

- The Priory Park Restoration Project in 2006 carefully combined the provision of new community facilities with the restoration of historic park features.
- The Priory Park Restoration Project cost a total of £6.2m, and was funded by a £4.2m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, contributions from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council and through commercial sponsorship.
- The Pavilion is the first building in the UK to be designed by the award winning architect Dominique Perrault.
- Priory Park was officially re-opened by HRH the Earl of Wessex on 8 July 2008.

## Restoration of Priory Park

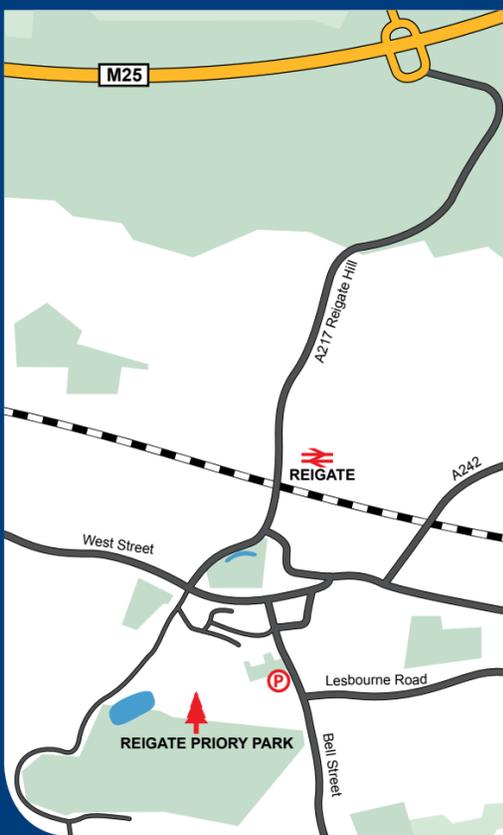


- Free entry
- Childrens play area with water play in the summer
- Formal gardens
- Lake
- Skatepark
- Table tennis table
- Tennis courts and ball court
- Croquet lawn
- Cafe
- Information centre
- Accessible toilet and nappy changing facilities
- Events programme
- Car park
- Close to Reigate town centre

## Facilities

## How to find us

Priory Park is located on Bell Street in the centre of Reigate, Surrey. By bike: bike racks are available in the childrens playground. By car: M25 Junction 8 follow signs for Reigate. Parking in Bell Street car park. By public transport: Reigate station is approximately a 10 minute walk. Contact National Rail enquiries on **08457 484950**.



## Contact Details

Reigate Priory Park  
Bell Street, Reigate  
Surrey RH2 7RL

Priory Park general enquiries and information  
**01737 276000**

Join our Facebook group at  
[www.facebook.com/groups/priorypark](http://www.facebook.com/groups/priorypark)  
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# Reigate Priory Park



Reigate & Banstead  
BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Banstead | Horley | Redhill | Reigate  
[www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk](http://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk)

Reigate Priory Park  
Bell Street, Reigate  
Surrey RH2 7RL

## Sport in Priory Park

The following sports facilities are available free of charge, no booking required:

- 4 all weather tennis courts
- Ball court suitable for basketball and 5 a-side football
- Skatepark suitable for bmx's, skateboards and in line skates
- Petanque square (between the playground and tennis courts)
- Table tennis table

Booking is required for the following facilities:

- 4 grass football pitches available from September to April. Call 01737 276000 for details and bookings
- Croquet pitch – enquiries to the **Park Office** on **01737 242179**

## The Pavilion in Priory Park

The Pavilion is open from 9am to 6pm seven days a week. Shorter opening hours apply in winter.

- There is a cafe for hot and cold drinks, snacks and ice creams
- Exhibition space for the park
- Park toilets
- Office base for the Priory Park Officer

Out of hours The Pavilion is available to hire as a venue for events.



### The Priory

The Priory at Reigate, an Augustine house, was founded in the 13th Century by William de Warenne, 6th Earl of Surrey and later converted to a mansion in Tudor times following the Dissolution of the Monasteries. In 1541 Henry VIII granted the Manor and Priory of Reigate to Lord William Howard, Uncle of Catherine Howard, Henry's fifth wife. The Priory became the principal seat of the Howard family and a number of other private owners of the estate. The last of these was the Beatty family, Admiral Beatty having been appointed the Admiral of the Fleet and First Sea Lord in 1919. Then Reigate Borough Council purchased the estate in 1948 and a school opened in the Priory in the same year. Today the Priory is a Grade 1 listed building and is occupied by Reigate Priory Junior School.

### The Formal Garden

The Formal Gardens were opened in 2008 as part of the Priory Park Restoration project. In the Sunken Garden a formally patterned flower garden, known as a parterre has been created using a geometric planting pattern and new topiary trees. Important historical feature in the garden including the stone seats, steps and monumental fountain have been restored to their former glory. The hedge surrounding the sunken garden was removed to restore the views towards and away from the Priory building but the Irish plumb yew topiaries at the rear of the two stone seats have been retained to restore the garden's late 19th Century appearance. New standard topiary trees have been planted to line the central path running between the Priory and Sunken Garden and the buried Ha Ha (sunken wall) has been uncovered and repaired.

### The Lake

The Lake at Priory Park was originally a series of fish ponds serving the Augustine Priory and the earliest evidence of these ponds dates from the late 14th century. The first estate plan of 1770 illustrates six ornamental ponds of varying sizes, which by 1860 had been altered to create the single water body we see today. Today the lake is a significant remnant of the earliest period of the estates history and an important ecological recourse supporting a wide range of wildlife.

### Playground

The playground includes a water play area which operates during the summer months and was based on a nautical theme because two previous owners of Reigate Priory played important roles in England's maritime History.

Other leisure facilities available in the park are the skate park, ball court, tennis courts, sports pitches, and a croquet lawn.

### The Prospect Walk

This important landscape was laid out in the early 18th century, probably by Humphrey Parsons, who owned Reigate Priory between 1717 and 1741. The purpose was to introduce an attractive and scenic walk along which occupants and visitors to the estate could view its primary features.

The Prospect Walk runs from the Priory itself west along the Boardwalk, around the west end of the lake and then east along the perimeter of the woodland with views across the pasture to the Priory and then back to the Priory through the woodland on the Bell Street boundary. One can follow this route today and imagine how the estate would have appeared to a visitor in the 18th century.

-  Unsurfaced path
-  Easy access route 
-  Please dispose of litter in provided bins
-  Cycle responsibility
-  Dogs must be kept on a lead in formal garden areas
-  Please clean up after your dog
-  No golf
-  No motorcycles
-  No fires

