



# Southwell Minster

Cathedral ♦ Gardens ♦ Palace

## VISITOR ACCESS INFORMATION

Southwell Minster aims to be as accessible and inclusive as possible, ensuring that all have an enjoyable and equal experience. Due to the nature and age of the building there are some small areas that are difficult to access by visitors with limited mobility, but all main areas and features of the Minster are accessible to all. We are constantly working to improve accessibility around the site; if you have any feedback please contact us using the details below.

If you have specific access requirements and would like more details before your visit, please contact us using the details below.

We look forward to welcoming you.

### **Our contact details:**

Address: Southwell Minster, Church Street, Southwell NG25 0HD  
Telephone: 01636 812649  
Email: [office@southwellminster.org.uk](mailto:office@southwellminster.org.uk)  
Website: [www.southwellminster.org.uk](http://www.southwellminster.org.uk)

### **Opening times**

Our normal opening times are 8.30am - 6.30pm (Monday-Saturday), and 8am - 4.30pm Sundays. Please always check the website for current opening times. Events and some services mean that the Minster is occasionally closed, sometimes at short notice.

### **Speaking to someone inside the Minster**

- Our friendly stewards are normally on duty 10.30am–5pm Monday to Saturday and 11am–5pm Sunday. The stewards wear blue gowns and badges and are on hand to explain the range of facilities, provide information, and answer questions.
- Our vergers look after the health and safety of everyone on site. They can be found in the Vergers' Office (see No 5 on the Map).
- A duty chaplain or priest is available to offer spiritual guidance and advice.

### **Large Print and tactile information**

A free welcome leaflet is available upon entry, which will guide you around the Minster. We can provide large-print guides on request at the Welcome Desk. We also offer a tactile model of the Minster which can be found at the Welcome Desk, and tactile carvings of the Chapter House carvings in the Slype (see No 3 on the Map).

### **Seating**

Seating is available throughout the Minster. There are also benches in the Palace Garden and throughout the site.

### **Hearing Loop**

We have a T-Loop hearing system for services and other events.

### **Assistance dogs**

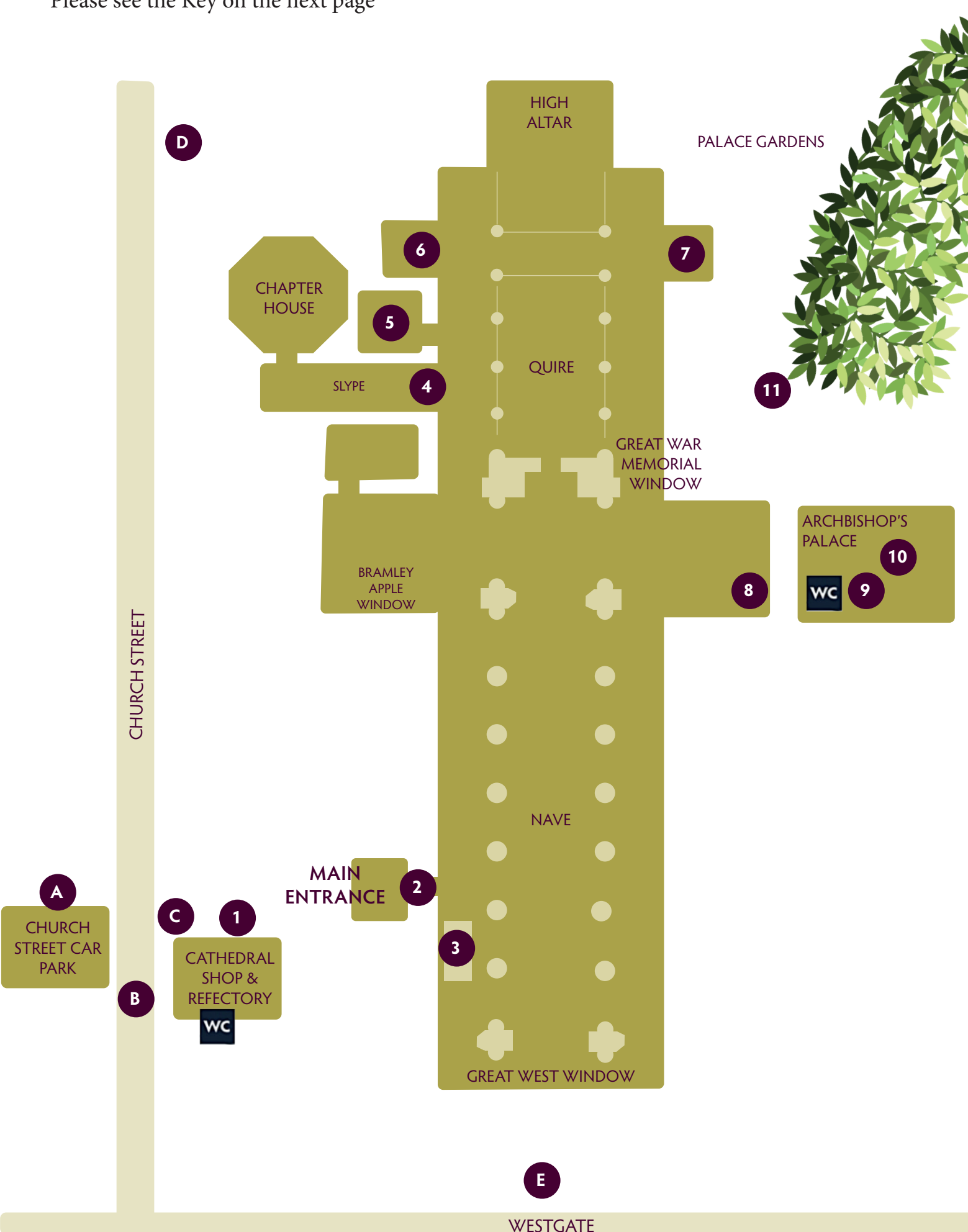
Assistance dogs (including guide dogs, hearing dogs, medical detection dogs and other disability assistance dogs) are welcome. Dog water bowls are provided at the main entrance to the Minster and the Refectory. Please be aware that the Minster also welcomes well behaved pet dogs (on leads) so there may be other dogs present in the building.

### **Noise / Quiet Spaces**

Within the Minster, the quietest spaces are the Chapter House, and the two Chapels (Nos 6 and 7 on the Map).

# Step-free Guide to Southwell Minster

Please see the Key on the next page



## GETTING ON SITE

- A Church Street Car Park**

This is the nearest public car park. Parking for blue badge holders is free of charge, without time limit. The car park is 200 metres from the minster site. Limited roadside car parking is also available on Church Street, which is closer to the Minster entrance.
- B Bus Stops & Zebra Crossing**

You can find information about buses on our website. The Zebra Crossing is the safest way to cross Church Street.
- C Site entry points**

Entry point C is a rather steep sloped path: please take care, especially in wet or icy weather, and use the hand rail provided as required. If you require more level access, this can be found at Entry Point D, approximately 100 metres further along Church Street, or from Entry Point E on Westgate.
- D**
- E**

## ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES

- 1 Cathedral Shop & Refectory**

There is level access into the Cathedral Shop and Refectory. There is an accessible toilet cubicle and baby changing facilities. Please note that the toilet is not equipped with a hoist. There is good lighting in the shop and some of the displays are lit. Staff are available to assist with viewing and purchasing merchandise. You can also visit the Cathedral Shop online via <https://www.southwellminster.org/shopfront/>
- 2 Main Entrance to the Minster**

Large powered doors can be opened using the touch pad on the right hand side. Upon entering the Minster via the north entrance, you will be welcomed by one of our stewards (wearing blue gowns and badges) who can explain the range of facilities, provide information, and answer any questions.
- 3 Welcome desk**

There is a tactile model of the Minster here to help the visually impaired explore the building. You can also pick up leaflets and large-print/Braille guides here.
- 4 Cantilever lift to the Chapter House**

A verger will assist you to use this lift. As you go through the Slype (passageway) there are more tactile models which will help the visually impaired explore the Chapter House.
- 5 Vergers' office**

Vergers are on hand to help. Occasionally they will be elsewhere in the building. Call 07947 808415 if you require assistance.
- 6 7 Chapels**

These chapels offer quiet spaces.
- 8 Exit to Toilets, Archbishop's Palace and Gardens**

The powered doors can be opened using the touch pad on the right hand side.
- 9 Toilets**

There is a unisex accessible toilet as well as male/female WCs. Please note that the toilet is not equipped with a hoist.
- 10 Archbishop's Palace**

There is a platform lift to the State Chamber that is suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.
- 11 Palace Gardens**

The garden can be accessed via 7 steps with a hand rail or a wheelchair ramp. The ramp is long but is a purpose-built, modern hairpin type with a level platform to rest at the bend. The garden is mostly laid to lawn, with flower beds and a wildlife/wilderness area. There is a path down one side of the garden surfaced with compacted earth and gravel. The path surface is firm, without excess loose gravel, and it is not prone to mud or ruts, making it suitable for wheelchair access. The paths through the trees/wilderness area are not suitable for most wheelchairs.