

Northern  
Ballet

# Access Statement



# Access Statement

Welcome to Northern Ballet’s access statement. We hope that you find this information helpful and would welcome any feedback; including suggestions for any other information you think could be usefully included.

For a full virtual tour of our building including 360 degree view of our studios [please visit our website](#).

For more details about access and our facilities please call 0113 220 8000 or email [info@northernballet.com](mailto:info@northernballet.com).

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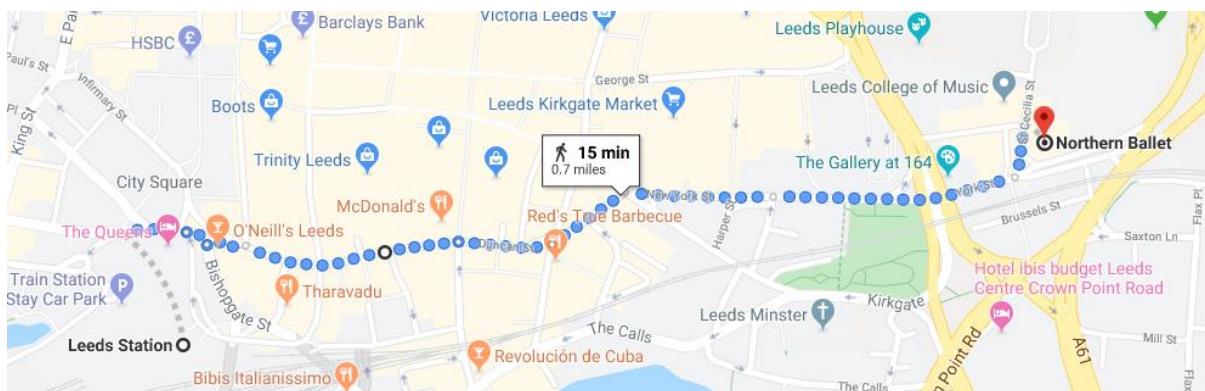
## Introduction

Northern Ballet is located on Quarry Hill in central Leeds in the thriving cultural quarter. Local amenities such as the train station, bus station and shopping area of Briggate are accessible by foot or bus.

Inside our 6-storey, purpose-built building you will find the Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre, seven dance studios, a café with a range of food choices and a variety of meeting room spaces. When you arrive, our welcoming reception staff will be able to direct you around the building. Each floor can be reached by an accessible lift, accessible toilets are available throughout and there is a hearing loop in place in the foyer and theatre.

## Getting Here by Train

Leeds Station is located in the city centre and is 0.7 miles away from Northern Ballet. It should take around 15 minutes to walk or five minutes to drive to Northern Ballet from the train Station. The map below shows the quickest route to walk which is fairly even with a slight decline and is well lit with streetlights. There are numerous roads to cross, both with and without pelican crossings.

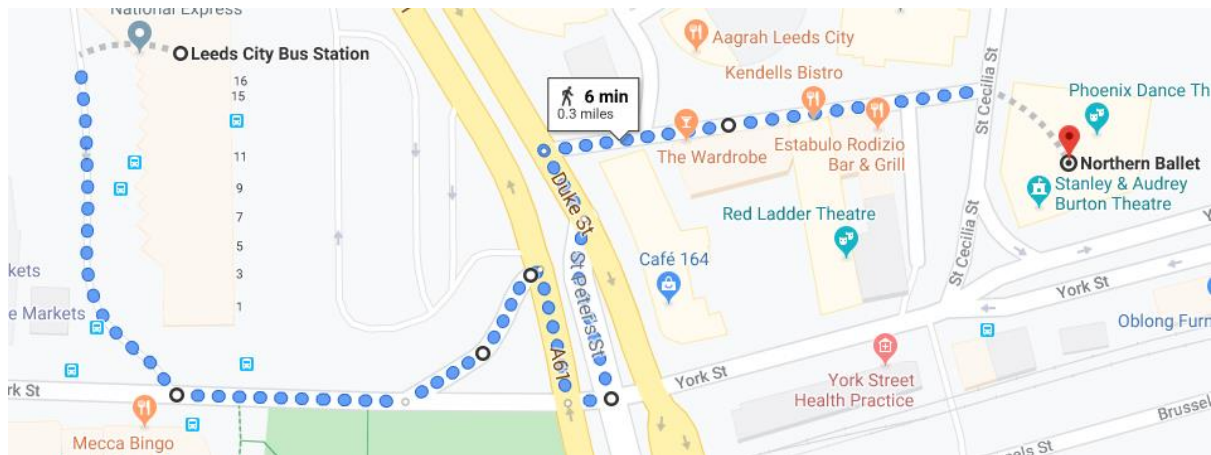


If you are reading this on a computer, you can see a [more detailed version of this map here](#).

There is a taxi rank outside the entrance to the train station on New Station Street which is serviced by City Cabs. Alternatively, you can contact Amber Cars on 0113 202 2117 to book a taxi in advance. Amber Cars has accessible vehicles and the drivers of these vehicles have all undertaken a disability awareness course. Please remember to advise the operator at the time of booking if a wheelchair accessible vehicle is required and the total number of passengers travelling. Amber Cars advise you to book these vehicles in advance as there is a high demand for this service and a limited number of accessible vehicles per day. Unfortunately, Northern Ballet does not offer a collection service.

## Getting Here by Bus

If you are arriving at Northern Ballet by bus, the Central Bus and Coach station is opposite the Leeds Playhouse and a 0.1 mile walk from Northern Ballet. The map below shows the quickest route to walk. The route from the bus station to Northern Ballet is level and firm, with three pelican-controlled roads to cross. It is lit with streetlights.



There is a bus interchange outside the New Station Street entrance. The Citybus stops here en-route to the bus station (which is close to Northern Ballet), you can find more information about the [routes and timetable of the Citybus here](#). All Leeds First buses have a dedicated area for wheelchair users; other passengers are required to give up the space for wheelchair users. There are also regular buses from Boar Lane near the train station to York Street near Northern Ballet.

You can find more information about the bus services in Leeds on the [West Yorkshire Metro website](#).

If you are reading this on a computer, you can see a [detailed version of the route on a map](#).

## Getting Here by Car

Please note that there are ongoing building works in Quarry Hill, this may mean that access to Northern Ballet by car is limited at certain times. Please check this website before planning your travel: [one.network/custom/leeds/](#)

Northern Ballet is easily reached from the major road networks via the M621, the postcode for your satnav is LS2 7PA.

From the South, take the M1 to junction 43 then follow the M621 West. Leave the M621 at junction 4 and follow the A61 towards Leeds City Centre.

From the West, take the M62 to junction 27 then follow the M621 East. Leave the M621 at junction 4 and follow the A61 towards Leeds City Centre.

From the East, take the M62 to junction 29 then follow the M1 North to junction 43 and then the M621 West. Leave the M621 at junction 4 and follow the A61 towards Leeds City Centre.

From the North, take the A1M to junction 43 and then the M1 South to junction 45. Take the A63 (Pontefract Lane) to the junction at Cross Gates and then take the A61 towards Leeds City Centre.

The A61 bends to the right past the Gateway development on the left. Take the left turn onto York Street immediately after the road goes underneath the railway bridge and then take the next right onto Centenary Square Northern Ballet is on the right.

The Northern Ballet building is at 2 St. Cecilia Street, Quarry Hill which is just behind the Leeds College of Music and Leeds Playhouse.

Two accessible parking bays are available onsite free of charge in Northern Ballet's staff car park alongside the building. They are approximately 15 metres from the accessible entrance. The car park is even block paving and the route from car park to the entrance is even, with a minimal decline. The car park is lit with street lighting. There is a barrier to access the car park – on arrival call 0113 220 8000 and the receptionist will open the barrier, or you can buzz the intercom for assistance. We are unable to pre-book parking bays.

The building is situated on a tarmac road with raised pavements. There is level access to the pavement from the left-hand side of the main doors. There is a pedestrian crossing at the junction with York Street which also has level access to the pavement. There is an incline across the front doors; the pavement goes uphill from the right-hand side to the left-hand side of the building.

The accessible entrance to the building is through the first door on your left as you look at the building. This is a power assisted door which opens outwards and the button to open the door is on the right-hand side. The door width is 1040mm/41 inches. There is an intercom on the left-hand side from which a receptionist or caretaker can be called for assistance.

There is also a manual revolving door and a manual standard door at the front of the building which can be accessed via a level surface between pillars. There are between 1 and 5 steps up to the entrance, with handrails.

## Car Parking

Unfortunately, Northern Ballet does not have car parking open to the public other than the two disabled bays mentioned in the previous section.

The closest car park to Northern Ballet is a pay and display car park in St Peter's Square although this has limited space and can fill up quickly. With a blue badge you can:

- park on-street for free and without time limit at both metered and 'pay and display' sites
- park in designated disabled bays free and without time limit unless the sign states otherwise. Your parking clock must be displayed with your blue badge
- park on single or double yellow lines for up to 3 hours with both your blue badge and parking clock displayed. Always check local signs
- park in resident parking permit bays without a time limit

You can find more information about [parking near our building here](#).

## NCP Car Park

There is a secure NCP multi-storey car park on York Street next to the bus station (LS2 7EA) which is open Monday – Sunday from 06:00 – 23:00 with 646 spaces and 20 disabled parking bays. You can find more information about [NCP's disabled parking bays here](#).

The max height allowance is 2.08m, and the car park has lighting and lifts.

Northern Ballet has a discounted daily parking rate at this car park (up to 24 hours) of £8. To qualify for the discount, park as normal and then collect a discount card from the Northern Ballet reception. When you're ready to pay for your parking insert your original ticket in the NCP machine, when the machine prompts you for payment, insert the discount card and this will bring the amount down to £8, and then make your payment.

(prices correct as of December 2019)

## Reception & Box Office

The reception desk and box office are on the right as you enter the building with the café and toilets on the left. There are flat tiles throughout the foyer which is well lit with natural light from the front of the building. At the reception desk, there is a low counter with no barrier between the staff and customers. The counter is 750mm / 29.5 inches high. Here you can ask for help and directions, buy and collect your tickets and pick up headsets for the hearing loop or ear defenders. There are visual and braille signs around the building and within the lift. Signage in these spaces is clear to read with a white background and coloured font.

## Main Foyer

The main foyer is the heart of the building and contains the lift and stair access to all other floors, the reception desk and box office, the café bar and a seating area. Guide dogs are welcome, and water can be provided from the café.



Northern Ballet Foyer

## Accessible Dance

Northern Ballet holds a range of courses including In Motion, a unique programme for self-propelling wheelchair users and people with mobility impairments, there is a youth group (aged 8 – 19) and an adult group, and the Ability dance course which is specifically designed for adults with mild to moderate learning disabilities. For more information visit [northernballet.com/join-in/accessible-dance](http://northernballet.com/join-in/accessible-dance).

There is also a range of open dance classes for everyone to enjoy. For more information visit the [Academy of Northern Ballet's](http://Academy of Northern Ballet's) website.

While visiting Northern Ballet at Quarry Hill, you can also ask for information about our ballets which tour throughout the UK and often include audio described performances.

## Northern Ballet Café Bar

The café bar is in the main foyer on the ground floor. The area is bright, airy and well-lit with fluorescent lighting. A level tiled floor and wide gangway allow easy access to the service area – it

can become busy when children are waiting for classes to begin. Orders are taken from the service counter which is 1100mm / 43.25 inches high. Staff are happy to take your order from the table if required.

There are six round wooden tables each set with 4 wooden and chrome chairs. The tables have 735mm / 29 inches of clear access underneath. There is also a long high bar with 1100mm / 43.25 inches of clear access underneath and 8 high stools. This can be busy before performances in the Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre. There is also an area to the front of the reception that has soft low furniture available to both café customers and general visitors.



Northern Ballet's foyer seating with Cafe Bar in background

Food and drink are supplied by Catering Yorkshire. Their menu can be found on the wall to the left of the service area, and the drinks menu is located behind the service area; both are printed with large and medium lettering. Staff are happy to read the menu if required. There is a range of hot, cold and dietary options - further dietary options and a full list of allergy related products can be made available upon request. [You can see a sample menu here](#). The café is self-service and hot meals are ordered and brought to your table.

Crockery is white porcelain with metal cutlery; these can be changed upon request to wooden cutlery and paper plates. Babies' bottles can be heated, and highchairs are available on request. Breast feeding is welcome throughout the foyer and café bar. If you prefer to breast feed in a quiet space, please speak to the receptionist.

## Toilets

On the ground floor, there is an accessible toilet which has baby changing facilities. It is unisex and doesn't require a code or radar key to use. There are toilets and accessible toilets on every floor of the building.

It has level entry through a 930mm / 36.5-inch-wide door, a clear 1m space for a wheelchair on the right and the seat is 460mm / 18 inches high. There are 2 fixed vertical handrails either side of the wash basin, 1 fixed vertical handrail to the right of the toilet and 1 movable horizontal handrail to the right of the toilet. If assistance is required there is a red pull cord on the left-hand side of the WC which activates an alarm and a flashing light outside the WC. It is very well lit with fluorescent ceiling light, floored in non-slip lino with extended lever taps on the sink.

All the accessible facilities have level entry, non-slip lino, wide doors, low seats and red emergency cords next to the toilet.

1st Floor: WC and shower. Clearance to the left of the WC with 2 fixed vertical rails on right hand side of WC, one fixed and one movable horizontal rail at left side of WC and a fixed vertical rail either side of the wash basin. Shower is behind the WC in a separate compartment with an 810mm / 32 inches wide entrance. There is a pull-down seat in the shower with pull down rail at the left and a fixed vertical rail on the right. The shower head is at a right angle to the seat on the right and has ordinary twist taps and a fixed vertical rail on either side. The shower head is low and can be removed from the wall.

2nd, 3rd & 5th Floors: WC only. Clearance is to the left of the WC with 2 fixed vertical handrails either side of the wash basin, 1 fixed vertical handrail to the left of the WC and 1 movable horizontal handrail to the left of the WC.

4th Floor: WC and Shower. Clearance to the left of the WC with 2 fixed vertical rails on right hand side of toilet, one fixed and one movable horizontal rail at left side of WC and a fixed vertical rail either side of the wash basin. Shower is in the left-hand corner and is separated from the WC by 2 shower curtains. There is a pull-down seat in the shower with a pull-down rail at the right side and a fixed vertical rail on the left. The shower head is at a right angle to the seat on the left and has ordinary twist taps and a fixed vertical rail on either side. The shower head is low and can be removed from the wall. There is approximately 1.5m clearance between the shower seat and the WC.

## **Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre**

The Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre is on the ground floor, accessed from the main foyer through a single door 930mm / 36.5 inches wide. The auditorium is a raked bleacher seating bank with shallow steps and handrails up either side. Wheelchair spaces can be booked in the front row on the level access auditorium floor, just ask our reception team when booking tickets.

The floor in the auditorium is carpeted with easily negotiable short pile carpet. Before and after performances and in the intervals, the access routes are clearly lit, and the doors are secured open. During the performances, stewards are seated to either side of the auditorium and can help you exit with the use of torches.

The theatre offers a mix of family friendly, dance and theatre performances. There are concession prices available for disabled people, with no charge for a companion ticket.

You can book your tickets online at [theatreleeds.com](http://theatreleeds.com). You'll be able to pick your own seats from the plan and we'll send you an e-ticket straight away to confirm your booking. You can call 0113 220 8008 and our box office team will be happy to take your booking, or you can book in person Monday – Saturday from 09:00 – 20:00.

## **Theatre Auditorium**

The Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre is fitted with a hearing loop; headsets and necklaces are available from the box office in the main foyer or personal hearing aids should be turned to the T position. Ear defenders are also available on request from the box office.



There is space available to store a mobility chair or wheelchair during performances at the theatre. Please let a steward know and they will store mobility chairs or wheelchairs at the back of the auditorium.



Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre stage (left) and seating (right)

We are a family friendly venue with these family friendly facilities:

- Baby changing facilities
- Pram storage area
- Level access to the theatre
- We have a number of booster seats available, however, please feel free to bring along your own if you have one
- Ear defenders are available
- Special family lunch packages for selected family performances
- Chill out space and accessible changing room for our [relaxed performances](#)

## Studios & Conference Spaces



An example of a studio at Northern Ballet

There are seven dance studios and various conference spaces and meeting rooms available for hire throughout the building. All can be accessed via lift or stairs. Our flexible event rooms can be

tailored to your needs so please just ask our team when you book your event and they will be happy to help with any requests. The studios are all harlequin dance floor sealed from wall to wall. Many studios have permanent bench seating along one wall and moveable wooden stools. During conferences and non-dance events, the floors are tiled over with short-pile carpet. There are banquette seats dotted around the landings on all levels, so you are never far from somewhere to sit.

## Additional Information

Assistance and guide dogs are very welcome in Northern Ballet's building and in the auditorium of the Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre. Water bowls can be provided for assistance dogs on request.

In the case of an emergency evacuation, all Front of House staff have been trained to deal with and assist customers in leaving the building.

There is a large print sheet with information on the building's facilities available on request.

If you have specific needs that you would like to discuss please contact the Reception team on 0113 220 8000 or email [info@northernballet.com](mailto:info@northernballet.com).

Members of our Reception, Front of House and Caretaking staff have received basic Makaton communication training and Disability Awareness and Equality training.

## Local Accommodation

Accessible accommodation is available near Northern Ballet and the Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre. Below are some suggestions; however, these are not endorsed by Northern Ballet.

### **Park Plaza** - Boar Lane, City Square, Leeds, Yorkshire LS1 5NS

This hotel has a wheelchair accessible public entrance, lobby and public restrooms and accessible rooms, with wet rooms (two on each floor), which may include the following accessible features:

- Amenities within accessible range to reach
- Audio, visual and sensory emergency warning devices and emergency cords
- Controls operable without grasping or twisting
- Grab bars alongside toilet and by bathtub
- Wider guest room and bathroom doorways

Please contact the hotel on 0844 415 6720 to confirm if an accessible room will meet your needs or if you have additional questions.

### **Jurys Inn** - Brewery Wharf, Brewery Place, Leeds LS10 1NE

This hotel has accessible toilets in public areas, lifts to all floors and a number of accessible wheelchair friendly rooms which include:

- Lowered beds for easy transfer from a wheelchair to the bed
- Wide doorways
- Sufficient floor space to manoeuvre
- Fully accessible bathrooms, including either roll-in shower or bath with additional handrails, lower sink, grab rails and pull cords

Please call Jurys Inn on 0113 283 8800 to discuss your requirements and to check availability of accessible wheelchair friendly rooms, or [read their access statement](#).

There are also accessible rooms available at the following local hotels:

**Quebecs Hotel** - 9 Quebec Street, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS1 2HA / 0113 244 8989

**Hilton Leeds City** - Neville Street, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS1 4BX / 0113 241 1000

**42 The Calls** - 42 The Calls, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS2 7EW / 0113 244 0099

## Local Services for Disabled People

There are a number of services available for disabled people in Leeds City Centre. DIAL Leeds (Disability Information and Advice Line) provides a short-term manual wheelchair hire service and can also supply RADAR keys (for accessible toilets).

For more information, DIAL Leeds can be contacted on 0113 378 2992 or by visiting [www.dial-leeds.org.uk](http://www.dial-leeds.org.uk)

## Northern Ballet on Tour

Northern Ballet perform across the UK bringing world-class ballet and live orchestral music to a wide range of audiences.

We offer various opportunities for you to take a step closer to the Company and find out more about our productions during your visit to the theatre. Talks and demonstrations give an insight into life of a touring ballet company, offer the chance to see the dancers in training and reveal some of the secrets behind creating a production. And for those with energy or desire to dance, our movement workshops offer you the chance to have a go, learn some new steps and get creative, whatever your ability. Find out more at [northernballet.com/join-in/at-the-theatre](http://northernballet.com/join-in/at-the-theatre).

We offer [Audio Described performances](#) of many productions on tour, enabling people with a visual impairment to enjoy our shows. A free accompanying Touch Tour Insight Workshop gives patrons a greater understanding of the production.

Information about our productions is available on our website, including scenarios and character lists. Large print cast sheets are available on request following performances. Please email [info@northernballet.com](mailto:info@northernballet.com) or call 0113 220 8000 to request a copy.

The theatres that we visit on tour have a range of facilities to meet your requirements. We have brought together the discounted ticket prices and information [about access facilities available at each of the theatres](#). To find out more, discuss, specific needs and make a booking, please contact the relevant theatre box office.

## Future Plans

Northern Ballet is committed to ensuring that our building, facilities and events are as accessible as possible.

We are continuously in the process of updating our website to ensure that information is as clear and easy to access as possible for everyone.

If you have any questions or feedback on our building or this guide, please let us know by contacting [info@northernballet.com](mailto:info@northernballet.com).

All the information in the guide is correct as of January 2020

Photos by Google Maps, Karl Andre and Martin Smith