

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 Ynys-hir RSPB Reserve

Introduction

The reserve is situated on the south side of the Dyfi estuary in mid-Wales. It's varied habitats include woodland, lowland wet grassland, salt-marshes and freshwater pools. The views are spectacular with some gentle level walks though most of the reserve is rugged. Spring brings summer migrants like redstart and pied flycatcher with many geese and ducks in winter. The visitor Centre is at the top of a medium slope with toilets below the car-park (no disabled toilet facilities available).

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01654 700222 or email ynys-hir@rspb.org.uk.

Pre-Arrival

- For a map and directions of how to reach us see the 'How to get here' section of our web-site. Alternatively, you can plan your journey by public transport or car using www.transportdirect.info; simply enter your postcode and ours, which is SY20 8TA to get directions.
- The nearest railway station is Dyfi junction which is 2 miles/4km away. There are no taxis and the walk to the main road is rugged. The most accessible railway station is Machynlleth where taxis and buses to the reserve are available.
- Bus services from Machynlleth are X28 (hourly Lloyds Coaches <http://planner.traveline-cymru.info/pdfs/timetables/PWAX028.pdf>) and T2 (Express Motors <http://planner.traveline-cymru.info/pdfs/timetables/GYAT002.pdf>) The nearest bus stop

- to the reserve is at Eglwysfach and the 1km walk to the reserve is along a single track, tarmac road with passing places.
- No large print and audio guides are available though an access statement is available with reserve leaflets at the Visitor Centre.
 - The reserve is open between 9am and dusk with the Visitor Centre open daily between 9am and 5pm April to October and 10am to 4pm November to March.
 - RSPB members free, £5 non-member adults, £2.50 non-members children.

Car Parking Facilities and Arrival



- There are two blue badge parking spaces available situated 30m from the Visitor Centre entrance.
- The car-park, with 30 spaces is adjacent to the Visitor Centre with a short walk to the entrance.
- The surface is compacted stone with a short, moderate to steep slope to the Centre. There is a hand-rail on one side of the slope with 4 steps to the Visitor Centre (ramp at one side of the verandah).
- Natural lighting only in the car-park.



Visitor Centre

- The entrance is via a double door (opens outwards to 1600mm width) with a pull down handle. There is a ramp into the Visitor Centre.
- The floor surface is carpet tiling.
- There are 5 chairs and a low table.
- No hearing loop system is available.
- Heated with a log stove.
- Evenly lit throughout with ceiling spotlights.
- Binoculars, explorer rucksacks, pond dipping kits and children's activity sheets are available for hire.
- Staff on hand 9am to 5pm Apr to Oct and 10am to 4pm Nov to March to give assistance.

Nature Trails

- The reserve has a variety of clearly sign-posted trails though most are rugged.
- The **blue** trail covers 1.5 miles and can take 1 to 1.5 hours to complete. It is mostly level with some slopes and a mixture of gravel and grass paths. There are 3 hides and 4 benches on route. There are 3 gates and two bridges on route (no stiles).
- The **green** trail covers 1 mile and can take 45-60 minutes to complete. The surface is natural stone and earth with many exposed roots. The path is steep in places and rugged with 3 gates and 1 bench.
- The **red** trail is a 3.5 miles and can take 2 – 3.5 hours to complete. It is a mixture of natural stone, gravel, grass paths and a boardwalk. It has 3 hides (two with steps for access and one up a moderate slope, plus one viewing screen with step access. It is steep in places with 3 benches and 6 gates and 1 cattle grid.



Viewing Facilities

- There are 5 bird hides and 1 viewing screen.
- The Marian Mawr hide has level access with no steps, door opening width is 870mm with a lever handle at 1070mm height. Seating is movable benches with windows opened from a standing position. 2 low windows.



- The Domen Las hide is via a narrow pathway liable to flooding at high tides, with one 5" step to hide. The door opens inwards with an opening width of 890mm and a knob handle. Seating is moveable benches. No low windows.



- The Saltings hide has 9 6" steps to hide with an 870mm entrance (no door). Seating is benches with some gaps. No low windows.



- The Ynys-hir hide has 7 6" steps. The door has an opening width of 790mm with a turn knob handle. Seating is fixed benches with no low windows.



- Ynys Feurig Hide is approached up a grass and hard surface moderate slope with a lip into the hide of 6 inches high. There are no low windows, the benches are unfixed.



Toilets



- Toilets are located via a ramp or steps below the car-park.

- There are no disabled toilet facilities available.
- There are separate Gents and Ladies toilets.
- Lighting is fluorescent tubing with a pull string handle.
- The flooring is quarry tiling.
- There are baby-changing facilities in both Ladies and Gents.

Catering

- There is a coffee machine serving fresh ground coffee, tea and hot chocolate, cold drinks and light refreshments (eg flapjacks, crisps, biscuits and cake) available in the Visitor Centre with a member of staff always available to help when the Visitor Centre is open.
- Otherwise, the nearest places to purchase food and drink are Cwni Cletrr café and The Wildfowler Inn at Tre'r ddol (3miles away) or the Black Lion Inn at Derwenlas (3 miles away). At Machynlleth there are a variety of cafes, pubs and shops some 5 miles from the reserve.

Picnic Area



- There is 1 picnic area located next to the car-park 40m from the Visitor Centre.

- There are 4 picnic tables and benches with spaces for wheelchair users at each end of each table.
- Visitors are free to bring their own refreshments.

Contact Information

Address (Inc postcode): Ynys-hir RSPB Reserve Eglwys-fach,
Machynlleth, Powys. SY20 8TA

Telephone: 01654 700222

Email: ynys-hir@rspb.org.uk

Website: www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/ynys-hir

Grid Reference: SN680960