

1066 Battle of Hastings, Abbey and Battlefield

Access guide



Details at a glance

Location:

Battle Abbey, TN33 0AE

Gatehouse Entrance: [//fabric.employer.bloom](https://fabric.employer.bloom)

Opening dates and times:

Please check the Battle Abbey webpage to get the most up to date information for the day of your visit.

Tickets:

- English Heritage members visit for free.
- Essential companions of disabled visitors can visit with a free ticket (no paperwork needed, book online or ask on the day).
- Book online to save **15%**.
- Buy tickets on the day at the entrance.

Access at a glance

Arrival

- Accessible parking bays
- Entrance drop-off
- Step-free entrance via archway

Welcome

- Free entry for essential companions of disabled visitors
- Hearing loop at till point
- Ear defenders to borrow
- All dogs on leads welcome

Site facilities

- Accessible toilet
- Accessible baby change
- Benches and accessible picnic tables

Getting around

- Step-free routes to main areas over grass and gravel
- Wheelchair loan
- Scooter loan
- Lift access to visitor centre exhibition

Experiences

- Exhibition (updated 2026)
- Audio tours
- Free volunteer-led tours on select days
- Deaf-led BSL tours on select days (see website)

Retail and catering

- Step-free access to shop via alternative route
- Hot and cold lunches, snacks and drinks in café
- Allergen friendly options

Getting here

By car:

Disabled visitors can park in the Battle Abbey car park next to the main entrance.

There are **89** spaces on a firm surface.

By train:

Battle is the closest station to the site and it's approximately **900m** uphill to the Abbey.

By bus:

The nearest bus stop to the main entrance is called 'Abbey' and is serviced by the **95** and **1066**.



Getting to Battle Abbey



Bus stop



Battle station



Parking



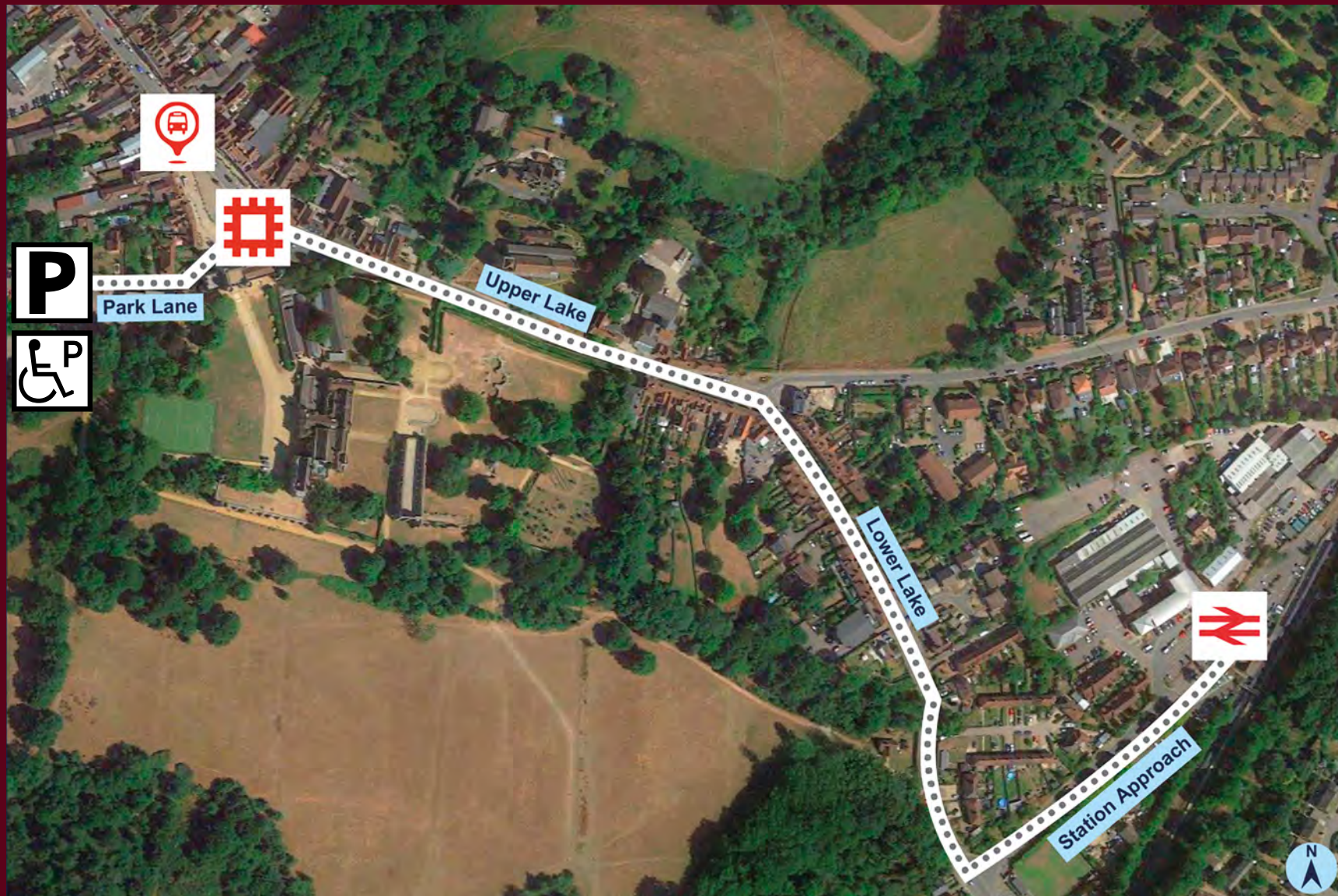
Accessible parking



Gatehouse
entrance



Pavement route
to/from Battle
station (900m uphill)



Battle Abbey

Facilities

 Parking

 Access parking

 Admissions

 Shop

 Food and drink

 Accessible toilet

 Toilets

 Baby change

 Play area

 Scooter hire

 Steps

 Steep gradient

A Visitor centre

B Dormitory

C Walled garden

D Harold Stone

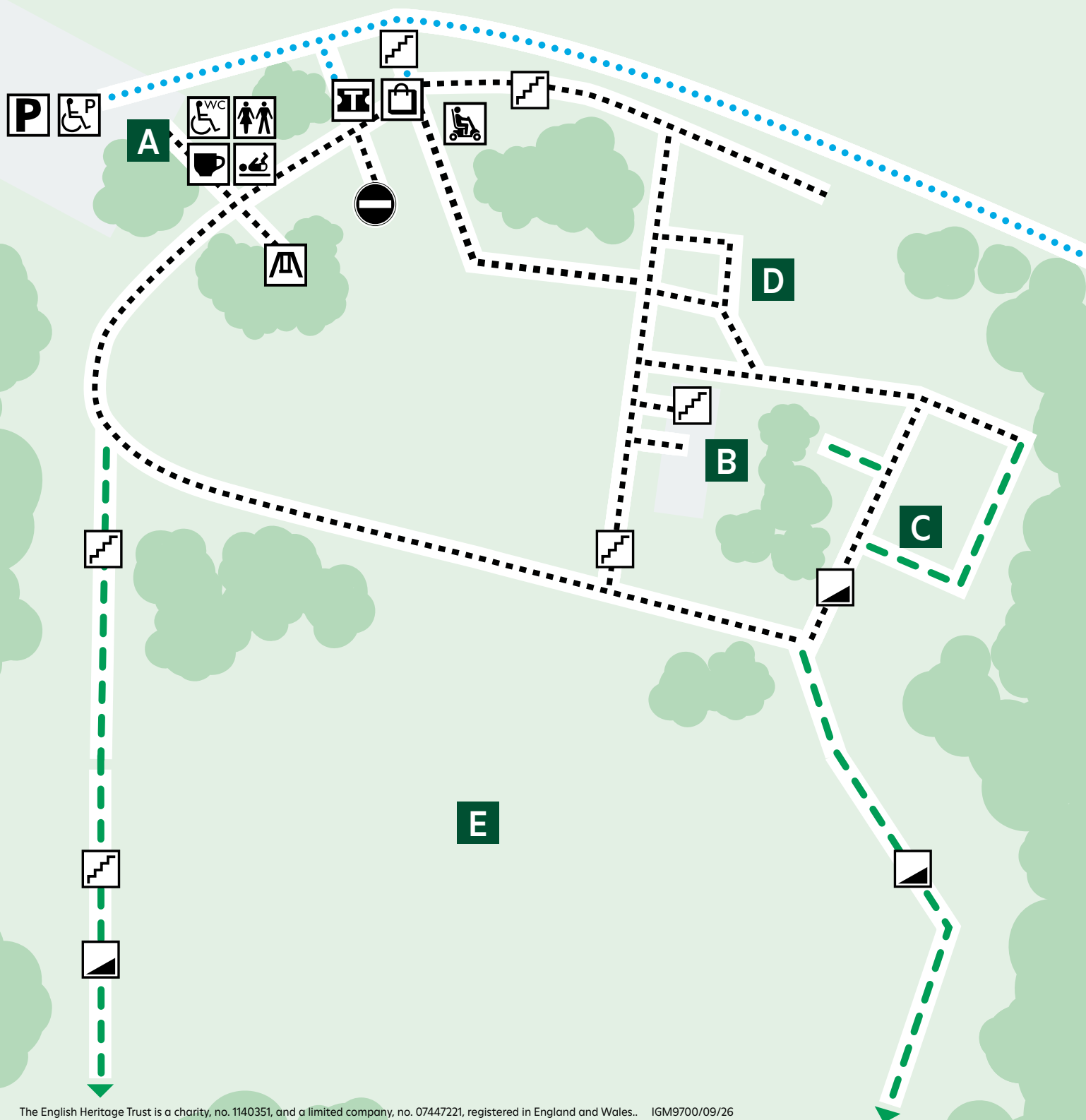
E Battlefield

Surfaces

--- Gravel

... Pavement

- - - Natural: grass, mud, uneven



Parking

There are **6** marked accessible parking bays located in the Battle Abbey car park and a further **83** standard size bays available.

Spaces are available on a first come, first served basis.

This car park is **150m** from the main entrance.

As parking is limited we encourage you to travel on public transport if you can.

Parking is free for English Heritage members, just scan your membership card at the pay machine.

There is a charge for non-members including Blue Badge Holders. Please pay at the machine.

Parking is limited to **6** hours.



Car park location [///corn.trails.submerge](https://corn.trails.submerge)

Main entrance

This will be your main entrance. It's called the Gatehouse.

There are **9** steps in total to get in to the entrance and shop.

If you need assistance just ask a member of the team. There is also a call button at the bottom of the steps that you can press.

A step-free route is available via the central archway over cobbles.



Gatehouse entrance location:
[///fabric.employer.bloom](http://fabric.employer.bloom)



Arrival and welcome

Staff and volunteers will be waiting to welcome you at the entrance. They will sell or scan tickets and membership cards and give you information.

Disabled visitors can bring an essential companion with them free of charge. You can get this ticket online or when you arrive. You don't need to show any paperwork.



Getting around

The site is made up of gravel pathways and natural surfaces – grassy fields which can become muddy.

In wet weather the grounds can become boggy and difficult to pass.

Although the main route is step-free, there are steps to get in to some buildings, such as the gatehouse museum and rooftop, and parts of the dormitory range.



Some of the typical gravel pathways around the Battle Abbey grounds



Some of the typical natural routes around the Battle Abbey grounds

Equipment

There are **3** mobility scooters which can be borrowed.

We also have a manual wheelchair with mountain bike style tyres which is available to borrow.

These are available on a first come, first served basis and can be used for the duration of your visit.

Please ask at the gatehouse entrance if you would like to borrow a scooter or wheelchair.



Seating

There are benches and picnic tables dotted around the site but there is limited seating on the parkland walk.

You are welcome to bring your own outdoor seating and picnic blankets with you.

There are a number of accessible picnic tables outside the cafe.

There is limited shade and shelter on site so please come prepared for the weather conditions on the day.



Toilet facilities

In the **visitor centre** there are:

- Male and female toilets
- Accessible toilet
- Baby changing facilities.

The nearest Changing Places facility is Friary Gardens, approximately **5** miles from Battle Abbey.



Accessible toilet location: [///type.quietly.motivator](http://type.quietly.motivator)

Gatehouse Museum

There is a museum about the history of the site in the gatehouse on the first and second floors, and a rooftop viewing platform. There is seating available on the second floor.

It is only accessible via steep, uneven, historic staircases with **68** steps.

A copy of the exhibition in booklet form is available, please ask the team. These are available in English, French, German and Dutch.

Images and information about artefacts in the museum can be found on the website: [History and Stories: Battle Abbey and 1066 Battlefield](#) | English Heritage



Visitor Centre Exhibition

There is an exhibition about the 1066 Battle of Hastings in the Visitor Centre that can be accessed by stairs or a lift.

The exhibition features a film with step-free seating and seats accessed by steps.

There are spaces for anyone using a wheelchair or mobility scooters.

Lighting is minimal.

Large Print guides, simple panel text, and film transcripts are available from holders in the exhibition space.



Audio tour

A complimentary audio guide is available from the shop.

It covers all outdoor areas of the site.

It is available in English Adult, English Children, French, German, Dutch, Spanish and Japanese.

The guides have raised buttons and an Audio Descriptive version is available.

Headphones are not required but you are welcome to bring your own to plug in.

Hearing loops are available.



Written transcripts are available.

A Bloomberg Connects audio guide is also available using your own phone. You can download the app ahead of your visit or use the QR codes on information boards. There are transcripts available with over **40** language translations.



Tours and talks

Volunteer-led tours take place on selected days, depending on volunteer availability. They are free to join.

Tours vary in duration and route. Most tours follow the step-free route and some take place in a static location.

Please ask the team for details of the available tours on the day of your visit.

There are **2** fold-out stools available to borrow for free during tours and talks. Please ask the tour leader or in the shop if you'd like to use one.



Sensory information

Battle Abbey is very busy on event days and in school holidays. There will likely be queues and crowded areas. Quieter times to visit are outside of the school holidays.

The busiest arrival times are usually between 10:30am – 12pm.

The Gatehouse and Visitor Centre can be crowded and noisy. There are a number of areas of site which will be much less crowded and quieter, such as the walled garden.

We have a small supply of ear defenders for both adults and children, which you can pick up from the shop.



Walled garden location: [///picnic.spins.retail](http://picnic.spins.retail)

Food and drink

Food and drink is available from the café in the visitor centre. There are gluten free, non-dairy and vegan options available.

There is both indoor and outdoor seating.

There are a number of tables dotted around the site which you are welcome to use for your own picnic.



Feedback

We're always looking for ways to improve access and inclusion at our sites.

If you would like to make a comment or suggestion you can:

Email: customers@english-heritage.org.uk

Call: 0370 333 1181

Write to: English Heritage, The Engine House,
Fire Fly Avenue, Swindon SN2 2EH

If you booked a ticket online, you can also fill in our post-visit survey. Just look out for an email and follow the link.

If you've got any feedback about this pre-visit guide, get in touch with us at **access@english-heritage.org.uk**

