RHS Accessibility Statement

If you have a question regarding the accessibility of our venue, please contact us by email at, <u>access@rhass.org.uk</u>.

Tickets for The Royal Highland Show

Click here to purchase tickets.

Accessible Day Single – This ticket is your admission ticket and includes one complimentary companion ticket. Please be aware that when booking tickets you will be asked to upload evidence for your purchase to be accepted. Evidence includes a Blue Badge, PIP (Personal Independence Payment), letter from a medical professional etc.

Accessible Parking – You can purchase single-day, 2 day or 4 day parking tickets. Please note, a Blue Badge is required to gain entry to the Accessible Car Park.

Getting Here

Car Parking

There are two accessible car parks. One at the East Entrance and one at the West Entrance. Follow event signage from the A8 then you will begin to see the specific accessible car park signage.

East Accessible Car Park

This car park will be the closest if you are travelling from the East or South of Scotland. The car park is across the road from the East Entrance on uneven hard standing. The walkway to the East Entrance is via a dedicated pedestrian route on flat ground.

West Accessible Car Park

This car park will be the closest if you are travelling past Newbridge on your way to the event. The car park is across the road from the West Entrance and is located on grass. You will be able to see the West Entrance from the car park. The walkway is on grass and uneven track road.

If you are parked in the West car park out with the accessible car park, we have a shuttle bus in operation from 09.00-21.00 each day, going back and forward between the West Gate and the whole of the West car park. Please look for the bus stop signage around the car park.

Taxi Drop Off/Pick Up Point

There is a taxi drop off/pick up point right outside the East Entrance on Ingliston Road.

Public Transport

<u>Bus Travel</u>

Lothian Bus Service 98 runs frequent buses between Edinburgh City Centre, Haymarket Station and the Royal Highland Show East Entrance. Holders of a National Entitlement Card (Under 22s, Over 60s, Accessible Card Holders etc.) travel for free with their pass.

For all access information for travelling with Lothian Buses, click here.

For more information on the Service 98, click here.

There is a bus stop at the top of Ingliston Road, outside the South Entrance, that services the below buses – Citylink 900 McGill's Scotland East 18, 20, 63, x24, x25 Stagecoach 747 Lothian Buses x18

Tram Travel

The closest tram stop to The Royal Highland Centre is Ingliston Park and Ride. Ingliston Park and Ride is a 15-minute walk from our South Entrance or there is a shuttle bus that goes back and forward from the tram stop and the East Entrance every 15 minutes between 07.00-21.00. For all access information for travelling with Edinburgh Trams, click here.

Train Travel

The closest train stations are Edinburgh Gateway and Edinburgh Park. Lothian Buses Service 97 services both stations and drops off at the East Entrance of the Royal Highland Show. For more information on the Service 97, click here.

Caravan Parks

We do not have any public caravan parks but do have some available for our key stakeholders. Please get in touch for more information.

We will have accessible toilet and shower facilities available in most of the caravan parks. The pamper units in all caravan parks will have 2-3 steps at the entrance.

They are located in grass fields and on uneven hard standing and in adverse weather conditions may become inaccessible for wheelchairs and scooters. There are no dedicated walkways between each caravan.

The caravan parks are external to the main event site. Travelling between the caravan parks and the event may require you to cross live roads with pavements that do not have dropped kerbs.

Wheelchair and Scooter Hire

Advanced Mobility are located at both the East and West Entrances (internal) and have wheelchairs and scooters available to hire.

To hire a wheelchair or scooter please contact Advanced Mobility directly by phone on 01274 297777 or <u>through their website here.</u>

Planning Your Visit

Although we don't finalise competition and demonstration timetables until just before the Royal Highland Show, hopefully, the information below will still allow you to plan your time at the event.

We would recommend downloading our Royal Highland Show App which gives you an interactive map of the event and details the accessible facilities available.

<u>Timetables</u>

Below are rough opening and closing times for our competition rings and demonstration areas. Please note, all timings are subject to change.

Area	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Cattle Rings	08.30-17.00	08.30-17.00	08.30-17.00	09.30-17.00
Countryside Arena	9.45 -18.00	9.45 -18.00	9.45 -18.00	9.45 -18.00
Farriery	08.45-17.00	08.30-17.30	08.30-17.30	08.30-15.00
Food for Thought Cookery Theatre	09.00-18.00	09.00-18.00	09.00-18.00	09.00-18.00
Forestry Arena	09.00-17.00	09.00-17.00	09.00-17.00	09.00-17.00
Jubilee Ring	08.00-20.00	08.30-20.00	09.00-20.00	09.00-17.30
Main Ring	07.30-20.00	07.30-20.00	07.30-20.00	07.30-17.30
Sheep Rings	09.00-19.00	09.00-19.00	10.00-16.00	10.00-13.00
Sheep Shearing	-	13.00-15.30	08.30-15.00	08.30-15.30
Thistle Ring	08.00-17.30	07.30-17.00	07.30-17.00	07.30-13.00
West Stage	11.00-17.45	11.00-17.45	11.00-17.45	10.00-17.45

Tradestands and Activations

Please be aware that some activities or activations through exhibitors are more accessible than others so we would advise speaking to the stand on the day for accessible information. Most of the tradestands in the Agri Area allow children to climb up and have a go of sitting in the machines on their stand but this may not be accessible for everyone.

<u>Venue</u>

The event takes place on a 110-acre showground. The majority of paving is tarmac roads or boardwalks. Although, our trade stands and displays are also spread over grass areas.

The Showground is made up of a grid system with each avenue being identified by a letter or number. This is shown on our RHS app, in the programme and on directional signage at the event. The programme can be purchased inside the entrance gates.

Our most congested areas are around the Main Ring on Avenue O/7th Avenue, inside Scotland's Larder and on 13th Avenue which is the avenue that runs towards Scotland's Larder.

Cattle Hall (Highland Hall)

This building is accessible by wide doors with a width of 1.79m. There will be a strong animal smell and loud noises by the animals in this area. The flooring is flat concrete but it may be covered in hay/straw which could make it inaccessible for wheelchairs, scooters or prams.

The Cattle Hall closes to the public at various times throughout the day when animals are moving between the hall and the showing rings. Closure timings are displayed in the main foyer of the Cattle Hall.

You can view the Clydesdale Horses in the Central Hall via an indoor ramp from the Cattle Hall.

Scotland's Larder (Lowland Hall)

This building is accessible by a lowered pavement and doors with a width of 1.66m. The doors do have a small lip on the floor but there are wider fire exits at the side of the building which would accommodate wheelchairs, scooters or prams.

This building is only one level. The walkway around the exhibition will be carpeted.

Scotland's Larder and the avenue that leads to the hall are one of the busiest areas during the event.

Customer Service Areas

Our Box Offices and the Membership Office will have lowered counters and a hearing loop available.

Strobe Lighting

We have no strobe lighting at the Royal Highland Show.

Toilets and Changing Place Facilities

All our permanent toilet blocks and main halls have accessible toilets. We also have various temporary accessible toilets at the event. For all toilet locations please download the RHS app.

We have two locations at the event where our toilets are gender-neutral. These are the ones in the Motor Zone and the ones beside the West Stage in the Lifestyle Village.

We have three changing place facilities at the event. Please see a list of facilities for each location. <u>Cattle Hall</u> Changing Bench - Adult Sized Hoist – Ceiling Track Hoist, Loop Washbasin Fixed Height Non-Slip Floor Floor Space (sq. m) – 12.15 Emergency Alarm Privacy Screen Shower

<u>Members Pavilion</u> Changing Bench – Height Adjustable, Adult Sized, Wall Mounted Hoist – Ceiling Track Hoist Washbasin Fixed Height Peninsular Toilet Non-Slip Floor Large Bin for Pads Non-Slip Floor Floor Space (sq. m) – 28 Shower

<u>Avenue H</u> There is a full length hoist, a rise and fall change bed and a rise and fall sink. Over the bed is a handheld thermostatic shower. There is a fully compliant WC with associated grab rails etc.

Assistance Dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome everywhere at the Royal Highland Show, but please be aware that some areas of the event can be densely populated by people and that animals can be unpredictable and may react to dogs in their presence.

Accessible Platforms

We have two accessible platforms at The Royal Highland Show. One to view the Main Ring and one to view the Jubilee Ring.

Spaces on these platforms are on a first come first serve basis and you may be asked to show your accessible admission ticket on entry to the platform. As platforms have a limited capacity, these are strictly for access customers plus one companion.

The accessible platforms are uncovered so please dress appropriately for the Scottish weather. All platforms have ramp access.

Medical and Welfare Facilities

There is a medical center at the top of 13th Avenue. For any medical requirements please speak to one of our safety stewards.

There is a welfare area fun by TLC Welfare on Avenue K. Welfare staff can help with anything from charging a phone or providing sun cream to giving you somewhere to rest away from the event.

Quiet Space

We have a Quiet Space next to the welfare area on Avenue K if you need some time out from the busy event. This area will have soft furnishings and fidget and sensory toys available to use in the area or borrow for your time at the event. There will also be ear defenders for children and adults available to borrow.

Opening Times – 10.00-18.00

Food & Drink Outlets

All bar and catering units that trade at the Royal Highland Show agree to value accessibility. Where possible they will try to have step-free access, lowered counters and large print or picture menus available. And their staff will be available for any assistance.

Seating Areas

We have seating areas in the Countryside Area close to the West Entrance, around most of our demonstrating rings and at our food courts.

High Signage

We have been working hard to include high level signage throughout the event.

Animal Crossing Points

We have three animal crossing points around our Main Ring that are closed multiple times throughout the day to manage animals crossing to and from their stabling areas to the Main Ring.

When the crossings are closed, this stops all pedestrian travel around the area until the crossings open and causes large crowds to congregate. The crowds tend to stand at the barriers to watch the animals passing so if you want to avoid crowds we would suggest staying back from the barriers until the crossing is reopened.

Royal Highland Hoolie

The Royal Highland Hoolie is an outdoor standing event. The event and entrance lanes are located on grass with no concrete paving although there will be trackway in the accessible viewing area. At the entrance lanes, there will be a dedicated Accessible Lane.

There are accessible toilets in the main event area and in the VIP area. There are no changing place facilities available inside the event, but we do have these facilities available in the venue should you need access to them.

There will be an accessible viewing area available for accessible customers. Spaces in this are on a first come first serve basis and you may be asked to show your accessible admission ticket on entry to the area. As the area has a limited capacity, wheelchair users will be given priority.

There will be a Kids Zone for families attending.

There is a seating area beside the catering units. This is at the back of the event, but you will still be able to see and hear the stage from this area.

There will be no strobe lighting at the event.

<u>RHS TV</u>

RHSTV will have closed captions when playing on any screens across the Royal Highland Show and on the videos on the RHS website after the event.

Clip my Horse will be operating a live stream from the Main Ring at the event but this will not have closed captions.

Distances (Meters)

From	From To	
East Accessible Car Park	East Entrance	230
West Accessible Car Park	West Entrance	220
Taxi Drop Off/Pick Up Point	East Entrance	40
Ingliston Park and Ride Tram Stop	South Entrance	1100
East Entrance	Changing Place (Avenue H)	160
North Entrance	Cattle Hall Changing Places Facility & Accessible Toilets	140
West Entrance	Accessible Toilets	20
South Entrance	Accessible Toilets	130
East Entrance	Accessible Toilets	160
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	Cattle Hall	360
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	Scotland's Larder	510
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	Forestry Arena	160
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	MacRobert Sheep Shearing Theatre	460
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	Jubilee Ring	200
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	Agri Innovation Arena	515
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	Big Wheel	420
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	North Entrance	430
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	West Entrance	440
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	South Entrance	690
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	East Entrance	500
Main Ring Accessible Viewing Platform	Jubilee Ring Accessible Platform	200