

Detailed description of access to the Newtown Textile Museum

Museum entrance

To reach the Museum from the town centre, you should go over the bridge at the top (North) end of Broad Street, and turn right at the roundabout into Commercial Street (B4568). The Museum is on the left-hand side of this street. Drop-off can be made directly by the entrance.



The front door of the Museum leads from the pavement. It has a double set of three stone steps, with handrails available on the right and left, and then from a landing, another step into the building. There is step-free access at

the back of the Museum through the doors which open onto the courtyard. The doors are 74cm wide. The courtyard can be reached either through the arched passageway in the building from Commercial Street, or by using the wider entrance leading off Bryn Street (the street just beyond the museum).



The Museum exhibits are distributed over four floors. The internal structure is much as it was in the 1830s, with low doorways and ceilings, and some uneven floors.

There is a toilet in the courtyard, with level access which is wheelchair friendly.



This extra information may help you decide whether you can visit us.

Mobility problems

We are sorry but the Museum is in an old building and until lift technology improves a bit more, it will not be possible for us to install a lift to provide access for wheelchairs to the upper floors. We continue to monitor this and will look for grants to help us pay for it, if and when it becomes possible.

If you are in a wheelchair, level access is only possible into the ground floor of the Museum. Once inside the Museum, wheelchair users have access to the Reception area (and shop), two re-created rooms and a room showing the history of the development of Newtown in the 1800s. This room also houses a model of the building and an audio-visual presentation with a variety of information on the woollen industry and the history of the town, which is available in Welsh or English.

New in 2025: A virtual tour, in Welsh or English with sub-titles, is now available for those who cannot access the upper floors. It provides an excellent over-view of the Museum and its contents. Please ask at Reception if you would like to watch the tour on the screen provided.

We are continually looking for ways to provide other entertaining stories relating to the Museum in this area. Also, on our YouTube channel you can watch Rebecca, our weaver-in-residence in 2024, as she demonstrates the process of weaving. [The Eternal Beauty of Weaving](#).

If you have some mobility, the stairs are wide and shallow (treads are 28cm high) with good handrails, and with chairs at each floor, so you may be able to visit the upper floors.



Internal staircase.

Visual impairment

If you have a visual impairment, we welcome Guide Dogs. Water is available and if needed your dog can be left in the reception area while you are visiting the Museum. If you would like one of our hosts to take you around please contact access@newtowntextilemuseum.co.uk in advance of your visit and we will be happy to arrange it. The building has some uneven flooring, and low doorways which can be a challenge for tall visitors!

There is an audio-visual presentation on the ground floor, in both Welsh and English.

We have a Guide to the main features of the Museum available in large print. We also have a series of Fact sheets in large print.

In some areas of the museum, there are items from our Handling Collection, which visitors can touch.