

Access Statement for The Royal Yacht Britannia

Updated January 2023



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

The Royal Yacht Britannia, Ocean Terminal, Leith,
Edinburgh EH6 6JJ

Please use our postcode for SAT NAV.

For full information on directions, please see our [website](http://www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk) (www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk).

The Royal Yacht Britannia is a five-star tourist attraction and exclusive use evening events venue, berthed in Leith, Edinburgh.

Britannia is the UK's Best Attraction (Which? Magazine) and Tripadvisor's Travellers' Choice Best of the Best award winner and has been consistently judged Scotland's Best Visitor Attraction by national tourism agency, VisitScotland, for thirteen years.

The Royal Yacht Britannia is highly accessible for wheelchair users or those with specific access needs. Entry is via Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre, which has 1600 free parking places, including dedicated disabled parking spaces on every level, with lifts connecting all floors.

If you require any further information about specific access or need advice on planning your visit, please contact us:

+44 (0) 131 555 8800 (Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm)
or email enquiries@tryb.co.uk.

If we have not covered your access requirements in this document, please contact us and we will be happy to discuss your needs and offer assistance where we can.

Contents

Access Statement for The Royal Yacht Britannia	1
General Information	7
About us.....	7
Getting here.....	9
Pre-Arrival.....	10
By rail	10
By bus.....	10
By car	12
By taxi	12
Ocean Terminal Car parking and arrival	13
Arriving by bus, taxi, bicycle or on foot	16
Within Ocean Terminal	18
Lift/Escalator Access	18
Wheelchair users	20
Buggies.....	21

Main Britannia entrance, Reception and ticketing area	23
Arriving at our Visitor Centre	23
The Tour	26
Britannia Tour (displays, exhibits).....	28
Public Access on board	30
Lift tower	30
Onboard lift to the Royal Deck Tea Room	31
Doorways, floor coverings, lighting, stairs, ramps .	33
Public Toilets.....	35
Catering	36
Royal Deck Tea Room	37
Gift Shop	39
Additional Information	42
Wheelchairs	42
Assistance Dogs	42
Signage.....	43

Staff training	44
First Aid	44
Smoking Area	44
Local accommodation providers	45
Feedback	46
Contact Information	47

General Information

About us

- We aim to provide the best possible customer experience for everyone.
- Britannia is the UK's Best Attraction (Which? Magazine) and Tripadvisor's Travellers' Choice Best of the Best award winner and has been consistently judged Scotland's Best Visitor Attraction by national tourism agency, VisitScotland, for thirteen years. Britannia is berthed in Leith, Edinburgh, just 2 miles from the city centre.
- Access to Britannia is through Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre (2nd floor of the shopping centre itself, most directly accessible from Level E of the Blue Car Park).
- We have British and American Sign language tablets, an audio tour in 30 languages, Braille script, plus basic English, a version for the visually impaired and a children's version of our tour.

- At the Handset Desk we have straps which allow the audio guides to be worn around the neck. Headphones are also available.
- The audio tour is now available to listen to on your mobile phone during the tour. We encourage our visitors to bring their own headphones but disposable headphones are available.
- For opening dates and times, please see our [website](#).
- On average tours last 1.5 – 2 hours, but please allow longer if using our Royal Deck Tea Room.
- We have accessible toilets within the Visitor Centre and aboard Britannia.

Getting here

- You can arrive at Ocean Terminal by car, bus, bicycle, taxi or on foot.
- There is a multi-storey car park and surface car park. Parking is free.
- The nearest dedicated parking for wheelchair users and people with mobility impairments is in the Blue Car Park of Ocean Terminal on Level E.
- There are bus stops situated on Melrose Drive, next to Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre (whilst tram works outside Ocean Terminal are in process). Buses frequently run to and from the city centre.
- Taxis can be called at Ocean Terminal's Reception desk.
- There are bike racks situated at the front of Ocean Terminal.

Pre-Arrival

We are just 25 minutes' drive from Edinburgh city centre. Our Visitor Centre is in Ocean Terminal on the second floor.

By rail

The nearest train station is Edinburgh Waverley, this is 2.3 miles from Ocean Terminal. There is a taxi rank outside the station. It will take around 20-25 minutes by taxi to Britannia from Edinburgh Waverley. This may vary depending on the traffic.

By bus

- Lothian Bus services from Edinburgh city centre are numbers 11 and 22, or number 35 from The Royal Mile.
- Majestic Tour buses depart from St Andrew Square in Edinburgh's city centre.
- The distance from the bus stop at Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre to the main door entrance is approximately 180 yards, depending on the bus stop from which you disembark.

- The bus stops are currently located on Melrose Drive, beside Ocean Terminal.
- A single journey on a Lothian Bus is currently £1.80. Please note you must have the correct amount (no change is given) or use contactless card. A dayticket is available for £4.50 or will be automatically capped at £4.40 when the same contactless card is tapped for three or more journeys.

All Lothian buses are easy access.

They have:

- Low entrances that can “kneel” to kerb height to give step free access where possible.
- Retractable boarding ramp for wheelchair access.
- High visibility handrails.
- A dedicated wheelchair space.
- Drivers specially trained to help customers enjoy the full benefit of their buses.

By car

For satnav, our postcode is **EH6 6JJ**. Follow signs for Edinburgh and Leith, or North Edinburgh. Then follow brown Britannia signs. FREE parking at Ocean Terminal (Blue Car Park, Level E is nearest to our Visitor Centre and has disabled spaces).

By taxi

There currently is no designated taxi drop-off point. Taxi drivers will drop you off as close to Ocean Terminal as possible.

Our preferred taxi supplier is Central Taxis. All Central Taxis are wheelchair accessible. They offer a mix of 5-seater TX Hackney cabs, 6-seater Mercedes M8 taxis and Peugeot E7 taxis, each of which is supplied with a wheelchair ramp, seatbelts and additional safety anchors. All drivers have completed training in Wheelchair Access and Disability Awareness.

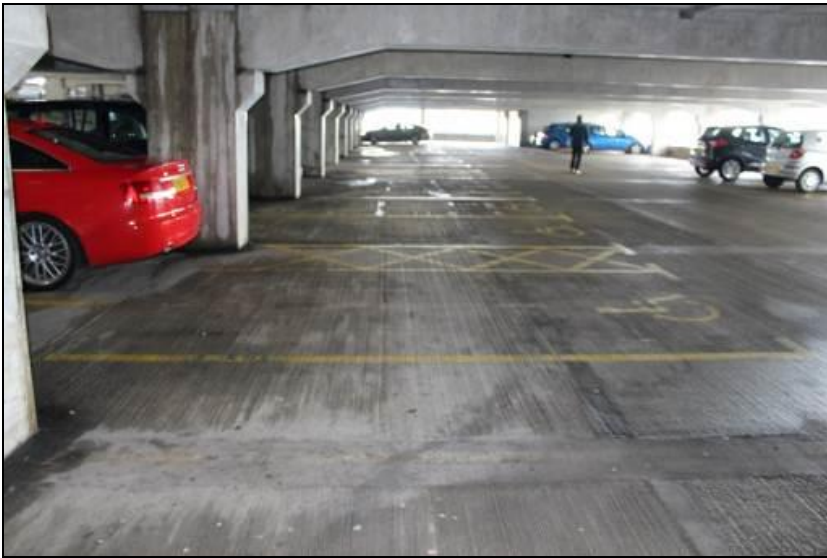
Ocean Terminal Car parking and arrival

There is a multi-storey car park at each end of Ocean Terminal. **If arriving to The Royal Yacht Britannia by car, the best level to park on is level E.**

Ocean Terminal Free car parking:

Car park	No. of blue badge car parking spaces
Surface car park (Ocean Drive)	5 (There is a dropped kerb for access)
Blue car park – Level C	24
Blue car park – Level E	18
Red car park – Level C	22
Red car park – Level E	11

The surface of the multi storey car park is concrete. The car park is well lit. On entry to the shopping centre from the multi storey (Level E) there are 2 automatic outward opening doors. The width of these is 1570mm. Each level has two lifts from the car park entrance that service every level of the shopping centre.



(Ocean Terminal multi-storey parking.)



(Ocean Terminal Blue car park, Level E – This is the same level to access Britannia’s Visitor Centre from the car park, with a set of manual doors on the left and automatic outward facing set of doors on the right, as shown open in the above picture.)



(2nd floor Inner entrance to Ocean Terminal, the second set of automatic doors with a manually opened set of doors on left, and automatically opening set of doors on the right.)

On entry to the shopping centre from Level E, the entrance to our Visitor Centre is approximately 40 metres away. The centre is tiled throughout. On entry to our Visitor Centre, the flooring is a smooth wooden surface.

There are three welcome desks on arrival to our Visitor Centre, at least one of which is always staffed. We have hearing induction loops throughout

Britannia. There is also complimentary Wi-Fi throughout.

Arriving by bus, taxi, bicycle or on foot

If arriving by bus, taxi or if you are on foot, access to Britannia is from the Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre main entrance on the ground level.

The Bus stops are currently located beside Ocean Terminal's Red Car Park on Melrose Drive. Upon exiting the bus, follow the length of Ocean Terminal and you will find the main entrance. Please note that you will not see Britannia, as the Yacht is permanently berthed behind the shopping centre.

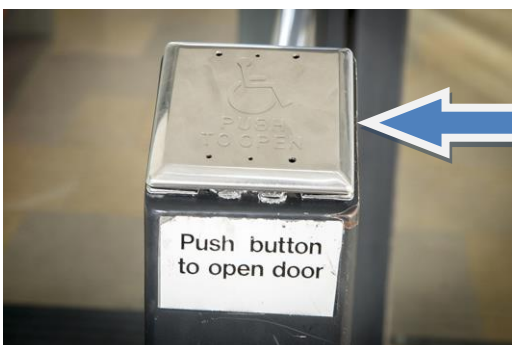
When leaving by bus, the bus stops have estimated departure times of the buses on a screen in between the first and second set of doors of Ocean Terminal.

The main entrance to Ocean Terminal is at street level, with push button entry (outward facing doors). There are double automatic access doors with a push

button, each with a width of 1570mm, with outward doors.



(Outer set of doors to Ocean Terminal. As shown above, the doors on the left are opened by a push button. A set of manually opened doors are shown to the right.)



Push button access

(The automatically opened doors are opened by a push button.)

Within Ocean Terminal



(Within Ocean Terminal there is a second set of doors. There is push button entry again with outward facing doors on the left and manually opened doors on the right.)

Lift/Escalator Access

Through the main entrance to Ocean Terminal, turn right and proceed along the concourse. There is a lift on the far left, which gives access to level 2, where the Britannia Visitor Centre is located. The lift has an induction loop and speaker for emergencies and can take up to 1600kg of weight, maximum 15 people.



(Lift access to Britannia within Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre. This lift has a width of 1200mm.)



(Left image shows the lift buttons inside the Ocean Terminal lift. The right image shows the emergency telephone within the lift.)

Alternatively, go straight ahead from the main entrance to Ocean Terminal and take the escalators to the 2nd floor to start the tour.



(Escalator from the 1st floor to the 2nd floor.)

Wheelchair users

- ***Please note:** Shopmobility scooters are generally unsuitable on Britannia due to the gradient of the ramps on board.
- Britannia is classed as Category 1, the highest level for wheelchair access without assistance, by VisitScotland. To access the whole tour,

wheelchairs should be no wider than 670mm, in order to negotiate some narrow passageways and corners.

- If your wheelchair exceeds 670mm in width, we have five wheelchairs available for your use, at no extra charge. Please ask to use a wheelchair at the ticket desk.

Buggies

- Buggies are welcomed on board Britannia. All but the widest double buggies will have full access to the Britannia tour (max width 670mm). We have baby changing facilities in the Visitor Centre and at the four sets of toilets on board. We have high chairs in the Tea Room.



Lift Tower

(The Royal Yacht Britannia, with lift access to five decks via the Lift Tower, pictured above.)

Each of Britannia's decks are accessed via a shore-side Lift Tower and stairwell. Unfortunately, due to reducing the risk of COVID, there are very limited seats available on the tour route. Any seats without ropes or signage are there for you to sit on and enjoy your audio tour.

Main Britannia entrance, Reception and ticketing area

Arriving at our Visitor Centre

On arrival at the 2nd floor of Ocean Terminal, you will find our Visitor Centre near the rotunda at the East end of the building.

Our ticket desk is located to the left of our entrance and our Gift Shop is located to the right.

There are no steps on entry to the Visitor Centre. The floor surface in the Visitor Centre is wooden and short pile carpet. There is seating available on entry to the Visitor Centre and before proceeding on board Britannia. The area is lit well by both compact fluorescent bulbs and LED spotlighting. During peak visiting times, there is a manned podium at front of house to give information about tickets and the local area.



(Visitor entrance to Britannia.)



(Lowered desk at our payment desk.)

There is a lower counter area, pictured above, suitable for wheelchair users. The payment/information desks area has a hearing loop.

There are 5 wheelchairs available to borrow. Please ask at our ticket desk, if required. We can offer a pen and pad of paper to assist people in the ticketing area and also have a magnifying glass available.

Tickets can be purchased for the Britannia tour from the ticket desk, or in advance online via our website – www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk. Should a complimentary carer ticket be required, this can be requested at the ticket desk on the day.

The Tour

Our audio tour is available in 30 languages, a Basic English version, a version for the visually impaired and a children's version. Visitors with learning difficulties or those whose first language is not English may find the Basic English audio tour suitable.

The tour is available in British or American Sign Language on a tablet. We also offer the tour in Braille script. We have a printed version of our English language tour in large font – please request this at the Handset Desk before you step on board Britannia.

Our audio handsets have adjustable volume control, so you may wish to also take the handset tour.



(Britannia's British Sign Language Tablet.)

We have Visitor Assistants situated throughout our tour, who are on hand to assist our visitors. The Visitor Assistants are smartly dressed in Britannia's tartan and in colder weather have a red jacket.

Sensory packs are available from the Handset desk, similar to as pictured.



(Sensory pack.)

Britannia Tour (displays, exhibits)

- Many exhibits within the Visitor Centre and on board have a descriptive sign next to them in English.
- There are no displays that use flashing lights.
- There are Visitor Assistants located along the route who will be delighted to help with any queries or requests.
- There is background noise/music on the Bridge, in the Wardroom Ante Room, State Drawing Room, State Dining Room, Royal Marines'

Barracks, Chief Petty Officers' Mess, Petty Officers' Mess, Laundry, Royal Sailing Exhibition, Visitor Centre, Tea Room and Shop. Music is also played in the Grey Level Toilets.

- Videos play in the Petty Officers' and Royal Marine Sergeants' Mess.
- To enhance the experience, scents are used in the Sick Bay (TCP) and Laundry (soap powder). Air fresheners are in use in all four toilets on board and in the Visitor Centre toilets. Additionally, as fresh food and fudge are prepared on board you may smell cooking on the Blue Level Port Side, Galley Corridor and near the NAAFI.

Public Access on board

Lift tower

A lift tower on the quayside gives access to Britannia's five decks, with lifts to every level and ramps onto the ship.



(One of two lifts in the Lift Tower.)

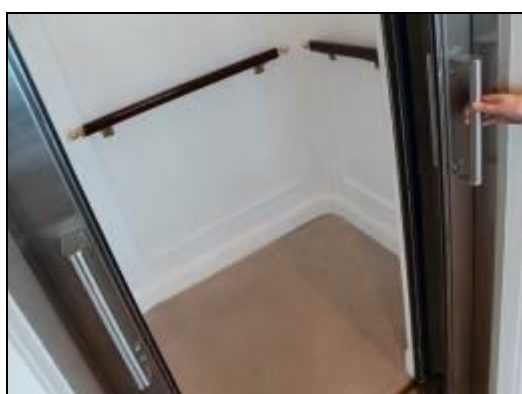
The lift tower takes visitors to all decks and opens at all levels. It is 1100mm in width.



(Inside one of the lifts in the Lift Tower.)

Onboard lift to the Royal Deck Tea Room

The original lift on board Britannia has a manual opening/shutting door. The door width is 750mm. This lift offers access to the Royal Deck Tea Room, State Apartments and management level.



(Both images above show the onboard lift. On the left shows the lift at the State Apartments level. The image on the right shows the inside of the lift.)



(The lift doors as seen from within the Royal Deck Tea Room.)

Inside the lift, there is a panel with buttons, please press the buttons on the left side. The maximum lift load is 1200LBS.



(The picture on the left shows the buttons inside the lift. The image on the right show the doors open at the Royal Deck Tea Room level.)

Doorways, floor coverings, lighting, stairs, ramps

Floor surfaces vary from wooden decks, short pile carpet, linoleum tiles to ceramic tiles. Lighting throughout Britannia is very good, with natural light and fluorescent and LED tube lighting.

There are a few specific places to note:

- The doorway on exit from the Officers' Wardroom is 780mm width and is a light wooden door.
- There are 2 ramps allowing access to the Verandah Deck, with handrails either side.



(Ramps aboard Britannia leading away from the Verandah Deck.)

- If the lift is not required to access The Royal Deck Tea Room, there are external stairs up from the Verandah Deck. There are 15 stairs, with handrails either side. These stairs are original, and narrower in depth than the other staircases on board.



(Stairs to The Royal Deck Tea Room.)

Public Toilets

There are toilets situated on four decks aboard Britannia and in our Visitor Centre in Ocean Terminal. The toilets in the Visitor Centre are located after the ticket desk and prior to boarding.

Visitor Centre

Door width: 900mm

Distance from seat: 1500mm

Seat height: 465mm

Tea Room

Door width: 1000mm

Distance from seat: 1200mm

Seat height: 465mm

Sailing Exhibition

Door width: 860mm

Distance from seat: 1000mm

Seat height: 490mm



Gold level

Door width: 800mm

Distance from seat: 1200mm

Seat height: 560mm

Grey level

Door width: 800mm

Distance from seat: 1400mm

Seat height: 510mm

Please note, there is a slight slope in this toilet, due to the camber.

Catering

The Royal Deck Tea Room is situated on board Britannia. It is highly accessible for wheelchairs less than 670mm in width and buggies by internal lift

from the Royal Bedrooms. The Tea Room is not accessible by Shopmobility scooters. The tables and chairs are moveable for wheelchair access.

Royal Deck Tea Room

- There are 15 steps up to the Tea Room from the Verandah deck. The door width is 1010mm and has a raised lip, which is highlighted with tape.
- The Tea Room has 35 tables and can seat 133 people. Table height is 720mm with chairs without arms. Guests are waited on with table service, by our staff.
- There are floor to ceiling windows throughout, as well as spotlighting.
- The flooring is original wooden deck. The menu caters for vegetarians and there are gluten, wheat free cakes, scones, soups and sandwiches available. Our staff will happily read out the menu to customers. A magnifying glass and reading glasses are available, on request. Please ask a member of our staff.

- Crockery is white, with silver teapots. Our table tops are cream coloured. There are accessible WCs within the Royal Deck Tea Room.
- There are high chairs available for younger children and baby changing facilities.
- All soups served are gluten free. Please ask your server for a gluten free roll. We also have gluten free bread available for our sandwiches and our potato wedges are gluten free. There are gluten free fruit scones and gluten and wheat free cakes.



(Royal Deck Tea Room showing spacing between tables.)

Gift Shop

- Britannia's Gift Shop is located within Ocean Terminal shopping centre, adjacent to the Visitor Centre entrance and can be accessed at the end of the tour, or directly from Ocean Terminal without having to visit Britannia itself.
- Access from Ocean Terminal is via an open doorway with a width of 2700mm. On exit from the Britannia tour, the entrance to the Gift Shop is 1700mm in width.
- The flooring within the shop is wooden and level throughout. The tables and fixtures have spacing throughout to enable wheelchairs/pushchairs to browse the shop. Fixtures include shelving units, tables and gondolas.
- A magnifying glass is available to borrow from the till point.

There is background music in the shop and a Britannia DVD, which plays on a screen, with sound. There is a hearing loop system within the shop.

Britannia staff are happy to offer any assistance where required.



(Britannia Gift Shop, showing spacing between gondolas.)



(Britannia Gift Shop and one of two till points.)



(An example display of shelving.)

The height of the highest shelf within the Gift Shop is 1750mm. Our staff are happy to offer assistance to reach any items within the shop.

Additional Information

Wheelchairs

If you are a wheelchair user and the measurements of your wheelchair exceeds 670mm we are happy to offer you a loan of one of our five wheelchairs, available free of charge. Our staff are positioned throughout the tour to answer questions and provide general assistance.

Assistance Dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome on board Britannia. We have dog water bowls located in the Visitor Centre, by our Reception and outside by the Royal Barge, next to the statue of a Former Royal Yachtsman. Should your dog require the toilet, please ask a member of our team who will be happy to escort you to our onboard facilities.

Signage

General signage on board Britannia is white with black text. The disc signs throughout the tour advise visitors which numbers to press on their audio handset tour and signify the colour of deck they are located on. Each deck has a colour, namely red, blue, gold, purple and grey.



(Signs on the tour route.)

Evacuation Chair

In the event of an evacuation on board, we have an Evac Chair – The World's No.1 Stairway Evacuation chair, which trained members of our team will administer on the day from the Tea Room to the Verandah Deck. The chair has a 182kg payload capacity.



(Evacuation chair.)

Staff training

There is an ongoing programme of training with our staff.

First Aid

There is a first aid room on board and there are members of staff who are trained in general first aid.

Smoking Area

Smoking is not permitted within the Visitor Centre or on board. There is however a designated smoking area outdoor next to The Royal Barge.

Local accommodation providers

The Holiday Inn Express is the nearest hotel to Britannia.

Holiday Inn Express, Britannia Way, Ocean Drive, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6JJ.

The Holiday Inn Express is 0.3 miles from Britannia. The Holiday Inn Express has 9 double accessible rooms with wheel in access shower rooms. All rooms have flashing fire alarms, emergency lighting and emergency pull cords in both the bedroom and bathroom area. There also have a vibrating pillow that can be moved from room to room, which is linked to the fire alarm system to alert people who are deaf or have hearing loss should the fire alarm be activated. There is also an 'Evac Chair' so that disabled guests can evacuate the building in the event of a fire.

There are no accessible twin-bedded rooms, however there are adjoining rooms for carers which are

provided free-of-charge. Please note that these interconnecting rooms must be booked directly with the hotel to ensure availability.

There are no stairs at the entrance to the hotel. The reception desk has a lowered area. Both the bar and breakfast room are on the ground floor with easy access.

Contact details for The Holiday Inn Express:

<http://www.expressedinburgh.co.uk/>

Feedback

If you would like to provide us with any feedback on this Access Statement, we would welcome your comments. We would be interested to hear if there is any information we may have missed that would be of interest. Please email us: enquiries@tryb.co.uk or by telephone +44 (0) 131 555 8800 or simply speak to a member of our team when you visit Britannia.

Contact Information

Address: The Royal Yacht Britannia, Ocean Terminal,
Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6JJ

Telephone: +44 (0) 131 555 5566 / +44 (0) 131 555
8800.

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