

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 Stanley Spencer Gallery

Policy

We look forward to welcoming you. Our vision is to try to remove or minimize any physical or social barriers that may inadvertently prevent anyone who wishes from doing so. We are a small gallery run entirely by volunteers but we aim to provide as professional an environment as other accredited galleries. There is normally only one volunteer on duty. They can provide documents designed to assist visitors e.g. large print documents and provide access to the lift to the mezzanine floor but, because of their other duties, are unable to provide personal support to an individual visitor. If you need a higher level of support than the custodian can provide, please contact us before your visit and we will try to provide the necessary assistance.

If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01628 471885 or [email access@stanleyspencer.org.uk](mailto:email_access@stanleyspencer.org.uk) and one of our volunteers will contact you.

If you would like to discuss arranging a visit for a group of people with disabilities please [contact access@stanleyspencer.org.uk](mailto:contact_access@stanleyspencer.org.uk) and one of our volunteers will contact you.

Pre-Arrival

- Brief details of how to get to the Gallery are on our web site. Our postcode is SL69SJ. You can plan your journey using <http://www.transportdirect.info/>
- Unfortunately the gallery does not have toilet facilities for visitors. The public toilets are located around the corner in a small car park. The toilets include disabled facilities and the Gallery holds a RADAR key.
- The Gallery does not have refreshment facilities but there are a range of options in the village High Street.
- The Gallery cannot provide a wheelchair or other mobility aids. If you use a wheelchair, the main doors are 103cm wide, the lift is 79cm wide and the fire door is 93cm.

Public Transport

- The train service is operated by First Great Western with the principal station being Maidenhead. There are taxis available at Maidenhead and some vehicles are designed for travelers with disabilities. There is a branch railway line from Maidenhead to Marlow which stops at Cookham. Cookham Station is approximately one mile from the Gallery.
- There are a number of taxis licensed by the Local Authority specifically for the purpose of transporting disabled and/or wheelchair bound passengers from the taxi ranks in Windsor and Maidenhead. Please call the following numbers to book their services Windsor – 01753 862020 or Maidenhead 01628 634311
- A bus service (Bus 37 towards High Wycombe Bus Station) runs from Bridge Avenue, Maidenhead to Cookham. The bus stops at the Memorial in the Village which is approximately 400 yards west of the Gallery.
- The route to the Gallery from public transport is generally flat and tarmac / paved.

Car Parking and Arrival

- Car parking is available in a small public car park close to the Gallery and on-street parking is also available for two hours. The on-street parking is on the north side of the High Street and the Gallery is on the south side. There are designated spaces for disabled drivers. The most accessible place to cross the High Street is opposite the Kings Arms public house. There is also a large car park on Cookham Moor to the west of the village High Street. Car parking in the village and its car parks is free but traffic wardens patrol the Village and visitors are advised to check the time limits when parking.
- The approach to the Gallery from the small car park and on-street parking is flat, even and generally tarmac. The larger car park is 'grassland' and is uneven and may be muddy during wet weather.

Main Entrance, Reception and Ticketing Area

- The Gallery entrance is flat with no stairs and is located on the High Street side of the building. The outer door automatically opens outwards. There are large buttons to open the inner doors and the outer door to leave the building. The doors are wheel-chair accessible.
- The main entrance is staffed by a volunteer custodian who takes admission, sells catalogues and provides brief information to visitors about Stanley Spencer, the Gallery and the Exhibition.
- A hearing loop is installed at the entrance. Our custodians cannot converse using BSL but paper and pencil is available for questions and answers if necessary.
- On request the Custodian can provide a large print copy of labels and other information for visitors, provide the leaflet with QR codes for visual descriptions, provide the RADAR key, and operate the doors and lift. However, because of the variety of tasks required of the Custodian they are unable to give any other assistance to visitors. If you need additional assistance in

terms of visual descriptions or mobility requirements please contact the Gallery to plan your visit.

- The entrance and Gallery are well lit with ceiling lighting. The floor surface is wood and there are no rugs or carpets. Benches are available for seating. The stairs have ribbed edges.
- The admissions desk is low and therefore accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. There is no screen between visitors and the custodian
- A lift is available for taking visitors to the mezzanine floor on which exhibits, the video screen and archives are located.
- The Custodian can provide drinking water for assistance dogs on request.

Attraction (displays, exhibits, rides etc.)

- The Gallery presents approximately 50 paintings and drawings by Spencer.
- Artifacts are displayed in cabinets with glass sides and which can be viewed by people in wheel chairs.
- There are extensive archives which are primarily printed documents. The archive material in the Gallery is accessible to people with wheelchairs.
- An audio-visual presentation is available and an iPad is used to allow visitors to interrogate selected paintings from our core collection. A set of earphones for use with hearing aids is available.
- QR codes enable visitors with 'smart phones' to listen to comments on a selection of paintings.
- A number of paintings /drawings are hung on the wall adjacent to the stairs and, although visible from both floors, cannot be examined closely by visitors who are unable to use stairs without assistance.
- A children's activity leaflet is available from the Custodian.
- A booklet is on sale which describes a walk around the village and highlights the sites at which many of Spencer's paintings were created or are represented in his work

Email: access@stanleypencer.org.uk

Website: www.stanleypencer.org.uk

Hours of Operation: Check web site for specific dates - Summer (April to November) 10.30 - 5.30 Sunday to Saturday; Winter 11.00 to 4.30 Thursday to Sunday.