



Accessibility Guide for Mining Art Gallery

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<http://www.aucklandcastle.org/events/categories/mining-art-gallery/>

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Welcome

The Mining Art Gallery will provide a permanent home for the renowned Gemini Collection of Mining Art, which includes more than 420 works by prominent local artists such as Tom McGuinness and Norman Cornish.

Using this powerful imagery the site will help visitors to understand what it felt like to work in the coalmines and shed light on why some miners felt it necessary to paint the dark, clamorous, claustrophobic and arcane world, otherwise denied to the gaze of those above ground.

The Mining Art Gallery will also offer a wide range of opportunities to explore the history of mining and the impact it had, not just on those who worked there, but on County Durham as a whole.

At a Glance

Level Access

- The main entrance has level access with a ramp. The ramp is permanent.
- There is level access from the main entrance to:
 - The Art of Mining - Gallery 1
 - Coal to Canvas - Gallery 2
 - A Dangerous Life - Gallery 3
 - Beneath the Surface - Gallery 4
 - Face to Face - Gallery 5
 - Community Life - Gallery 8
 - Welcome Space
 - Ground Floor Toilet
 - Mining Art Gift Shop

Hearing

- We have a hearing loop in Welcome Desk.
- Some staff have disability awareness training.

Visual

- The walls and the doors have high colour contrast.
- Some parts of the venue have low lighting.

General

- We have a complimentary ticket policy for personal assistants.
- There is a public toilet for disabled visitors.
- Some staff have disability awareness training.

Getting here

Market Place
Bishop Auckland
County Durham
DL14 7NP

Travel by public transport

- You can get to Mining Art Gallery by bus and train.
- Directly across the street from the Mining Art Gallery is a bus stop. It is possible to cross this road using dropped kerbs for a level route to the Gallery. Alternately the bus station can be found on the opposite side of the Newgate Centre. The bus stop is 0 miles / 0.0 km from Mining Art Gallery.
- The nearest train station is Bishop Auckland Train Station. The train station is 0.7 miles / 1.1 km from Mining Art Gallery.

- It is a straight walk up Newgate Street from the train station to the Market Place where the Mining Art Gallery is located.
- You can get a taxi with S & S Travel by calling 01388 615531. The taxi company has a wheelchair accessible vehicle.
- Wheelchair users can use the transfer service.

Parking

- There is parking near the venue. There are accessible parking spaces. Parking is not free.
- On the opposite side of the Market Place there is a drop off zone that runs the length of the road. The island between the two roads in the market place also contains a number of blue badge parking spaces. From the car park to the entrance, there is level access. There is a permanent ramp.
- The route is 480mm wide, or more.
- The route from the car park to the Mining Art Gallery uses public pavements, and involves crossing the road twice. These crossings do have dropped kerbs.



Map to show location of Gallery

Arrival

Path to main entrance

- From the street to the main entrance, there is level access.
- There is a permanent ramp.
- The path is 480mm wide, or more.
- The path is sloped.

Main entrance

- The main entrance has level access.
- There is a permanent ramp.
- The main door is side hung and manual.
- The door is 330mm wide.



Permanent ramp up to main entrance

Getting around inside

Visual Impairment - General Information

- We have high colour contrast between walls and doorframes.
- Some parts of the venue have low lighting.

Lift

- We have 1 lift.
- You can get a lift to all floors.

Central Lift

- The lift door is 355mm wide.
- The lift is 375mm wide. The lift is 570mm deep.
- The lift says the floor number at each floor.
- The lift buttons have raised numbers or letters.
- The lift shows the floor number, at each floor.
- To access the lift please contact a member of staff.

Ticket/ information desk

Welcome Space

- The route is 330mm wide, or more.
- The desk has a low section.



Floor Plan of Gallery

Things to See and Do

- We have a complimentary ticket policy for personal assistants.
- Other formats available on request, if you would like a specific format available for your visit please request in advance.

The Art of Mining - Gallery 1

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. Some display information is low, for wheelchair users. Some videos have subtitles.

Coal to Canvas - Gallery 2

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. The route is 320mm wide, or more. Some display information is low, for wheelchair users.

A Dangerous Life - Gallery 3

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. The route is 320mm wide, or more. The door is 340mm wide.
- Some display information is low, for wheelchair users. There are seats.

Beneath the Surface - Gallery 4

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. There is a permanent ramp. The route is 320mm wide, or more. The door is 345mm wide.
- Some display information is low, for wheelchair users. There are seats.

Face to Face - Gallery 5

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. There is a permanent ramp. There is a lift.
- From the lift to this area, the route is 355mm wide, or more. Some display information is low, for wheelchair users.

Home and Family - Gallery 7

- There is a lift.
- The door is 305mm wide.
- Some display information is low, for wheelchair users. There are seats.

- We have a lovely old building and due to the historic stairs we are unable to offer access to this Gallery to any of our visitors who would require assisted evacuation. A gallery guide is available for viewing in the welcome space which contains all the information and interpretation presented in the Home and Family gallery.

Community Life - Gallery 8

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. The door is 385mm wide.
- Some display information is low, for wheelchair users. There are seats.
- We have a lovely old building and due to the historic stairs we are only able to offer access to this Gallery to one visitor who would require assisted evacuation at a time.

Public toilet

Ground Floor Toilet

- There is a public toilet for disabled visitors.
- From the main entrance to the public toilet, there is level access. There is a permanent ramp.
- The route is 320mm wide, or more.
- The toilet door is 350mm wide.
- The direction of transfer is to the left.
- There is 400mm at the side of the toilet. There is 500mm in front of the toilet. The toilet seat is 180mm high. The toilet has handrails.



Accessible Toilet

Shop

Mining Art Gift Shop

- From the main entrance to the shop, there is level access. The route is 330mm wide, or more. The route through the shop is 800mm wide, or more.

Customer care support



Accessibility equipment

- We have a hearing loop in Welcome Desk.

Emergency evacuation procedures

- We have emergency evacuation procedures for disabled visitors.
- We have a lovely old building and due to the historic stairs are only able to assist with the evacuation of one visitor from the top floor (Gallery 8) via evac chair. We can only accommodate one visitor requiring assisted evacuation upstairs at a time, and are unable to offer access to Gallery 7, a gallery guide is available for viewing in the welcome space.



Customer care support

- Some staff have disability awareness training.
- Alternate formats of visitor information are available on request, please let us know at least a week in advance if you have any specific requests.

Guide last updated: 17 October 2017