

Welcome to Stockwood Discovery Centre

Stockwood Discovery Centre is now more accessible than ever! Over the past year we have been redeveloping the site to make it a more inclusive place to visit. The Stockwood Discovery Centre reopened in July 2008 with new galleries and visitor facilities, more gardens, a visitor centre, shop and Garden Café.

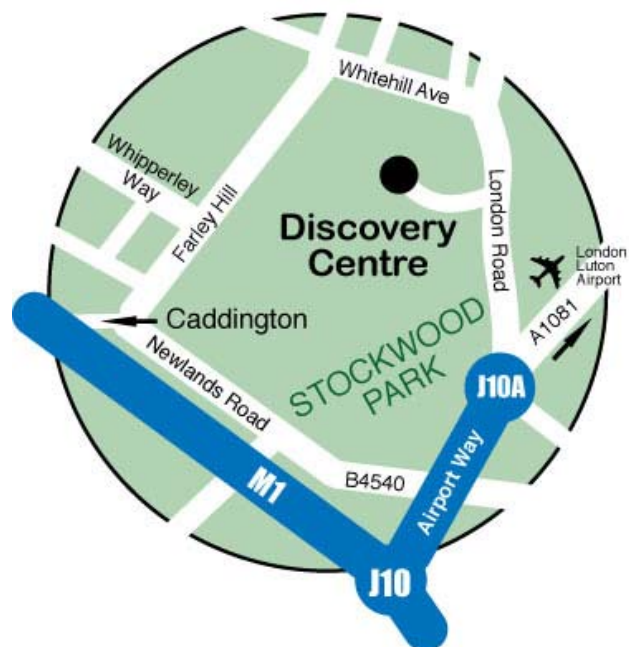
We are committed to being accessible for people with sensory and visual impairments, people with mental health issues, physical and mobility difficulties, young people, elderly people and families. Our commitment to widening access goes beyond physical access to buildings and includes our exhibitions, facilities and programmes.

This leaflet will help you to plan your visit by giving you information on how to get to the Museum, how you can access information about our sites, what facilities are available in the Museum, as well as exhibitions and displays.

Alternative formats of this leaflet are available from Museum information desks, can be downloaded from www.museumsluton.com or can be sent to you before your visit by calling 01582 546659.

Getting Here

Stockwood Discovery Centre
London Road
Luton
LU1 4LX
Tel: 01582 548600



Bicycle parking

The nearest bicycle racks are located outside of the visitor centre entrance.

Getting here by car, taxi or Dial-a-Ride

Set down and pick up in the car park at the London Road entrance. This is a short walk to the street-level entrance.

Parking

At Stockwood Discovery Centre there are the following parking facilities:

- Car parking plus overflow car park.
- 2 parking bays for coaches in the main car park.
- 6 parking bays for disabled badge holders located at the front of the car park.

Getting here by public transport

Rail

- Luton (Town) Station (Station Road exit) is the closest station. Please note Stockwood Discovery Centre is approx. 1 ½ miles from Luton train station and therefore you may prefer to take a taxi the remainder of the journey. Taxis are located directly outside of the Station Road exit.

Bus

- Arriva bus No.1 from Luton town Centre, Park Square, Stop P2, every 15 minutes. www.arrivabus.co.uk
- No service on Sundays.
- We advise that you check with www.transportdirect.info when planning your journey.

Admission

Free entry for all

Charges apply for some events, activity workshops and all taught sessions. These are always advertised in our What's On booklets or Schools Programme.

We are also committed to giving free entry to events for carers of 'looked-after' and foster children, elderly and disabled people to ensure that visitors can come to the site with the people who support them.

Access to information

- Telephone: 01582 548610 (reception) 01582 548613 (shop).
- Email for access queries: museumsoutreach@lutonculture.com
- Website: www.stockwooddiscoverycentre.co.uk
- Free site maps and advice are available from the reception desk.
- Free audio and multimedia guides are available in English, Bengali and Urdu, audio description and British Sign Language.
- Public address system throughout site.
- Free What's On event guides for adults and families.
- Induction loop available at the reception desk, shop, in the visitor centre and learning centre.
- Large print versions of this leaflet and What's On guides are available from Museum information desks, can be downloaded from www.museumsluton.com or can be sent to you before your visit by calling 01582 546659.

Visitor facilities

Refreshments

- Refreshments available from the Garden Café.
- Picnics may be brought into the site and eaten on the lawns and in the picnic area next to the Sensory Garden.

Visitor centre and gift shop

Gift Shop and Garden Café opening times:

Summer Season (Apr – Oct)

Mon - Fri: 10am - 5pm

Sat and Sun: 11am - 5pm

Late night opening on the first Thursday of every month until 8pm

Winter Season (Nov – Mar)

Mon - Fri: 10am - 4pm

Sat and Sun: 11am - 4pm

Equipment

- Free self-propelled wheelchairs and electric mobility scooters are available to borrow. Contact the reception desk on arrival or book in advance to ensure availability on 01582 548610.
- Clip boards and pencils available from the reception desk.

Seating

- Seating available in all galleries, gardens and visitor centre.
- Wheelchair and pushchair-friendly picnic benches throughout the gardens.

Toilets

- Non-adapted toilets next to the Garden Cafe, in the Learning Centre and next to the Discovery Galleries.
- Accessible toilets opposite the Garden Cafe, in the Learning Centre and near the Discovery Galleries.

- Baby changing facilities are available opposite the Garden Café and near the Discovery Galleries.

Exhibitions and displays

- Free audio tours and multimedia guides are available in English, Bengali and Urdu, audio description and British Sign Language.
- Our hands-on and multi-sensory displays focus on Luton and the surrounding area in pre-industrial times, as well as stories of the site, incorporating themes of the environment, sustainability and community and identity.
- The introductory films to Discovery Galleries and Discovery Hall include British Sign Language and subtitles.
- All displays are located on the ground floor.
- Audio-visual points with British Sign Language throughout the Discovery Galleries and Life's Journey Gallery.
- Some of the collections at the Stockwood Discovery Centre can be viewed on computer points inside the Discovery Hall.
- Programme of changing exhibitions designed to appeal to all ages and interests.
- Free entry to temporary exhibitions.

Gardens

- We have doubled the size of our gardens so there are more outdoor areas for visitors of all ages to enjoy.
- Discovery Gardens including Sensory and Medicinal gardens which were designed to incorporate the opportunity for sounds, touch and also plants with scents.
- Other outdoor areas include the Period Gardens, Dig for Victory, Second World War garden, Sculpture Garden and Craft Courtyard.

Buildings

- Guide, hearing and assistance dogs are welcome.
- All buildings, including the café and shop have level access.

- Wheelchair, pushchair and scooter access to most galleries. Please note there is restricted access for wide pushchairs and wheelchairs, and mobility scooters in the Discovery Galleries, and Period Gardens.
- Audible and visual fire alarm system throughout site.
- Sloping paths in some areas of the gardens.
- Chairs and wheelchair/pushchair accessible benches available throughout the museum buildings, grounds and gardens.
- Wheelchair, pushchair and mobility scooter accessible route via main pathways.

Access issues visitors need to be aware of when visiting our sites and using our services

Visitors with visual impairments

- Guide dogs are welcome.
- Audio description tour of *The Hidden House* is available.
- Audible fire alarm system throughout site.
- Our displays have been designed to be hands-on and multi-sensory.
- Audio-visual points with British Sign Language throughout the Discovery Galleries and Life's Journey Gallery.
- Large print versions of this leaflet and What's On guides are available from Museum information desks, can be downloaded from www.museumsluton.com or can be sent to you before your visit by calling 01582 546659.

Visitors with hearing impairments

- Hearing and assistance dogs are welcome.
- Induction loop available at the reception desk, shop, in the Visitor Centre and Learning Centre only.
- Visual and audible fire alarm system throughout site.
- Our displays have been designed to be hands-on and multi-sensory.

- Audio-visual points with British Sign Language throughout the Discovery Galleries and Life's Journey Gallery.
- Audio and multimedia tours in British Sign Language (BSL) are available.
- The introductory films to Discovery Galleries and Discovery Hall include British Sign Language and subtitles.
- Large print versions of this leaflet and What's On guides are available from Museum information desks, can be downloaded from www.museumsluton.com or can be sent to you before your visit by calling 01582 546659.

Visitors with mobility impairments

- Guide, hearing and assistance dogs are welcome.
- Wheelchair, pushchair and mobility scooter accessible route via main pathways.
- All buildings, including the café and shop have level access.
- Wheelchair, pushchair and scooter access to most galleries. Please note there is restricted access for wide pushchairs and wheelchairs, and mobility scooters in the Discovery Galleries, and Period Gardens.
- Sloping paths in some areas of the gardens.
- Stockwood Discovery Centre is a large site and visitors who find walking difficult or tiring might consider bringing along a wheelchair, stick or walking frame if they have them. However, self-propelled wheelchairs and electric mobility scooters are available to borrow if required. Contact the reception desk on arrival or book in advance, to ensure availability on 01582 548610.
- Accessible toilets opposite the Garden Cafe, in the Learning Centre and near the Discovery Galleries.