



## YORKSHIRE DIRECTORY OF BLUESPACE VENUES (including Open Water Swimming)

Open Country's 'Bluespace project' identified the need for a database about accessible bluespaces because, although each bluespace and water-based activity organisation usually have their own website, information about accessibility on these websites is often difficult to find. Here is an initial list of some bluespace venues across Yorkshire. The list is currently short, however it does present an early snapshot of bluespaces which are hopefully accessible for disabled people. The list includes lidos, beaches, swimming pools and lakes in Yorkshire, as well as some of the organisations that participated in our research project.

AccessAble provides information about wheelchair-friendly venues or disabled access and facilities at over 10,000 venues across the UK and Ireland. This includes places such as shops, pubs, restaurants, and cinemas, but also swimming pools: [www.accessable.co.uk](http://www.accessable.co.uk)

Interested in wild swimming? [openwaterleeds.com](http://openwaterleeds.com) is a great guide to open water swimming around Leeds and further afield. It also has useful safety information for you to consider before attempting open water swimming.

We will seek to expand and develop this webpage over time. In the meantime, we hope you will find it useful. Remember to check carefully that all bluespaces are suitable for your own needs and capabilities.



## **EAST YORKSHIRE VENUES**

### **Bridlington South Beach**

62 South Marine Drive, Bridlington, YO15 3JW.

Tel: 01262 678255

Email: [healthandwellbeing@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:healthandwellbeing@eastriding.gov.uk)

[www.eastridingcoastandcountryside.co.uk](http://www.eastridingcoastandcountryside.co.uk)

The South Beach of Bridlington generally has good access with Blue Badge parking on the north ramp down to the Spa, a Changing Places toilet and ramps down to the beach. You can hire beach wheelchairs, a couple of which float in the sea.

### **Welton Waters Adventure Centre**

Common Lane, Welton, Brough, East Yorkshire, HU15 1PT

Tel: 01482 668277

Email: [info@wwac.org.uk](mailto:info@wwac.org.uk)

[www.wwac.org.uk](http://www.wwac.org.uk)

Situated by the Humber, the centre offers a variety of bluespace activities including, canoeing, dinghy sailing, kayaking, open water swimming, powerboating, raft building, sculling, rowing and wind surfing. There is sloped access to the water and accessible changing and toilet facilities.

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE VENUES**

### **Allerthorpe Lake & Park**

Melbourne Road, Allerthorpe, Pocklington, York, YO42 4RL

Tel: 01759 301444

Email: [info@allerthorpelakeandpark.co.uk](mailto:info@allerthorpelakeandpark.co.uk)

<https://allerthorpelakelandpark.co.uk/watersports/>

A variety of watersports including paddleboarding, open water swimming, kayaking, pedalos, Canadian canoeing and catamarans. There is also an inflatable aquapark. Advance tickets to be bought online.

### **Alpamare, Scarborough**

North Bay, 28 Burniston Road, Scarborough, North Yorks, YO12 6PH.

Tel: 01723 339859

Email: [reception@alpamare.co.uk](mailto:reception@alpamare.co.uk)

<https://alpamare.co.uk/>

The waterpark has accessible toilets and changing facilities and lockers, step free access to the pool side and a mobile hoist that can give wheelchair users access to the Infinity Pool and the Wave Pool.

### **Calmwater Bay, Knaresborough**

Farnham Quarry, Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough, HG5 0LZ

Email: [team@accessadventures.co.uk](mailto:team@accessadventures.co.uk)

[www.accessadventures.co.uk](http://www.accessadventures.co.uk)

Access Adventures organise adaptive water sport sessions in conjunction with Calmwater Bay Waterski and Wakeboard Club.



### **North Yorkshire Water Park, Scarborough**

Long Causeway Road, Wykeham, Scarborough, YO13 9QU

Email: [info@northyorkshirewaterpark.co.uk](mailto:info@northyorkshirewaterpark.co.uk)

<https://www.northyorkshirewaterpark.co.uk/>

A large area with four lakes where the public has access during opening hours. Two lakes have concrete slipway access to the water, where a gravel bed slopes off into the water to a depth of 30 feet. On the main water sports lake, there are four slipways, in addition to floating pontoons. There are no hoists or lifts at present. At the fishing lake there are three Blue Badge parking bays and at the main reception North Yorkshire Water Park is adding resin pathways to help with access. There are accessible toilets.

### **Ellerton Lakes**

Ellerton Park, Scorton, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 6AP

Tel: 07716 398507

Email: [ellertonpark@gmail.com](mailto:ellertonpark@gmail.com)

<https://ellertonpark.com>

Caravan site & water sports offering accessible open water swimming, scuba diving, canoeing, kayaking and paddleboarding. Lessons and coaching available. For stand-up paddleboarding, see SUP Active Yorkshire below.

### **SUP Active Yorkshire**

Ellerton Lake, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 6AR

Tel: 07984 247519

Email: [supactiveyorkshire@btinternet.com](mailto:supactiveyorkshire@btinternet.com)

<https://supactiveyorkshire.com/>

Aims to get people on the water and enjoy the great outdoors on paddleboards. They work mainly from Ellerton Lake, with showers, toilets, changing block and a cafe. There are set sessions, but they can also arrange bespoke sessions, for example on the River Ouse, Ripon Canal, or Semerwater. The sessions are for anyone, beginners or experienced, young or old.

### **Helmsley Open Air Swimming Pool**

Baxton's Sprunt, Helmsley, YO62 5HT

Tel: 01439 326008

Email: [info@helmsleyopenairpool.org](mailto:info@helmsleyopenairpool.org)

[www.helmsleyopenairpool.org](http://www.helmsleyopenairpool.org)

Currently the pool has very limited resources for disabled swimmers, though there is a hoist to enable people to access the pool. The proposed new build of the offices will include improvements.

### **Knaresborough Lido**

Wetherby Rd, Knaresborough, HG5 8LR

<https://www.openwaterleeds.com/Knaresborough-Lido>

Situated at the Lido Leisure Park, Knaresborough Lido is a stretch of the River Nidd that offers a safe place for wild swimming. The lido is situated in a sheltered gorge. There is a café next door, which provides refreshments all year round.

## **Pool Bridge Farm**

Wheldrake Lane, Crockey Hill, York, North Yorkshire, YO19 4SQ

Tel: 07928 359 420

Email: [info@poolbridge.co.uk](mailto:info@poolbridge.co.uk)

<https://poolbridge.co.uk/>

Pool Bridge Farm offers wild swimming in a series of ponds, a sauna, paddleboarding, camping and wildlife photography hides. There are accessible toilets and a café on site. There are several access points to the ponds; most have gravel steps with a hand rail.

## **Semerwater**

Low Blean Farm, Raydaleside, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 3DJ

Tel: 01969 650436

Email: [enquiries@lakesemerwater.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@lakesemerwater.co.uk)

Website: <https://lakesemerwater.co.uk/watersports.php>

Semerwater is the largest natural glacial lake in Yorkshire. The site is perfect for sailing, canoeing, windsurfing and wild swimming. Tickets for activities can be acquired from Low Blean Farm.



## **Wetwheels Yorkshire**

Wetwheels Yorkshire, Whitby Harbour, Whitby, YO21 1YW

Contact: 01947 466566

Email: [office@wetwheelsyorkshire.com](mailto:office@wetwheelsyorkshire.com)

[www.wetwheelsfoundation.org/](http://www.wetwheelsfoundation.org/)

Wetwheels offers boating experiences and helps disabled and disadvantaged people of all ages to access the water. All people are active participants, rather than simply passengers, with the opportunity to steer vessels and learn seamanship alongside peers, friends and families. Boating can be relaxed, but Wet Wheels also offers to take people on powerboats.

## **Whitby DAG**

Whitby, Scarborough and Ryedale DAG, Church House Centre, Flowergate, Whitby, YO21 3BA

Tel: 01947 821001

Email: [info@whitbydag.org.uk](mailto:info@whitbydag.org.uk)

<https://whitbydag.org.uk/>

Whitby DAG has all-terrain wheelchairs for hire to enable disabled people to access the beach.

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE VENUES**

### **Blue Lagoon**

Northfield Lane, Womersley, DN6 9BB

Contact: 0113 328 1239

Email: [info@evolveendurance.co.uk](mailto:info@evolveendurance.co.uk)

<https://evolveendurance.co.uk>

<https://www.bluelagooners.com/>

Run by Evolve Endurance, Blue Lagoon offers open water swimming and paddleboarding workshops.

### **Rother Valley Country Park**

Mansfield Road, Wales Bar, Sheffield, S26 5PQ

Tel: 01709 334489

Email: [RVCP.watersports@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:RVCP.watersports@rotherham.gov.uk)

Website: <https://rvcp.co.uk>

Offers a variety of water sports including sailing boats, stand up paddle boards, canoes, pedal boats and rowing boats.

## **SwimYourSwim**

Hatfield Outdoor Activity Centre, Old Thorne Road, Hatfield, Doncaster,  
DN7 6EQ

Email: [leon@swimyourswim.com](mailto:leon@swimyourswim.com)

<https://swimyourswim.com>

Swim coaching and events in swimming pools and open water. From short to endurance swims, SwimYourSwim provides events at various locations. Swim coaching courses are also available. All venues have sloped access to the water, accessible changing and toilet facilities. They have an accessibility information page on their website.

## **WEST YORKSHIRE VENUES**

### **Ilkley Lido and Swimming Pool**

Denton Rd, Ilkley, LS29 0BZ

Tel: 01943 436201

Email: [ilkley.swimming@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:ilkley.swimming@bradford.gov.uk)

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/sport-and-activities/sports-centres-and-pools/ilkley-pool-and-lido/>

Information about accessibility, including photos of pool access, changing facilities, shower access etc can be found on [accessible.co.uk](http://accessible.co.uk)

### **Safe Anchor Trust**

Shepley Bridge Marina, Huddersfield Rd, Mirfield, WF14 9HR

Email: [admin@safeanchor.org.uk](mailto:admin@safeanchor.org.uk)

<https://safeanchor.org.uk/>

Provides narrowboat trips for people who are disadvantaged through physical or mental disabilities, social isolation, age or social deprivation. Boat trips take place from the beginning of March to the end of October, seven days a week. Trips are tailored to meet individual needs, with the overall duration being determined by each group. Boat trips are free of charge to community groups. Some boats are designed for wheelchair users or passengers with mobility difficulties. All boats have accessible toilets and four have cooking facilities.



## **VENUES FURTHER AFIELD**

### **Sweethope Lough, Northumberland**

Sweethope Lough, off A68, Ridsdale, Northumberland, NE19 2PN

Tel: Fenwick Ridley 07737 300470

Email: [h2otrails@outlook.com](mailto:h2otrails@outlook.com)

<https://h2otrails.co.uk>

Sweethope Lough offers accessible cold-water swimming and open water swimming inductions. There is coaching available, they have a water-accessible wheelchair and provide stand-up paddleboarding.

