



giving
nature
a home

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 Ramsey Island

Introduction

- Ramsey is a dramatic offshore island with some of the finest cliff scenery in Wales.
- The island is awash with colour from May to September, with bluebells, thrift and heather. Thousands of seabirds nest on the island's cliffs in the spring and early summer and you are likely to see choughs and peregrines throughout the season. Grey Seals are present around the island all year and if you visit in the autumn, you will see white-coated pups on all of Ramsey's beaches.
- There is a small shop on the island serving hot and cold drinks and snacks.
- Due to the location and terrain at the boat embarkation points, there is no wheelchair access to the island. The Ramsey boat operator; Thousand Islands Expeditions, kindly ask those with specific access requirements to advise them before travel to avoid disappointment.



Ramsey
harbour low
tide landing
showing steps

Pre Arrival

- The site is only accessible by boat from St Justinian's lifeboat station (2 miles/3 km from St. David's).
- The nearest railway stations are at Fishguard (15 miles/23 km) or Haverfordwest (16 miles/26 km). Local bus services to St David's run from both of these.
- Clear print site leaflet available.
- Site access is from 1 April or Easter (whichever is earlier) to 31 October from 10 am - 4 pm.
- Spaces on the boat are limited and we strongly recommend that you book your place with Thousand Islands Expeditions in advance.
- Boats cross to the island daily at 10am and 12pm returning at 12pm and 4pm.
- Sailings are weather dependant and can be cancelled at short notice if sea conditions become unsuitable.
- The return boat crossing with Thousand Islands Expeditions is £11 for adults and £5.50 for children. RSPB landing fees (payable in addition to the boat fee) are non-member adults £4, children and concessions £2. RSPB members, children under 5 and carers land for free.
- All fees are payable in advance at the Thousand Islands boat office in St David's.
- Registered assistance dogs are welcome.

Car Parking Facilities and Arrival

- Pay and Display parking is available at Oriel Y Parc Tourist Information centre in St David's (approximately 2 miles/3 km from St Justinian's) where there is a lit car park with level, even tarmac and disabled toilets.
- You can then walk, cycle or take a shuttle bus from St David's. The Celtic Coaster Shuttle bus departs daily between April and September from Oriel Y Parc car park. The first bus leaves at 9am and then on the hour thereafter. The frequency of the shuttle bus service increases to one every 15 minutes during the school summer holidays. This bus service will drop you at the top of the lifeboat station in St Justinian's.
- Alternatively, there is a pay and display car park at St Justinian's. There is a parking charge of £3/ day.

- Due to the narrow country lanes between St David's and St Justinian's and the limited parking, we would encourage use of public transport wherever possible.
- There is one Blue Badge parking space in the off-road lay-by at the lifeboat station in St Justinian's.
- The boat departure point is down a large flight of concrete steps with handrails to the base of the cliff, up a steep flight of steps with handrails to the top of the lifeboat station and then across and down the lifeboat station slipway. There are 10 metal and concrete steps from the boat onto Ramsey Island.

Visitor Centre

- The visitor reception area is in the harbour, with the shop and toilets located separately, a 5 minute walk on an uphill track.
- Binoculars are available to hire.
- Staff and volunteers are on hand to give any advice and assistance.
- There is some clear print information displayed on the walls, and information available about events (e.g. length and terrain of walks, suitability for different ages).

Nature Trails

- There is one circular trail which will take you to all the different parts of the reserve.
- This route is 3.5 miles (5.6 km) in length and climbs to 140 m above sea-level at its highest point.
- The trail is rocky, uneven and burrowed in places. Walking boots with ankle support are recommended. Care is required at all times, especially with small children.
- It is usually possible to split the full circuit into two loops for those who prefer a shorter walk.
- Benches provided at the shop, but there are none on the trail.
- Clear print information leaflet with map and large print information boards available.
- Staff and volunteers on hand at the harbour to help you get the most out of your visit.
- Ramsey is a working farm and the trail passes through areas where livestock (sheep, cattle and ponies) will be grazing and sheepdogs working. There are several gates but no stiles.



Nature trail

Viewing Facilities

- There are no hides or screens on the reserve. The only shelter is around the harbour area, so warm and waterproof clothing is essential at all times in case of a change in weather conditions.

Public Toilets

- Toilets are available on the island and are a 5-minute uphill walk from the harbour.
- These are 'composting' toilets requiring a 'long-drop' to function. Therefore, the toilet cubicles are located on the first floor, with access by a flight of 20 wooden steps.
- No water, so hand sanitiser provided.
- There are no alarm systems in the toilets.
- Only natural daylight.
- The floor is wooden.
- There are no baby changing facilities or adapted toilets on the island. There are 6 RADAR toilets in St David's including the Oriel Y Parc Car Park in St David's. Staff at the Visitor Centre, Oriel y Parc, St David's, will be able to offer advice. Baby changing is also available in St David's.

Catering

- A small selection of hot drinks, cold drinks and snacks, are available from staff and volunteers at the shop, which is situated a 5 minute walk on an uphill track from the harbour. No sandwiches are available so it is advisable to bring a picnic if staying all day.

Shop

- The shop is a 5 minute walk on an uphill track from the harbour.
- The shop is accessed via one small down step, and is entered through a door of 72 cm width.
- The area is lit by ceiling lights.
- All displays are at eye level.
- The floor is concrete.

Picnic Area

- There is 1 picnic area with 12 assorted benches. It is situated next to the shop.
- Visitors are welcome to bring their own food and drink. For the continued wellbeing of our wonderful seabirds, we politely ask to ensure that your picnic is packaged securely to keep Ramsey Island rat and mouse free. A sealed rucksack is better than a plastic bag.

Picnic area and shop



Contact Information

- Address: Ramsey Island, St David's, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6PY
- E-mail: ramsey.island@rspb.org.uk
- Telephone: 07836 535733
- Website: <http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/r/ramseyisland>
- Grid reference: SM706237
- Hours of operation: Monday-Sunday: 10am-4pm
- Local public transport:
http://st.davidsinfo.org.uk/coastal_buses.htm

- For information on boats and to book your crossing to Ramsey please contact the boat operator, Thousand Islands Expeditions, directly. You can call them on 01437 721721 or visit www.thousandislands.co.uk for more information.