



Sun, sea and... step-free access

Your guide to
an accessible
break in Brighton

Welcome to your guide

When choosing where to go on your next English holiday the last thing you should have to worry about is whether or not the hotels and attractions are accessible. After all, holidays are meant to be fun!

That's why we've developed this guide containing places to stay and visit that have all worked through VisitEngland's rigorous Access For All process. This process ensures that:

- Key members of staff have completed disability awareness training, helping to ensure you receive a warm welcome and your needs are met.
- Hotels have been assessed under the National Accessible Scheme and awarded the appropriate ratings for mobility, hearing and visual impairments.
- Attractions and other venues have received an audit from a professional tourism access advisor and are working through plans to improve their accessibility.

- All venues have received a mystery visit from individuals with access needs.

- All venues have an access statement available on their website giving detailed information on their accessibility.

We've also teamed up with the Disabled Persons Railcard to bring you all the information you need should you wish to travel to your holiday destination by train.

We appreciate that everyone's access needs are different, so whilst we can't guarantee that every venue listed in this guide will meet your individual needs, we hope this provides a good starting point for researching your next holiday.

When in doubt, we would advise checking with the individual business or attraction before booking.

To find out more go to **[VisitEngland.com/accessforall](https://www.visitengland.com/accessforall)**

About Brighton & Hove

Brighton & Hove is the UK's favourite seaside break with miles of vibrant beachfront and a cultural, cosmopolitan city to be explored. There's something for everyone, from the independent shops of the Lanes and the North Laine to stunning Regency architecture. There are restaurants serving cuisines from around the world and cultural venues and events inspiring visitors daily. As well as all this, the city is home to the exotic Royal Pavilion and the iconic Brighton Pier.

We are committed to making our city accessible to all. The accessibility section of www.visitbrighton.com has lots

you can download, including factsheets and general information about access in the city. There is also a downloadable map showing the locations of the dropped kerbs in the city centre, as well as photo-routes showing step-free access to the main attractions and the hotels in this guide.

Please contact our friendly and knowledgeable team for more help and advice on **01273 290337**.

We look forward to welcoming you to Brighton & Hove!

**[www.visitbrighton.com/
plan-your-visit/accessibility](http://www.visitbrighton.com/plan-your-visit/accessibility)**



Places to go

Brighton Museum & Art Gallery

Home to some of the most important and eclectic collections outside of national institutions, the museum has galleries that are dynamic and innovative. Highlights include Fashion & Style, 20th Century Art & Design and Fine Art.

The museum provides step-free access, accessible toilets and power-assisted doors throughout.

Further accessible facilities include a hearing loop at the information desk and shop, a tactile/Braille map and RNIB Penfriends in selected galleries.

Located in the Royal Pavilion Gardens, the Museum is just a short distance from the accommodation options listed in this guide.

The museum is open daily, except Mondays, and is free of charge, except in the case of some special exhibitions and events. Disabled visitors receive discounts on admission fees and companions can enter for free.

Tel 03000 290900
www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk/Museums



Places to go

The Royal Pavilion

A Brighton must-see, the Royal Pavilion was built between 1787 and 1823 for the Prince Regent. It served as his seaside palace and retains all the grandeur befitting of the Prince!

The ground floor is accessible and features a variety of art and furniture, including original pieces lent by HM the Queen, as well as a magnificent display of Regency era silver-gilt.

Due to the age of the Pavilion, step-free access isn't available to the second floor but the audio-visual room on the ground floor provides audio guides and full virtual tours.

The beautiful Pavilion Gardens have level routes, are accessible to wheelchair users and lead to a fully accessible café.

Free audio tours are available and include BSL and visually impaired versions, as well as a hearing loop in the main entrance.

Disabled visitors receive discounts on admission fees and companions can enter for free.

Tel 03000 290900
**[www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk/
RoyalPavilion](http://www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk/RoyalPavilion)**



Places to go

Hove Museum & Art Gallery

Hove Museum & Art Gallery is home to a range of collections, including toys, cinema, local history and fine art – as well as hosting one of the country's finest craft collections.

Only a short distance from the centre of Brighton, the museum can be reached using the many accessible buses or by car/taxi. Free parking is also available on site for Blue Badge holders.

The museum is spread over two floors but benefits from a lift. Other accessible facilities include a hearing loop at reception, a pictogram map

of the museum, tactile/Braille guides and accessible toilets.

The museum is open daily, except Wednesdays, and is free except for some special exhibitions and events. Disabled visitors receive discounts on admission fees and companions can enter for free.

Tel 03000 290900

www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk/Museums



Places to go

Preston Manor

Owned for over 200 years by the Stanford family, this delightful house transports you to a world of heirs and heiresses, servants and butlers and even the odd ghost!

Collections on show include ceramics, glass, silver and clocks, as well as the illustrious Macquoid Bequest.

Preston Manor is easily reached using the city's accessible buses. Free parking is available and both the ground floor and basement are wheelchair accessible. The walled garden can be reached via Preston Park, adjacent to the manor.

Other facilities include audio description listening posts, a selection of tactile exhibits and an accessible toilet.

The Manor is open daily, except Mondays and Saturdays, from April to September. An admission charge is payable but there are discounts for disabled visitors and companions can enter for free.

Tel 03000 290900
**[www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk/
Museums](http://www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk/Museums)**



Places to stay

Thistle Brighton

A modern 4 star hotel, the Thistle Brighton is situated directly on the seafront, a stone's throw from the pier and backing onto the famous 'Lanes'. It's also only a short distance from the Brighton Centre, mainline station and the city's numerous attractions, restaurants and shops.

Features of this impressive hotel include a health club, heated swimming pool, sauna, multi-gym, Promenade Restaurant, café bar, spectacular atrium and air-conditioning throughout.

The hotel has a sea view suite suitable for wheelchair users

and visually or hearing impaired guests. As part of the suite there's a lounge with a sofa bed for travelling companions.

All public areas are accessible with lift access from the car park to the hotel reception and from the ground floor to the restaurant area.

Tel 0871 376 9041
www.thistle.com/brighton



Places to stay

Hilton Brighton Metropole

This elegant Victorian hotel benefits from a prime position on the seafront, uninterrupted sea views and has recently received a total refurbishment.

Located a short distance from the mainline station, the hotel enjoys close proximity to Brighton's biggest attractions, restaurants and shops.

Features of the hotel include its own restaurant, bar and terrace – all accessible and perfect for afternoon teas or refreshments after a fun filled day. There is also a health club with an accessible pool lift, gym with accessible cardio and weight

machines - as well as a separate unisex toilet and shower.

There are 5 accessible rooms suitable for wheelchair users and visually impaired people. They provide wider access, emergency pull cords and wheel-in showers.

Tel 01273 775432

www.hilton.co.uk/brightonmet



Places to stay

Jurys Inn

Conveniently located next to the mainline station in the recently developed New England Quarter, the Jurys Inn Brighton is close to the North Laine and a variety of restaurants and bars.

This modern hotel features a stylish on-site bar, restaurant, Costa Coffee and high-speed WiFi throughout – with all public areas fully accessible.

There are 3 en-suite accessible rooms on each floor equipped to a 3 star standard suitable for wheelchair users, visually impaired guests and guests with hearing loss.

All rooms feature complimentary information on local attractions and places to eat for guests with access needs.

Rooms include air conditioning, multi channel flat screen televisions, direct dial telephones, hairdryers and tea/coffee making facilities.

Tel 01273 862121

www.brightonhotels.jurysinns.com



How to get there

Nearest accessible National Rail station: Brighton

- Advance Single tickets from London by train from £5.00 (or £3.30 with a Railcard)
- Off-Peak Single tickets from Portsmouth Harbour by train from £14.90 (or £9.85 with a Railcard)

Check out the latest offers from all of Britain's train companies at nationalrail.co.uk, and use the Cheapest Fare Finder tool to find the best value fare for you.

Save 1/3 on rail fares with a Disabled Persons Railcard

A Disabled Persons Railcard allows you – and one adult travelling with you - to get 1/3 off most rail fares throughout Great Britain. You may qualify if you have a disability that makes travelling by train difficult. Visit disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk, pick up a leaflet from a National Rail station, or call **0845 605 0525**.

Disabled Persons Railcard

Passenger Assist is a service provided by train companies to those who require assistance with any part of their train journey. Staff can help plan your journey, book tickets and make reservations; they can also assist at stations, with anything from boarding and alighting trains, changing platforms to finding your seat.

To book assistance call National Rail Enquiries on **08457 48 49 50** who will connect you to the correct train company Passenger Assistance team on your route.



Other guides available



National Accessible Scheme

Hotels that display one or more of the logos shown below have been independently assessed against demanding criteria.



Older and less mobile guests

If you can climb a flight of stairs, but banisters or grip handles would make it easier.



Part-time wheelchair users

If you have problems walking or can walk a maximum of 3 steps, or need to use a wheelchair some of the time.



Guests with hearing loss

If you have a slight hearing difficulty, are deaf, wear a hearing aid or have hearing loss.



Visually impaired guests

If you have difficulty reading small print, are registered blind, have poor sight or a visual impairment.

**This guide is available in PDF, large print
Word document and audio formats at
VisitEngland.com/accessforall**

A limited number of printed copies are available for those who cannot access the guides online. Email qad@VisitEngland.org or call **0207 578 1454** to request a copy.