

Information

Admission: free

Opening times

Winter	Monday to Saturday
	9am to 4.15pm
	Sunday 10am to 4.15pm
Summer	Monday to Saturday
	9am to 6.15pm
	Sunday 10am to 6.15pm

Getting there

The Homestead park, 40 Water End, York YO30 6WP

Buses run frequently from York city centre, including buses 29 and 31X from Theatre Royal to Clifton Green, 200m from Water End. You can also take the number 2 Park and Ride bus from Station Avenue or Museum Street and alight at Clifton Green.

There is pedestrian access from Water End and Shipton Road, and a small car park at the Shipton Road entrance.

The park is also accessible by bike, being near to the riverside route 65 on the national cycle network.

Contact

The Homestead reception, Tel. 01904 629241.

Email: info@jrf.org.uk

Website: www.jrht.org.uk/About+us/The+Homestead+Park

Photo credits: p2 (bottom): Paul Brook; p3-4: Michelle Atkins, Chris Steele-Perkins/Magnum, Joseph Rowntree Archive.

Printed on paper made from 75 per cent recycled fibre.
This paper has been certified by the Forest Stewardship Council.

Maps



This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی میں بھی میا کی جا سکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

☎ 01904 735000

The Homestead park

A public park for the people of York





Cherry Walk



The park in autumn

The Homestead park



The children's play area



Homestead park pond



The 1904 opening

The children's play area

The Homestead park is open to the public all year round. A great day trip destination, the park contains large grassed areas, benches, walkways, picnic areas and a pond. Well-maintained lawns are perfect for picnics or a game of football.

Children under 12 can enjoy the play area, which boasts an excellent range of recently-updated outdoor play equipment. There are several climbing frames, tree trunks and a large helter-skelter slide, as well as special equipment for children who are wheelchair users. A section of the play area is reserved for the under-sevens, and all equipment has protective wood-chip flooring. Dogs must be kept on leads and are not permitted in the play area.

The park features planting that provides colour and interest throughout the year, using trees, herbaceous borders and formal beds. Over 6,000 bedding plants are featured each year in the well-maintained formal beds, grown in the park's own glasshouses.

Park facilities include car parking at the Shipton Road entrance, public toilets by the play area and a special area for ball games. The park is managed by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's dedicated gardening team.

A brief history of the park

The Homestead park has been open to the people of York for over a century. On 16 July 1904, Seebohm Rowntree (son of successful businessman and philanthropist Joseph Rowntree) placed an 'Important Notice' in the *Yorkshire Gazette*.

He announced that from 18 July to 18 August "the fields behind his house [would] be available for children attending the York Elementary Schools ... Donkey rides, swings, see-saws, sand heaps and games [would] be provided."

The Homestead park remains open to the public to this day. Seebohm Rowntree's house, The Homestead, is now the head office of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, which manages, maintains and develops the park, as Seebohm Rowntree wanted.

In 2004, the JRF celebrated the park's Centenary with events to commemorate the opening, including donkey rides, ice cream and children's games.