

If you need help or advice, please ask any member of staff who will be happy to assist.

Contact us

General enquiries: 01672 539250

Booking events: 0344 249 1895

Email: avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk

Please visit the website for up to date bookings and admission requirements which may be subject to change.

nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury

Share your experience #AveburyNT



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For alternative formats, please call us on 01672 539250 or email avebury@nationaltrust.org.uk

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National
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Welcome to

Avebury

Avebury Manor

Dating from Tudor times and later, Avebury Manor is unique. Each room has been decorated and furnished in a different historical period and offers an immersive visitor experience.

Recreated by the BBC television series 'The Manor Reborn', each room reflects the lives and times of the people who lived and visited here throughout the 500 years of its history.



So why not take a walk through history and find out how the Tudors dined and slept, listen to the gramophone in the Keiller sitting room, experience the Edwardian kitchen or see where a queen might have once stayed?

For opening hours and to find out about guided tours of the manor please visit the website or ask at reception.

Avebury Manor garden

Explore this 4-acre, relaxed and tranquil garden and the various 'rooms' within it. Here you can wander and enjoy the character of this Arts and Crafts style garden. Wrapping around three sides of the manor, the underlying garden layout strongly resembles one dating further back to 1695.



With mature trees, decorative topiary, clipped hedges, shrubs and climbers the structural planting takes shape. Enhancing this are ornamental herbaceous borders, seasonal bulb displays, colourful annuals beds and a wildflower meadow planted with local apple varieties. Trained fruit trees, a herb border and a productive Kitchen Garden round off the experience, and sometimes you can even take produce and cut flowers home.

This is a garden that feels comfortable in scale, offers year-round interest and allows you time and space to be at ease. There is something different around every corner.

Whilst visiting, chat to our friendly team and get inspiration from seasonal information boards.

Ancient Avebury

Recognised as a World Heritage Site for its outstanding Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments, Avebury is full of traces of our ancient past.



The first farmers made their mark here almost 6,000 years ago. Avebury Henge, the large bank and ditch you can see today, was built 4,600 years ago using tools of antler and bone,

and probably other tools that may have decomposed such as wood or rope. The stone circles were constructed soon after.

Since then a pretty village has grown up in the heart of the monument, making this the only place in the world where you can find a pub and a chapel inside a prehistoric stone circle.

While visiting Avebury Henge and stone circles you can discover its intriguing story by taking a tour around the stones with our experienced volunteer guides. Please enquire at the visitor reception.

Avebury Henge is the centre of a much larger ancient landscape, with many other monuments within walking distance (see overleaf).

Alexander Keiller Museum

The Alexander Keiller Museum is the archaeological museum for Avebury. In the building that was once the stables for the manor house you'll find displays that trace nearly 6,000 years of Avebury's past.

Many of the objects on display were found during excavations at Windmill Hill, one of the earliest settlements in the Avebury landscape. These give us a glimpse of what it was like to live here around 5,500 years ago. From just over 4,000 years ago, some fine Beaker pots from West Kennet Avenue represent people whose immediate ancestors had come from continental Europe, while more recent objects include the belongings of a man who was killed by a standing stone falling on him around 700 years ago. So, in this one small building you'll find a wealth of evidence for the people who built, used, and lived alongside the Avebury monuments.



Note

The National Trust car park is approx. 300m from the stone circle and 500m from the facilities in the Old Farmyard.

Accessibility and terrain

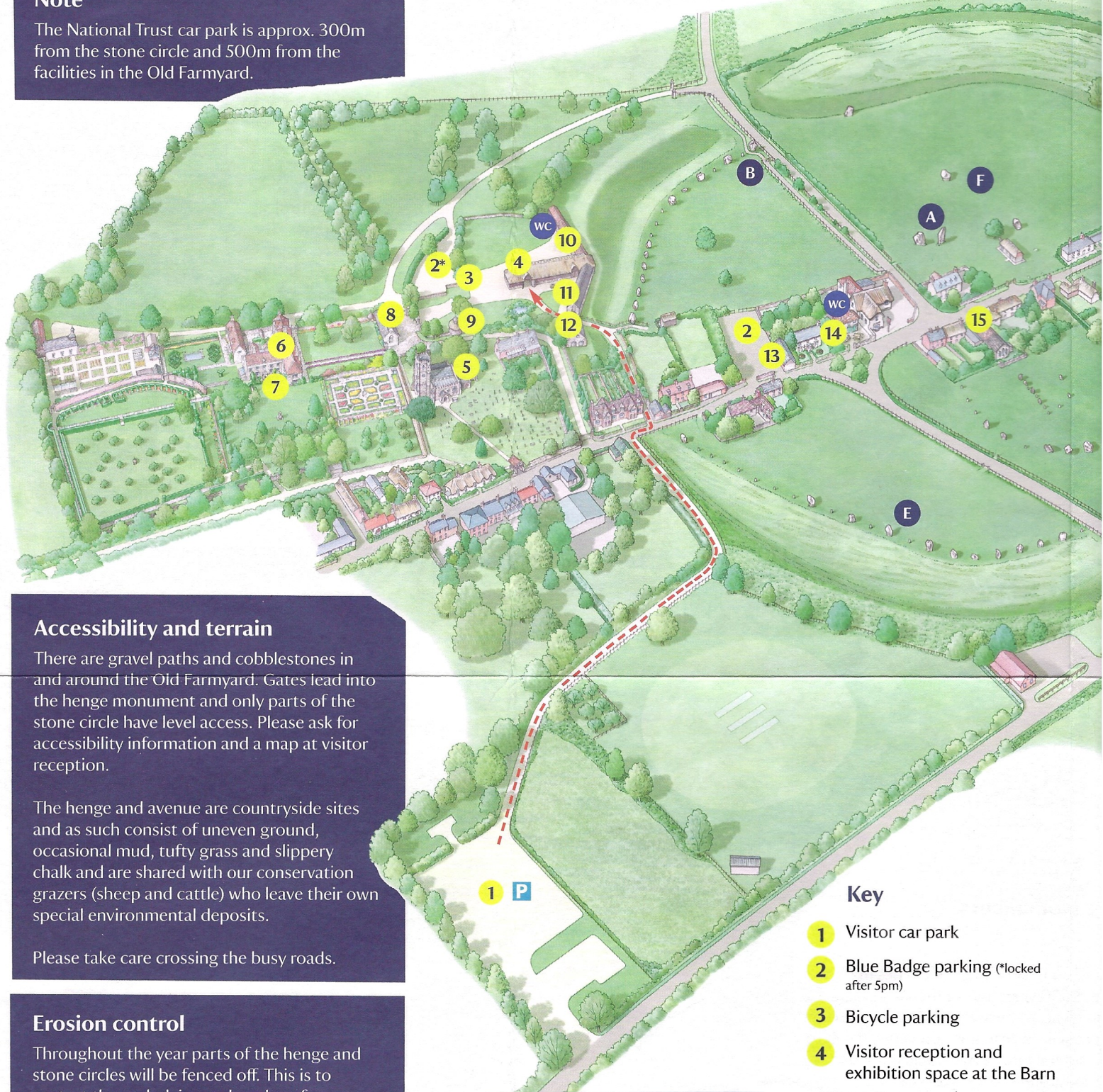
There are gravel paths and cobblestones in and around the Old Farmyard. Gates lead into the henge monument and only parts of the stone circle have level access. Please ask for accessibility information and a map at visitor reception.

The henge and avenue are countryside sites and as such consist of uneven ground, occasional mud, tufty grass and slippery chalk and are shared with our conservation grazers (sheep and cattle) who leave their own special environmental deposits.

Please take care crossing the busy roads.

Erosion control

Throughout the year parts of the henge and stone circles will be fenced off. This is to protect the underlying archaeology from damage or loss caused by erosion. This is a necessary part of caring for this special place.



Key

- 1 Visitor car park
- 2 Blue Badge parking (*locked after 5pm)
- 3 Bicycle parking
- 4 Visitor reception and exhibition space at the Barn
- 5 Avebury Manor and Garden entrance
- 6 Avebury Manor
- 7 Avebury Manor Garden
- 8 Alexander Keiller Museum
- 9 Dovecote
- 10 Education Centre
- 11 Circles Restaurant
- 12 National Trust shop

Archaeology key

- A The Cove
- B Swindon Stone
- C Southern Inner Circle
- D Southern entrance
- E Barber Surgeon Stone
- F Northern Inner Circle
- G West Kennet Avenue

Plan your visit

If you have all day

- Go on a stone circles walk
- Explore the Alexander Keiller Museum
- Relax over lunch in the Circles Restaurant
- Discover Avebury Manor
- Find a souvenir in the National Trust shop

In an afternoon

- Go on a walk around the stone circles
- Treat yourself to a drink in the Circles Restaurant
- Visit Avebury Manor
- Pop into the National Trust shop

If you have an hour

- Go on a walk around the stone circles
- Grab a bite to eat in the Circles Restaurant
- Browse for gifts and souvenirs
- Or why not visit Avebury Manor?

For employment

Circles Restaurant

Our new restaurant offers a range of space and a variety of food. We pride ourselves on home cooked food and you can relax yourself to a drink.

Coach House Café

This little café serves snacks, drinks and cakes.

For the shop

National Trust shop

Whether you're looking for a gift for a friend or just a treat for yourself, the National Trust shop has everything you need. And kitchen products, books, and specially sourced plants are available.

Cobblestones second-hand bookshop

If you love books, Cobblestones is the perfect place for you to come and browse the shelves. The income from the second-hand books sold at Avebury helps us to look after the special places in our care. It is run by a friendly team of volunteers who are always happy to tell you about our work.

Local facilities

Along the High Street you will also find two gift shops, the community shop, a pub, post office and bus stops as well as St James's Church.



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- 10 Education Centre
- 11 Circles Restaurant
- 12 National Trust shop
- 13 Cobblestones second-hand bookshop
- 14 Coach House Café
- 15 Avebury Chapel
- WC Toilets, including accessible and baby change (High Street toilets summer season only)
- Route from main National Trust car park to the Old Farmyard

Archaeology key

- A The Cove
- B Swindon Stone
- C Southern Inner Circle
- D Southern entrance
- E Barber Surgeon Stone
- F Northern Inner Circle
- G West Kennet Avenue

The National Trust Old Farmyard and Avebury Manor and Garden



- 1 Route to visitor car park
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- 6 Avebury Manor
- 7 Avebury Manor Garden
- 8 Alexander Keiller Museum
- 9 The Dovecote
- 10 Education Centre
- 11 Circles Restaurant
- 12 National Trust shop
- WC Toilets, accessible and baby change

Dogs

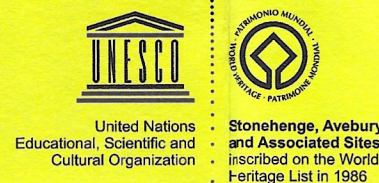
Your four-legged friends are welcome at Avebury. Please keep them on a lead, and under control, at all times. They are allowed everywhere on site apart from Avebury Manor and Garden and in the Circles Restaurant. There are picnic tables with tie up points outside the restaurant and dogs are welcome in the Dovecote if you need some shelter. You'll find dog treats for sale in the National Trust shop and restaurant and water bowls are available across the site.

Assistance dogs are welcome everywhere.



Exploring the wider Avebury landscape

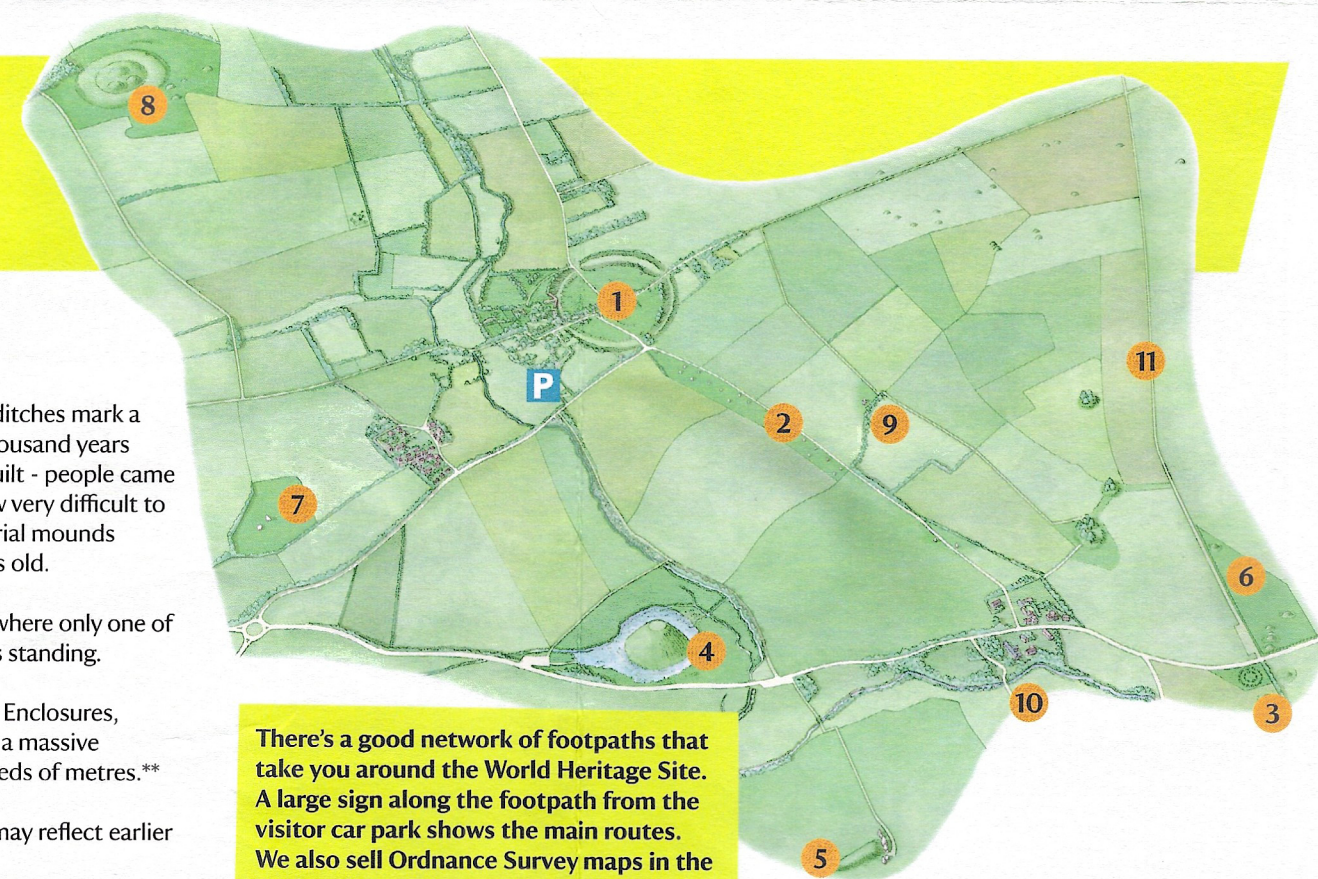
Part of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site



Avebury Henge and stone circles are part of a wider prehistoric landscape full of Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments. Even after several thousand years, many monuments are still visible within the World Heritage Site.

- 1 Avebury Henge dates from around 4,600 years ago. The bank and ditch are almost a mile in circumference, and the ditch was originally around 9m deep. The banks were built up from the chalk of the ditch, using stone and bone tools, and both would have been bright white when new. The outer stone circle of local sarsen sandstone is the largest prehistoric stone circle in the world.
- 2 You can walk the northern third of the West Kennet Avenue. These pairs of sarsen stones originally wound through the landscape connecting Avebury Henge at one end with The Sanctuary at the other.
- 3 The Sanctuary dates to around 4,500 years ago. It lies at one end of the West Kennet Avenue and is a monument of concentric circles once made from timber and stone.
- 4 Silbury Hill* is the largest artificial prehistoric mound in Europe, measuring 30m in height. With a modest beginning, it was gradually added to over the centuries to become what we see today. Construction began around 4,400 years ago.
- 5 West Kennet Long Barrow is a burial mound built around 5,600 years ago. There are five burial chambers, built using sarsen stone, which you can go into. Originally the mound would have stood out white from the chalk used to build it.
- 6 From around 4,200 years ago people buried their dead in round burial mounds called barrows. Here you can see a Bronze Age barrow cemetery.
- 7 The Longstones stand at the end of the Beckhampton Avenue, the second stone avenue that once snaked through the landscape. Today two visible stones remain, one avenue stone and one from another setting; they are known as Adam and Eve.
- 8 At Windmill Hill three concentric rings of ditches mark a place where, around 5,500 years ago - a thousand years before the stone circles at Avebury were built - people came to spend at least part of each year. It is now very difficult to see the ditches, but several Bronze Age burial mounds remain visible; they are around 4,000 years old.
- 9 Falkner's Circle is a prehistoric stone circle where only one of the probable twelve original stones remains standing.
- 10 This is the site of the West Kennet Palisade Enclosures, which are invisible to us now. They formed a massive Neolithic timber complex extending hundreds of metres.**
- 11 The Ridgeway is an ancient trackway that may reflect earlier prehistoric routeways.

*Silbury Hill is owned and managed by English Heritage.
**Not visible and on private land.



There's a good network of footpaths that take you around the World Heritage Site. A large sign along the footpath from the visitor car park shows the main routes. We also sell Ordnance Survey maps in the National Trust shop and provide suggested walks as part of the Walking Challenge available from: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/avebury