

# Castletown House

## Social Guide



We are going to visit Castletown House. It is a very old house in County Kildare which is in a very big park.

**We are now going to learn all about the site, who we will meet and what we will see when we are there.**

We might see a security guard. Security staff work all across the site. Their job is to look after the house and the people who work here and visit here.

They wear a uniform and hi-vis vest and if we get lost, we should ask one of them for help.

When we arrive by car, we will go through these gates.



We will then go down a long driveway to the car park. Here we will park the car. Sometimes the car park can be a bit busy but we won't be here for long.

At the car park, there is a big sign with a map of the park on it that looks like this:



This map shows us all the things that we can see while we are at Castletown.

Once we have looked at the map, we can walk up the rest of the driveway. We must be careful here as there are still vehicles being used by the gardeners and the people who look after the house. They drive in buggies that look like this:



When we get to the top of the driveway, we will see the house. It looks like this:



To get our tickets, we must first go to the ticket office. To get to the ticket office, we walk all the way across the front of the house and go through the archway into the West Courtyard that looks like this:





The ticket office is in a cabin in this courtyard.



This is the reception and shop. Sometimes there might be a queue and we might have to wait a few minutes for our tickets. The people who work at this desk are the tour guides. They are really friendly people who know a lot of interesting things about the house. You can ask them lots of questions if you like.

Once we have bought our tickets, we can walk back around to the front door to do our tour.

There is a hand sanitising station at the door and we go straight into the Entrance Hall. If the house is busy, we might have to wait outside for a couple of minutes.

The Entrance Hall looks like this:



The house is usually very quiet and is a calm and peaceful place. We can walk around the house ourselves and see all the beautiful rooms on the Ground Floor. We will see some guides as we walk through and we can ask them any questions we have.

There are a few very important things to remember while we are in the house. The house is very old and we have to be sure that we don't run or touch anything while we are in here. We must also make sure that we stay together and obey all the signs we see.

If we decide we don't want to finish our tour, we can let our guide know and he or she will get someone to help us find our way out of the house.

Here are some of the rooms we will see on our tour:

The Dining Room



The Red Drawing Room



We can download a map of the parklands online to help us find our way around outside and if it is a nice day, we can go for a walk.

Outside, there is a big lake with lots of ducks:



There are lots of paths that go past some other smaller buildings like this:

The Temple



## The Batty Langley Lodge



Once we are finished our walk, we can go back to get our car in the car park.