 3XL. Tel: 01709 850353 (Thrybergh Country Park) Email: ulley.countrypark@rotherham.gov.uk

Ulley Country Park has two wheelchair accessible platforms for anglers, located just a short way from the main car park. The car park has Blue Badge parking, and there is a wheelchair accessible toilet at the visitor centre.

C Woodhouse Grange Fishery

Hatfield, Doncaster, DN7 6DU

Tel: 07936 647 588

www.woodhousegrangefisheries.co.uk

This family run fishery has 6 fishing lakes to choose from, with parking available behind most pegs, and a café on site for refreshments. A number of pegs are suitable for wheelchair users and there is an accessible toilet in the cafe.

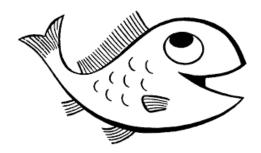
C Worsbrough Mill Country Park

Worsbrough Mill, Worsbrough Bridge, Barnsley, S70 5LJ

Tel: 01226 774527

Email: worsbroughmill@barnsley.gov.uk www.worsbrough-mill.com/country-park

The northern length of the reservoir has a number of wheelchair accessible platforms available, with accessible toilets and a café nearby.



Horse Riding

Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA)

Tel: 01926 492915 Email: info@rda.org.uk

www.rda.org.uk

The Association provides disabled people of all ages with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage ride for the general benefit of their health and well-being. There are several centres in South Yorkshire offering riding for disabled sessions. Contact the groups below or get in touch with the South Yorkshire County Chairman for further information on 01723 891965.

Barnsley Group

Tel: 01226 241478.

Email: info@rdabarnsley.com

Dial Wood Carriage Driving Group

Tel: 01924 849368. www.dialwood.btck.co.uk

High Hopes Group

Tel: 07900534512

Email: highhopesrda@hotmail.com

Rossington Hall

Tel: 07500 748 704

Email: rdarossington@gmail.com

www.rdarossington.co.uk

Sheffield Group

Tel: 01246 413211

Horse Racing

Doncaster Race Course

The Grandstand, Leger Way, Doncaster, DN2 6BB

Tel: 01302 304200

Email: info@doncaster-racecourse.co.uk

www.doncaster-racecourse.co.uk

The only racecourse in South Yorkshire, it has an accessible bar, restaurant and toilets with a disabled stand position by the winning post. Only trained assistance dogs allowed.





Wildlife & Conservation

3. Wildlife & Conservation

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Wildlife Clubs & Organisations

Barnsley Biodiversity Trust

Email: barnsleybiodiversitytrust@gmail.com

www.barnsleybiodiversity.org.uk

An organisation which aims to inform people about the landscapes, habitat and wildlife found in Barnsley, as well as what we should be doing to help conserve them.

British Trust for Ornithology (BTO)

Tel: 01842 750050 Email: info@bto.org

www.bto.org

The BTO have a broad range of surveys for volunteers to participate in, including the 'Garden BirdWatch' and 'Garden Nesting Survey'. The surveys are fun and a great way to help wildlife from your home.

Butterfly Conservation

Tel: 01929 400209 Email: info@butterflyconservation.org

www.butterfly-conservation.org

A national charity devoted to saving butterflies, moths and their habitats throughout the UK. You can take part in the annual Big Butterfly Count in your garden or local area.



RSPB

Tel: 0300 777 2676 (North of England Regional Office)

www.rspb.org.uk

A national charity working to secure a healthy environment for birds and other wildlife. You can help out the wildlife in your garden by taking part in the annual 'Big Garden Birdwatch'; the world's largest wildlife survey. Their website also has advice for disabled bird watchers. There are several groups in South Yorkshire see www.rspb.org.uk/localgroups:

• Doncaster Local Group

Contact: Steve Pynegar Tel: 01302 834443

Email: groupleader@rspbdoncaster.com

www.rspbdoncaster.com

The group's aim is to support the work of the RSPB in the local community and to involve RSPB members and the wider public in the Society's conservation, public affairs, education, fundraising and

Wildlife Clubs & Organisations

other activities. Regular monthly indoor meetings plus occasional day trips to local nature reserves.

Sheffield Local Group

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/sheffield

They aim to introduce new members to RSPB and raise money to help local nature reserves. Weekly indoor meetings all year round apart from June to August, plus occasional day trips to reserves.

Sheffield Bird Study Group

Email: secretary@sbsg.org

www.sbsg.org

The group promotes an interest in birds in the community, providing something of interest to all levels of birder. They organise field trips as well as indoor meetings with guest speakers.

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust

Tel: 0114 263 4335 www.wildsheffield.com

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust aims to promote the conservation, protection, and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Sheffield and Rotherham, as well as to advance education in environmental matters, so that the public becomes more aware of how the environment can be better conserved and improved.

The Sorby Natural History Society

www.sorby.org.uk

SORBY has many events, publications, news and information about local wildlife and conservation. The Society covers a full range of natural history interests in Sheffield and the surrounding area, including bats, invertebrates, mammals and much more.

South Yorkshire Badger Group

Email: admin@syorksbadgergroup.org.uk www.syorksbadgergroup.org.uk

The SYBG aims to protect the badger and its environment throughout South Yorkshire by providing shelter, building natural and artificial setts, and producing quarterly newsletters about what the group is up to.



Wildlife Clubs & Organisations

South Yorkshire Bat Group

Email: sybatgroup@googlemail.com www.sites.google.com/site/sybatgroup

The group holds regular indoor meetings, with talks by bat experts. There are also practical events such as bat box making, conservation work, surveys and bat walks. They can provide advice and information about bats and also care for sick and injured bats.

Yorkshire Mammal Group

Email: secretary@yorkshiremammalgroup.org.uk www.yorkshiremammalgroup.org.uk

Affiliated to the Mammal Society, they take part in all sorts of field and conservation work parties, including surveys. Meetings are held regularly through the winter months with a wide range of guest speakers.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust & Wildlife Watch

Tel: 01904 659570 Email: info@ywt.org.uk

www.ywt.org.uk

The YWT's aim is to conserve and promote the diversity of Yorkshire's wildlife and habitats, for the benefit and well being of both wildlife and people. Their staff and volunteers are dedicated to nature reserve work, environmental education, conservation, advice and much more.

 Regional Office: Potteric Carr Nature Reserve Mallard Way, Doncaster, DN4 8DB Tel: 01302 325736



Wildlife watching is an enjoyable and peaceful past time where you can develop your skills in your own time. Below are some of the best accessible sites in which you can enjoy, watch and study wildlife and nature.

This picture denotes an accessible bird hide is on site:

Centenary Riverside

Contact: Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust

Riverside Way, off the A6178, Rotherham, S60 1DS

Tel: 0114 263 4335 www.wildsheffield.com

A 4.5 hectare wetland reserve alongside the River Don in Rotherham. The site has a wildflower meadow bank and a series of ponds and wetlands that attract a huge variety of birds, mammals and insects. The reserve is sometimes closed during periods of wet weather as it is a flood plain. A surfaced path allows wheelchair access across the top flood defence bank and a slope (1:10) takes you down to a boardwalk that crosses the pond. A narrow 'A' frame barrier at the entrance to the reserve might present a problem for larger motorised scooters. Car parking is on Riverside Way and toilet facilities are at the nearby Clifton Park (see *Outings* – page 18).

Ecclesall Woods and Discovery Centre

Contact: Sheffield City Council Abbey Lane, Sheffield, S7 2QZ

Tel: 0114 235 6348

Email: woodland.discovery@sheffield.gov.uk

www.sheffield.gov.uk/discoverycentre

Located between Ecclesall Road South and Abbeydale Road South is the largest, semi-natural woodland in South Yorkshire. There is an 'Easy Going Trail' in the woods across the road from the Discovery Centre. The centre runs public events in spring and autumn and craft courses throughout the year. Car parking is available off Limb Lane, with accessible parking next to the Discovery Centre off Abbey Lane.

Melton Wood

Sheep Lane, Doncaster, DN5 7ED Grid ref: SE 517032

Tel: 01302 300798 (Sandall Beat Community Environment Centre)

Email: countryside.interpretation@doncaster.gov.uk

www.doncaster.gov.uk

A lovely 100-hectare ancient semi-natural woodland. There is an 'All Ability Path' starting from the car park (off Sheep Lane), though the paths are unsurfaced and some tree roots are present, but some access should be possible for wheelchair users during the drier months. Cusworth Hall is nearby for accessible toilets and other facilities (see *Outings* - page 17).





Old Moor - Dearne Valley RSPB

Old Moor Lane, Wombwell, Barnsley, S73 0YF

Tel: 01226 751593

Email: old.moor@rspb.org.uk www.rspb.org.uk/reserves



The reserve has a wide variety of wetland habitats with accompanying bird, plants and animal life. During the winter it is an important stopping off point for ducks, geese and swans plus 8,000 golden plovers! Most paths are hard-surfaced and on a flat level. All hides and screens are wheelchair accessible. Electric scooters and manual wheelchairs are available to hire from the visitor centre. There is a café on the first floor, accessed via the lift and plenty of picnic tables in the courtyard and on the reserve to eat your sandwiches! Admission charge, carers free.

Potteric Carr Nature Reserve

Contact: Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Mallard Way, Doncaster, DN4 8DB

Tel: 01302 325736

Email: potteric.carr@ywt.org.uk www.ywt.org.uk/potteric-carr



Potteric Carr has much to offer the avid bird watcher with around 70 breeding bird species, as well as an array of interesting flowers, plants and insects. The visitor centre, café and shop are fully accessible. Most of the paths are well surfaced and suitable for wheelchairs, as are most of the bird hides. Admission charge, carers free.

Salmon Pastures Local Nature Reserve

Contact: Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust

Tel: 0114 263 4335 www.wildsheffield.com

A small urban reserve by the River Don managed by Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust. It is a great place to watch butterflies in the summer months and you might be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of a kingfisher on the river. The reserve can be accessed from either end of Warren Street, off Attercliffe Road, or on foot via the 'Five Weirs Walk', (see *Easy Going Walks* - page 11.) Paths are wheelchair accessible.

Sandall Beat Wood

Contact: Doncaster Council

Sandall Beat Community Environment Centre,

Sandall Beat Road, Off Leger Way, Doncaster, DN2 6JP

Tel: 01302 300798

Email: countryside.interpretation@doncaster.gov.uk

www.doncaster.gov.uk/countryside





The area has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) because of the wood's rare insects. Some of the trails provide a hard level surface which is suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs, though areas may get muddy in wet weather. Next to the Environment Centre there is a sensory garden, adapted bike hire and accessible toilets (RADAR key required).



Sprotbrough Flash

Nursery Lane, Doncaster, DN5 7NB

Tel: 01904 659570 www.ywt.org.uk

Sprotbrough Flash is located alongside the River Don and offers a mixed site with ancient woodland, a large lake and small area of grassland. The lake is home to a variety of wetland birds such as reed and sedge warblers, reed buntings and if you are lucky, you could catch a glimpse of the elusive bittern! The level, tarmac towpath along the River Don is suitable for wheelchair users. There are two accessible hides and a viewing screen overlooking the wetland areas. Public car parking is available on Nursery Lane, close to the reserve; a short walk along the towpath. There is an accessible toilet at the nearby Boat Inn pub, for use by customers.

Notable Others...

Outside South Yorkshire, these RSPB reserves have been included as they offer some of the finest and most accessible bird watching sites in the country. See the RSPB website for more information and full Accessibility Statements: www.rspb.org.uk

Bempton Cliffs

Cliff Lane, Bempton, YO15 1JF

Tel: 01262 422212

Email: bempton.cliffs@rspb.org.uk

This sea cliff bird reserve is home to one of the UK's top wildlife spectacles; 200,000 seabirds gather here between April and July to raise a family on towering chalk cliffs, including gannets, guillemots, razorbills and puffins. Three cliff edge viewpoints are accessed via a hard-surfaced path and have wheelchair bays. Information centre, tea room, picnic area and accessible toilets on site. Tramper mobility scooters and manual wheelchairs are available to borrow; donations are appreciated, best to book in advance. Admission charge, carers free.

Blacktoft Sands

Ousefleet, Nr Goole DN14 8HR

Tel: 01405 704665

Email: blacktoft.sands@rspb.org.uk

A reserve of tidal reed beds and salt marsh, home to lots of specialised birdlife, such as bearded tit, bittern and marsh harrier. Good level paths, six accessible hides and a small visitor centre with hot drinks and snacks for sale. An accessible toilet is available in the main toilet block near the car park. Manual wheelchair available to hire for free. Admission charge, carers free.

Fairburn Ings

Newton Lane, Castleford, WF10 2BH

Tel: 01977 628191

Email: fairburn.ings@rspb.org.uk





600 acres of wetland close to the A1. The reserve has several accessible

Volunteering

4. Volunteering

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Volunteering Advice & Contacts

There are always lots of opportunities to get involved in your local countryside through volunteering for a conservation or community group. Try the following places and contacts to find out about local groups and projects in your area.

Websites

Two websites worth a look at for volunteering information and opportunities:

• 'Do It!'
www.do-it.org

 The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) www.ncvo.org.uk/ncvo-volunteering

Volunteer Centres

Your local Volunteer Centre will have someone on hand to discuss your interests and abilities and help you make the right choices about where and how you would like to volunteer. The centres have up to date contact information about small and local groups as well as national charities.

Volunteer Action Barnsley

Priory Campus, Pontefract Road, Lundwood, Barnsley, S71 5PN

Tel: 01226 320100

Email: info@vabarnsley.org.uk

www.vabarnsley.org.uk

Volunteer Action Rotherham

The Spectrum, Coke Hill, Rotherham, S60 2HX

Tel: 01709 834464

Email: volunteering@varotherham.org.uk

www.varotherham.org.uk

Volunteer Action Sheffield

The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, S1 4FW

Tel: 0114 253 6649 Email: info@vas.org.uk

www.sheffieldvolunteercentre.org.uk

Volunteering In The Countryside

Barnsley Council Parks Service

Barnsley Council, PO Box 634, Barnsley, S70 9GG

Tel: 01226 773136

www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/parks-and-open-spaces/countryside-

rangers

You can volunteer with Barnsley council as a countryside ranger, working on a variety of sites, from nature reserves to disused railways. Examples of work include litter-picking, scrub removal, and public engagement.

Doncaster Council

Tel: 01302 300798

Email: countryside.interpretation@doncaster.gov.uk

www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/culture-leisure-tourism/about-

countryside-activities

Conservation groups include Friends of Sandall Beat and Don Gorge Conservation Volunteers.

Groundwork

www.groundwork.org.uk

A charity that helps people and organisations make changes in order to create better neighbourhoods, to build skills and job prospects, and to live and work in a greener way. Contact them for details of volunteer opportunities:

Barnsley Office

Unit 5, Oakwell Business Centre, Oakwell View, Barnsley,

S71 1HX

Tel: 01226 740077

Email: southyorkshire@groundwork.org.uk

Sheffield Office

The Nursery, Siemens Close, Tinsley, Sheffield, S9 1UN

Tel: 0114 263 6420

Email: southyorkshire@groundwork.org.uk

National Trust

Tel: 01904 702021 (Yorkshire Regional Office) Email: yne.customerenquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/volunteer

The National Trust has many voluntary roles including gardening, leading walks, holiday assistance, wardening, information stewards, and conservation tasks. You can search for opportunities near to you on their website. Longshaw Estate (8 miles from Sheffield) hold regular 'Muck-In Days' where rangers, visitors, volunteers and staff get together to tackle important conservation tasks, such as repairing walls, Himalayan Balsam

Volunteering In The Countryside

pulling and seed collecting and planting. Give them a call on 01433 631757 for further information.

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

Tel: 0300 7772 676

www.rspb.org.uk/joinandhelp/volunteering

The RSPB offer a range of volunteering roles which can be tailored to your skills, interests and circumstances. You can search online for opportunities in South Yorkshire or contact:

Dearne Valley – Old Moor

Tel: 01226 751593

Email: old.moor@rspb.org.uk

Sheffield City Council

Contact: Parks and Countryside Service

Tel: 0114 250 0500

Email: parksandcountryside@sheffield.gov.uk

You can help look after Sheffield's green spaces through a variety of tasks, such as woodland maintenance, horticulture and ecological surveys. Contact the Rangers on the number above for more details and to book a place on their weekly tasks.

Sheffield Conservation Volunteers

www.sheffieldconservation.org

Enables all members of the community to get involved in practical conservation projects. Currently meets on Sundays.

The Conservation Volunteers (formerly BTCV)

Bessemer House, 59 Carlisle Street East, Sheffield, S4 7QN

Tel: 0114 290 1255

www.tcv.org.uk/yorkshire/tcv-south-yorkshire

TCV is Britain's largest environmental organisation involving the public in practical nature conservation work. Transport, training and refreshments are provided. There are volunteering opportunities in Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

Potteric Carr Nature Reserve, Mallard Way, Doncaster, DN4 8DB

Tel: 01302 325736

Email: volunteering@ywt.org.uk

www.ywt.org.uk

The Trust currently manages 12 reserves in South Yorkshire and work to improve a variety of habitats from moorlands to urban parks, often in

Volunteering In The Countryside

collaboration with other groups and organisations. They have regular volunteer days at their reserves and welcome people of all abilities. They also offer voluntary traineeships which range from 6 to 12 months and are perfect for picking up skills for a future career in conservation. For current opportunities you can contact the South Yorkshire regional office above, or you can get in touch with:

• Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust

37 Stafford Road, Sheffield, S2 2SF

Tel: 0114 263 4335

Email: volunteering@wildsheffield.com

www.wildsheffield.com



Countryside Employment

As well as paid employment, many environmental organisations take on volunteers on formal work experience schemes that are advertised alongside job adverts. We recommend the following:

Countryside Jobs Service (CJS)

Tel: 01947 896007

Email: ranger@countryside-jobs.com

www.countryside-jobs.com

The CJS brings together available countryside jobs, both paid and voluntary, from a wide range of sources and organisations. Jobs are advertised on their website and include countryside apprenticeships and traineeships.

Environment Job

Tel: 01392 491578

Email: admin@environmentjob.co.uk

www.environmentjob.co.uk

Web based information about both paid and voluntary job opportunities as

well as courses and events.

Environment Jobs

Tel: 01268 450024

Email: jobs@environmentjobs.co.uk

www.environmentjobs.co.uk

Includes job and voluntary vacancies from environmental journals and

papers worldwide. Also details student placements.

The Guardian Newspaper

https://jobs.theguardian.com/jobs/environment

Find details of environmental and conservation jobs online or in the

printed newspaper.

Useful Information

5. Useful Information

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Community & Public Transport

Community Transport

Community Transport services in South Yorkshire provide transport services to people who do not have easy access to other forms of transport, including the elderly, those with disabilities, people with special needs, or people living in remote communities with little or no public transport. Most require the service user to register for free in advance.

Barnsley Dial-a-Ride & Community Transport

Tel: 01226 732096

Email: dispatch@barnsleydialaride.co.uk

Dial a Ride services use fully accessible vehicles which are able to take you to and from your home, making your travel experience as easy as possible. They must be pre-booked before travel, as demand is high.

Doncaster Community Transport (Leger Bus)

Tel: 01302 360600 / 01302 342400

Provide Dial-a-Ride, Shopper Bus, Group Travel and Community Car Scheme services. Timetables and prices can be found through Travel South Yorkshire.

North Doncaster Development Trust

Tel: 01302 874587

Email: transport@northdoncaster.org.uk

www.northdoncaster.org.uk/community-transport

Provides affordable and accessible vehicles for hire, and is available to community groups and individuals in Doncaster. To register, an application form must be completed and sent to their offices in advance.

Sheffield Community Transport

Tel: 0114 276 6148 (General); 0114 285 9906 (Booking)

Email: reception@sheffieldct.co.uk

www.sheffieldct.co.uk

Offering a wide range of door-to-door services including Shopper Bus, City Ride, Community Car Scheme and Mobility for Leisure, all of which help to give people who struggle to use public transport the ability to travel in comfort. Requires registering in advance first.

Rotherham Community Transport (Door 2 Door)

Tel: 01709 516902 (General); 01709 517100 (Booking)

Email: bookings@rotherhamct.org.uk

www.door2door.org.uk

Community & Public Transport

Provide transport for the Rotherham community, enabling people to live as independently as possible and access education, health care and employment. Includes Dial-a-Ride, Shopper Bus, Group Travel, Community Car Scheme, and Transport for Social Care services.

Public Transport

Disabled Person's Pass

The Disabled Person's Pass entitles disabled people to free off-peak travel on buses across England (plus additional concessions in South Yorkshire) through the English National Concession Travel Scheme (ENCTS). To find out whether or not you meet the criteria necessary, and to register and apply for a pass, see: www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/disabled or contact your local authorities team below:

Barnsley: 01226 775656Doncaster: 01302 735336Rotherham: 01709 382121

• Sheffield: 0114 2734567 (Option 5)

Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee

Email: dptac.enquiries@dft.gsi.gov.uk www.gov.uk

DPTAC advises the government on transport legislation, regulations and guidance and on the transport needs of disabled people, ensuring they have the same access to transport as everyone else. DPTAC is an advisory non-departmental public body of the Department for Transport.

East Midlands Trains

Tel: 08000 113323 (Booking assistance) www.eastmidlandstrains.co.uk

The Assisted Travel Advisors are highly-trained to make sure that they can help you to plan all aspects of your journey and tailor to your individual needs. The team are available 24 hours day, 7 days a week.

London North Eastern Railway

Contact: Assisted Travel Team

Tel: 03457 225 225 / Text Relay Service: 18001 03457 225 225

www.lner.co.uk

Contact the Assisted Travel Team if you have restricted mobility or access needs. They can help you plan your journey, give information about accessibility at stations and assist you when you arrive at the station and at your destination. It helps if you give them as much notice as possible before you travel.

Community & Public Transport

National Express Coaches

Contact: Assisted Travel Helpline

Tel: 0371 781 8181 Textphone/Minicom: 0121 622 2717

Email: DPTH@nationalexpress.com

www.nationalexpress.com

They can give journey details, take reservations, sell tickets, agree the level of assistance required at each stage of your journey and advise on what can be provided. Information in other formats including large print can be provided.

National Rail Enquiries

Tel: 03457 484950 (lines open 24 hours except Christmas Day)
National Freephone Passenger Assist Number: 0800 022 3720 /
0845 60 50 600 textphone/minicom

www.nationalrail.co.uk/stations_destinations/disabled_passengers.aspx

Provides information on rail travel including routes, departure times and costs, as well as information for disabled passengers on travel assistance, discounts, accessible stations and train facilities. It is advised that you book your assistance 24 hours in advance.

Northern Rail

Tel: 0800 138 5560

www.northernrailway.co.uk

Older and disabled people can arrange assistance at stations and reserve wheelchair spaces. Northern Rail have joined Blue Assist; a system set up to help people who have difficulty communicating.

Travel South Yorkshire

Customer Liaison Team, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, 11 Broad Street West, Sheffield, S1 2BQ

Tel: 01709 515151 (Traveline) www.travelsouthyorkshire.com

Provides travel assistance and public transport information across South Yorkshire, including bus, tram, train, park & ride sites, walking and cycling. This includes travel advice for public transport, ticket and pass information, journey planning, live departure times, and any latest news or changes to transport services across the county. Their Traveline phone service is open 8am to 8pm, almost every day of the year, to help provide information and answers to public transport questions.

Their transport accessibility section of their website is particularly good for directing you to the appropriate contact and stating the wide range of services available for disabled people in South Yorkshire:

www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/transportaccessibility

RADAR, Blue Badge & Wheelchair Hire

Disability Rights UK

Tel: 020 7250 8181

Email: enquiries@disabilityrightsuk.org

www.disabilityrightsuk.org

Disability Rights UK works to create a society where everyone with lived experience of disability or health conditions can participate equally as full citizens. Disability Rights UK is led, run and controlled by disabled people, who make up at least three-quarters of its board members.



The RADAR National Key Scheme (NKS) ensures that one key will open wheelchair accessible toilets throughout the country. RADAR padlocks are also increasingly used on many nature reserves and cycle paths. Keys are available directly from Disability Rights UK. You can no longer buy the NSK Guide as a book, but you can request regional lists of RADAR toilets when you purchase a key.

Blue Badge Scheme

www.gov.uk/apply-blue-badge

The Blue Badge scheme is for people with severe mobility problems. It allows Blue Badge holders to park close to where they need to go. The scheme operates throughout the UK and is managed by local authorities, who deal with applications and issue Blue Badges.

Blue Badge holders may:

- Park as long as they wish in a disc parking zone provided that the Blue Badge is displayed.
- Park on a single or double yellow line for up to three hours provided that the Blue Badge and time disc is displayed and the vehicle causes no obstruction.
- Always check individual car parks to see if you are required to pay or not as practice differs widely.

Wheelchair Hire

Many of the places in this Directory have wheelchairs and scooters available for loan, either free or relatively cheaply. For other outlets ring your local Tourist Information Centre (see page 66), or try Shopmobility Sheffield, Tel: 0114 281 2278.

Publications

Countryside Directories

Contact: Open Country Tel: 01423 507227

Email: info@opencountry.org.uk

www.opencountry.org.uk

At Open Country we know just how difficult it is for people with disabilities and their carers to obtain information. Whether it's places to go, things to do, or clubs to join, countryside directories such as this one can help. We have online directories available to download for free from our website, covering West Yorkshire, East Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Teesside, Lancashire and County Durham.



English Heritage Access Guide

Tel: 0370 333 1181

Email: customers@english-heritage.org.uk

www.english-heritage.org.uk

English Heritage have a limited number of printed copies of their Access Guide which has information about the facilities and support that are available at the main sites for disabled people, older people and families of different ages. If you require an alternative accessible version of this document (for instance in audio, Braille or large print) contact the Customer Services Department (details above). Detailed access information about individual sites is also available on their website.

National Trust: Information for Visitors with Disabilities

Tel: 0344 800 1895 (local call rates apply) Email: enquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk

www.nationaltrust.org.uk

The National Trust publishes regularly updated booklets containing useful information about access and amenities at the National Trust properties in each region. The series of booklets covers all of England and Wales and can be downloaded from their website.

Tourist Information

Barnsley

Tel: 01226 787888

Email: info@visit-barnsley.com

www.visit-barnsley.com

Doncaster

1 Priory Place, Doncaster, DN1 1BN

Tel: 01302 734309

Email: tourist.information@doncaster.gov.uk

www.visitdoncaster.com

Peak District National Park

The visitor centres below provide a wide range of leaflets and maps to help you explore the Peak District:

Bakewell

Old Market Hall, Bridge Street, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1DS.

Tel: 01629 816558

Email: bakewell@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Castleton

Buxton Road, Castleton, Hope Valley, S33 8WN

Tel: 01433 620679

Email: castleton@peakdistrict.gov.uk

• Edale (The Moorland Centre)

Fieldhead, Edale, Hope Valley, S33 7ZA

Tel: 01433 670207

Email: edale@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Upper Derwent

Fairholmes, Bamford, Hope Valley, S33 0AQ

Tel: 01433 650953

Email: derwentinfo@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Rotherham

26 High Street, Rotherham, S60 1PP

Tel: 01709 835904

Email: tic@rotherham.gov.uk www.visitrotherham.com

Sheffield

www.welcometosheffield.co.uk

The Countryside Code

For anyone visiting the countryside it is well worth remembering the Countryside Code:

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

By following these basic guidelines, the countryside stays open to everyone whilst helping the people, animals and wildlife who live there. For more information visit www.naturalengland.org.uk

Cycling and Horse Riding

Cyclists and horse riders should be familiar with the Highway Code if they intend to use public roads:

- Always give way to walkers
- Cyclists should give way to horse riders on bridleways
- Give adequate warning of your approach
- Always ride in control and wear a helmet
- Be extra careful when approaching bends and path junctions
- Ensure that your bike is safe to ride

For more information visit www.gov.uk/rules-for-cyclists-59-to-82

The Funders & Authors

The Funders

This project received funding from the European Social Fund. We thank them for their support in our project and for enabling us to share this information with others so that many more people may be able to enjoy the great outdoors as much as we do.

The Authors

We researched and revised this directory with the help of six Open Country members: Janet, David, Lisa, Mel, Jane & Richard. We are very grateful for all their hard work in compiling this extremely valuable directory and we hope that it will be of use to many more people! Thanks also to our volunteer, Phil Noonan who helped with the research.



The authors of this Directory have made every effort to ensure that the information included was right at the time of going to print. However, we cannot accept any responsibility for any errors or omissions, or any loss or damage arising from the use of this information. We advise Directory users to ensure the suitability of all services described for their individual needs.

The Funders & Authors

Open Country

Open Country was set up in 1990 to enable anyone with any disability to access and enjoy the countryside. In 2006 we were presented with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, followed by the Duke of York's Community Initiative in 2008 and again in 2014.

We lead a wide variety of countryside activities including, hiking, wheelchair accessible walks, cycling, conservation projects, nature study and outdoor pursuits. In addition, we are able to offer high quality information, training and advice to organisations wanting to provide better access to their countryside sites and events, as well as individuals and their families wishing to access the countryside independently.

The Open Country staff have joined the project from a countryside background of work and personal interest. This Directory is just one of the ways that we try to let people know about what is available to them and how they can get involved.

There are also directories available for East Yorkshire, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, County Durham, Lancashire and Teesside. They can be downloaded from: www.opencountry.org.uk

Our directories are free but we always welcome donations. You can donate online via Virgin Money Giving: www.virginmoneygiving.com or by phone: text OCAP37 specifying the amount you would like to donate to 70070. Thank you very much.









We hope to be able to update this Directory in the future. If you have any comments or suggestions please contact us at:

Open Country

Community House
46 East Parade
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG1 5LT

Tel: 01423 507227

Email: info@opencountry.org.uk

www.opencountry.org.uk



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