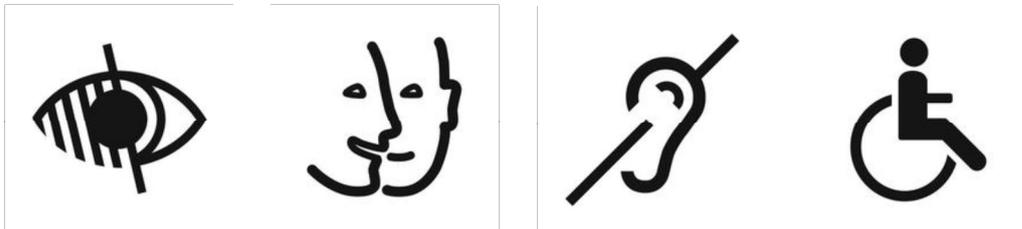




Public accessibility register



Why a public accessibility register?

A public accessibility register is a document that lists all the measures taken by an establishment open to the public to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities and reduced mobility, enabling them to:

- To access the establishment receiving from the public and to move there independently,
- To be welcomed there,
- To benefit from all the services it offers.

It has been mandatory for all establishments open to the public, whether new or existing, since 30 September 2017, following Decree No. 2017-431 of 28 March 2017.

It must contain all information concerning the accessibility of the building and its services, as well as all administrative and technical documentation relating to accessibility and staff training.

Welcome to Sorde Abbey

Summary

1. Introduction to Sorde Abbey
2. Practical information
3. Accessibility of spaces and services
4. Accessible cultural offerings
5. Staff training
6. Appendices and supporting documents

1. Introduction to Sorde Abbey

Name of the establishment : Abbaye de Sorde

Type of establishment : VWLTX

Establishment category : 3

Adress : 232 place de l'Église 40300 SORDE L'ABBAYE

 : 05 58 73 09 62

 : contact@abbaye-sorde.fr

 www.abbaye-sorde.fr

SIRET : 200 069 417 0067

Founded in the Middle Ages by Benedictine monks, the ruins of Sorde Abbey now form a composite architectural ensemble, bearing witness to successive destruction and reconstruction.

Once home to monks, the monastic buildings still bear witness to the Abbey's economic power.

The cryptoporticus, an astonishing underground gallery connected to a landing stage, reveals the uniqueness of this exceptional heritage site. The view of the Gave d'Oloron river and its wooded meanders adds to the charm of the site.

Since 1998, Sorde Abbey has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as part of the Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France.

Today, the public can wander through all areas of the convent buildings and appreciate the progress of the restoration work undertaken by the Pays d'Orthe et Arrigans Community of Municipalities since 2002.

Reception and access

- The building and all services are accessible to all: NO
- Staff will inform you about the accessibility of the building and its services: YES

2. Practical information

➤ Access

• From Dax (27 km)

Follow the RD6, then take the RD33 towards Peyrehorade. Next, follow the RD817. Turn left onto the RD29 towards Sorde l'Abbaye.

• From Bayonne

No toll (40 km): Take the RD817. Drive through Peyrehorade and turn right onto the RD29 towards Sorde l'Abbaye.

With tolls (47 km): Take the A64 and exit at junction 6 (Peyrehorade). Drive through Peyrehorade and turn right onto the RD29 towards Sorde l'Abbaye.

• From Pau (84km)

Take the A64 motorway and exit at junction 6 (Peyrehorade). Drive through Peyrehorade and turn right onto the RD29 towards Sorde l'Abbaye.

• From Bordeaux (165 km)

Take the A63 motorway, exit 10 Saint Geours de Maremne, then follow the RD12, RD33 and RD29 roads.

The entrance to the site is located on Place de l'Eglise.

➤ Days and opening hours of the abbey

From 1 April to 31 May inclusive

- From Tuesday to Sunday, 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Closed every Monday and on May 1st

From 1 June to 5 July inclusive

- From Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30 am. to 12:30 pm. and 2:00 pm. to 5:30 pm.
- Sundays and public holidays from 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Closed every Monday

From 6 July to Sunday 30 August inclusive

- Monday to Saturday from 10:30 am. to 1:00 pm. and from 2:30 pm. to 6:30 pm.
- Sundays and public holidays from 2.30 pm to 6.30 pm

From 1 September to 30 September

- From Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30 am. to 12:30 pm. and 2:00 pm. to 5:30 pm.
- Sunday from 2pm to 5.30pm

Closed every Monday

From 1 October to 31 October

- From Tuesday to Sunday, 2pm to 5.30pm

Closed every Monday

From 2 November to 27 November

- Monday to Friday from 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Closed on weekends and public holidays

➤ Rates for persons with disabilities

Self-guided or guided tour for individuals: free of charge

Guided tour for groups: €5 with one free ticket per tour guide.

➤ Parking plan and access to the site

The parking plan for Sorde Abbey is attached in the appendix. It can also be downloaded from our website in PDF format:

→ Section documents to download

3. Accessibility of spaces and services



Accessible facilities

- A parking space for people with reduced mobility near the entrance to the site
- Three-legged folding walking sticks available on request.



- Access ramps enabling access to most of the site.
- Path dotted with benches
- Appropriate height of the reception desk.
- Interactive screen adapted

- Large print labels



- Magnifying glasses available on request
- Building materials to touch in the parlor
- Guide dogs are accepted



- Magnetic loop at the reception



- Easy-to-Read and Understand Booklet available on request at reception and downloadable from the website.
- Audio guide Easy to read and understand



Non-accessible facilities

- Access ramp to the tithe barn with an excessive slope



- Stairs to climb up and down to access the cryptoportic and the landing stage

- Steps of the front porch preventing access to the terrace through the parlor but another path allows you to get there

- No disabled toilets on site



- No audio guide with audio description

4. Accessible cultural offerings

The abbey team is committed to welcoming all visitors and adapts its tours to make them accessible to everyone.

For more details, please do not hesitate to contact us before your visit.



- Provision of a map of accessible areas and offer of guided tours with adapted routes.
The boat sheds (underground areas) are not wheelchair accessible.



- Guided tours tailored for groups, by reservation



- Tailored tours for groups, by appointment
- Easy-to-read and easy-to-understand booklet available for download on the abbey's website or upon request at reception.
- Adapted audio guide

For any information or reservations :

- For individual visitors. : contact@abbaye-sorde.fr
- For the groups : resa-groupe@abbaye-sorde.fr

05 58 73 09 62

5. Staff training

The abbey team is aware of the need to adapt its welcome to different types of disability.

Two documents are available to the team for reference:

- The four main types of disability
- Welcoming visitors with disabilities

Of the four guides at the abbey, two took a course entitled 'Welcoming, informing and guiding people with disabilities' on 10 and 11 March 2016 (one of them) and 20 and 21 February 2025 (the other).

One of them also took part in the professional meetings organised by the Departmental Conservation of Museums and Heritage, 'Improving the welcome for visitors with disabilities in the museums of the Landes', on 2 and 3 October 2018.

6. Appendices and supporting documents

- Study report by the Departmental Fire and Rescue Service
- Staff training certificates
- Abbey car park map