



Maeshowe Chambered Cairn

01856 851 266

We look forward to welcoming your group.
Please check for any closures before visiting:
historicenvironment.scot/maeshowe
historicenvironment.scot/closures

Health and safety

It is the responsibility of learning group leaders to complete their own risk assessment prior to any visit with a group.

The hazard information provided does not replace a learning group leader's own risk assessment. We strongly recommend that you contact us to arrange a free planning visit.

Learning group leaders are responsible for their group members at all times.

Please check our website for the required supervision ratios:
historicenvironment.scot/learn/staffing-ratios

Weather

The weather may affect the risks on the day. Please dress for the outdoors (including appropriate footwear).

Accessibility

Access information is on the [property's page](#)

Hazards

- Low doorways and/or passageways
- Low lighting
- Moving traffic at drop off/pick up points.
- Narrow passageways
- Road crossing will be required
- Slippery surfaces
- Uneven surfaces



Information for learning group leaders



Arrangements for group travel

The visitor centre car park can hold minibus-sized vehicles. Coaches can drop off/pick up from the road outside the visitor centre, however they cannot park there whilst passengers are visiting. The layby on the adjacent road is for public toilet users only and not for parking coaches.



Where to gather on arrival

We ask that the group leader comes into the visitor centre to let us know the group have arrived. Staff will explain where to assemble and wait for your tour.



Resources that can be provided

We have a wide range of replica Neolithic artefacts, a replica Neolithic dog's head (based on the remains found in the nearby Cuween chambered tomb), a film showing examples of local archaeology and a virtual tour of Maeshowe. We also have two virtual reality headsets that show the inside of the cairn.



Space to leave bags

The meeting/exhibition room or conservatory can be locked.



Spaces for lunch, learning or additional support

We have a semi-enclosed grassed area behind the visitor centre. This area is accessible from the street so we advise checking it before using.

The meeting/exhibition room and the conservatory have space for around 25–30 people. There are 10–15 chairs available and the floor is carpeted. The area has a sink, kettle and drinking water.

The conservatory connected to the meeting/exhibition room could be used as a space for learners with additional support needs.



Shop

The shop may be busy between tour times, please visit in small groups.



Toilets

There are two accessible toilets at the visitor centre.



Good to know

Access to the cairn is only by pre-booked guided tours via coach transfer from the visitor centre. Groups will need to cross the main road. It's a 400m walk to the cairn from the nearest drop-off point. Entry into the cairn is via a long, low passageway with no wheelchair access.