



OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

TINTERN ABBEY CO. WEXFORD



This is what you'll see when you come down the avenue to Tintern Abbey if you're lucky you'll see cows, sheep and lots of birds, like little egrets, crows and robins. If it's the spring you will see blue bells and smell the garlic.

After about one kilometer you'll get to the car park where there is also an over-flow carpark so you may park in either parking area. As you come in the gate, you'll see a large sign which lets you know what is available to see and also cost and times. All people with disabilities and a carer are free of charge.



This is the front entrance door, just below this door is the toilet for the disabled. When you go in the front entrance door, you'll be met by OPW staff. Who are there to help you see and explain the site.



This is the front desk and the friendly Guide will meet you and will be asked about your options here; would you like to visit the walled garden and the abbey. There's a hearing aid loop here so if you're hard of hearing you may use this. When you come in there may be other visitors already at the desk so there might be some noise and you may have to wait for a few minutes. The entrance to the tea-rooms is nearby so you might hear some noise like crashing and hissing noises, this is just the normal tea-room noises and is nothing to be worried about.

One of the guides will offer a guided tour or you may decide to ramble around yourself. It is a very old Abbey built in the year 1200 by the Cistercian's Monks from the mother house Tintern Abbey in Wales which is in the photo here.



Wm. Marshall and his wife Isabell gave the Monks 10,000 acres to build an Abbey. Isabell was Strongbow's daughter. The Monks stayed in Tintern until 1536, when Henry the 8th decided he wanted all the Abbeys.



Inside the Abbey you will see some wattle and daub.



A library dedicated to the Colclough Family who had the Abbey from 1600 to 1963. This lady is the last member of the Colclough family and she died in 1983.



This tower was once a six roomed tower house! You can see the arches that originally opened up to the church. The double walls allowed the monks and the Colclough's to access the tower. When you are leaving the reception desk and beginning your adventure you will have to go up some steps. There is a handrail provided so you can use this to make you feel safer. Sometimes you might hear crunching noises. The walkways and pathways in Tintern have gravel on the surface so you might hear some noises when you and other people walk past.

Inside the abbey we have three sets of stairs in different areas and it might seem dark when you go inside first but if you wait for a moment your eyes will adjust and you will be able to see properly. All of the stairs have handrails. One of the sets of stairs is a metal one and is outside but high up! This might seem a little scary at first and you might feel like you're walking on air but it is actually fun and very safe. In the tower we have some furniture but this is very old so we can't sit on it or play with it but it is nice to take some time to look at. Also there are some exhibits in glass boxes here. One of them has a fake head in it so don't be scared and think that it's real. Try to find the story board nearby that tells you why we have a fake head in a glass box!! When you go up the fun metal staircase you will come into a very big bright room called the library. We don't have books in here today but we have a huge window with a great view. We have paintings and information about some of the people who lived in the abbey and we have a long bench which this time we want you to sit down on and take a break after climbing all of the stairs.

When you have seen the abbey site you may like to use the facilities. The Toilets and Tea rooms are at the back of the main reception. Remember that the tea-room can be noisy and busy with other visitors also using the space. You will have gravel paths and stone steps again but just take your time when walking along. If at any time you can't find your friends or family just look out for a friendly Guide and they will help you.



During heritage week Tintern Abbey holds various events, please ring and find out what is on each day.



When you have finished your visit to the Abbey you may like a stroll down by the river or go to see the lovely walled gardens.



We hope you have a lovely day in Tintern Abbey and let us know if you would like anything else to make your visit more enjoyable.

