

Access Guide – Moors Valley

Saturday 13th – Sunday 21st September

10am – 4pm Saturday 13th – Sunday 21st September

7pm-10pm Thursday 18th September: Evening performances – bookings via our website: <https://activateperformingarts.org.uk/whats-on/event/canopy/>

Moors Valley Country Park and Forest, Horton Road, Ashley Heath, near Ringwood, BH24 2ET

This Access Guide is produced by Activate Performing Arts and aims to inform and support audiences planning to attend Inside Out Dorset 2025. The guide contains information about accessing our events and the facilities available to audiences onsite. All events will have a dedicated Information Point if you have any questions on the day or you can contact us if you have any further questions or feedback.

Hard copies of all our print materials are available upon request.

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Introduction

Moors Valley Country Park and Forest, Horton Road, Ashley Heath, Dorset, BH24 2ET

Located between Wimborne and Ringwood to the north of Bournemouth, Moors Valley is a large country park offering a range of woodland trails and visitor facilities. The events will take place within the park, with access to each presentation outlined in this guide.

Moors Valley's Visitor Centre, close to where the event information point will be:



Grading Key

The following coding system has been used where possible, detailed descriptions on each site are also included. The information included in this guide is to help audience members decide how they access the event sites.

1

Gentle to moderate gradients with reasonably level surfaces. Path surfaces include tarmac, short grass and firm compacted gravel. No narrow gaps, steps or other access restrictions. Suitable for some wheelchair and mobility scooter users, but assistance may be required on some slopes and surfaces.

2

Moderate gradients with uneven surfaces. Long grass and uneven surfaced paths with loose gravel, and larger sized stones. No narrow gaps, steps or other access restrictions. Suitable for users of some all-terrain mobility scooters.

3

Steep gradients or paths with narrow, uneven surfaces. Long grass, un-surfaced paths with larger diameter loose gravel, bare earth, exposed tree roots and large stones. Narrow gaps including bridges, steps and other access restrictions. Not suitable for wheelchair or mobility scooter users.

CANOPY by Lorna Rees Company

Sound installation in a woodland setting. Seed pods are suspended from trees with audio devices. At the clearing, a horsebox with further sound installation can be found. At times there are performers along the trail. There will be touch resources at the end of the trail to play with and explore.

Type of Event: Installation and roaming performers

Grading Key:

1

Terrain: Compacted earth, woodland, rough pathways. Site starts at approximately 550m from the information point and car park and continues for a further 500m. Return distance from the end to information point and car park is 1km. Total distance for entire route approximately 2km.

Duration: ongoing

Seated / standing: Standing

Designated Access Area: No

Sudden Loud noises and Lighting effects: None

Thursday 18th September evening performances ONLY

Sound installation in a woodland setting. Seed pods are suspended from trees with audio devices. At the clearing, a horsebox with further sound installation and a live choir can be found. There are performers along the trail. This is a guided event and audience members are asked to bring torches.

Type of Event: Installation and choral performance

Grading Key:

1

Terrain: Compacted earth, woodland rough pathways. Site starts at approximately 550m from the information point and car park and continues for a further 500m. Return distance from the end to information point and car park is 1km. Total distance for entire route approximately 2km.

Duration: 1 hour from meeting at Information Point to end of performance.

Seated/ standing: Standing

Designated Access Area: No

Sudden Loud noises and Lighting effects: None

Site Information

The Moors Valley website has further Access Information including routes, maps, facilities and details on Wheelchair and Mobility Scooter Hire.

Find out more: <https://www.moors-valley.co.uk/visitor-information/access/>

Parking

The Car Park has a ticketless barrier system, using number plate recognition. At the entry barrier, your number plate will be recorded, and the barrier will lift. At the end of your visit, enter your number plate at the pay stations and pay the fee due according to the length of your visit. Alternatively, you can pay for a stay that is over 5 hours at any time. Cash and credit/debit cards are accepted, receipts are available. The exit barrier will read your number plate and lift automatically.

There are 13 disabled parking spaces in the first car park loop, near to the ice cream kiosk. Parking is Free for Blue Badge holders if their vehicle is registered as Tax Exempt for Disability – to have this validated go to the Information Point inside the Visitor Centre. For more information on what you need go to: <https://www.moors-valley.co.uk/visitor-information/access/>

Accessible Toilets

Changing Places standard toilet is available at the Visitor Centre. A RADAR key is required for the Changing Places standard toilet, please ask staff at the Visitor Centre Information Point for a loan key if you do not have your own.

Additional wheelchair accessible toilets can be found at Kingsmere Station and in the Golf Centre.

Touch Tour

There will be a touch tour available with the company at 10am on Sunday 21st September, booking required. To find out more please contact Jen Walke-Myles on 07961 196567 / email jewalke@gmail.com
Each ticket includes +1 free PA/Carer.

General Performance Guidance

We encourage people to bring what they need to be comfortable, such as headphones/headsets, blankets or pillows, sunglasses, and digital or stim devices. People will be free to enjoy the work how they wish; there will be appropriately briefed staff on site; and there will be an identified quiet space nearby.

The work is situated within a woodland walk and people are free to move closer and further away from the artwork as they need. There is no requirement for audience members to complete the entire walk, and all are free to take the walk as fast or slowly as they wish.

The Thursday 18th September evening performances are guided and whilst audience members are welcome to leave early if they wish, volunteers will be stewarding the audience as a group.

General Information

Access Plan

Our full festival Access Plan is available from our [website](#).

Access Volunteers

There will be designated Access Volunteers at all sites and they will be clearly identified. Look for the Logo:



Designated Viewing Areas / Seating

This event is not seated and does not have a designated Disabled Viewing Area, as the audience move along the woodland trail at their own pace, so suitable footwear is essential. You are encouraged to bring your own seat if you require one.

Chilled Performances

All of the activities are chilled performances. A chilled performance takes a more casual approach to noise and movement in the performance space, but the performance itself is unchanged. We always have friendly staff and volunteers on hand if you have any questions.

Visual Story

We have a Visual Story available for the festival from our [website](#).

Contact Details

Contact: Jenna Hubbard, Assistant Festival Producer

Office: 01305 260954

Email: access@activateperformingarts.org.uk

Address: Activate Performing Arts, 7-9 The Little Keep, Bridport Road,
Dorchester, DT1 1SQ

We aim to respond to all access enquiries within 2 working days, but there may be a delay during the festival period 12th-21st September 2025 whilst we are running the festival events.

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