

Royal Botanic Gardens

# Kew

# Henry Moore

## Monumental Nature

### Visual Guide

Organised with the  
Henry Moore Foundation



**This visual guide tells you  
what to expect from the**

# ***Henry Moore: Monumental Nature exhibition.***

**It will describe the experience  
and surroundings to help you  
prepare for your visit.**

**You can access a general visual guide for  
Kew Gardens on the website here:**

<https://www.kew.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/Visual%20Guide%20Final%20Version%20-%20Kew%20Gardens.pdf>

## **Contents**

- 1.** Introduction
- 2.** Contents
- 3.** Contact us
- 4.** How to get here
- 5.** Entering the Gardens
- 6.** Henry Moore: Monumental Nature – Overview
- 7.** Ways to experience the exhibition
- 8.** Accessibility at Kew Gardens
- 9.** Accessibility at Kew Gardens continued
- 10.** Accessibility at Kew Gardens continued
- 11.** The sculptures
- 12.** How you can interact with the sculptures
- 13.** Henry Moore Accessible Sculpture Trail
- 14.** The Shirley Sherwood Gallery
- 15.** Noises you might hear
- 16.** Toilets with wheelchair access
- 17.** Places to eat and drink
- 18.** Thank you

## Contact us

**Visitor information:** ☎ [020 8332 5655](tel:02083325655) @ [info@kew.org](mailto:info@kew.org)

👤 Information Desk at Victoria Plaza

**First aid or emergency help:** [020 8332 3333](tel:02083323333)

**Lost property form:** [kew.org/lostproperty](http://kew.org/lostproperty)

**Information about:** *Henry Moore: Monumental Nature:*  
[kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/henry-moore](http://kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/henry-moore)

### People who can help in-person

There are lots of staff and volunteers who can help you on your visit.

Kew staff wear Kew-branded uniforms and lanyards. Staff may also have radios which you might **hear**. Around the sculpture areas there will be specific Henry Moore staff wearing white uniforms with Henry Moore labels.

You can approach any Kew Gardens staff member. They will be happy to help if you're stuck, lost, worried, need somewhere quiet, or need directions.



A Kew Gardens member of staff at Elizabeth Gate

## How to get here

Please check TFL for specific details and disruptions.

### Bus

**65:** Elizabeth Gate, Victoria Gate and Lion Gate

**110:** Kew Gardens station and Elizabeth Gate

**237/267:** Kew Bridge station



### Train

**Kew Gardens station** – 0.5 km from Victoria Gate

**Richmond station** – 1 km from Lion Gate and 1.9 km from Victoria Gate

**Kew Bridge station** – 0.8 km from Elizabeth Gate



### Boat

**Kew Pier** – 0.5 km from Elizabeth Gate



### Bicycle

There are bicycle parking stands at all entrance gates.

Please **do not** take a bicycle or children's scooter inside the Gardens.



### Car

There is a Kew Gardens car park at Brentford Gate.

Address: Ferry Lane, TW9 3AF



### Disabled parking

Drivers displaying a Blue Badge can park for free in any parking space at the Kew Gardens car park at Brentford Gate. There are also eight disabled parking spaces closer to the entrance.

There are also two disabled parking spaces to the right of Elizabeth Gate on Kew Green.



Blue Badge spaces in the Kew Gardens car park

## Entering the Gardens

---

### Opening times

Kew Gardens opens at 10am every day.

Our closing times change throughout the year.

Please check the closing times on our website before your visit:  
[kew.org/visit-kew-gardens/opening-and-closing-times](https://www.kew.org/visit-kew-gardens/opening-and-closing-times).

Please note, last entry to the Gardens is always one hour before closing time.



### Tickets

You will need to buy a ticket or be a member to enter Kew Gardens.

You can buy a ticket from the entrance gates or on our website:  
[kew.org/visit-kew-gardens/tickets](https://www.kew.org/visit-kew-gardens/tickets). There are

concession tickets available if you have a disability, are an essential companion, or receive government benefits. Once you have bought your entrance ticket, the *Henry Moore: Monumental Nature* exhibition is included in your Kew Gardens ticket. You do not need an extra ticket.

### Entrance gates

There are four entrance gates to Kew Gardens. They are all step-free. You can begin your Henry Moore experience from any of these gates.

**Victoria Gate on Kew Road** – There is a café, shop, quiet space, and wheelchair-accessible toilet here. You can get on the Kew Explorer land train here.

**Elizabeth Gate on Kew Green** – There is a café and wheelchair-accessible toilet a 5-minute walk from this gate.

**Brentford Gate on Ferry Lane** – There is a RADAR key and fully accessible toilet with hoist and bench near the gate entrance. The Kew Gardens car park is at this gate.

**Lion Gate on Kew Road** – There is a restaurant and wheelchair-accessible toilet a 10-minute walk from this gate.

# Henry Moore: Monumental Nature – Overview

**Henry Moore: Monumental Nature is happening at Kew Gardens from 9 May 2026 until 31 January 2027.**



You can visit 30 sculptures around the Gardens. The British artist Henry Moore designed them during his nearly-70-year career. The sculptures are lots of different shapes and sizes.

Nature is an important part of the exhibition. The sculptures are surrounded by Kew's trees and historic landscapes.

## How the exhibition is set out

**Outside in the Gardens** – 28 sculptures.

**Inside the Temperate House** – 2 sculptures.

**Inside the Shirley Sherwood Gallery** – over 90 smaller works including sculptures, drawings, models, sketchbooks, and material from the archives.

Most of the *Henry Moore: Monumental Nature* exhibition is **outside** in the Gardens. You will need to wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Bring a hat and suncream if it's hot, or a raincoat or umbrella if it's raining.



*Double Oval* 1966

## Ways to experience the exhibition

You do not have to follow a certain route. You are welcome to see as many or as few of the sculptures as you would like. Go at your own pace.

We offer different ways to experience the exhibition:

- **A map** of all the sculpture locations – You can collect this at any of the four gates.
- Some of the sculptures have an **information panel** that will tell you more about the sculpture and Henry Moore.
- **Audio guide** – Some information panels by the sculptures have audio recordings providing additional stories. Use the QR codes on the panels to access them.
- **Accessibility trail route** – Please see page 13 for more information.
- **Tactile map** – You can collect a tactile map from any of the four gates. It has a full map of the Gardens and shows you a specific accessible route. Please return it to the gate when you leave. These are subject to availability.
- **Family trail (recommended for 5–12 years)** – You can collect a family trail guide from any of the four gates. It shows a 1.5-hour interactive and sensory trail you can follow to visit ten sculptures.



### Tours:

- **Monthly touch tours** – Monthly touch tours are a special opportunity for partially sighted and blind visitors, plus their families, companions and friends, to experience *Henry Moore: Monumental Nature*. This one-hour tour takes place on the first Thursday of each month from 11.30am, June to January. Kew volunteers deliver the tour through audio-description and inviting visitors to touch and feel a selection of artworks. Visit [kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/henry-moore-touch-tours](http://kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/henry-moore-touch-tours) for more information. Places are limited and advance booking is essential.
- **Daily guided walking tours** – Kew volunteers lead walking tours to give visitors a chance to explore a selection of Henry Moore sculptures around the Gardens. The tours last 60 minutes and run twice a day: at 12.30pm and 2pm. Visit [kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/henry-moore-walking-tour](http://kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-on/henry-moore-walking-tour) for more information.



# Accessibility at Kew Gardens

**Kew Gardens is a large site covering over 300 acres.**

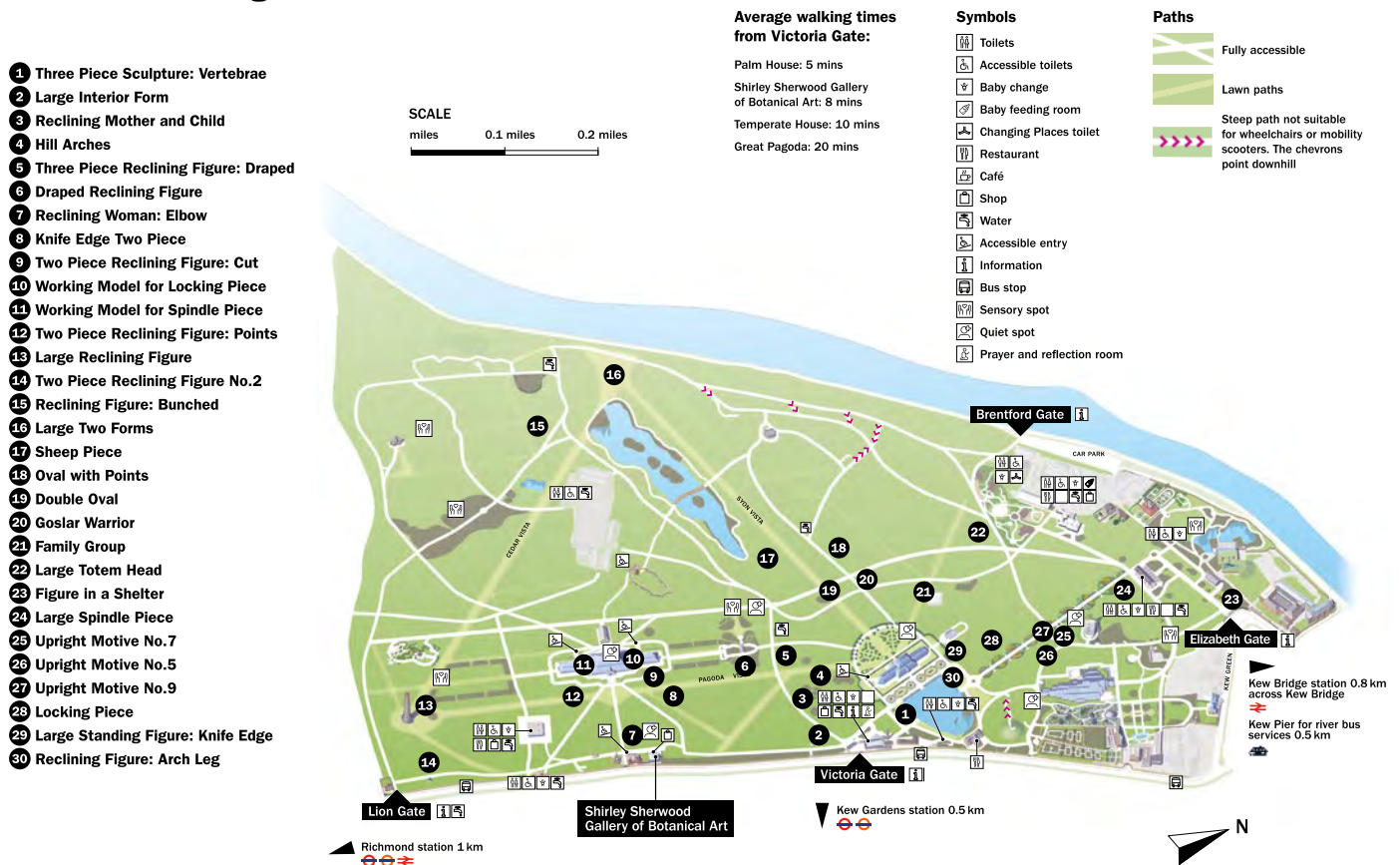
- There are paved paths across the Gardens.
- Many of the sculptures are located away from paved paths.
- You can walk across the grass. Please note that terrain varies and there may be slopes (see red arrow paths on [map](#)).



Average time to walk from Victoria Gate:

- **Palm House:** 5 mins
- **Temperate House:** 10 mins
- **The Hive:** 10 mins
- **Lake Crossing:** 10 to 15 mins
- **The Children's Garden:** 15 mins
- **Great Pagoda:** 20 mins
- **Woodland Walk:** 25 mins

You can sit outside on the grass or on benches around the Gardens, and inside on chairs and benches in the glasshouses, eateries, and galleries.



See [kew.org/moore-accessibility](http://kew.org/moore-accessibility)

## Accessibility at Kew Gardens

**We offer a range of alternatives to walking.**

**Wheelchairs:** You can borrow a wheelchair for free at the entrance gates. There is no need to book, just ask when you arrive.

**Mobility scooters:** You can hire a mobility scooter for free from Victoria Gate, Elizabeth Gate and Brentford Gate. We recommend **booking** your mobility scooter at least one month in advance.

To book a mobility scooter go to: [kew.org/scooters](http://kew.org/scooters) or call [020 8332 5655](tel:02083325655) or email [info@kew.org](mailto:info@kew.org).

You are welcome to bring your own mobility scooter if it is a pavement-use scooter limited to 4 mph.

Please note, you cannot take a mobility scooter into the Shirley Sherwood Gallery. You can borrow a wheelchair from the gallery if you would like to go inside.

If you have specific access needs, please call [020 8332 5655](tel:02083325655) and we will do our best to help you.



Kew's mobility scooters

## Accessibility at Kew Gardens

All recognised guide, assistance or service dogs are welcome in the Gardens.

Bicycles, children's scooters, and balance bikes are **not** permitted in the Gardens. You can park these at the stands at the entrance gates.



**The Kew Explorer land train** is a vehicle that does a loop/ fixed tour of the Gardens. Buy tickets from the driver at Victoria Plaza. Essential companions are free.

- There is a live commentary on the PA system.
- You can ask the driver for an induction loop. They are subject to availability.
- There is space for one manual fixed-wheel wheelchair in the back carriage of each land train.
- There is limited room to store folded-up wheelchairs and pushchairs.



The Kew Explorer land train

## The sculptures

---

**There are 30 sculptures around the Gardens.**

**Height:** They are large, between 2 metres and 6 metres big. Many of them are placed on plinths.

**Material:** All the outdoor sculptures are made of bronze, apart from one by the Pagoda, which is white and made of fibreglass. Many of them have holes that you can look through. Some have curved edges; others have sharp edges.

**Explanations:** There are information panels at some of the sculptures that provide background information. Some of the sculptures also have audio recordings that you can access via QR codes on the panels.

**Light:** Natural light might reflect off the sculptures, but there is no additional lighting.

**Sound:** The exhibition doesn't use any sounds.

**Crowds:** We don't expect large crowds at the sculptures outside. The exhibition in the Shirley Sherwood Gallery will likely be crowded. We suggest visiting early in the morning or later in the day if you want to avoid the crowds.

**Navigation:** There is a map to help you find each sculpture. You can collect it at any of Kew's entrance gates.

**Please do not touch or climb on the sculptures.**



## How you can interact with the sculptures

You can move all the way around the sculptures.  
They look different from different angles.



### Consider colour and light:

- What colours do you see?
- Where are the shadows?
- How do the colours, shadows and reflections change as you move around the sculpture?
- How does the nature (sun, leaves, wind) around the sculpture interact with it?



### Consider sound:

- If the sculpture could speak, what would it say?
- Can you hear nature (wind, birds, bees) around the sculpture?

### Consider nature:

- Do parts of the sculpture look like nature (tree, leaf, bone, rock, hills)?
- Can you see any Kew monuments through the sculpture?
- Does the colour match any of the trees around you?



*Two Piece Reclining Figure: Cut 1979–81*

# Henry Moore Accessible Sculpture Trail

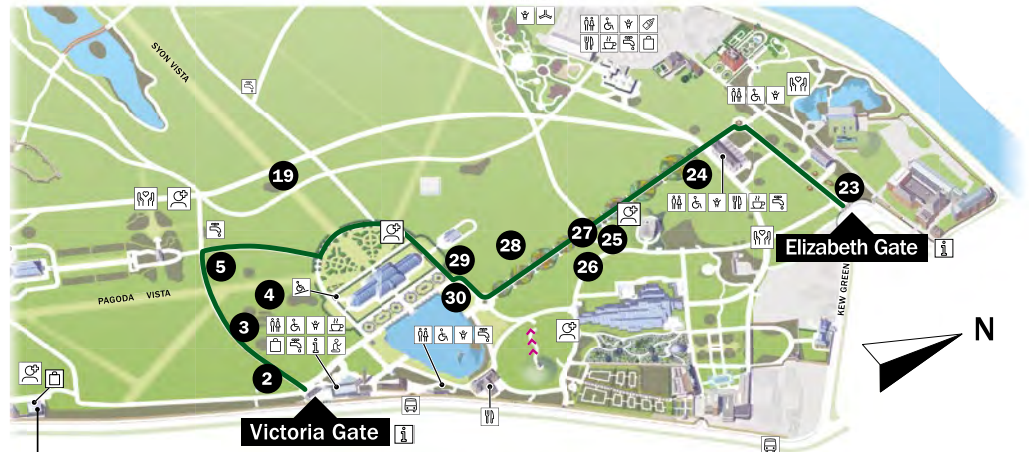
Seeing all 30 sculptures may take hours and covers many acres! So, if you want to see a selection, we have a suggested accessible route that takes about 45 minutes.



SCALE

miles 0.1 miles 0.2 miles

- 2 Large Interior Form
- 3 Reclining Mother and Child
- 4 Hill Arches
- 5 Three Piece Reclining Figure: Draped
- 19 Double Oval
- 23 Figure in a Shelter
- 24 Large Spindle Piece
- 25 Upright Motive No. 7
- 26 Upright Motive No. 5
- 27 Upright Motive No. 9
- 28 Locking Piece
- 29 Large Standing Figure: Knife Edge
- 30 Reclining Figure: Arch Leg



**Shirley Sherwood  
Gallery of Botanical Art**

Accessible exhibition featuring over 90 works, including sculpture, drawings, models and sketchbooks.

**Accessible trail**

A 45 minute, paved route with many sculptures close to the path.

You can collect a physical map from any of the four visitor entrance gates or download the accessible trail map from [www.kew.org/sites/default/files/2026-05/Henry-Moore-Accessible-Trail.pdf](http://www.kew.org/sites/default/files/2026-05/Henry-Moore-Accessible-Trail.pdf).



See [kew.org/moore-accessibility](http://kew.org/moore-accessibility) for more information

## The Shirley Sherwood Gallery

In addition to the 30 outdoor sculptures, there is an exhibition inside the Shirley Sherwood Gallery. You do **not** need an extra ticket for the gallery exhibition.



It may be crowded inside and there may be a queue to enter. Please let gallery staff know if you cannot queue and they will help you.

You can collect a large-print guide of the exhibition at the gallery reception desk.

Please do not bring food, drink and umbrellas inside the gallery.

Please note that the Shirley Sherwood Gallery closes at 5pm daily.

### Step-free access

The Shirley Sherwood Gallery is wheelchair-accessible.

Please note, you cannot bring a mobility scooter or pushchair inside the Shirley Sherwood Gallery. There is space to park these outside. You can borrow a wheelchair from the gallery if you would like to go inside.



Outside the Shirley Sherwood Gallery

## Noises you might hear

Kew Gardens is under a flightpath, so you will **hear** and **see** aeroplanes flying overhead.

You might **hear** radio chatter, vehicles, and machinery at work in the Gardens.

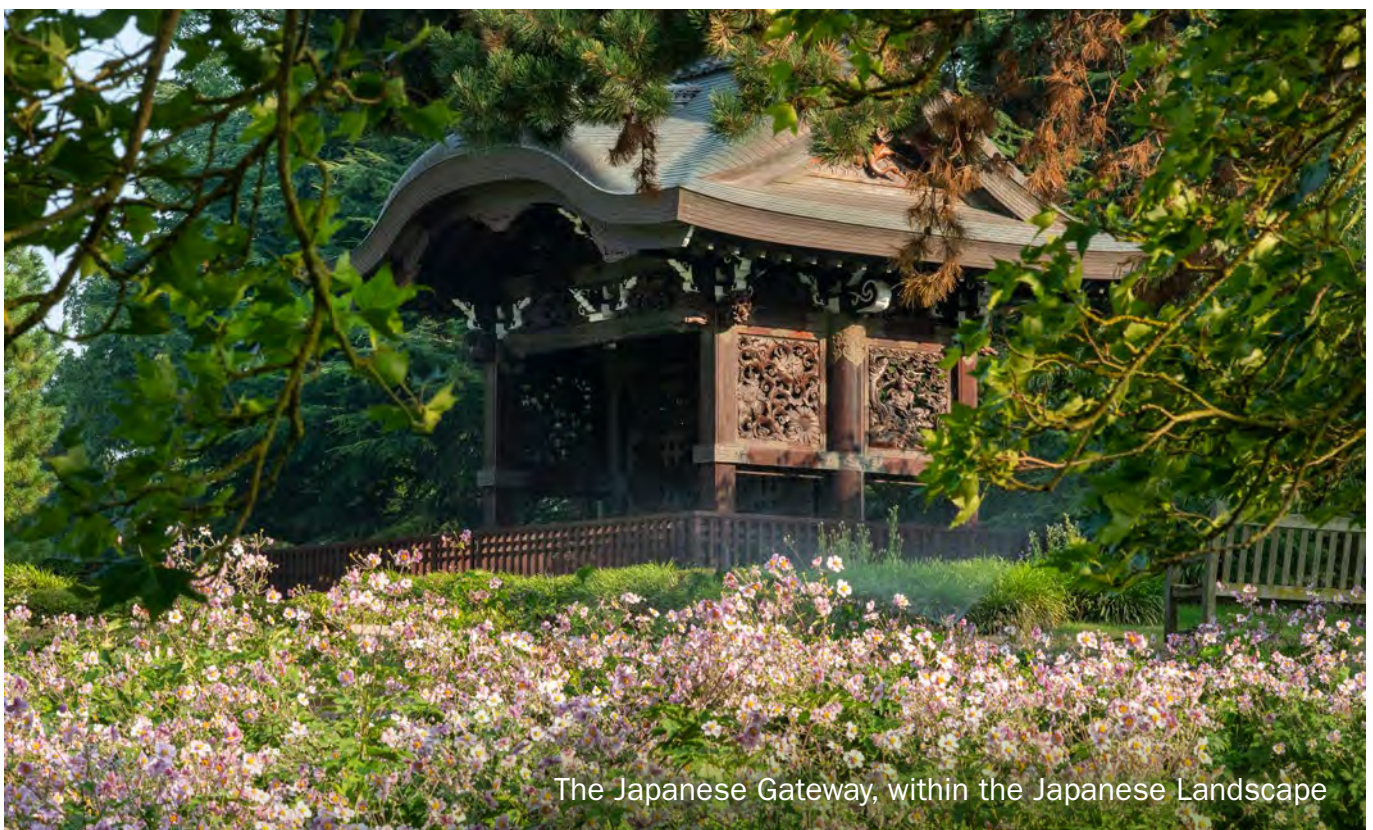
You might **see** and **hear** ducks, geese, and other birds.

The quieter periods tend to be at opening and closing time. We offer early opening for Kew members from 8am in summer via Victoria Gate and Brentford Gate only. Please check our website for exact timings.



### Quiet spaces

- Reflection room at Victoria Plaza (inside)
- Woodland Garden
- Japanese Landscape
- Mediterranean Garden
- Carbon Garden
- Queen Charlotte's Cottage
- Redwood Grove



The Japanese Gateway, within the Japanese Landscape

# Toilets with wheelchair access

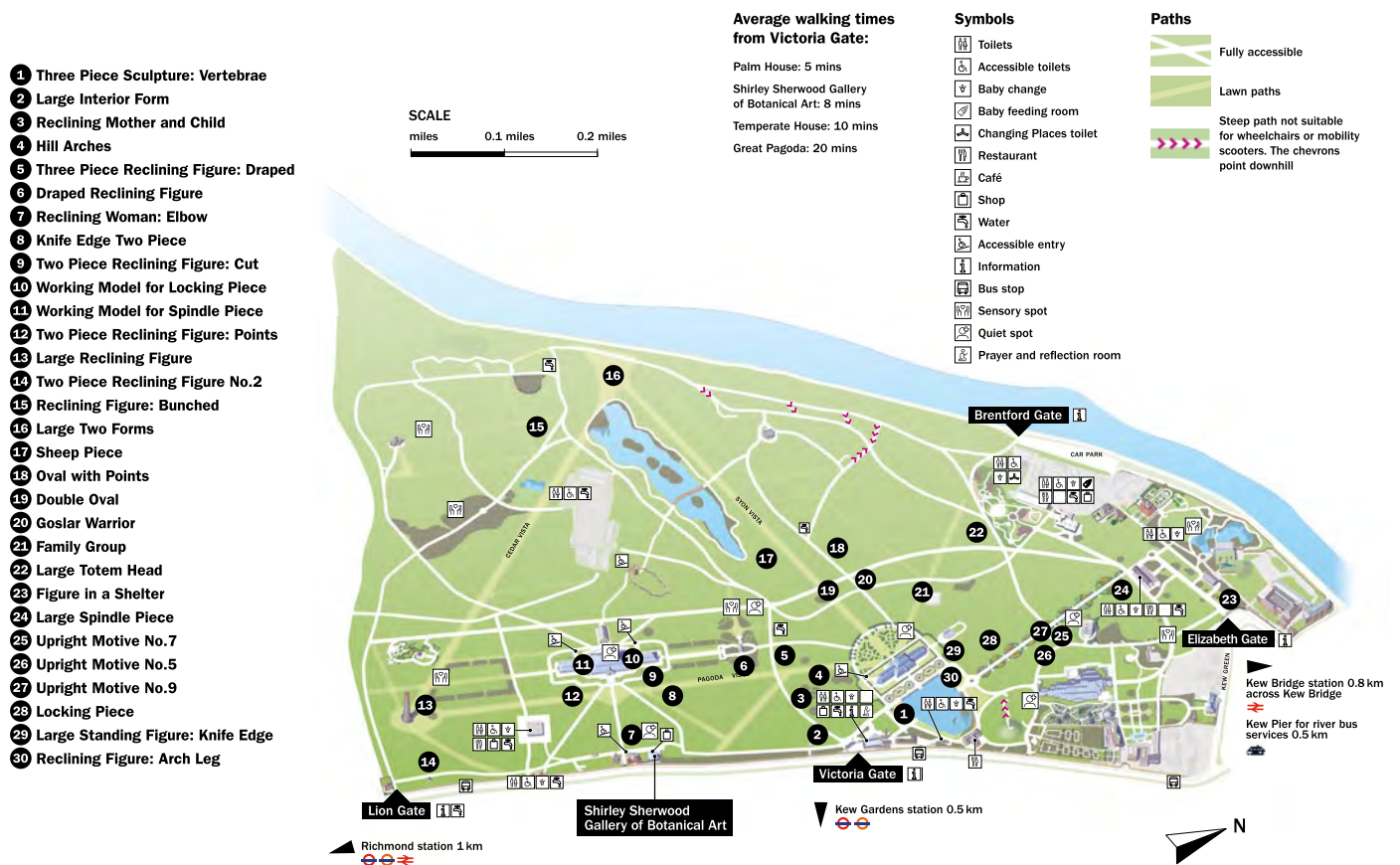
## You can use fully accessible toilets at:

- Victoria Gate
- Brentford Gate
- The Botanical Brasserie
- The Orangery
- Pavilion Bar and Grill
- Family Kitchen
- Opposite the Waterlily Pond
- Near the Ruined Arch



## Look at the map below for specific locations.

There is a Changing Places specialised adult changing facility, equipped with hoist and changing bench near Brentford Gate. You will need to bring your own sling and ask for a RADAR key at Brentford Gate.



## Places to eat and drink

### Cafés and restaurants on site:

- **Victoria Plaza Café** – relaxed café for coffee, cake, sandwiches
- **Family Kitchen** – relaxed family dining
- **Pavilion Bar and Grill** – smart-casual dining restaurant
- **The Botanical Brasserie** – formal restaurant
- **The Orangery** – self-service deli and hot food counter



You are welcome to bring your own food and drink into Kew. There are lots of benches or places to sit on the grass around the Gardens.

You can refill water bottles at Lion Gate, Victoria Gate, and in all the cafés and restaurants.



Inside the Family Kitchen

We look forward to welcoming you to

***Henry Moore:  
Monumental Nature.***

Royal Botanic Gardens  
**Kew**

Written by  
Nikou Jahanshahi-Alemi  
and Toby Stapleford