

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

## **Access Statement for Rutland Water Park**

### **Introduction**

Set in 4200 acres of open countryside, Rutland Water Park is the central rural attraction in England's smallest county of Rutland and offers activities for all the family.

Rutland Water Park offers a range of activities and services for you to enjoy. Located on the shores of Rutland Water, you can find a variety of attractions such as the Visitor Centre, shops, cafes and restaurants. Whether you want to just get away from it all and enjoy the countryside or take part in something more active, there is sure to be something that you will enjoy at Rutland Water Park. The Park is a large and exciting outdoor space. The site has 26 miles of perimeter tracks. The park is serviced by four main car parks and visitors are encouraged to purchase an all day explorer tickets to make the most of the site at the best value.

Additionally we have two car parks dedicated for nature lovers located on our nature reserve at the Western end of Rutland Water

We want everyone to enjoy visiting our Water Parks and most importantly we want you to stay safe – please visit our Using our Parks Safely page on our website at [www.anglianwater.co.uk/leisure/water-parks/reservoir-safety](http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/leisure/water-parks/reservoir-safety)

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01780 686800 or email [rutlandwaterinfo@anglianwater.co.uk](mailto:rutlandwaterinfo@anglianwater.co.uk).



## Pre-Arrival

- For full details on how to reach us please see our website [www.anglianwater.co.uk/leisure/water-parks/rutland](http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/leisure/water-parks/rutland) We recommend you use Google maps to plan your journey to Rutland Water to find the most efficient means of travel by car. Due to the size of the site each of our car parks has a different post code. These are detailed as follows
- Normanton - LE15 8HD - For Normanton Church, Rutland Fishing Lodge, Rutland Cycling, Le Oliveto's Restaurant and Four Foxes Cafe
- Sykes Lane - LE15 8QL - For 'The Beach, Children's Adventure Play Area, Bugtopia the Zoo, The Rutland Water Visitor Centre and Mini Golf and Four Foxes Cafe
- Whitwell - LE15 8BL - For Rutland Watersports, Rutland Cycling, The Rock Block, The Rutland Belle, The Harbor Bar Cafe
- Barnsdale - LE15 8AB a quiet spot - Four Foxes Cafe and small children's play area
- Egleton Nature Reserve - LE15 8BT - Anglian Water Birdwatching Centre
- Lyndon Nature Reserve - LE15 8RN - Lyndon Visitor Centre
- Car Parking fees apply to all visitors, blue badge parking is provided at all car parks.
- The nearest train stations are Oakham (2-6 miles away depending on which site you would like to visit) and Stamford (6 - 9 miles away depending on what site you would like to visit).
- Bus access to the site is limited and we recommend you check the Rutland County Council website for the latest updates - [www.rutland.gov.uk](http://www.rutland.gov.uk)

## Car Parking and Arrival

- Normanton, Sykes Lane, Whitwell and Barnsdale are large car parks with ample parking. Blue Badge parking is provided in each location.
- Entry to Normanton, Sykes Lane, Whitwell is via a barrier system, please take a ticket upon arrival and pay at the pay-station prior to leaving. Car parking charges apply to all visitors and are displayed on each car park. The all day explorer ticket allows you to move between car parks all day as often as you like without paying in each car park.
- Car parking at Barnsdale is paid for using pay and display
- Parking at Egleton and Lyndon is free for visitors to the nature reserves and included in the ticket price. We ask that all visitors display a ticket stub in their windscreen on the nature reserve.
- Barnsdale car park is not surfaced with tarmac
- Normanton, Whitwell, Sykes Lane, Egleton and Lyndon are surfaced with tarmac.
- Car Parking is only available during the site opening hours. The Park opens daily at 9am, closing times vary depending on the season and are advertised on each car park
- Car park barrier ticket dispenser, help button & swipe card points are approximately up to 120cm in height. If you need additional assistance with gaining entry please contact us by pressing the help button or ahead of your arrival on 01780 686800
- Car park pay station machine buttons, card payment machine, ticket slot & coin slot are up to approximately 140cm height. If you need additional assistance with paying for your ticket please contact us by pressing the help button or on 01780 686800

## **Building and Centre Entrances**

Each car park has a number of attractions each with an alternate layout summarised below

### Normanton

- Church - step free access via ramp - only open on selected dates please contact us in advance
- Rutland Cycling - ground step free access into lower level of shop
- Rutland Fishing Lodge - step free access throughout, 'wheelie boat' available for hire for accessible fishing and accessible toilet
- L'Oliveto's Resturant - step free access and accessible toilet
- Four Foxes Cafe - stepped access

### Sykes Lane

- Rutland Water Visitor Centre - step free access throughout, lowered counter section for retail purchases
- Four Foxes Cafe - step free access and entry
- Bugtopia the Zoo - step free access

### Whitwell

- Rutland Watersports - step free access, accessible craft available - these need to be booked
- Rutland Cycling - step free access to main entrance of shop
- Rock Block - step free access, accessible climbing - this needs to be booked
- Rutland Belle - step free access and hearing loop for commentary on the trip
- Harbour Bar Cafe - step free access and accessible toilet

### Barnsdale

- Four Foxes Cafe - stepped access into the cafe

### Egleton

- Anglian Water Bird Watching Centre - step free access into the main Visitor Centre

### Lyndon

- Lyndon Visitor Centre - step free access into the Centre



## **Attraction**

- Free Visitor Guides are available from all centers
- Lighting in the centers is bright
- Hearing loops are installed at Egleton Nature Reserve and aboard the Rutland Belle
- Interpretation boards where provided are in large text

## **Public Toilets**

- Public toilets are located in all car parks and all centres. Accessible toilets are located in each centre and on each car park. All are unisex and have step free access and easy opening doors. The sinks in the accessible toilets on the Normanton, Whitwell, Sykes Lane and Barnsdale car parks are adjustable in height.
- Rails are provided in each toilet

## **Grounds and Gardens**

- The grounds of Rutland Water Park are wide open and exposed. The access tracks mostly follow the reservoir shore line and are exposed to wind and rain
- Sheep roam freely on the tracks
- The tracks are shared access tracks and are used by walkers, runners, cyclists and dog walkers (dogs must be kept on a lead)
- The length of track between Whitwell and Rutland Sailing Club (approx. 5 miles in length) is tarmac and a smooth surface. Cattle grids are in place to stop the movement of sheep, where these found side gates are provided that are self closing. The side gates have a gravel path.
- The remainder of the track around Rutland Water Park is gravel
- The paths on the Nature Reserve are gravel and are well maintained. A map is available showing the most accessible routes
- Numerous benches are situated along the paths



## **Additional Information**

- A wheel chair is available for use from the Rutland Water Visitor Centre at Sykes Lane
- Egleton and Lyndon Visitor Centers have mobility buggy's available to hire
- The Rutland Belle has an all access ramp to aid boarding and disembarking
- A wheelie boat is available at Rutland Water Fishing Lodge for all access fishing
- Rutland Salability offer all access sailing
- Access ramps to the bird hides on Rutland Water Nature Reserve are at an angle of 1 in 12
- We welcome dogs on site
- We are able to charge mobility scooters if required - please ask staff for details
- We have a set of evacuation procedures, should you require it someone will assist you out of the buildings and to a place of safe refuge

## **Future Plans**

- We are continually investing in our site and tracks. We are removing cattle grids on a yearly program along with improving the side gate access at cattle grids
- We are working with 'The outdoor guide' and 'country side access for all' to review and improve access where possible

## **Contact Information**

Address Rutland Water Visitor Centre Sykes Lane Rutland Water LE15 8QL

Telephone: 01780 686800

Email: [rutlandwaterinfo@anglianwater.co.uk](mailto:rutlandwaterinfo@anglianwater.co.uk)

Website: [www.anglianwater.co.uk/leisure/water-parks/rutland](http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/leisure/water-parks/rutland)

Hours Of Operation: 9am daily opening. Closing time varies on season

Local Accessible Taxi: [www.accessiblecountryside.org.uk/rutland](http://www.accessiblecountryside.org.uk/rutland)

Local Public Transport: [www.rutland.gov.uk/transport\\_and\\_streets/public\\_transport.aspx](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/transport_and_streets/public_transport.aspx)