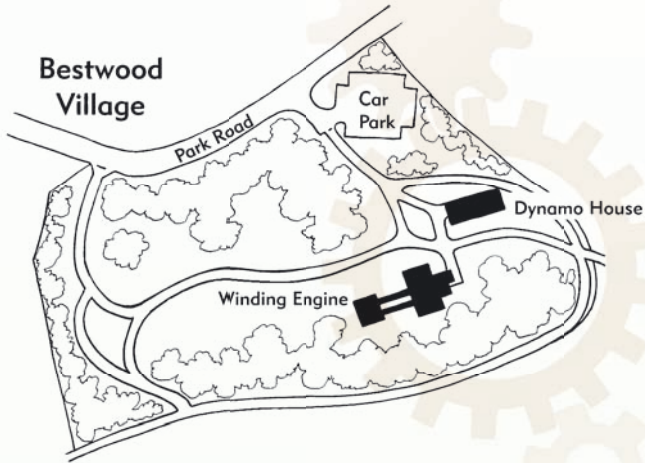




Getting there





 **Bestwood Winding Engine House**
Bestwood Country Park
Off Park Road, Bestwood Village
Nottinghamshire NG6 8ZA

Bestwood Winding Engine House and colliery headstocks is located in, Bestwood Village, 4 miles north of the city of Nottingham. It's easy to access by car, bike or by public transport:

 Trams between Nottingham and Hucknall stop at Butler's Hill, a 15 minute walk away.

 Nearest bus stop to the Winding Engine House is on Park Road, Bestwood Village (adj. Church Road) – 5 minutes walk. Nottingham is the nearest city and most bus services start from there, e.g. Trent Barton Buses - service 141 – Nottingham to Mansfield. Rainbow 3 – Nottingham to Mansfield. See www.traveline.info. Tel: 0871 200 2233.

 Nearest station Hucknall Station (3.3 miles).

 Bestwood Country Park is on route 6 of the National Cycle network. Download map from www.sustans.org.uk or pick up a leaflet in local tourist information centres.



More information

For more information on the Winding Engine House or Bestwood Country Park, ring the park ranger team on 0115 927 3674 (daily 10.30am-5pm). See also our web pages www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/bestwoodcp

*Audio Tour is free and hosted on a local telephone number. Users may incur a small charge for the call, though it will be included in any free 'bundled' minutes within your call plan.

Bestwood Country Park is jointly managed by Nottinghamshire County Council and Gedling Borough Council.

Contacting us

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| email | bestwood.country.park@nottsc.gov.uk |
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| post | Bestwood Winding Engine House, Bestwood Country Park, off Park Road, Bestwood Village Nottinghamshire NG6 8ZA |
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Bestwood Winding Engine House



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Bestwood Winding Engine House

Visit a powerful piece of Nottinghamshire's industrial heritage

The Winding Engine House

Today Bestwood Country Park is a peaceful green oasis, popular with walkers, bird watchers and nature lovers. But until the late 1960's part of what now forms the park was a sprawling industrial site. Bestwood Colliery was one of the most productive coal mines in Nottinghamshire. Little remains of it now except the Winding Engine House, the colliery headstocks and the Dynamo House, a former electrical substation.

The winding engine lowered colliers down into the mine and winched mined coal up to the surface. Amazingly, the 1876 winding engine still exists, hidden inside the five floor brick building which stands alongside the concrete clad headstocks. It's a unique survival - the only vertical winding engine left in England still in its original location. And now, for the first time, the public can see inside this fascinating building.

These days the engine is powered by an electric motor rather than steam, but the mighty mechanism is in full working order, having been maintained for many years by a devoted local volunteer group.

The Winding Engine House was completely restored by Nottinghamshire County Council in 2009/10 with the help of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, enabling us for the first time to open the Winding Engine House regularly to the public.



Photo: Martine Hamilton-Knight

What to see and do?

- Ride in the glass sided lift to the very top of the Engine House, viewing the mighty engine, the control room, and the massive winding wheel. As you ascend, listen to a commentary explaining the job that the winding engine was built to do.
- Look at period photographs of the site in the heyday of Bestwood Iron and Coal Company. See a scale model of the former colliery and iron works.
- Explore the nature and history of the site with our Mobile Phone Audio Tour. Bring your mobile phone and follow the onsite marker posts, or ring and listen from the comfort of home. Dial **0115 822 0268** and listen now!*
- Guided tours available at advertised times, led by the Winding Engine House Volunteer Group.

Opening hours & parking

Bestwood Country Park is open daily. The Winding Engine House and Dynamo House (which stands within it) open to the public **every Saturday from Easter to the end of October, 10.00am to 1pm.**

There may be additional opening days through the year, which will be advertised on our website www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/bestwoodcp

Free parking is available nearby, at the Winding Engine House Car Park off Park Road, Bestwood Village.



Tours

Visitors are invited to take a self-guided tour, or (to see the building in more detail) book on an escorted tour led by one of the Winding Engine House volunteers. Both tours start from the Dynamo House.

One escorted tour will be available on opening days, at approximately 10.30am – exact times advertised on site. Please note that because they are volunteer-led, guided tours are subject to availability. Ring for more details:

Tel: 0115 927 3674.

Admission and parking is FREE. Pick up a ticket and information leaflet from the Dynamo House where a member of the park staff will show you how to access the Winding House and help with any queries.

Private tours

Private guided tours for special interest groups are possible by prior arrangement. For specialist tours a donation of £25 is invited, to cover volunteer and site expenses.

Onsite facilities & access

A unisex disabled toilet is available in the Dynamo House. The Winding Engine House is accessible to wheelchair and mobility scooter users via the glass lift.

There is no café on site, so don't forget your picnic! A vending machine inside the Dynamo House offers simple hot beverages.