



# Newhaven Fort Accessibility Information



Wave Leisure Trust offers i-go scheme concessionary discounts at our sites, leisure centres and swimming pools.

Show your i-go card to reception at Newhaven Fort to receive:

- Free entry for i-go cardholder
- Up to 4 accompanying people pay the reduced carers rate of £2.10 each
- A special i-go map which highlights exhibition rooms which are particularly noisy/dark/have flashing lights

Your i-go champion at Newhaven Fort is Kath Dudley, Visitor Services Officer, who will be happy to help. Contact her at [Kath.Dudley@waveleisure.co.uk](mailto:Kath.Dudley@waveleisure.co.uk).

An i-go card gives you discounts and accessibility information at leisure centres, attractions, activities and clubs in East Sussex.

You can get an i-go card if you:

- Are 0-25 years old
- Live or receive education in East Sussex; and have special needs or a disability. This includes learning difficulties, physical disabilities and autism.
- A diagnosis isn't necessary

*i-go is an East Sussex County Council scheme which Wave Leisure offers at our centres. For more information and to get an i-go card, please visit their website: <https://igo.eastsussex.gov.uk>*

**Please see a breakdown of accessibility at this centre below.**

From time to time some features may be out of order as they require maintenance. We advise checking with the centre before travel if you require a certain feature to enjoy our facilities. If you have any other questions either before you travel or during your visit, please ask one of our friendly team who will be happy to help.

**For more information, please get in touch:**

Tel: 01273 517622

Email: [fortinfo@waveleisure.co.uk](mailto:fortinfo@waveleisure.co.uk)

Newhaven Fort, Fort Road, Newhaven, East Sussex, BN9 9DS



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



# Newhaven Fort Accessibility Information



Newhaven Fort is open 10.00am - 5.00pm daily from February to November.

The current Newhaven Fort structure was built around the 1860's and is the largest work of defence ever constructed in Sussex. There is much to explore including the vast, echoing tunnels built into the chalk cliffs, the ramparts amongst the 10 acre-site and breath-taking views of the South Downs and Sussex Coast. There's also an on-site military museum that includes a recreated Air Raid shelter. Kids can also have fun in the outdoor playground.

## Planning a Visit

- The Fort was built in the 19th Century and as such physical access is limited in areas. Please ask at reception for more details.

## Arrival

- We have two allocated accessible car parking bays in the moat (just outside the main entrance). Visitors should follow the signs up Fort Rise rather than following signs to the general car park. Drop off and pick up access into Newhaven Fort is immediately outside the entrance tunnel – please call ahead for assistance.
- There is a slope up and down to enter from both the main car park (fairly steep 30 metre slope downwards), the accessible bays (more gentle slope upwards) with no rails. The reception entrance for all (including the drop off point) is up a slope through a wide high tunnel.

## Reception

- There are ten steps to access the ticket office on entry. Staff can open the main gate for step free access.
- Fast track entry. The queue is rarely longer than five minutes.





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## General Space

- The exhibition rooms all have ramps, are wheelchair accessible and all on one level. The shop and café are wheelchair accessible. Tunnels and ramparts are not wheelchair accessible. The Caponier has 74 stairs to the bottom.
- The south of Newhaven Fort is up a hill including the Grand Magazine (wheelchair access from the second entrance) and the ramparts. Paths are mostly tarmac. The playground has a step free entrance at the far end.

## Toilets & Changing Rooms

- Newhaven Fort has a step-free, accessible toilet large enough for an electric wheelchair and carer. This is situated in the entrance tunnel and needs a radar key (available in the shop) to access. This toilet has grab rails (not drop down).
- We have a baby changing mat in both the women's and men's toilets (also step free).

## Food & Drink

- i-go cardholders with special dietary requirements can consume own food, simply let the café staff know. The remaining party may only consume food purchased from café. There are picnic tables outside (and sometimes inside) if the whole party wants to bring their own food.



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## Noise & Lights

- There are flashing lights (not strobe lighting) in our air raid shelter experience. This experience can also be dark at times.
- During special events there may be gunfire. Check the website for event days, contact the i-go champion or ask when buying your tickets.
- The First World War room entrance near the Caponier is dark. Please use the other entrance if you would like to avoid this.
- Some other exhibits have interactive elements which may be loud. Please refer to the i-go map provided at reception to find out more.

## Staff in character/costume

- During special event days there may be characters in historic costumes. Normally, heads are not covered. Check the website for event days, contact the i-go champion or ask when buying your tickets.
- During our October Half-Term Halloween event, full costumes with masks are used. Masked characters at Halloween are kept to one section of the tunnels and do not usually enter exhibition rooms, but may be walking around outside the tunnel entrance. Check the website for event days, contact the i-go champion or ask when buying your tickets.