



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

## **ACCESS STATEMENT FOR CHELMSFORD CITY RACECOURSE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Situated 10 miles from the centre of Chelmsford, Chelmsford City Racecourse is bringing racing back to Essex!

The racecourse is situated on flat land with facilities and enclosures spread out across the large site so you should expect to do a fair amount of walking. The racecourse sits adjacent to the A131, just outside of Great Leighs in an idyllic countryside setting.

Racing usually runs for around 2.5-3 hours with doors opening 2 hours prior to the first race. Race times are published on our website around 4 weeks before race day so please check our website before planning your visit.

Visitors can choose to dine in of our fabulous restaurants; we have two formal dining options for guests to book from. We advise booking in advance to avoid disappointment on the day. Restaurant packages can be purchased online or by telephoning the sales team.

Stewards are on hand throughout the racecourse should you require any assistance.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance please phone 01245 360300 or email [info@chelmsfordcityracecourse.com](mailto:info@chelmsfordcityracecourse.com).

## **PRE-ARRIVAL**

- For full details and maps of how to reach us please see the Plan Your Raceday section of our website.
- Our postcode is CM3 1QP and is readily available on all GPS devices and mobile location apps.
- The nearest railway station is Braintree Freeport approx. 4 miles away although public transport connections from here are limited so we recommend public transport from either Chelmsford City centre or Braintree town centre.
- Taxis are available from all train stations.
- The nearest bus stop is approx. 1 mile away situated near to The Castle pub in Great Leighs. Ask the driver for the stop at The Castle pub in Great Leighs. There is no shelter or seating.
- The number 70 bus runs between Chelmsford and Braintree every 30 minutes.
- Pedestrian access to the racecourse is difficult as the route involves crossing the A131 dual carriageway, there is no paved route and we do not recommend this option.

## **CAR PARKING AND ARRIVAL**

- We offer free parking on standard race days. For peak race days and events such as concerts this may be subject to change, please check our website prior to planning your visit.
- The car park is situated directly off of the A131 and has space for up to 1,200 cars. The area is level tarmac with detailed landscaping and lines due for completion within the next 12-18 months. The area is well lit at night with security present.
- Disabled parking is available with Blue Badge holders given forward parking in the car park nearest to the Ticket Office. This parking area is subject to capacity on the day and is allocated on a first come, first served basis only. We have 30 dedicated disabled parking bays directly adjacent to the ticket office which provide closer proximity to the racecourse entrance. Blue Badges must be clearly displayed at all times.
- For those with disabled passengers, we allow and recommend drivers drop off guests before parking in the main car park.
- Taxi and shuttle bus drop off/ pick up is available outside ticket office.

## **MAIN ENTRANCE, RECEPTION AND TICKETING AREA**

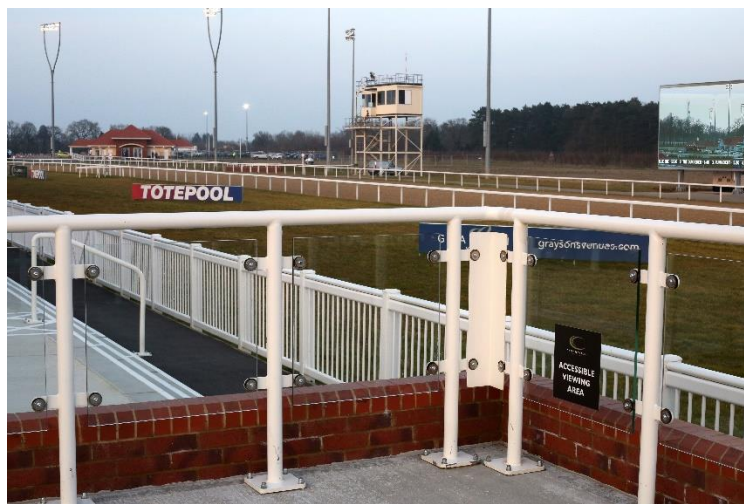
- The ticket office (main entrance) is situated on level tarmac from the car park.
- Ticket office doors are 2m wide with double doors.
- The area is well lit and the surface is carpeted with step free, level access throughout.
- Ticket sale windows are at eye level and wheelchair users are invited to purchase/collect tickets from inside where lowered counters are available.

- Those who require the assistance of a hearing loop – we have one fitted inside the ticket office and also at the main reception inside the Grandstand.
- Access to the centre of the course is by way of a pedestrian tunnel down and then up a winding sloped tarmac path approximately 130metres in length. There are rest areas at roughly 50metre intervals on this route. On race days we have a golf buggy service in operation for less able-bodied guests, this is available via request at the ticket office on arrival.



## **ATTRACTION (DISPLAYS, EXHIBITS, RIDES ETC.)**

- The Fairwood Restaurant is located on the ground floor of our luxurious grandstand, accessible via the main entrance where our dedicated reception team are on hand to process your reservation and assist you in any way.
- Our Member's Lounge and Club Restaurant on the first floor is serviced by a passenger lift with braille buttons and audio assistance.
- Betting booths are clearly located within the grandstand at various points, with staff also on hand with handheld devices to assist wheelchair users.
- We have dedicated accessible viewing on the home straight for wheelchair users. This is located outside adjacent to the Sports Bar. All hand rails are lowered for unobstructed views of the racing. Indoor accessible viewing is via various big screens showing the live racing as it happens.



## **PUBLIC TOILETS**

- Public toilets are located in various locations onsite both outside and inside on both floors.
- We have 6 accessible toilets and 50 others onsite.
- There are 3 public toilets of which 1 is a unisex accessible toilet, located at the ticket office for arriving guests to use.
- We provide 1 baby changing facility located in the Sports Bar.
- All accessible toilets are unisex and open to be used freely. No RADAR key system is in place.
- All toilets are fitted to BS standard for full accessibility including light easy open doors and emergency alarm pull cord.
- On peak race days and events such as concerts, additional public toilets will be provided.



## **CATERING**

- The Fairwood restaurant, with seating for 200 people is located on the ground floor of the grandstand.
- The Sports Bar provides 2 large bars for cold drink sales including alcohol.
- Upstairs in The Club Restaurant and Members' Lounge there is seating for 200 people with it's own bar and betting facilities as well as private toilets and accessible toilet.
- The Club Restaurant on the first floor of the grandstand is accessible by way of two large staircases and a lift for wheelchair access.
- The flooring in our restaurants is carpeted.
- We advise booking in advance to avoid disappointment on the day, restaurant packages can be purchased online or by telephoning the sales team. Although we do offer walk in tables, this is only on occasions when the restaurant has availability.
- Also on the ground floor The Grill is located in the Sports Bar, serving hot food and snacks such as hotdogs and coffee/tea.
- All areas inside the grandstand, including our restaurants are well lit with lots of natural light and LED lighting.

## **GROUND AND GARDENS**

- There are steppings outside of the grandstand to view the racing, with prime views of the final stages of the race. This area is not covered.
- All visitors have access to our outside enclosures which are a mixture of tarmac, concrete and grass.
- All surfaces are flat and in summer kept fully accessible. In winter the footpaths are a preferred choice of getting around site.
- Seating and picnic tables are dotted around onsite.
- During peak events and summer racing, outdoor bars and food concessions are available.
- For peak race days or events such as concerts guests may be permitted to bring one small fold-up camping chair or similar. Please check our website or contact the sales team prior to planning your visit.



## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Our stewards receive annual disability awareness and fire training.
- Evacuation procedures include special assistance to any guests with mobility issues. We have refuge points and evacuation chairs to assist.
- Chelmsford City Racecourse welcomes trained assistance dogs on site only. A water bowl is available by request from any steward.
- Flooring inside the grandstand is laminate within the main foyer and carpet within the restaurant, bar areas and stairwells.
- We offer complimentary admission tickets to personal assistants. conditions apply, please contact the Access Officer at Chelmsford City Racecourse for more information on 01245 363223 or [access.officer@chelmsfordcityracecourse.com](mailto:access.officer@chelmsfordcityracecourse.com).

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Address (Inc. postcode): Chelmsford City Racecourse Moulsham Hall Lane Great leighs  
Chelmsford CM3 1QP

Telephone: 01245 360300

Email: [info@chelmsfordcityracecourse.com](mailto:info@chelmsfordcityracecourse.com)

Website: <http://www.chelmsfordcityracecourse.com/>

Hours Of Operation: Monday - Friday 8:30 - 17:30 and race days

Local Public Transport: First Essex 0871 200 2233 <http://www.firstgroup.com/essex>