

# GROUP VISITS

# THE GREAT LAXEY WHEEL

**Welcome to the group visitor information for the Great Laxey Wheel, the world's largest waterwheel and Mines Trail. Here you will find everything you need to plan a visit.**



The Great Laxey Wheel is the largest surviving working waterwheel of its kind in the world. Designed by the Victorian engineer, Robert Casement, the wheel was built in 1854 to pump water from the Glen Mooar part of the Great Laxey Mines industrial complex.

The impressive 22m (72.5 feet) diameter structure found immediate popularity and has remained one of the Island's most dramatic tourist attractions for over 150 years. A climb to the top of the wheel is rewarded with breath-taking views across the valley, while the mines trail displays the remains of a once thriving mines complex and offers a pleasant walk through Glen Mooar, together with an opportunity to enter a section of the mine.

Don't miss:

- Seeing the magnificence of the Great Laxey Wheel and her workings up close
- Stories of the Laxey Miners
- Panoramic views from the top of the wheel
- The chance to go into the old mine adit
- A walk through the stunning Glen Mooar Valley
- The Compressor House
- The chance to get some great photos of this unique piece of history and Victorian ingenuity.



# GROUP VISITS

# THE GREAT LAXEY WHEEL

## Opening hours 2019/2020

Opening hours 2019	Opening hours 2020
1 Apr to 3 Nov, 9.30am – 5pm	1 Apr to 29 May, 9.30am – 4pm
25 May to 1 Sept, 9.30am – 5pm	30 May to 6 Sept, 9.30am – 5pm
2 Sept to 3 Nov, 9.30 – 4pm	7 Sept to 1 Nov, 9.30am – 4pm

Also open weekends in March by prior arrangement.

Admission to the Laxey Wheel is by ticket or group bookings permit which provides entry to the wheel, a look underground at the mine, walks through the stunning Glen Mooar Valley and historic mine buildings. Group bookings permits should be handed in by your coach driver or guide on arrival at the Laxey Wheel kiosk.

## Timing your visit

A typical visit lasts between 1 to 1½ hours.

## Admission prices 2019/2020

Pre-booked group £6 per adult\*

\*To qualify for the pre-booked group rate, groups must consist of at least 15 people and be booked 7 days in advance.

Holiday passes providing admission to all Manx National Heritage sites can be purchased at a discounted rate of £22 for groups through the group bookings office (must be ordered at least a week prior to the first visit) and are also available at the standard price of £25 from all Manx National Heritage sites.

A combined Go Explore Heritage card is also available to groups of 20 or more which offers, during normal operating times, unlimited access to Manx National Heritage sites and unlimited travel on the heritage railways, buses and Douglas horse trams for up to 5 days. The group rate for the **2019** Go Explore Heritage card is £58.50 per person.

Manx National Heritage also have reciprocal agreements with a number of other heritage organisations, such as the National Trust, English Heritage and CADW amongst others, providing free or reduced admission on presentation of a valid membership card. Refunds are not available for tickets purchased.



# GROUP VISITS

# THE GREAT LAXEY WHEEL

## **Booking your visit**

Booking in advance is recommended and achieves a number of benefits for your group including a substantial discount on the standard admission price and speedy, hassle-free entry to the site.

## **How to get there**

By coach/road: Follow the A2 coast road from either Onchan or Ramsey. The Great Laxey Wheel is situated in the centre of Laxey and is signposted throughout the village.

By tram: Laxey is serviced by the Manx Electric Railway from Ramsey, Douglas and Snaefell.

By bus: from Ramsey and Douglas

For timetables please see [www.iombusandrail.info](http://www.iombusandrail.info)

In summer a shuttle bus service will operate around the key attractions in the around Laxey, including Laxey Wheel. Please check [www.iombusandrail.info](http://www.iombusandrail.info) for more information.

## **Coach parking**

There is no coach parking immediately adjacent to the Great Laxey Wheel. Free coach parking is available nearby in the following locations:

1. At Laxey Fire Station, situated off Mines Road. Please ensure that access routes to and from the Fire Station are not blocked and clear for use by the emergency services.
2. Opposite Browns Café, situated on Mines Road.

Please note that speed limits apply in Laxey and there are some narrow roads within the village.

## **Access information**

Please note that the site entrance is accessed via a walk through the site car park which has a moderate incline. The complex contains steps and paths with loose chippings.

There is limited wheelchair access to the site although wheelchair users may require assistance due to the uneven nature of the paths. Motorised scooters are permitted, but caution should be exercised on the uneven ground.

For detailed access information please see

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/visit/getting-about/accessibility-information/>



# GROUP VISITS

# THE GREAT LAXEY WHEEL

## **Visitor information**

Visitors should wear sensible footwear and keep to defined routes as surfaces may be worn, uneven or slippery.

- Souvenir kiosk
- Toilets
- Photography and filming (for personal use only) and use of mobile phones is permitted
- Picnics can be enjoyed within the complex
- Café and public houses are available nearby

