

Accessibility Checklist Report: Fortress of Louisbourg

Disclaimer

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Visitor Centre

Directions: If you're driving from the Canso Causeway, you have a choice. You can take Route 4, the Fleur-de-lis Trail, (also called Highway 104) to Sydney. Or follow the TransCanada Highway 105 to North Sydney and take Highway 125 to Sydney. Near Sydney you will take exit 8 onto Route 22. Driving time for either route is 2.5 hours. The Fortress is just beyond the modern town of Louisbourg. Driving time is 30 minutes from Sydney. An alternate route is the scenic and coastal Marconi Trail, Route 255, from Glace Bay. Driving time is one hour.

Parking: (Accessible)

The Visitor Centre had ample parking, but Parking Lot #2 is a designated parking area for persons with disabilities who require an accessible parking space. The designated parking spaces are 3.9 meters wide (13 feet) and are located directly beside the sidewalk that leads to the Visitor Centre. The designated parking spaces are more than 50 meters (164 feet) away from the entrance. However, there are limited accessible parking spaces available. There are other parking spots available, but it may be difficult to get to a sidewalk with a curb-cut.

Exterior Walkway: (Accessible)

The path of travel to the door does not have any steps or abrupt changes. There are at least three curb cuts and the slope of the path is no greater than 1:12 gradient ratio. It is a very flat pathway, with a slight slope leading toward the main entrance. The walkway is 1.1 meters (3.5 ft) wide and has a surface is concrete. There is also a concrete slab that leads directly to the main entrance. There is no ramp.

Doorways: (Accessible)

The door measures 97 cm (38 inches) wide when open and it is power operated. Once inside, there is industrial grade carpet, with no underlay.

Reception Area: (Accessible)

The ticket counter is 110 cm (43.3 inches) high and there is very little space underneath. There is an accessible counter to the right of the main entrance. It has “Cashier 1” above it.

Interior Ramp: (Accessible, but use CAUTION)

There is an exhibit ramp inside of the Visitor Centre which measures 2.4 meters (8 feet) wide and is covered with an industrial grade carpet. There are handrails on one side of the ramp. The slope is very steep and slants to the left, making it very difficult to maneuver. There is no Elevator.

Restrooms: (Accessible)

There are accessible washrooms on the 1st and 2nd floor. They are located to the left at the Main Entrance and at the bottom of the ramp. The doors measure 81 cm (31.8 inches) wide and swings outwards. The restroom has an unobstructed turning radius of 150 cm and the stall door opens outwards. Grab bars are 84 cm from the floor and the toilet is 43 cm from the floor. The sink has a clearance of 73.5 cm underneath, but does not have lever taps. They are push operated. The paper towel and soap dispensers are at a height of 47.5 cm. The floor is comprised of tile, so please use caution as it may be slippery.

Gift Shop: (Not Accessible)

The gift shop is not accessible for wheelchair users or persons using larger mobility aids (i.e. Walker).

Bus Stop/Pick-up: (Accessible)

The visitor bus stop has a wheelchair accessible bus and is located at the bottom of the exhibit ramp, on the lower level. The bus leaves every 5-10 minutes.

You can also request permission to drive directly to the site via Gate 2. This road will bring you to the back of the Museum and allows you to park on site. Authorization must be requested at the Visitor Centre Reception Desk, prior to driving to Gate 2.

Parking/ Transit

Map Number: 1 (Accessible)

Name: Bus Stop/ Arret d'autobus & DesRoches

Description: The bus stop is just outside of the Dauphin Gate which is your entry into The Fortress of Louisbourg. The landing at the drop off point is cement and leads into a path that is made up of gravel and packed clay. Arrangements for accessible transportation and/or parking on site can be made in advance at the Visitor's Centre. Please notify the staff at Visitor Services if you have a mobility disability and require assistance.

Description: Fishing House located just outside the Dauphin Gate. It is accessible only from the side entrance (harbourside)

Park Entrance

Map Number: 2 (Accessible)

Name: Dauphin Gate/ Porte Dauphine

Description: The Dauphin Gate is your entry into The Fortress of Louisbourg. The entryway is 177.8 cm (70 inches) wide and has a red planked bridge that leads to a gravel pathway on the other side.

Note: Use caution as there are no handrails or sides on this bridge at this time.

Key Measurements: 177.8 cm entry and 177cm bridge

Visitor Pathways and Roads

Name: 1. The Quai/ Le Quay

2. Rue du Petit Estang
3. Rue Royale
4. Rue Toulouse
5. Rue St. Louis
6. Rue D'Orleans

Description: All of the roads and pathways have a texture that is either a mix of gravel and clay that is packed down or grass/sod. They are very wide and may have a slight incline in some areas. There may be loose gravel in certain areas so please use caution and personal discretion when attempting to use one of the many roads.

Restroom Facilities

Map Number: 28 (Not Accessible)

Name: King's Bastion/ Bastion du roi

Description: When you enter the King's Bastion turn right at the end of the entry, the accessible restrooms can be found three doors down on the right. This restroom is only accessible via a portable ramp. Therefore you will need to ask a Parks Canada staff person for assistance.

Restroom: When open, the door has a width of 83.82 cm (33 inches) and has an unobstructed turning radius of 111.76 cm by 127 cm (45x50 inches). The stall door is 91.4 cm (35 inches) wide and opens outward, and there are grab bars in the stall. The toilet seat has a height of 40.6 cm (16 inches) from the floor, the sink has a clearance underneath of 73.6 cm (29 inches), and there are lever operated taps. The soap and paper towel dispensers are at a height of 119 cm (47 inches) from the floor.

Note: Request portable ramp

Key Measurements: (Approximate) 84 cm door, 112 x 127 cm turning radius and sink height of 74 cm.

Map Number: 45 (Accessible)

Name: Rue Toulouse

Description: These restrooms are accessible from the road and are very spacious. The restroom door swings outward, and when open, the stall door measures 91.4 cm (36 inches) wide. There are grab bars, but they are straight rather than horizontal. The washroom has an unobstructed turning area of 111.76 cm by 127 cm (45x50 inches) and the toilet seat is at a height of 40.6 cm (16 inches) from the floor. The sink has a clearance of 73.6 cm (29 inches) underneath and has lever operated taps. The soap and hand dryer are both at a height of 119 cm (47 inches) and the mirror is at a height of 101.6 (40 inches) from the floor.

Key Measurements: (Approximate) 84 cm door, 112 x 127 cm turning radius and sink height of 74 cm.

Visitor Services

Map Number: 10 (Not Accessible)

Name: Lartigue Gift Shop/ Boutique de cadeaux Lartigue

Description: The Gift Shop is on the corner of Le Quay and Rue du Petit Estang.

Note: The Gift Shop is not accessible for wheelchair users.

Map Number: 14 (Not Accessible)

Name: King's Bakery/ Boulangerie du roi

Description: The King's Bakery offers fresh bread to the public.

Note: This building is not accessible for wheelchair users.

Map Number: 17 (Not Accessible)

Name: Public Telephones/ Telephones publics

Description: Inside of the Exhibit on Fortifications. Located on Rue Royale.

Note: This is not wheelchair accessible due to the narrow entry and hallways.

Map Number: 28 (Not Accessible)

Name: Public Telephones/ Telephones publics

Description: Located inside of the King's Bastion.

Note: This location is not wheelchair accessible.

Map Number: 49 (Not Accessible)

Name: Destouches Bakery/ Boulangerie Destouches

Description: Located on Le Quay. They sell snacks and refreshments inside.

Note: As of now this building is not wheelchair accessible.

Restaurants

Map Number: 43 (Accessible)

Name: L'Epee Royale

Description: Located on Rue Toulouse. Only full course meals available. This restaurant has a door width of 89 cm (35 inches) with a 2.5 cm (1 inch) threshold. The tables have a height of 71 cm and the chairs are removable. The floors are made up of long wooden planks.

Map Number: 44 (Accessible)

Name: Hotel de la Marine

Description: Located on Rue Toulouse. Full course meals and light lunches available. This restaurant has a door width of 89 cm (35 inches) with a 2.5 cm (1 inch) threshold. The tables have a height of 76 cm and the chairs are removable. The floors are wooden.

Map Number: 48 (Accessible)

Name: Grandchamps Inn/ Auberge Grandchamps

Description: An animated restaurant located on Quay/Quai. This restaurant has a door width of 89 cm (35 inches) with a 2.5 cm (1 inch) threshold and a turning radius of 110 cm x 140 cm (43 x 55 inches). The tables are 94 cm from the floor and the chairs are removable. The floors are wooden.

Buildings/ Houses

Map Number: 12 (Not Accessible)

Name: Artillery Storehouse/ Hangar d'artillerie

Description: Located on Rue du Petit Estang. This building has a gravel entry, low threshold, wide entry way, and uneven floors. Please use caution.

Map Number: 13 (Not Accessible)

Name: Forge

Description: Located on Rue du Petit Estang, a step to get over, narrow corridor. Not accessible.

Map Number: 17 (Not Accessible)

Name: Exhibit on Fortification/ Exposition sur les fortifications

Description: Not accessible. Garden behind building is accessible. Use discretion.

Map Number: 24 (Accessible)

Name: De Gannes House/ Mason de Gannes

Description: The home of military captain de Gannes located on Rue Toulouse. You can enter the house directly from the street. When the door is open it has a width of 94 cm (37 inches) and it in cutting access to a display room by 10 cm (4 inches). The threshold is 2.5 cm (1 inch) high and the building has flat wooden planked floors.

Map Number: 28 (Accessible)

Name: Guard House/ Corps le garde

Description: Located just outside of the King's Bastion. There is a slight gravel incline leading to the building and the entry way measures 91.4 cm (36 inches) wide. There are wooden planks for flooring.

Note: No wheelchair access inside of the building but can be viewed from outside of the entryway.

Map Number: 28 (Accessible)

Name: King's Bastion/ Bastion du roi

Description: There is a flat, wooden planked bridge leading from one side of the moat to the other. Once inside the enclave, the floor is extremely uneven. It is comprised of stone and clay/mud. The entry way to the King's Bastion is 104 cm (41 inches) wide. The Chapel on the left-hand side of the corridor in the King's Bastion is wheelchair accessible only with a portable ramp. The back entrance to the Chapel is

91 cm (36 inches) wide with a turning radius of 152 x 152 cm (60 x 60 inches). This room has flat wooden planked floors.

Map Number: 31 (Not Accessible)

Name: Museum Exhibit/ Musee- exposition

Description: This building is located on Rue St. Louis. There is an entrance which has stairs, directly in front of the museum. There is a side entrance with a ramp, but it is very difficult to access the ramp due to the grass and uneven gravel surface. That side entryway has a door 104 cm (41 inches) wide. Once inside, the Museum has even tile flooring.

Map Number: 34 (Accessible)

Name: De La Plagne House/ Mason de la Plagne

Description: Mi' Kmaw exhibit located on Rue Toulouse. Immediately off the main roadway, is a gravel path followed by a stone ramp. There is a slight incline, but for the most part it is flat and level with the threshold. The door has an opening of 119 cm (47 inches) and an unobstructed turning radius of 152 x 152 cm (60 x 60 inches). There are wooden planked floors, with a narrow carpet runner leading to the display room. The width of the entryways range from 94 to 127 cm (37-50 inches).

Map Number: 46 (Not Accessible)

Name: King's Storehouse/ Magazin General

Description: Located on Le Quay this building has a stone ramp leading to the main entryway which has a width of 195.5 cm (77 inches). Once inside the clay floors are very uneven, and the threshold may require some maneuvering.

Note: Please use caution and personal discretion

Map Number: 47 (Accessible)

Name: Grandchamps House/ Maison Grandchamps

Description: The Innkeeper's home located on Quai. The door is 96.5 cm wide (38 inches) and there are wooden planked floors on the inside. The doorway has a 2.5 cm (1 inch) threshold. This house would be considered accessible.