

Your Journey Through Jodrell

Welcome to the
Jodrell Bank Centre for Engagement



Thank you for choosing to visit the Jodrell Bank Centre for Engagement. The most famous structure on the site is the Lovell Telescope, but we also have exhibitions, talks, gardens, a café and a gift shop for you to enjoy during your time here.

We hope that this guide will help you to prepare for your visit, and give you an idea of what to expect on the day.

Arrival

Our car park is quite large. The first building you'll see is the black one in this photo – this is our Planet Pavilion. Head left towards the golden gates, this is where you'll find our **entry kiosks**.



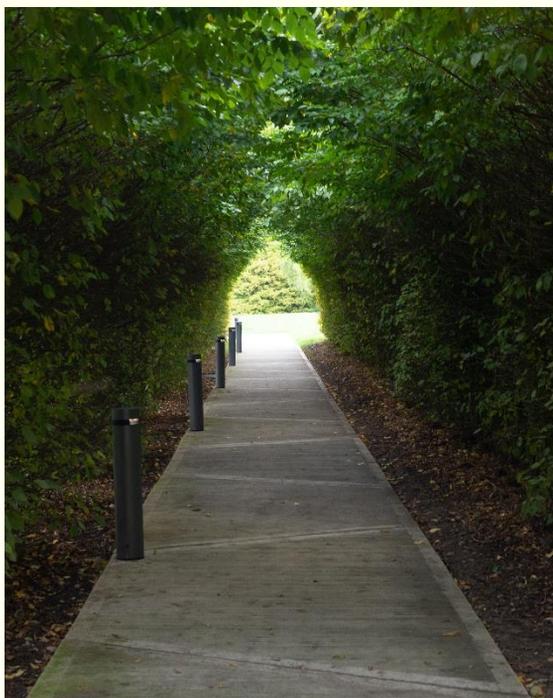
There will be a member of staff in the entry kiosk to welcome you. They will spend a few minutes giving you some information; you will be given a map of the site and told the times of the films and talks that take place throughout the day.



After that, they will let you through the gate and you will be free to wander around and explore the site!

A Walk In The Garden

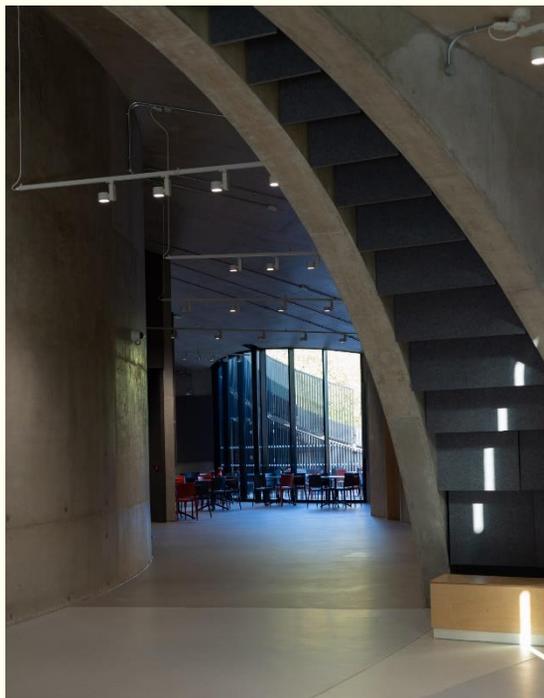
When you come through the entry gate, this path will be in front of you. You'll approach a roundabout with a large tree in the centre; go straight on and along a path lined with small trees – the trees create a tunnel, which leads you to the First Light Pavilion.



First Light Pavilion



The First Light Pavilion is the newest building at Jodrell Bank. You will enter through a set of automatic doors and there will probably be a member of staff greeting visitors in the foyer.



The foyer can be busy at certain times of the day – particularly before the start of our Night Sky shows at 12pm and 2:30pm. At these times there may be a lot of people queueing to go in to the show so it might be a bit noisy. At the beginning and end of the day it is likely to be much quieter, both in the foyer and throughout the whole building.

There are lots of things to do inside the First Light Pavilion. You'll find our new exhibition – The Story of Jodrell Bank – and our Space Dome, where you can watch our free film at certain times throughout the day. You might also pay for a ticket to join our 45 minute long Night Sky show.

Toilets and a café can also be found in this building.

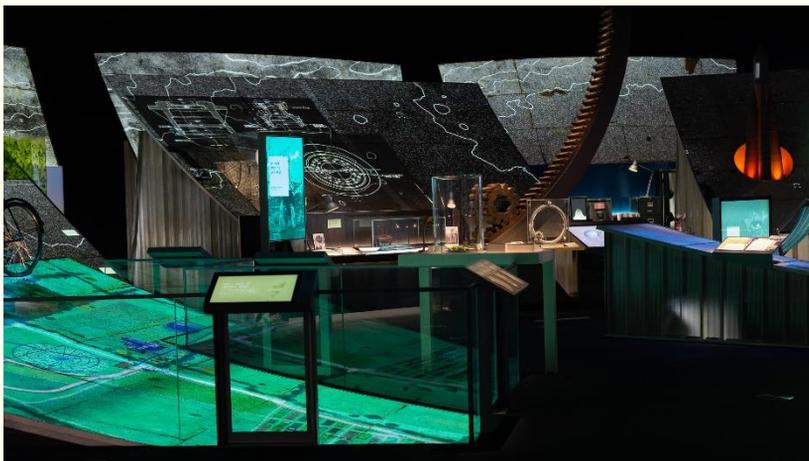
First Light Pavilion - Exhibition

The exhibition inside our First Light Pavilion is called ‘The Story of Jodrell Bank’ and tells the story of the life of Sir Bernard Lovell, who established the observatory, as well as the heritage of the site and the history of the science that has been done here.

You will enter the exhibition through a short corridor that has been soundproofed. It might feel a bit strange to pass from the noisier foyer in to the quiet entryway to the exhibition.



The exhibition is dimly lit, so it’s a good idea to take your time and let your eyes adjust. You’ll also hear a quiet background noise playing throughout the exhibition. There are large display screens, which have moving images projected on to them. There are also various other tall screens that play short videos – these have images, sound and subtitles and are motion activated.



If you’d like to sit and rest, there are seats throughout the exhibition. Some of them have speakers attached that are motion activated – the voices of some of the people of Jodrell Bank might start to play when you sit down.

If you need any assistance, a member of staff in a cream t-shirt will always be present within the exhibition. The busiest times in the exhibition depend on the day of the week – if you’d like advice about when it’s likely to be quieter, feel free to ask a member of staff.

First Light Pavilion – Space Dome

You'll have the opportunity to join one of our free films inside the Space Dome. They're played at various times throughout the day. You'll be asked to queue outside the Space Dome in the foyer – it is likely to be busier between late morning and early afternoon. A member of staff will then open the doors to let you inside.

As you enter the Space Dome it will be quite dark, so take your time and let your eyes adjust. There will be a member of staff inside with a torch to help you find a seat. The seats fold down, similar to the ones in a cinema. If you think you might like to leave before the end, the exit is on the opposite side to where you came in and the member of staff will be there to help you if needed.



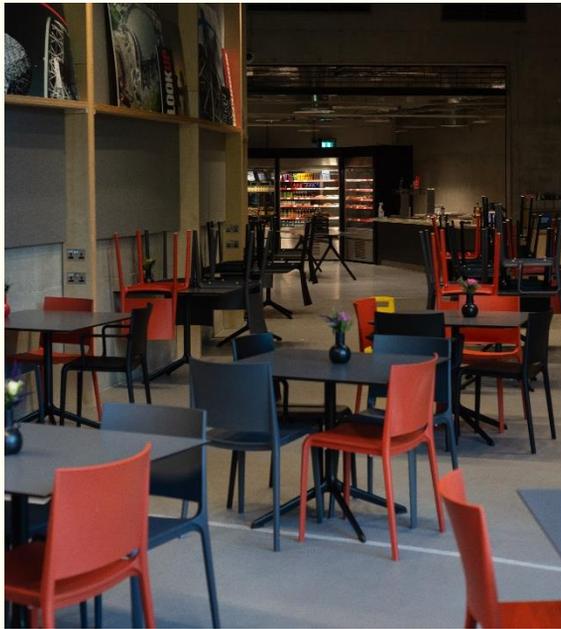
There are two short films which are 15 minutes in total. They are quite loud in places – ask a member of staff if you'd like to borrow some ear defenders. The films can also make you feel like you are moving; if this makes you uncomfortable, close your eyes until you start to feel better. At the end of the films, the member of staff will direct you to the exit and use a torch to guide you from your seat.

First Light Pavilion - Cafe

As you enter the First Light Pavilion, the café is to the right hand side. The café is open plan, with the servery at the far end. There are fridges containing cold drinks and food, as well as a hot food counter which leads up to the payment point. The café also has an outside area, which is accessible through two doors.

The café is likely to be busiest between 12 and 2pm. If this makes you uncomfortable you might like to take your food and drinks outside. We also have picnic benches at various locations around the site, some of which are under cover, and these are marked on the map you'll receive at the ticket booth when you arrive.

Our play area is right outside the café and you can also explore our arboretum.



When you've explored the garden, you'll eventually head past our Comet Lodge. The Comet Lodge is usually open for you to use as a picnic area. There are tables and benches inside, and a log burner to keep you warm on chilly days. Then you'll walk onward toward the Lovell Telescope.

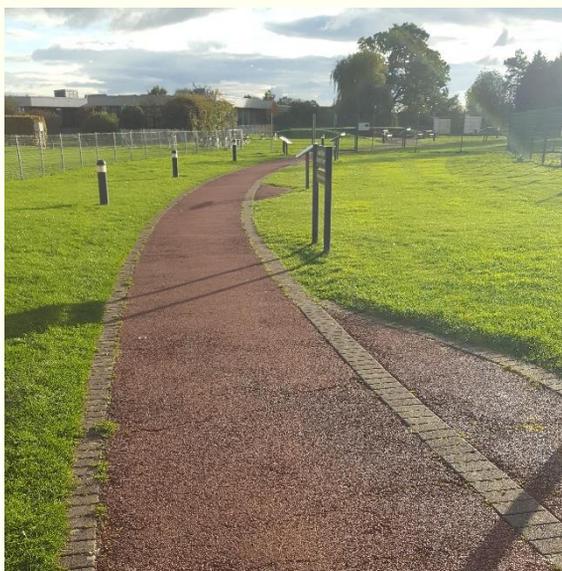


The Lovell Telescope

The Lovell Telescope is the biggest structure on the site. There are several paths leading towards it, and you'll see signs directing you to places that you might like to visit.



You might notice that one of the paths is red. You can follow this path all the way around the telescope. Beside the path there are boards giving information about the history of the observatory and the science that the telescope is involved in.



Space Pavilion

As you walk around the Lovell Telescope, you'll notice two large buildings. One of them is open all day – this is our Space Pavilion.



In the Space Pavilion we have our interactive science exhibition. As you explore this area, you will see lots of screens displaying information about the science we do at Jodrell Bank. Some of them are touch screens. There is also a Film Pod, which is a bit like a small cinema – it's dark inside with a dim blue light.

We also have other projectors playing videos and you might hear some sudden noises. The exhibition area can sometimes be quite busy. If you need any help, you can speak to a member of staff who will be dressed in a blue t-shirt.



Star Pavilion

Star Pavilion is where we hold our Telescope Talks. The member of staff at the kiosk will let you know what times they are when you arrive, and the member of staff in the Space Pavilion will let you know when the talk is about to start. The building will be closed most of the time, but the person giving the talk will open the doors shortly before the talk is due to start.



The auditorium can sometimes be a little busy. When you go in, you'll see the room set out with chairs for the audience, as well as a table with equipment that has been prepared for the talk. There will be a member of staff ready to deliver the talk and they will be wearing a cream t-shirt. The talk will include some demonstrations, and the member of staff will let you know in advance if anything might take you by surprise. Don't worry if you need to leave at any time, the presenter won't take it personally!



Planet Café and Gift Shop

To get to the Planet café and gift shop, you'll need to head back towards the direction of the entrance. A sign points you the right way, and the building that you can see in the photo below is the café.

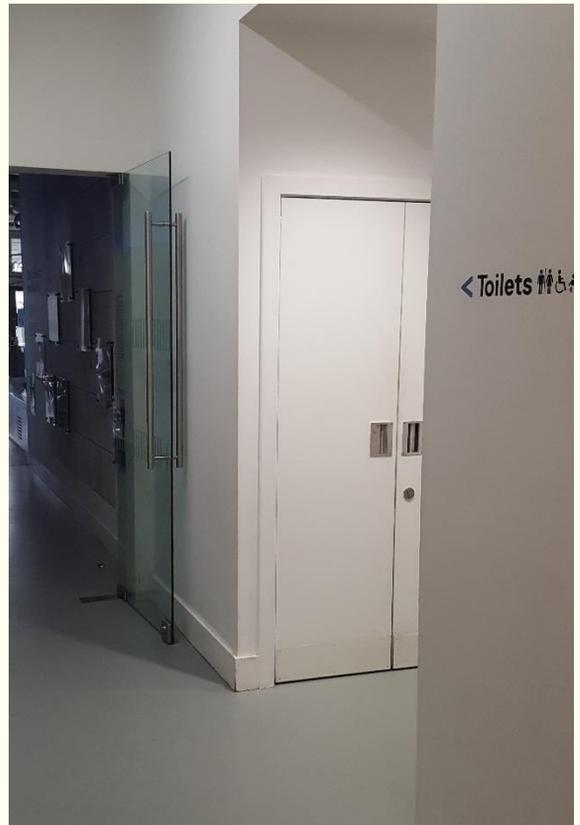


You'll enter through a room called the orrery – the orrery is a model of the solar system that is in the ceiling of this room. There are also some touch screens in here to explore. You'll go from the orrery into the gift shop along a short dark corridor.



Planet Café and Gift Shop

The gift shop has lots of great products to have a look at. It usually isn't too busy, but if there are a few people in there looking at the displays, it may feel a little crowded. To get from the gift shop to the café, you'll go through another small corridor. This is where you'll find a toilet.



The Planet café is open on weekends only and has an inside and an outside area. It can be busy at lunch time but is likely to be quieter than the café in the First Light Pavilion. If you decide you'd like to go back in to the main part of the centre, just let a member of staff in a cream t-shirt know and they will show you the way. Otherwise, you can exit through the gift shop.

