



Day Visitor Buggy Safety Policy (WWR 1.01):

Preamble: Watatunga Wildlife Reserve has a duty of care to all visitors. The topography of certain areas of the reserve and some of the species of deer and antelope is such that caution, and prudence must be always shown by the user of a buggy. It is also necessary for Watatunga Wildlife Reserve to provide adequately safe means of access for all visitors given permission to use buggies.

Firstly, before the important bits: Is there any way that we can enhance your experience today?

We have multiple hearing loops for you to utilise on site, we can provide guidebooks in alternative languages, larger guidebooks in bigger fonts. Please do let us know if you require assistance entering your buggy as we have a variety of different steps available.

To assist the safe deployment of buggies, day visitors shall comply with the following conditions:

- 1) Use of a buggy is only permitted as part of a pre-booked tour lead by a Watatunga Wildlife Reserve guide (either driving a trailer or lead buggy), who is intimately familiar with the terrain and the animals.
- 2) Only adults with a valid driving license and who have signed the Buggy Safety Policy Acknowledgement Form are permitted to drive a buggy.
- 3) A safety briefing must be held before the tour sets off to ensure all those riding in the buggy are clear on safety measures and on what is and is not permissible. Instructions on the safe operation of a buggy will be issued during this briefing.
- 4) All buggies and radios will undergo a safety check by Watatunga staff before every tour.
- 1) Buggies are designed for 4 or 6 guests (depending on buggy size) and no additional passengers must be allowed. Children aged 2 and under must be secured to an adult by reins or a harness. Children over 2 should be seated separately but next to an adult and always supervised closely.
- 5) **It is strictly prohibited to step out of a buggy at any time within the reserve** unless instructed to do so by a member of Watatunga Wildlife Reserve staff.
- 6) **Unfortunately - no food or drink items are allowed within the reserve for the health and welfare of the animals on site.**
- 7) Buggies must be operated with the upmost courtesy, care, and consideration for the safety and convenience of wildlife and other visitors. Wildlife must always be afforded the right of way.
- 8) The driver is responsible for ensuring that passengers remain seated with hands, feet and heads within the buggy and that passengers hold on while the buggy is in motion.
- 9) The driver must follow the guide leading the tour and always adhere to their instructions.



- 10) The driver must ensure that they drive to the conditions of the designated buggy route, always considering the terrain as well as environmental factors that may affect their ability to operate the vehicle safely. Rough terrain can cause excessive movement of the vehicle. Drive slowly and carefully.
- 11) The driver is responsible for any loss or damage to the buggy and/or accessories caused by driver or passenger abuse, negligence, or breach of this agreement. In these circumstances the driver will be responsible for and must pay for all losses and damages and agree to pay all relevant charges and any damage administration fee.
- 12) As per the public highway the use of mobile phones or any hand-held device is not permitted whilst driving but may be used when stationary with the park brake on.
- 13) It is not permitted to drive any buggies under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 14) It is recommended that pockets are fastened so that personal items are not lost within the reserve, the terrain can be quite bumpy.
- 15) The driver is fully responsible for their own personal safety and the safety of passengers whilst using the buggy.
- 16) Buggies have been speed limited for safety. Responsible and careful driving is always still necessary.
- 17) Each buggy is equipped with a radio to allow guests to follow instructions from the guide. If, whilst using a buggy an incident occurs or you need assistance, please ensure you inform a member of staff immediately using the phone number displayed in your buggy and we will arrange a pickup. Alternatively use the radio to contact the guide.
- 18) Should guests be advised to leave their buggy in an emergency, the bird hides and barbeque hut are designated safe zones; guests will be advised to keep together and not try to head out of the reserve unless they are very close to the entry/exit gate.
- 19) The reserve will accept no responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any property other than that arising from the negligent use of a buggy by their agents.
- 20) Any member of Watatunga Wildlife Reserve staff has the authority to immediately prohibit any individual from using or being carried on a buggy. Staff will not tolerate unruly behaviour or inappropriate language and will ask you to leave if necessary.
- 21) A back buggy driven by a member of the Watatunga team will always remain at the back of the tour to ensure that guests are safe and that rules are being adhered to.