

# Accessibility Guide for Polkemmet Country Park

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## Welcome

Polkemmet Country Park is a popular 68 hectare (168 acre) visitor attraction near Whitburn.

The Park offers beautiful woodland and riverside walks, play area, picnic areas with seating and a BBQ facility. The Park also provides a golf course, a driving range and a bowling green.

At Polkemmet Country Park you can find:-

Visitor Centre

Ranger Service

Toilets

9 hole Golf Course (West Lothian Leisure)

16 Bay Driving Range (West Lothian Leisure)

Bowling Green

Play Area

BBQ Area

Riverside and woodland walks

Historical and heritage features

The Scottish Owl Centre (concession)

Courtyard Café (concession)

Polkemmet Daycare (concession)

## At a Glance



### Level Access

- There is level access from the main entrance to:
  - Visitor Centre
  - Visitor Centre Reception
  - Public Toilets
  - Classroom
- There is level access from the car park to:
  - Play Area



### Hearing

- The fire alarm has flashing lights.
- There is a hearing loop in Visitor Centre reception.
- Some staff have disability awareness training.



### General

- There is a concessionary rate for disabled visitors for some services.
- There is at least 1 public toilet for disabled visitors.
- Some staff have disability awareness training.

## Getting here

Polkemmet Country Park

B7066

Whitburn

EH470AD



### Travel by Public Transport

- You can get to Polkemmet Country Park by bus.
- The nearest bus stop is directly outside the main entrance for Polkemmet Country Park on the B7066. The bus stop is 0.30 miles / 11,376.3 km from Polkemmet Country Park.
- Buses run from Livingston, Shotts and Edinburgh to Whitburn and B7066, with the bus stops adjacent to the Park's main entrance, approximately 550 metres from the Visitor Centre. There are no direct public transport links to the Park's car parks.  
For advice, contact the West Lothian Travel Hotline on 01506 775288 or Traveline on 0871 220 2233.

## Parking

- There are car parks and accessible parking spaces. The parking is less than 50 metres from the main entrance. Parking is free.
- The main driveway to the Park leads you to multiple car parks as well as the main hub of the Park, to the Courtyard where the Visitor Centre, Owl Centre, café, children's nursery and public toilets are located as well as easy access to the play area and BBQ site. It also allows for direct access to the Driving Range building and car park. From the car park to the entrance, there is level access. The route is 820mm wide, or more.
- There are four car parks located within Polkemmet Country Park, giving easy access to the Visitor Centre, play area, toilets and other attractions located on site.  
The Train Car Park (good access to the Play Area and Owl Centre) is located down the drive from our main entrance and is clearly marked. The car park is tarmacked and has 55 bays, 6 of which are designated for disabled visitors. The designated disabled bays are 65 metres from the Visitor Centre. The Golf car park is mainly used by golfers using the course and is situated approximately 75 metres from the Visitor Centre. It has a hard rolled stone surface and can accommodate approximately 40 cars. Access through the Golf car park allows visitors to be dropped off directly outside the Visitor Centre if required. The Driving Range has limited car parking for 35 cars. The surface is hard rolled stone. Access to the Driving Range is 10 metres and the Visitor Centre is 200 metres back along the main drive. The South Car Park surface is hard rolled stone. This is the first car park you pass (on the left hand side) as you come down the main driveway and is 500 metres from the Visitor Centre. There is room for approximately 65 cars. There is a traffic free route from this car park to the Visitor Centre which is 400 metres, accessed along the main driveway.  
If you are planning to bring a bus or horse box to Polkemmet, please ring the Visitor Centre in advance and advice will be provided on where best to park.  
Information and map boards are placed at all car parks to assist you on your arrival to the park.



Whitburn Pedestrian Entrance



Main Entrance

## Arrival



### Path to main entrance

- From the street to the main entrance, there is level access.
- The path is 820mm wide, or more.



### Main entrance

- The main entrance has level access.
- The door is 820mm wide.
- The main entrance to the Visitor Centre is located on ground level with paving stones leading to the front door.

The front entrance door is 0.82 metres wide but can be opened up further to 1.65 metres wide if required. Through the door is a porch area of 4.5 metres x 2.8 metres.

The reception area is then accessed through another door that is 0.95 metres wide but can be opened further to 1.9 metres if required.



Visitor Centre Building



Pedestrian access from Greenrigg

## Getting around inside



### Ticket/ information desk

#### Visitor Centre Reception

- From the main entrance to the desk, there is level access. The route is 820mm wide, or more.
- The door is 820mm wide, or more.
- The desk has a low section.
- The reception area is approximately 4.4 metres x 11.4 metres and includes reception desk, display cases, vending machine and ice-cream freezer. This is also the entrance point for the Scottish Owl Centre. The floor surface of Reception is carpet. The area is well lit with both natural light and overhead lighting. A portable hearing loop is located on the main reception desk.



Visitor Centre Entrance

## Things to See and Do

- There is a concessionary rate for disabled visitors for some services.

#### Visitor Centre

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. The route is 820mm wide, or more. The door is 820mm wide.
- Some display information is low, for wheelchair users. There is a hearing loop.

- Some videos have subtitles.
- There are a number of interpretation panels within the Visitor Centre with information including history of the Park. There is also a TV screen above the reception area which provides further interpretive videos and general Park information.

## Public toilet

### Public Toilets

- There is a public toilet for disabled visitors.
- From the main entrance to the public toilet, there is level access. The route is 950mm wide, or more.
- The toilet door is 950mm wide.
- The direction of transfer onto the toilet is to the right.
- There is 160mm at the side of the toilet. There is 110mm in front of the toilet. The toilet seat is 40mm high. The toilets have handrails.
- The Public Toilets are accessed outside from the front of the building (next to the Classroom). The toilets are accessible to manual wheelchairs but door width may restrict some power chairs. The toilets are clearly marked with signage. The entrance doors to both male and female toilets are held open during opening hours and are 0.95 metres wide.

In both toilets, there are 2 cubicles where the toilet height is 0.4 metres.

In the male toilet, there is a urinal trough at ground level.

In both toilets, the sink height is 0.82 metres.

In both toilets, the hand drier height is 1.2 metres.

In both toilets, there is a single disabled toilet cubicle where the toilet height is 0.5 metres and the sink is 0.7 metres. Both have a baby changing table and nappy bin. In the male toilet the table is at a height of 0.9 metres and 0.75 metres in the female toilet.

Transfer space in the male disabled cubicle is 1.6 metres x 1.1 metres and 1.6 metres x 0.85 metres with the baby changing table folded down.

Transfer space in the female disabled cubicle is 1.4 metres x 2.6 metres.

In both disabled cubicles, there is a horizontal rail and vertical rail system. The vertical rail is at a height of 1.0 metres, and the horizontal rail is a double bar at heights of 0.6 metres and 0.8 metres.

Access to the block is by a paved path 40 metres from the Visitor Centre entrance.



Entrance to Public Toilets

### Classroom

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. The route is 950mm wide, or more.
- The door is 950mm wide.
- The classroom is a hireable indoor space for approximately 40 people. The entrance doorway is 950mm with a small porch with a further internal door which is 850mm wide. The entrance is at ground level with paving slabs outside, the porch area is lino and the classroom itself has carpet tiles throughout.

## Getting around outside

### Designated Walking Trail

#### Red Route

- The trail is 2300metres long. There is a bridge across the river with multiple steps The trail is sloped. The trail has seats.
- The Red Route is a 2.3km circular waymarked route beginning at the Visitor Centre. The Red route paths include trodden earth paths, stone surfaced paths and tarmac. They range from 1.5 metres – 3.0 metres in width. Due to the nature of the park and its different terrains, disabled visitors looking for appropriate routes should contact the Visitor Centre for advice.



Red Route Trail

### Designated Walking Trail

#### Blue Route

- The trail is 1600metres long. The horn birdge has a ramp leading up onto the bridge. The Mausoleum path has a set of concrete steps leading back tothe Visitor Centre The trail is sloped. The trail has seats.
- The Blue Route is a 1.6km circular waymarked route beginning at the Visitor Centre. The Blue Route paths include trodden earth paths, grassy paths, stone surfaced paths, boardwalk and tarmac. They range from 1.0 metres – 3.0 metres in width. Due to the nature of the park and its different terrains, disabled visitors looking for appropriate routes should contact the Visitor Centre for advice.



Blue Route Trail

## Picnic Area

### Play Area

- From the car park to the picnic area, there is level access. The path is 1600mm wide, or more.
  - The entrance is 1600mm wide.
  - Some tables have space for wheelchair users. You can bring your own food to the picnic area.
  - There is a number of picnic tables placed around the play area. Most of which are accessible along compacted stone paths, a small number are located on grass areas. There is an additional grass picnic area at the South car park with a number of picnic tables.
- Due to the nature of the park and its different terrains, disabled visitors looking for appropriate routes should contact the Visitor Centre for advice.



Open grass area



BBQ and Picnic Area

## Customer care support

### Accessibility equipment

- There is a hearing loop in Visitor Centre reception.
- Polkemmet Country Park welcomes dogs including assistance dogs. The park has many open areas, however we would request, where possible, that assistant dogs are not permitted to toilet within the Play Area or on paths around the building.

### Emergency evacuation procedures

- We have emergency evacuation procedures for disabled visitors.



- The fire alarm has flashing lights.
- Emergency evacuation procedures are in place for the Visitor Centre and public toilets, with trained fire wardens. The assembly point is located at the Dardanelles train - directly opposite the Courtyard (Visitor Centre) building.

### **Customer care support**

- Some staff have disability awareness training.
  - We have information in audio, braille and large print.
  - Different formats may be available on request. Please enquiry for more details.
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