

Accessibility Guide for The Hippodrome

www.falkirkleisureandculture.org | 01324 590913 / 01506 778502

Contact for accessibility enquiries: Alison Strauss/ Debbie Sutherland



Welcome

Our visitor attraction is at the heart of the coastal town of Bo`ness, Hope Street, where we've been inspiring visitors with a vast range of films available across all genres for 10 years now since extensive refurbishment of our lovely cinema dating originally from 1912.

The Hippodrome is Scotland's oldest purpose-built cinema. An A-listed historic building, it is the masterpiece of architect Matthew Steele, who left Bo'ness with a remarkable built heritage of early 20th century design styles, and it was the vision of Louis Dickson to bring film to life and his dream to reality.

The cinema never ceases to wow new visitors – the auditorium has been described as giving its customers “a warm hug”.

"The Hippodrome's fame as a beautifully restored vintage picture palace draws cinemagoers from far and wide" Scottish Life Magazine

"The Hippodrome is an essential experience for any film fan" WoW 24/7

The Hippodrome is the home to world famous Silent Film Festival which runs every year in March.

We are fully accessible for wheelchair users and can cater for anyone with other specific access requirements.

Please get in touch if you require any further information about specific access or need advice on planning your visit.

At a Glance

Level Access

- There is level access from the main entrance to:
 - The ground floor
 - The catering pod
 - The bar
 - Box office
 - Unisex Accessible Toilet

Hearing

- We have a hearing loop in all public areas throughout our attraction.
- All staff are disability awareness trained.

Visual

- Some parts of the venue have low lighting.
- Headsets available for audio descriptive screenings.
- The menu/price display board is in large print.

General

- We have a complimentary ticket policy for personal assistants.
- All staff are disability awareness trained.

Getting here

10 Hope Street

Bo`ness

West Lothian

EH51 0AA

Travel by public transport

- You can get to The Hippodrome by car, bus and train (via Linlithgow).
- The nearest bus stop is at the bus station, East Pier Street 0.2 miles / 0.4 km from The Hippodrome.

The nearest train station is Linlithgow Station, which is served by regular trains from Edinburgh, Glasgow and Stirling/Dunblane. Details of rail services are available from [National Rail Enquiries](#) on 03457 484950. The train station is 3.7 miles / 6.0 km from The Hippodrome .

Travel by taxi

- From Linlithgow Rail Station, the average taxi fare is £6 and will take approx 15 mins. There are a number of firms operating in the area including Express Taxis 01506 824244 and Fourways Taxis 01506 823607.
- Bo'ness lies on the south bank of the Firth of Forth. Travelling from the west, exit the M9 at J5 or J3 and then follow the brown tourist signs for Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway and the Hippodrome. From the east exit at J3 and again follow the brown signs.

Free Parking

- The Hippodrome is within easy walking distance of various free parking zones in Bo'ness town centre.

Arrival

Path to main entrance

- From the street to the main entrance, there is level access.
- The path is 990mm wide, or more.
- The path is sloped.

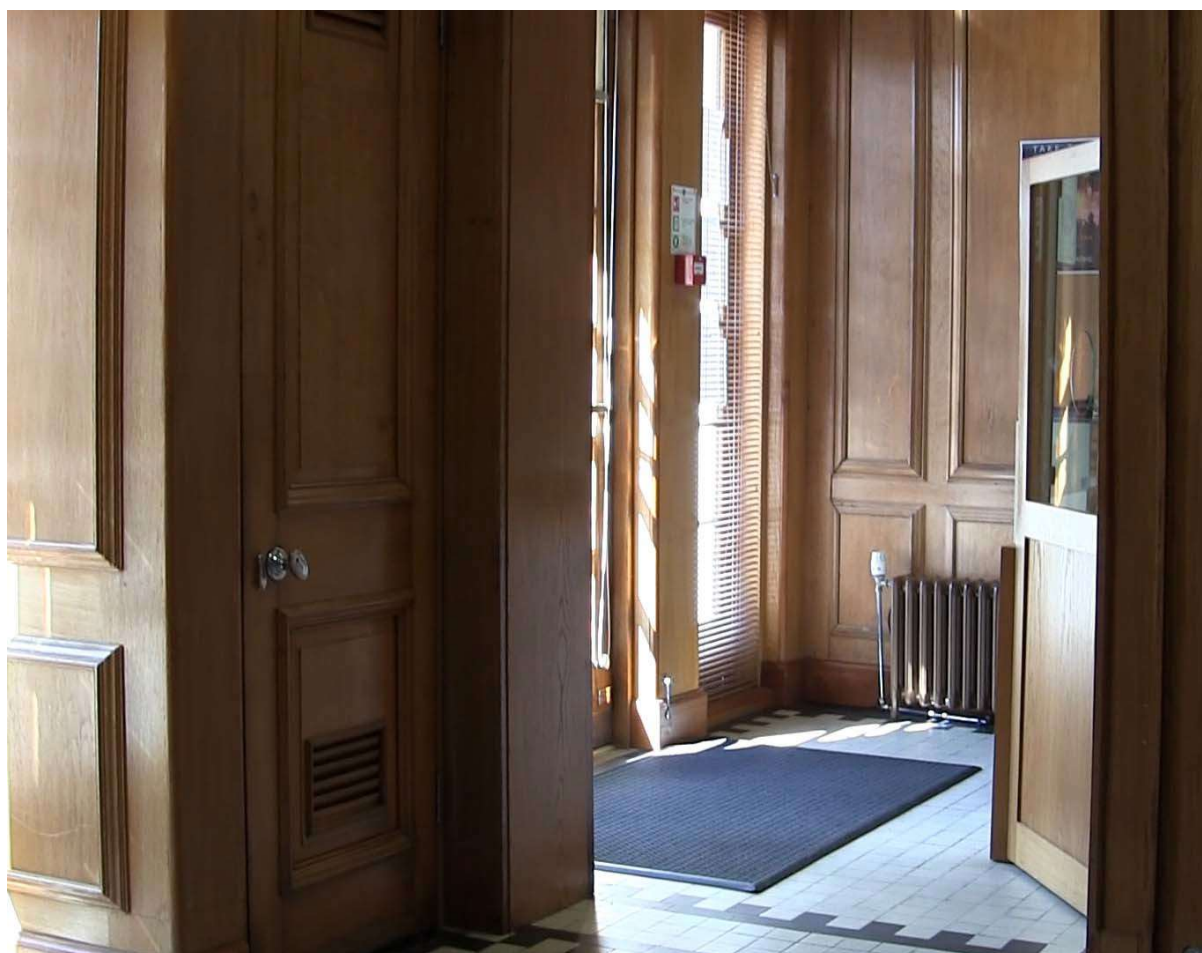
Main entrance

- The main entrance has level access.
- The main entrance has double doors for access.
- The door is 900mm wide.
- The floor is tiled.

View of our main entrance from North Street:



Entrance foyer:



Getting around inside

Visual Impairment - General Information

- Our doors are wooden with small glass panes.
- Some parts of the venue have low lighting.

Ticket/ information desk

Ticketing area

- From the main entrance to the desk, there is level access. The route is 900mm wide, or more.
- The desk has a low section – 700mm.
- The area is well and evenly lit by ceiling spot lights. There is a complimentary ticket policy for carers.

Ticket desk with low counter desk area:



The Auditorium

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. Some display information is low, for wheelchair users. There are three designated spaces for wheelchairs. There is a hearing loop.
- There are subtitles and captioned screenings.
- There are autism friendly screenings, the lights are not completely dimmed, with a reduced sound level and no adverts or trailers.



The Catering POD:



The Bar

- From the main entrance to this area, there is level access. Some display information is low for wheelchair users.
- There is a hearing loop.
- This is a large, brightly lit area.



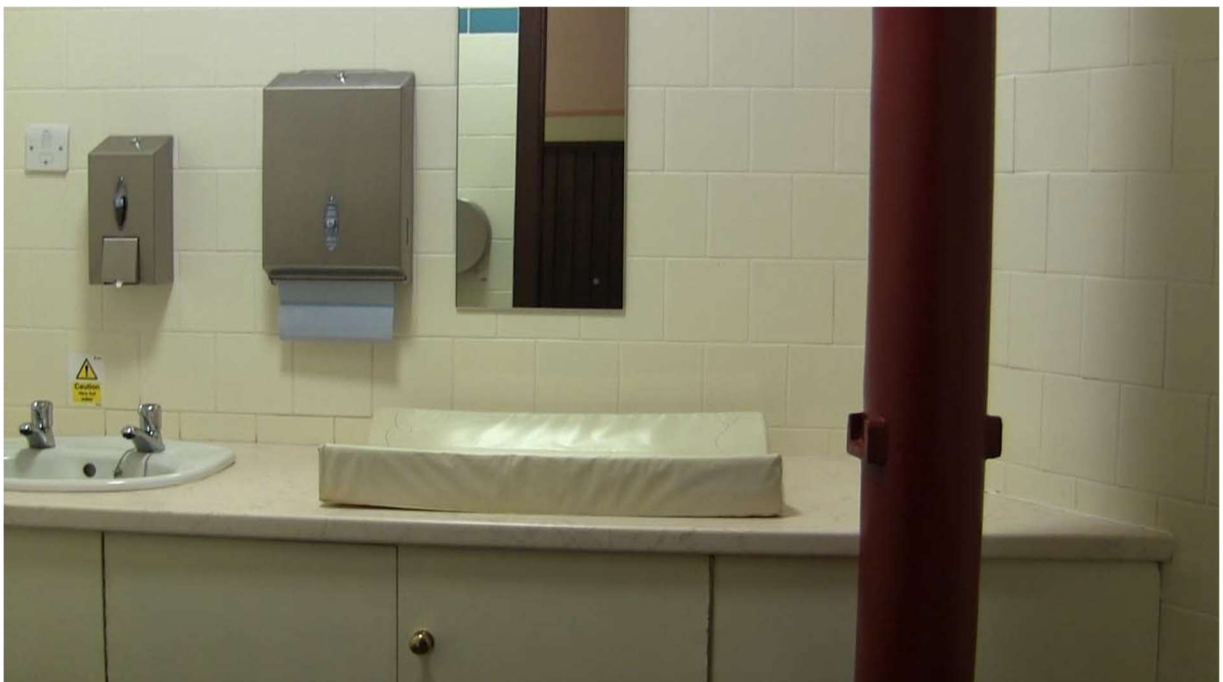
Unisex Accessible Toilet

- There is a public toilet for disabled visitors.
- From the main entrance to the public toilet, there is level access. The toilet door is 800mm wide.
- There is 1100mm in front of the toilet. The toilet seat is 45mm high.
- There are horizontal grab rails located to the right of the toilet. There are other public toilets on this floor.

Accessible Public Toilet:



Baby changing facilities within another Accessible Toilet:



Place to eat and drink

- There is background music.
- We cater for sugar free (diabetic) and gluten free diets.

Customer care support**Accessibility equipment**

- We have a hearing loop in all public areas throughout our attraction.
- We welcome assistance dogs and can provide water bowls for them. Please ask staff for assistance.

Emergency evacuation procedures

- We have emergency evacuation procedures for disabled visitors.
- In the case of an evacuation, all customers inside the Hippodrome will be led to safety by a member of the team or by a member of the fire brigade.

Customer care support

- All staff are disability awareness trained.