

Plants and Trees

Bedding

From autumn through to spring you will find several varieties of pansy, tulip and wallflower alongside hyacinth and polyanthus. The summer planting is redesigned every year and provides a wealth of colour for visitors to enjoy.

Trees

The gardens cover only three hectares but include a collection of over 120 mature trees including fine specimens of Turkey Oak, Wild Cherry and Copper Beech and rarities such as Cappadocian Maple and Tulip Tree.

The Green Flag Award Scheme

The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England, Wales and Scotland and as such, a means of recognising and rewarding the best green spaces in the country. It is also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve the same high environmental standards, creating a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas. Spa Gardens has achieved Green Flag status each year since 2001.

The Friends of Ripon Spa Gardens and Park

This is a group made up of local users and residents that work closely with Harrogate Borough Council's Parks service. The Group meets regularly and plays an essential and active role in the management and development of the gardens. If you would like to become involved please contact the Customer Services Unit on 0845 300 6091 or email: customer.services@harrogate.gov.uk



Games in Spa Gardens and Spa Park

There are a number of seasonal outdoor activities on offer: 3 tennis courts, Flat Green Bowling, 18 hole Putting and 9 hole Crazy Golf.

Opening times: The season runs from March to December, 9am – 6pm (earlier in winter depending upon the weather) every day within this period, including weekends and public holidays. For further details and prices contact the Sun Parlour Café on 07851 395923 or visit our website at www.harrogate.gov.uk.

Band Concerts

These events take place on Sunday afternoons throughout the summer (from the end of May until the end of August) and have been firm favourites with visitors and local people for over 25 years. All concerts run from 3pm – 5pm. Please call 0845 3006091 for details of the programme or visit our website at www.harrogate.gov.uk.

How to get to Spa Gardens and Spa Park

On foot: From Ripon Market Square walk along Westgate and you will come into Park Street. You will find Spa Gardens on the left, just past Spa Baths. Spa Park is opposite the Gardens across Park Street.

Bus: For details of buses to Spa Gardens, please contact Harrogate & District Travel on 01423 566061.

Road: Parking is limited, but there is some on-street parking alongside Spa Park. Disabled parking is available outside the main gate on Park Street.

Facilities: Sun Parlour Café, children's play area, maze, football pitch, 3 tennis courts, Flat Green Bowling, 18 hole Putting and 9 hole Crazy Golf.

Access: The main entrance on Park Street is fully accessible and disabled toilets are situated within the Gardens.

Tourist Information Centre

Minster Road, Ripon HG4 1QT Tel: 0845 389 0178 (Open Feb – Dec).

Ripon Spa Gardens & Spa Park



Visitor Guide



A beautiful park with something for everyone
right in the heart of Ripon



1 Statue of George Frederick Samuel

The statue was erected in 1896 to commemorate the achievements of this British statesman and colonial administrator, son of the first Earl of Ripon.



2 War Memorial

In 1919, the War Memorial Committee proposed a column in stone with a bronze figure. Ripon has taken the best War memorial in the 'town class' several times in the Yorkshire in Bloom awards.



4 Bandstand

A splendid Victorian bandstand opened in June 1902 by the Mayor. The 1st Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment performed the first recital. Band concerts now take place on Sunday afternoons throughout the summer months.

5 Crazy Golf

In the early 1980s, the Crazy Golf layout was added as a permanent feature in its present location. Prior to this, the wooden structures for play were wheeled out daily for use and then wheeled back each evening.

Birdlife

Keen to encourage different species of birds to nest in the gardens, Ripon East District Guides have provided a number of nesting boxes, which have encouraged Great Tits and Blue Tits to make their homes in the Gardens.



9 Sun Parlour Café

The café serves home cooked food and light refreshments throughout the day.

10 Bowling Pavilion

A refurbished Pavilion was opened in 2004. The veranda at the front of the original building has been removed and a typical pavilion-type pitched roof using reclaimed natural blue slates has replaced the flat roof. Ripon Spa Gardens Bowls Club meet at the Pavilion.

12 Rotary Club Maze

The maze is a replica of an original thought to be situated in Ripon around 1827 about half a mile from the city centre. It is a grass and gravel type created by the Rotary club, local youth groups, schools and other volunteers.

14 Children's Play Area

With seesaw, slide, cradle and junior swings, roundabouts and spring motorbike.

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For the enjoyment of all users please: No Cycling, No Skateboarding, No Litter. Alcohol Restriction Zone. Please keep dogs on leads. For more information please call 0845 300 6091.