



# ROAD to BETHLEHEM™

## Accessibility Guide 2024

[WWW.ROADTOBETHLEHEM.COM.AU](http://WWW.ROADTOBETHLEHEM.COM.AU)





## Did You Know?

Road to Bethlehem has been providing this free community event for the last 30 years!

With the continued aim to allow as many different people, from many different walks of life to experience Jesus and spread the story of his love. Thousands of people from all over Victoria every year to come and experience the story of Jesus' birth like never before.

This year they are celebrating Road to Bethlehem's 30th anniversary AND marks the very first offering of an Auslan Interpreted session.

Providing an event with equal access for all who attend is valued by all leadership and this document aims to address any access concerns.

If you have any further questions, please refer to the FAQs on the website, or contact us via the online form.

We can't wait to see you at Road to Bethlehem this year!

*proudly celebrating*



**YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

# Arriving at Road to Bethlehem

## Parking

Road to Bethlehem has several accessible parking bays available on-site at Edinburgh College.

If you require an accessible spot, please notify the car park attendant upon arrival so that they can allocate one if available. In the event the on-site accessible parking has reached capacity patrons will have the option to drop off passengers by the accessible entrance via the VIP & Accessible Carpark.



## Ticket Collection

After you have parked, please make your way to the ticket booth to collect your tickets. Pre-booked tickets must be picked up 30 minutes before your tour time. However, we suggest you come early, pick up your tickets and enjoy the free entertainment for all ages and food in the front area.

## Wheelchairs and Prams

Road to Bethlehem is enjoyed by people in wheelchairs every year. We have a limited amount of standard manual wheelchairs available for loan. These can be loaned from our 'Ticket booth' on arrival. Please email [rtbvic@gmail.com](mailto:rtbvic@gmail.com) if you require one prior to the show.

Although the path can be slightly bumpy in places, pushing a pram is still manageable.





# Staff and Assistance

## Staff and Assistance

Our friendly greeters and volunteers will be happy to assist you, during your visit to Road to Bethlehem. Dressed in a purple t-shirt or purple vest!

## Auslan Communication Support

Staff who can use Auslan are wearing a pink vest that says 'Auslan Volunteer'. ( see page

## Parking Assistants

Helpers to guide you around the car park are wearing orange hi-vis vest, with light up wands.

## First aid

There will be a St. John Ambulance Australia (Victoria) first aid station located in...

St. John Ambulance Australia (Victoria) first aid staff wear dark green shirts with reflective patches front and back and black pants.

## Scene coordinators

At each scene, leaders are dressed in black, and are constantly on radio communication with each other to support you along your walk.

## Assistance Animals

Qualified and accredited assistance animals are welcome.

Sorry, no pets are allowed, particularly due to the live animals which will be present in the presentation.



# The Show - What to Expect

The walk through show takes 40 minutes. Please make sure you are at the gate ready to walk through 5 minutes prior to your group going through.

## Lights

Lighting is used for visibility as well for decorations and special effects. Anyone who is susceptible to flashing lights please alert an area leader dressed in black at the start of your walk through.

## Sights

All of our actors are dressed in clothing that represents the era. Animals around the grounds such as donkeys, camels and sheep, are all safely secured and well looked after.

## Sounds

All actors use microphones to help with audio access. Some scenes contain shouting or loud sounds. Please feel free to stand where you are most comfortable.

## Scents

Along with the yummy cooking smell coming from the market place, with the petting zoo and other various farm animals on site you may also smell the fresh scent of hay, as well as general animal smells.





# Auslan Communication Support



This year marks the very first Victorian Auslan (Australian Sign Language) interpreted walk-through session, allowing full access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals who use Auslan as their primary language.

Auslan interpretation is offered for the performance on Wednesday 11th of December 2024. A certified Auslan Interpreter will be on stage for each scene, moving with the group from one stage to the next.

Tickets for this session can be booked through the website by following the links to the 'Auslan Interpreted Session'.

On the night, volunteers with a pink high-vis vest will be able to support any volunteers or visitors with communication (as shown in the images to the left). Please be aware that not all Auslan volunteers are qualified interpreters, but are all here to enjoy in the evening together with you/your group.

## Got feedback?

If you are from the Deaf or Hard of Hearing community and attend this year's event, we would appreciate any feedback you have regarding this year's program, so that we can continually improve our accessibility. If you have a moment please speak to one of our team members in a pink vest at the end of your walk through.



Feedback is always welcomed from visitors who come and experience the event. Our lovely volunteer staff in purple t-shirts are always around to assist you and gather feedback.

Or you can email us after your visit, via the 'Contact Us' from on the website - or click [here](#).

*See you there!*

