



## Fairbourne Railway Disability Access Statement



The Fairbourne Railway is a miniature steam railway and operates services from two termini; Fairbourne and Barmouth Ferry, which are approximately two miles (3.2 KM) apart. An additional four intermediate halts; Beach Halt, Golf Halt, Loop Halt and Estuary Halt are located in between the two stations.

Passengers with severe disabilities from Gwynedd Council Care Homes, are carried at the normal rate but their accompanying carers are carried free of charge.

A wheelchair accessible carriage is available upon request, capable of holding a maximum of two wheelchairs (the area available for wheelchairs is 900 mm x 2800 mm).

Normal Public Transport access and Public telephones are located at Fairbourne Terminus only. There is an Emergency Calls only telephone (999 calls only) located near to Estuary Halt, South of the Halt on the opposite side of the road. Note that some mobile phone networks may not work in the area (T-Mobile), although Vodafone, 3 and Orange have good reception along the whole line.

Facilities at stations are described below:

### Fairbourne Terminus

This is the main terminus of the railway. The Network Rail car park is located directly opposite Fairbourne Station, across the road. This small free car park has a tarmac surface. Leaving the car park by the road entrance avoids the footpath curbs and crossing the main road there is a small 50 mm high curb at the entrance to the railways Shop/Booking office. The front entrance to the Shop/Booking Office has a double door, each door is 600 mm wide, wheelchair users would need to open the second door (normally left unbolted except on windy days).

This station is staffed daily during the operating season. The Shop/Booking office counter level is 740 mm above the floor level. From the Shop/Booking office, a single doorway provides a total opening width of 800 mm into the station down a ramp with a 20 mm step at the base. There is a ramp across the track with 20 mm step.

To the right of the ramp exiting the Shop and along the platform is the Museum whose entrance is via a ramp with a 20 mm step. The double doors are each 600 mm wide and are both doors are held open by a catch.

The Station Café has an entrance from the platform, at platform level, through double doors 820 mm and 600 mm wide. The Station Café is equipped with chairs that may be moved to accommodate wheelchair users. The café counter is 980mm high. In addition to the printed menu, the menu is also chalked on the wall in large letters. Please ask café staff if you require any assistance, they will be delighted to help. There are two exits from the Café, one directly onto the station platform with double doors 530 mm and 530 mm wide. There is another fire exit leading to the passageway between the Station Café and the Museum. The single door is 820 mm wide and the passage exit onto the platform is 820 mm wide. Outside the Station Café there are tables with chairs that can be removed for wheelchair users.

The Rowen Centre is accessed through two sets of self-closing double doors, each 530 mm wide. Staff will be happy to assist wheelchair users through these sets of doors. The paths are wide enough for wheelchairs and made up of smooth concrete or wooden ramps. There are two fire exits. The first exit is located at the Station Café end of the building and is 820 mm wide. There is an additional fire exit at the opposite end of the building which is 860 mm wide, from here the path leading away from the building is made up of compacted granite chippings.

**To catch the train!** The platform surface is tarmac. The railway has one carriage that has been constructed to accommodate wheelchairs. It is recommended that passengers who require the wheelchair carriage should contact the railway in advance. Railway staff will assist in helping the wheelchair user into the carriage. There are two telescopic ramps carried in the carriage. The height of the carriage floor is 270 mm from the platform. The dimensions of the wheelchair compartment are 900 mm x 2800 mm.

Public Transport access: Fairbourne Main Line station is situated directly opposite from the Fairbourne Railway's station, across Beach Road. The access route is flat with the exception of the 50mm curb into the Fairbourne Railway's entrance. Main line trains operated by Arriva Trains Wales run between Shrewbury/Machynlleth and Barmouth/Pwllheli. The nearest bus stop is in Station Road, 25 Metres from Fairbourne Terminus (access as Main Line station).

Nearest Public Telephone is directly opposite Fairbourne Terminus.

### Beach Halt

Beach Halt is situated on the seaward side of the railway and is made up of crushed slate with a concrete edge next to the track. There is no specific footpath or wheelchair access to this Halt. There is a Pay-and-Display Car Park within 50 metres of this Halt, the nearest pedestrian exit from the car park leads on to Penrhyn Drive South

Public Transport access: None available.

Nearest Public Telephone: None available.

## **Golf Halt**

Golf Halt is situated on the seaward side of the railway line, has a tarmac surface and a single fixed seat. There is a good footpath from the Sea Wall, but there is a single step with a height of 110 mm which prevents unaided wheelchair access to this Halt. The Golf Club Park is directly opposite Golf Halt.

Public Transport access: None available.

Nearest Public Telephone: None available.

## **Loop Halt**

Loop Halt is situated on the seaward side of the railway line and is made up of crushed slate with a concrete edge next to the track. There is no specific footpath or wheelchair access to this Halt. Opposite Loop Halt is a public footpath, which runs along an embankment leading to Morfa Mawddach (a Main Line request Halt). This footpath has a series of gates, which may not be passable by wheelchairs.

Public Transport access: None available.

Nearest Public Telephone: None available

## **Estuary Halt**

Estuary Halt is situated on the seaward side of the railway line and is made up of crushed slate with a concrete edge next to the track. There is a rough track leading to the beach, which is unsuitable for wheelchair users.

Public Transport access: None available.

Nearest Public Telephone: There is an Emergency Calls only telephone (999 calls only) located South of the Halt on the opposite side of the road.

## **Barmouth Ferry Station**

This station has no road access except for a rough track. To reach the track vehicles need to cross over beach shingle. For operational reasons the gate leading to the track is locked.

The Harbour Café is staffed only at peak periods (when the railway is operating its green or blue timetable service). At other times (when the railway is operating its yellow timetable) the building is open, but unmanned. The door leading to the platform is open and its width is 812 mm. A coin operated coffee machine is located on the counter, the height of the counter is 1.04M, so wheelchair users may have difficulty reaching the coin slot the height of which is 1.5M.

During busier periods (when the railway is operating its green or blue timetable service) the Harbour Café is staffed. Both doors are open, the front door leading to the platform is 812mm wide. The door leading to the picnic tables on the North side of the building is 812mm wide; from the inside of the building there is a low ramp (74 mm high and 1.06M high).

The Harbour Café is equipped with chairs that may be moved to accommodate wheelchair users. The café counter is 1.04M high. In addition to the printed menu, the menu is also chalked on the wall in large letters. A wheelchair accessible toilet, with an opening door of 812 mm is available. This is equipped with grab rails, a lever tap, and shaped toilet seat. The dimensions of the useable area are 2.1M x 2.3M.

Public Transport access: None available with the exception of the ferry service. There is an independent pedestrian ferry service running across Barmouth Harbour, which lands at different parts of the beach depending on the tide. The Ferry is not accessible for independent wheelchair users because of the design of the boats, the terrain leading to the beach and the steep Harbour steps on the opposite side.

Nearest Public Telephone: None available.

## **More Information**

If you would like any further information on our facilities for passengers with disabilities, please contact us either by telephone on 01341 250362, or by email: [office@fairbournrailway.com](mailto:office@fairbournrailway.com)