

Frequently asked questions for The Downs

Here are some of our most popular questions asked by people planning a visit to The Downs. We hope you find it helpful, but if you have a question not included on this page, please email us at bristolparks@bristol.gov.uk

Can I have a BBQ at The Downs?

The Downs byelaws prohibit fires or barbecues anywhere on The Downs.

Are dogs allowed at The Downs?

Dogs are allowed on The Downs, normal rules regarding control and cleaning up after your dog apply.

Can I put a tent up on The Downs?

No, the byelaws prohibit the erection of any structure (this also includes temporary structures) like tents and windbreakers.

Can I hold an event on The Downs?

Yes, events/sporting activities are allowed. With prior permission from The Downs Committee. This is facilitated through the events team who process all enquires of this nature.

Is there a children's play area at The Downs?

There is a play area located in the small quarry to the south of Observatory Hill which caters for children mostly eight years and under.

Can I ride a horse at The Downs?

Yes, horse riding is allowed in parts of The Downs. For further information please visit our horse riding section with the according byelaw.

Can I ride my bicycle at The Downs?

There is one off road cycle path that runs from Saville Road to Stoke Road adjacent to the water tower. There is a byelaw prohibiting cycling on all footpaths, woodland and the grass areas of The Downs.

Can I play golf on The Downs?

Golf is not permitted on The Downs. There are two 18-hole golf courses at Ashton Court Estate.

Do you have a café and restaurant on site?

There are a number of catering concessions on The Downs including:

- an ice cream van at the Sea Walls, Peregrine Watch and at the junction of Gloucester Row/Sion Hill
- a catering van on Parry's Lane
- Café Retreat located near the water tower on Stoke Road.