



This access statement does not contain personal opinions as to our suitability for those with access needs but aims to accurately describe the facilities and services that we offer all our guests/visitors.

Access Statement for Ramsey C of E Church (St. Thomas a Becket), Ramsey Main Building

Introduction

St. Thomas a Becket Church is situated on Wood Lane just in front of Ramsey Abbey. The main building is approached by wheelchair access to the front of the church.

We have two disabled parking spots directly in front of the church.

Once at the main building, instead of going through the main doors, there is a wheelchair accessible entrance to the right side of the building. Once through the side door, there is flat access to the toilets. The front door and the side door have split level access. There is a large disabled toilet available along with a smaller toilet. A long ramp has been built into the church along the side to gain access to the rest of the church.

- There is a fixed hearing loop fitted.
- The stained glass means there is very low natural lighting, but the room is well light by adjustable lighting around the building.
- The Church is fitted with wooden pews, which cannot be moved. But we have had some pews removed in order to have allocated wider pews specifically to fit wheelchairs. The Communion table at the far end of the church is situated up steps from this level.

We also have wheelchairs available in the building if anyone has need of them.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance, please phone 07703 697562 or email jackie@ramseysandupwood.org



Car Parking

- Parking is available at the front of the church along Wood Lane.
- There are two Blue Badge car parking spaces available at the front of the building. The space can be reserved by prior request for those with access requirements.

Building Entrance

- There are steps if you go through the main front door to access the main building as well as a large side entrance which is wheelchair accessible. Both are well lit.
- The main door is comprised of two large wooden doors.
- These doors are left open during daylight hours, should you need access to the side door outside of church times, please do contact us.
- The right-hand side door is fitted with a single large oak door for wheelchair access but is not left open outside of church times. Please note, it is not on an auto-opener.
- Once inside the building after coming down the ramp or the stairs depending on which door you entered, the floor is made of large stone tiles which can be quite uneven.

Toilets

- Unisex toilets consist of 1 special access cubicle and 1 other cubicle.
- These toilets are accessed through the main or side door.
- The flooring is non-slip laminate.
- The toilets are well lit.
- The special access cubicle comprises of:
 - 3 grab rails – 1 vertical, 1 drop down horizontal and 1 vertical on the back of the door.
 - There is a red emergency pull cord located to the right of the toilet. When pulled an alarm will sound.
 - The tap is a single lever tap.



Bell Tower

- Access to the tower is limited and controlled for safety reasons.
- The entrance to the tower is located to the right of the front door up a set of stone stairs. There is no level access to the tower door.
- Through the tower door, there is a very narrow, windy stone staircase which leads up to the tower area.
 - There is limited natural light in the tower, but fixed lighting provides adequate lighting.

Kitchen

- On the same level as the toilets is the kitchen, which can be accessed by both stairs and by the side door.
- The kitchen is well lit with natural light. There are also overhead lights.

Fire Exits

The church has 5 fire exits. These are as follows:

- The main west door. This will be open for all services and events.
- The southwest door leading on to the churchyard (by kitchen). This door offers disabled access.
- The northwest door (by choir vestry). This will be unlocked and unbolted.
- The southeast door (opposite entrance to clergy vestry). This will be unlocked for major services.
- The external door in the clergy vestry. This can be opened quickly by unbolting the door and unlocking with the key which will be in the lock.