



# Accessible Ballarat Guide



# Table of contents

Shopping and entertainment	4
Attractions	6
Dining	14
Accommodation	19
Public Amenities	25

---

The City of Ballarat respectfully acknowledges the Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung people – traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work.

---



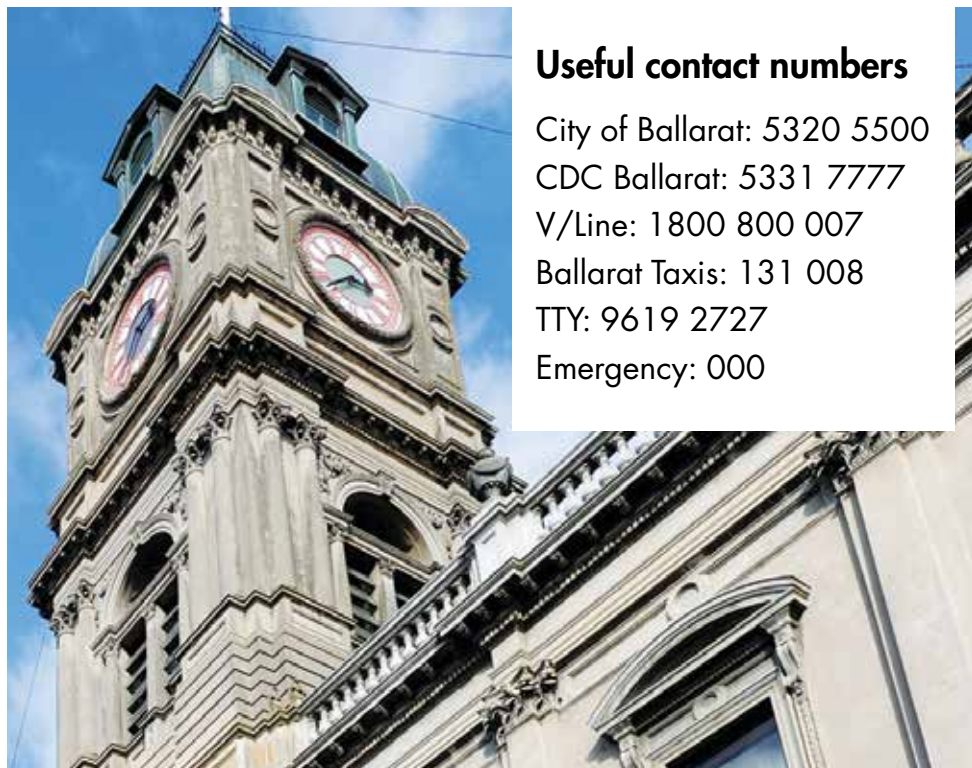
# Accessible Tourism in Ballarat

Ballarat continues to have a strong commitment to providing a high level of accessible facilities including accommodation, cafes and restaurants, play spaces, gardens, attractions, and sport and recreation venues.

In addition, the city's facilities are scalable which allows the region to cater for larger groups of travellers with a disability and/or sporting groups or major events.

The city offers a wide range of activities and experiences for people with a disability, including adaptive sporting opportunities.

The following information is provided courtesy of inclusive tourism advocate TravAbility and is based on a 2019 audit of a selection of Ballarat properties. Please check with the operator/s in advance to ensure your requirements are met.



## Useful contact numbers

City of Ballarat: 5320 5500

CDC Ballarat: 5331 7777

V/Line: 1800 800 007

Ballarat Taxis: 131 008

TTY: 9619 2727

Emergency: 000



# Shopping and entertainment

## Stockland Wendouree

Corner of Norman Street and Gillies Street, Wendouree

- ✓ Single-level shopping centre
- ✓ Wide level access to all stores
- ✓ Disabled parking close to entrances
- ✓ Accessible toilets, parents' room and sensory quiet room
- ✓ Adult change room with a full area hoist and the toilet is a left-hand transfer against the wall
- ✓ Motorised scooters and wheelchairs available at no cost from Centre Management
- ✓ Centre website contains full accessibility information

## Central Square

18 Armstrong Street South, Ballarat

- ✓ Three-level shopping centre
- ✓ Key entrances via Myer on Sturt Street, via Target on Doveton Street, and via a long sloping ramp in Armstrong Street
- ✓ Escalators and lifts to access each level
- ✓ Accessible toilet on the ground floor

## Bridge Mall

Sturt Street, Ballarat

- ✓ Flat and accessible throughout
- ✓ Accessible toilet in Alfred Walk with push button entry and locking, left-hand transfer and side rails
- ✓ Accessible parking in both Little Bridge Street and Curtis Street



# Shopping and entertainment

## Showbiz Cinema

Delacombe Town Centre

- ✓ Single level throughout
- ✓ Entry via ramp
- ✓ Open captions available
- ✓ Audio description sessions
- ✓ Lighter and quieter sessions
- ✓ Accessible toilets
- ✓ Accessible seating



## Regent Cinemas

49 Lydiard Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ Full wheelchair access throughout and designated wheelchair positions in each cinema
- ✓ All levels serviced by an elevator (including Gold Class)

- ✓ Accessible toilet on the ground floor with side and rear handrails and a padded backrest
- ✓ Open captions available
- ✓ Sensory-friendly films and cry baby sessions

## Overwrought Gallery

3409 Midland Highway,  
Blampied

- ✓ Entry to the shop through wide doorway. The shop is well laid out with clear space throughout
- ✓ Outdoor garden is flat with fine hard packed crushed rock pathways. Clear space between all exhibits
- ✓ Picnic table on the terrace outside the showroom and in the garden with one open side allowing wheelchair users to sit forward-facing at the tables
- ✓ Toilet facility with a wide doorway and wide internal space. Peninsula type toilet with 38cm high seat, no handrails

# Attractions

## Mars Stadium

725 Creswick Road, Ballarat

- ✓ Adjoins the North Ballarat Sports Club
- ✓ Designated disabled parking in the sports club car park
- ✓ Variety of seating options for patrons with a disability
- ✓ In front of the sports club is a raised section that caters for wheelchair patrons and single accompanying guest. These seats are elevated and access is gained either through the sports club or a ramp inside the gate
- ✓ Accessible toilets inside the gate and within the sports club
- ✓ A portable Marveloo Adult Changing Facility inside the gate services the stadium's major events
- ✓ On the eastern side of the ground, in front of a grass hill, is a series of ground level accessible seating locations. They are located between groups of four fixed seats and would suit families or groups
- ✓ The western stand has designated disability seating locations that are raised with ramp access. Each location has two companion seats
- ✓ Disabled toilet facilities at the western stand



# Attractions



## Art Gallery of Ballarat

40 Lydiard Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ Level entry from Lydiard Street via self-opening doors
- ✓ Accessible toilet on the ground floor
- ✓ Hearing augmentation equipment is available
- ✓ Small elevator services the two levels
- ✓ Large power wheelchairs and mobility scooters may require the service elevator to gain access to the second level
- ✓ All spaces are large and easy to navigate



## Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre

Prince of Wales Recreation Reserve, Gillies Street North, Lake Gardens

- ✓ Disabled parking at the front and side of building
- ✓ 50-metre and multipurpose pools with ramped entry
- ✓ Portable hoist available for use in any pool
- ✓ Three pool wheelchairs, four accessible toilets and shower facilities, and a full Adult Changing Facility with table and ceiling hoist
- ✓ Hearing augmentation equipment available
- ✓ Cafe has full ramped access

# Attractions

## Ballarat Botanical Gardens

114 Gillies Street North,  
Lake Wendouree

- ✔ Disabled parking at both ends of the garden. The parking bays at the Nursery Drive end have an extended area behind them making them suitable for rear loading vans
- ✔ The terrain is flat, making it easily accessible to wheelchair and mobility device users as well as slow walkers
- ✔ Path surfaces are either asphalt or fine, hard packed red gravel
- ✔ Seating provided at regular intervals throughout the garden, as are wheelchair-accessible drinking fountains
- ✔ Accessible toilets at both ends of the garden adjacent to the disabled parking areas
- ✔ The Ballarat Botanical Gardens features sensory gardens





# Attractions

## Ballarat Wildlife Park

250 Fussell Street, Ballarat East

- ✓ Designated disabled parking spaces to the left of the main entry
- ✓ Car park is gravel and a sealed path leads to the ticket box
- ✓ The path to the right (after entry) is gently sloping to the koala observation area
- ✓ The pathway beyond the koala area is steeper and is best accessed via the lower ramp
- ✓ All exhibits provide good viewing over low walls, transparent fencing or glass panels
- ✓ The lower entry to the reptile house gives access to the crocodile viewing area
- ✓ Accessible toilet located behind the cafe in the reptile house. It contains a left-hand transfer toilet with side and rear bars, baby change table and basin with a lever mixer tap
- ✓ The cafe area (in the entry building) is accessed by a wooden ramp. The door swings out and can be difficult to open while remaining on the platform
- ✓ Ample room in the cafe and a choice of seating



# Attractions

## Sovereign Hill

Bradshaw Street, Ballarat

- ✓ Entry to the main building and ticket office is via a ramp at the front of the building
- ✓ Road and pathways through the site are gravel. The surface is fine with aggregate of less than 13mm and is hard packed
- ✓ All the paths are step-free
- ✓ Main Street is a gentle slope until the red brick chimney at the mine tour office, where the slope increases
- ✓ On the edges of Main Street are bluestone gutters. A boardwalk is in front of the shops on both sides of the road
- ✓ Disabled parking bays in front of the main building
- ✓ Wooden bridges give access to the boardwalk between each set of steps. Most of the shops have wide level doorways
- ✓ Accessible toilets are located behind the photographic studio, in the United States Hotel, next to the Fire Brigade, next to the main theatre in the entrance building and at the cafe
- ✓ Accessibility information including Auslan, Social Scripts and a downloadable PDF map available on the Sovereign Hill website



# Attractions

## Kryal Castle

121 Forbes Road, Warrenheip

- ✔ Designated accessible car parking close to the entrance
- ✔ Double gates give level access to the grounds, however these are only available on request or by appointment
- ✔ The attraction's surface is paved stone throughout and relatively smooth, making it navigable by wheelchair users or visitors using mobility devices
- ✔ The tournament arena has good accessible viewing around the perimeter
- ✔ Ramps available to The Ale House and The Village Shop
- ✔ All buildings and exhibits have wide level doorways with good maneuvering internally. One exception is the Story of Kryal room, which has a 150mm step that is only suitable for ambulant visitors
- ✔ The Tower, Wizard's Workroom and The Dungeon are all multi-level buildings, with only the ground floor of each building being accessible
- ✔ The Abbey Tavern function centre has level entry and wheelchair access to the dancefloor



# Attractions



## Creswick Woollen Mills

Railway Parade, Creswick

- ✓ The entire mill building area is a flat concrete floor
- ✓ All of the corridors are wide and easy to navigate
- ✓ Fonts on displays are large and easy to read
- ✓ All displays are positioned at one metre or less
- ✓ Broad mesh fencing gives a good view of the equipment, regardless of eye height
- ✓ Retail area is well laid out with multiple level displays
- ✓ Accessible toilet with side and rear grab rails and a padded backrest located off the main entrance
- ✓ Animal feeding area has ramp access



## Victoria Park Inclusive Play Space

Oak Avenue, Newington

- ✓ The site features sealed pathways throughout, ramps to play equipment, and a variety of activities for all abilities including a large range of play panels for children with cognitive abilities
- ✓ The playground includes both accessible toilets and an Adult Changing Place with a full service hoist
- ✓ Accessible picnic facilities throughout and accessible drinking fountains



# Attractions

## Eureka Centre

102 Stawell Street South, Ballarat East

- ✔ Designated accessible parking in the main car park opposite the centre
- ✔ A gently sloping concrete path leads to the centre
- ✔ Entry to the foyer is through a wide self-opening door
- ✔ A ramp leads to the lower level exhibition space
- ✔ Accessible toilet on the upper level opposite reception with side and rear grab rails and a padded back rest
- ✔ The upper level of the 140-seat theatre is accessible from opposite reception. Inside there is a large area for wheelchair users. The lower level is also accessible and four seats at either side of the theatre in the front row are removable to allow for wheelchair seating. The theatre is also equipped with hearing augmentation
- ✔ The displays and cafe have good circulation space



# Dining

## **Kittelty's at the Art Gallery of Ballarat**

40 Lydiard Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ The front door is a heritage entry with a narrow door and three steps
- ✓ Accessible entry is available via the art gallery foyer after 10am
- ✓ The interior is compact with best accessible seating for a wheelchair, mobility device user and parents with prams inside the gallery entrance

## **Lola at The Provincial Hotel**

121 Lydiard Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ Accessible parking in the car park off Ararat Street
- ✓ Accessible entry off Ararat Street
- ✓ Two accessible toilets with side and back rails and a backrest

## **Hydrant Food Hall**

3 McKenzie Street, Ballarat

- ✓ Access to the cafe is difficult due to the pathway. The approach is narrow with clearance between the power poles and walls being 810mm
- ✓ Roadway to the sidewalk requires negotiation of a bluestone curb
- ✓ The cafe's front door is electronically operated with push buttons inside and outside the building
- ✓ Fully accessible bathroom with left-hand transfer, side and rear handrails, padded backrest, and handbasin with a lever mixer tap

## **Fika**

36A Doveton Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ The entrance is level and wide
- ✓ Ample room to access the counter and a choice of seating
- ✗ No accessible toilet

# Dining

## The Lake View Hotel

22 Wendouree Parade,  
Lake Wendouree

- ✓ Entry is through the wide main door
- ✓ Both the bar and bistro are spacious and provide room to move easily
- ✓ All tables have movable chairs
- ✓ Accessible toilet facility with side and rear handrails and a padded backrest
- ✓ Alfresco dining available on the footpath

## Boatshed Restaurant

27A Wendouree Parade,  
Lake Wendouree

- ✓ Both internal and outside dining areas are open with ample room
- ✓ The tables and chairs in both locations are accessible for wheelchair users and people using mobility devices
- ✗ Toilet facilities are limited with a male and female non-accessible facility

## The Yacht Club

18 Wendouree Parade, Lake  
Wendouree

- ✓ Two disabled parking bays at the front of the club and access from a short, level path
- ✓ Accessible toilet is available on the outside of the building. There is a combined toilet and accessible shower with a fold-down seat off the entry foyer
- ✓ The interior has a full bar and dining with space to negotiate the full length
- ✓ Access to the outside area is through wide double doors with level entry
- ✓ Chairs are movable allowing a choice of dining options

## Saigon Allee

30 Armstrong Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ Open design with a large door, level street entry and spacious interior
- ✓ Moveable seating providing a choice of seating options
- ✗ No accessible toilet

# Dining

## Cafe Sidra

321 High Street, Learmonth

- ✓ Cafe entry is through a large door with level entry from the footpath
- ✓ Internally, the cafe is spacious with a large choice of seating areas including the back veranda
- ✓ The lower garden/function area is accessible from a gate at the side of the cafe
- ✓ The surface in the garden is fine, hard packed gravel
- ✓ Accessible toilet is available off the verandah

## The Western Hotel

1221 Sturt Street, Ballarat

- ✓ The layout is open with easily movable chairs and a wide range of seating options
- ✓ An accessible toilet is available and there is an accessible car park located in a private parking area at the rear of the hotel

## Golden City Hotel

427 Sturt Street, Ballarat

- ✓ All areas are well laid out with easy access and a wide choice of seating
- ✓ Chairs are easily removed to suit wheelchair patrons
- ✓ Accessible toilet off the bistro area with side and rear handrails, lever basin tap, and a baby change table
- ✓ Outside dining area has open-ended tables suiting wheelchair patrons
- ✗ First floor function venue is not accessible

## Hop Temple

Rear of 24-28 Armstrong Street North, Ballarat

- ✓ The design is open and it can be entered either through the side door or, when open, large double doors that open directly on to the lane
- ✓ Accessible toilet with side and rear bars and a padded backrest





## **Craig's Royal Hotel**

10 Lydiard Street South,  
Ballarat

- ✓ The hotel has a lift to service the first and second floors
- ✓ The lounge and gallery have a tiled floor
- ✓ The tables and chairs are all movable, giving options for wheelchair patrons
- ✓ The wine bar has a short pile carpet floor and the tables and chairs are movable
- ✓ Accessible toilet in the gaming room which services the entire hotel

## **The Lane**

(part of The George Hotel)  
27 Lydiard Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ The floor is tile and polished concrete
- ✓ Public areas are all accessible with one accessible toilet located on the ground floor
- ✓ The bar and main dining areas are spacious and easy to move around with a variety of seating options

## **Zambrero**

22 Armstrong Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ Open plan with ample room for people using wheelchairs or mobility devices
- ✓ Large gaps between the tables make it an ideal location for parents with prams
- ✓ Accessible toilet with side and rear rails and a backrest

# Dining

## **The Forge Pizzeria and Housey Housey**

14 and 12 Armstrong Street  
North, Ballarat

- ✓ The Forge is accessed through a wide level door
- ✓ The interior is spacious, allowing for easy navigation
- ✓ The furniture is also movable, allowing for flexible seating allocation
- ✓ Curbside dining space with level access and movable furniture
- ✓ Accessible toilet with side and rear handrails, hand basin with a level mixer tap, and a sloping mirror
- ✓ Function space Housey Housey is accessed via a large doorway from Armstrong Street or via The Forge
- ✓ The space is open with furniture arranged as required
- ✓ The integrated sound and lighting system allows control of sound and light by zone and provides a hearing loop
- ✓ Accessible bathroom is shared with The Forge



# Accommodation

## The George Hotel

27 Lydiard St North, Ballarat

- ✓ Accessible entry to the hotel is via The Lane
- ✓ One accessible room with a queen and single bed. Both beds provide under bed clearance for a patient hoist
- ✓ The room also has a roll-in shower and a fixed shower seat

## Heritage on Lydiard

15 Lydiard Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✓ One room with a queen bed with 100mm clearance under the bed
- ✓ The room has a roll-in shower and fixed shower seat
- ✓ There is a lounge area and writing desk that provides knee clearance
- ✓ Power points can be difficult so bringing a desktop board is recommended

## BIG4 Ballarat Goldfields Holiday Park

108 Clayton Street, Ballarat

- ✓ Two fully self-contained accessible family cabins, each with a full roll-in shower/wet room
- ✓ Wide doorways give access to the master bedroom and the bunk bedroom
- ✓ The cabins cater for up to six people
- ✓ A large parking bay is provided next to the cabins. The bays are long and will accommodate a rear loading van or a car and trailer
- ✓ There is also an accessible bathroom in the main amenities block
- ✓ The site is flat with asphalt pathways throughout

# Accommodation

## **Ballarat Primavera**

213 Daylesford Road, Ballarat

- ✔ The house consists of four spacious rooms, each with an ensuite. Can be rented as a whole building or by individual rooms
- ✔ Purpose-built bathroom consists of an accessible toilet with handrails at the side and back and a padded backrest
- ✔ Bathroom is large with ample wheelchair space
- ✔ Handbasin has a level mixer tap and clear space below it
- ✔ Shower is equipped with a fold-down shower seat and an easy to reach lever mixer tap
- ✔ The bathroom is accessible from the main hall or the bedroom and can be used as an ensuite or communal bathroom
- ✔ The additional three bedrooms are all very spacious and all have large bathrooms. They are not equipped with toilet bars or shower chairs, but may be suitable for some people with a disability

- ✔ Three portable shower chairs available on request
- ✔ Large living areas consisting of a kitchen/ dining area, lounge and a second dining area
- ✔ There is also an indoor lap pool (not fully accessible), gymnasium, lock-up garage and outdoor dining area
- ✔ The property provides direct access to the Yarrowee Trail and the Ballarat Information Centre has a TrailRider all-terrain wheelchair which can be borrowed for the duration of a stay



# Accommodation

## **The Provincial Hotel**

121 Lydiard Street North,  
Ballarat

- ✔ Two two-bedroom accessible apartments with separate living areas, a kitchen and dining area
- ✔ The master bedroom features a deluxe king size bed with an oversized ensuite and the second bedroom features deluxe twin beds
- ✔ The main bathroom is fully accessible with a roll-in shower, generous fold-down shower chair and easy to reach controls. It also has a fully accessible toilet with handrails and backrest plus a full-sized spa bath

## **Sovereign Hill Hotel**

Magpie Street, Ballarat

- ✔ Sits on the same site as Sovereign Hill with an entrance off Magpie Street
- ✔ Designated disabled parking space at reception

- ✔ A brick path/ramp leads to reception
- ✔ The hotel restaurant is behind the reception counter, which has a lower height bench with knee clearance at the side
- ✔ Accessible toilet off the servery
- ✔ Disabled parking outside the accommodation wing
- ✔ The hotel has two accessible units with full roll-in shower
- ✔ There is a third unit with the same facilities but it also has an adjoining room for a carer or family member
- ✔ The toilets have side and rear rails with a padded backrest. Each unit has a private outdoor deck with ramped access
- ✔ Ramped brick pathways give access to the full hotel site
- ✔ The easiest access to Sovereign Hill is gained by driving down to the main entry and parking in the disabled bays provided

# Accommodation

## Cave Hill Creek

110 The Glut Road, Raglan

- ✓ Main buildings are all wheelchair accessible with large level entry doors
- ✓ The Lake View Lodge's ensuite rooms all have single beds that allow for wheelchair transfer
- ✓ Group accommodation facility that can host up to 140 people
- ✓ The glamping village has one tent with full ramped access. The bedding configuration can be changed to suit customer needs
- ✓ The glamping village is serviced by an amenities block adjacent to the accessible tent
- ✓ Communal accessible toilet that services the lodge
- ✓ The amenities block has a full wet room/roll-in shower with a large fold-down seat and detachable shower rose
- ✓ This property is geared to groups and camps with a variety of outdoor experiences. It has tailored those experiences to cater for people with a disability, including climbing, bushwalking with a TrailRider, canoeing and team-building experiences
- ✓ Programs are tailored to the group's needs, with equipment brought in to suit the group



# Accommodation

## **RACV Goldfields**

1500 Midland Highway,  
Creswick

- ✓ Six designated disabled parking spaces either side of the main entry
- ✓ The entry is flat and wide with a spacious foyer and reception desk. There is an accessible toilet located off the main reception area
- ✓ Five accessible rooms all adjoin a standard room making the resort suitable for families or travellers with a disability bringing carer support
- ✓ Each accessible room has a queen bed and two single beds
- ✓ The combination of rooms makes this resort suitable for teams or large groups
- ✓ Bathrooms have a full roll-in shower/toilet area with side bars and a bath
- ✓ Rooms have a balcony with ramps over the sliding door sill
- ✓ The public spaces are all open and easy to navigate
- ✓ The main dining room has ramped access next to the window
- ✓ The resort has full conference facilities with another accessible toilet in the conference wing
- ✓ Hearing loops can be provided as part of a conference package
- ✓ The resort has a small pool. There is no lift access into the pool however there is stepped access into the shallow section and then into the main pool
- ✓ The resort adjoins a network of off-road cycle trails. There is a fully lockable bike storage area that has ample room for the storage of handcycles. The resort also provides trailer storage

# Accommodation

## **Sovereign Park Motor Inn**

223 Main Road, Ballarat

- ✓ One fully accessible room (queen bed and a single bed)
- ✓ The bathroom is a full wet room
- ✓ The shower has a removable shower rose, grab rails and portable shower chair, and the toilet has a side grab rail
- ✓ Parking is available outside the unit with a short but steep ramp up the curb
- ✓ Entry to the unit is level
- ✓ There are steps into reception so guests should call on arrival and paperwork will be brought out
- ✓ The accessible entry into the restaurant is at the far end of the building off the public car park
- ✓ There is a ramp to self-opening double doors to give access to the bar and restaurant
- ✓ An accessible toilet facility is located in the main dining room

- ✓ The hotel has three conference rooms, two of which are fully accessible
- ✓ There is an accessible toilet adjacent the conference facility

## **Bell Tower Inn**

1845 Sturt Street, Alfredton

- ✓ Two accessible rooms, each with a queen bed and a single bed
- ✓ Bathrooms have handrails near the toilet and shower
- ✓ Showers are walk-in and shower chairs are available
- ✓ Ramps are available into the rooms, reception area and restaurant
- ✓ Parking is available in front of the rooms

# Public Amenities



## Ballarat Town Hall

(Ballarat Information Centre and Changing Places restroom)  
225 Sturt Street, Ballarat

- ✓ The Ballarat Information Centre is located at the rear of Town Hall (parking available off Bath Lane)
- ✓ It has an Adult Change Room with full service hoist and a non-peninsular toilet. It is situated near Sturt Street and Ballarat's main dining precinct
- ✓ These facilities are accessed after hours with a MLAK key
- ✓ The Visitor Centre can be accessed from the rear of the Town Hall through self-opening doors and is well laid out with easy access to brochures and staff
- ✓ Access to the Town Hall's upper level is via a lift in the foyer



# Public Amenities



## **Ballarat Train Station** Lydiard Street North, Ballarat

- ✔ The train station has easy access from the bus exchange and from the drop off points
- ✔ The bus exchange has full TGS1 tiles leading to the main platform and into the ticket office
- ✔ The ticket and information windows are equipped with hearing loops and communication cards
- ✔ The accessible toilet has been upgraded to new standards. The existing toilet height, handrails and basin are compliant
- ✔ Access to the second platform is via the pedestrian crossing over the rail tracks in Lydiard Street

## **Disability services**

For information about disability services in the Ballarat area, phone the Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre on 1800 052 222. For people with a hearing impairment, dial 1800 555 677 using your TTY then ask for 1800 052 222 through the National Relay Service.

## **Adult Changing Facilities/Places**

A state-of-the-art Adult Changing Facility, including hoist equipment and a height-adjustable change bench, is available at the back of the Ballarat Town Hall in Bath Lane. Users are to provide their own hoist slings. Other Adult Changing Facilities are available at Stockland Wendouree and the Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre. Adult Changing Places are located at the Victoria Park Inclusive Play Space, Ballarat Sports Events Centre, and Mars Stadium (portable Marveloo).

## **Public bus service**

CDC Ballarat provides fully accessible, air-conditioned, low floor buses. The buses can be lowered to the kerb and a ramp provided to accommodate wheelchairs, strollers, walking frames and some small scooters. For bus timetables and maps, visit [cdcvictoria.com.au](http://cdcvictoria.com.au) Public Transport Victoria's Access Travel Pass and Scooter and Wheelchair Travel Pass are accepted on this public transport service. For details, [www.ptv.vic.gov.au](http://www.ptv.vic.gov.au)



Ballarat Information Centre, Town Hall, 225 Sturt Street  
1800 446 633 | [visitballarat.com.au](http://visitballarat.com.au)



**BALLARAT**  
information



Visit  
**Ballarat**