

VISITING SUPPORTERS GUIDE TO... ELOOOD ELORATION

SEASON 2023/24



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Blackburn Rovers Football Club! Ewood Park has been our home since 1890, and we are proud to call it our home!

We are a family orientated club, and are proud to have yet again been awarded the Family Excellence Gold Award, with plans to continue improving our efforts in upcoming years.

We hope our supporters guide helps you enjoy your experience at Ewood Park. It has been created to ensure you make the most of your time with us and experience the stadium to its fullest. Blackburn Rovers Football Club would like to thank you for visiting Ewood Park.

Stadium Address:

Ewood Park, Nutall Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 4FJ

Club Contact Details:

Telephone: 01254 372001 Customer Services: enquiries@rovers.co.uk Official Website: www.rovers.co.uk

Follow us on Social Media

@rovers



2

MATCHDAY TICKETING



Purchasing Tickets

Matchday tickets are on sale approximately 3 weeks prior to the game being played.

Please purchase tickets via your supporting clubs recommended method.

If you have any queries in regards to ticketing, please call the Ticket Office on 01245 372000 or email: ticketoffice@rovers.co.uk

Collecting Tickets

Should you need to collect your tickets on the day of the game, the away ticket office is located on the corner of the Bryan Douglas End and Jack Walker Stand which is situated in the Darwen End of Ewood Park. The team will also be able to assist with any queries you may have.

Turnstiles

Turnstiles for visiting supporters are located in the Bryan Douglas End.

The majority of our tickets will be digital, which are scanned at the turnstiles. If you require, you can print off your ticket instead.

Turnstiles at Ewood Park open 90 minutes before kick-off. For evening games they will be open 75 minutes before kick-off. Supporters are encouraged to arrive at least 45 minutes before kick-off to avoid any delays when entering the stadium. For supporters own safety, randomly selected searches will be conducted of supporters, as well as bag searches. Please do not bring a bag unless you absolutely need to.

Programmes

All programmes are available digitally for free. They can be accessed via our website by **clicking here.**



GETTING TO EWOOD PARK



By Car

If you are planning on travelling to Ewood Park by Car, these are our recommended routes:

From the North

- Leave the M6 at Junction 30 and join the M61. At the first exit join the M65 and head East to Blackburn.
- Ewood Park is well signposted on the M65. Leave at Junction 4 and take the 4th exit onto Earcroft Way.
- Use the right 2 lanes to turn right onto Blackburn Road/A666 and continue to follow this road.
- Ewood Park will be a mile down the A666, located on your right.

From the South

- Leave the M6 at Junction 29 and join the M65. Head East to Blackburn.
- Ewood Park is well signposted on the M65. Leave at Junction 4 and take the 4th exit onto Earcroft Way.
- Use the right 2 lanes to turn right onto Blackburn Road/A666 and continue to follow this road.
- Ewood Park will be a mile down the A666, located on your right.

From the West

- From the M6/M62 or M60, join the M61. Leave the M61 for the M65 and head east to Blackburn.
- Ewood Park is well signposted on the M65. Leave a Junction 4 and take the 4th exit onto Earcroft Way.
- Use the right 2 lanes to turn right onto Blackburn Road/A666 and continue to follow this road.
- Ewood Park will be a mile down the A666, located on your right.

From the East

- Travelling from Yorkshire, either on the B6234, the A56 Haslingden by-pass or the Skipton Road, join the M65 and head west. Leave the M65 at Junction 4 and head towards Blackburn on the A666. Ewood Park is about a mile from the motorway on the right hand side.
- From the M62, leave at Junction 18 for the end of the motorway which becomes the A56. Join the M65 at Junction 8 and head westbound towards Blackburn. Leave the M65 at junction 4, and take the 2nd exit onto Earcroft Way.
- Use the right 2 lanes to turn right onto Blackburn Road/A666 and continue to follow this road.
- Ewood Park will be a mile down the A666, located on your right.

Road Closures/Traffic Information

We try to work closely with Blackburn Council to avoid disruption to your travel, however, unfortunately this cannot always be achieved. For a live map of road works in the Blackburn area, visit **blackburn.gov.uk/road-works-road-closures-and-incidents**. Alternatively, Lancashire Telegraph also provide a live traffic and travel news report covering road works, updating traffic and disruptions to public transport. To view this, **lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/li/traffic. in.Blackburn**. Radio Lancashire also provides up to date traffic information on 95.5-104.5 fm.

By Bus

The buses serving Ewood Park are:

No. 1 (Bolton – Darwen – Blackburn)

No. 2 (Chorley – Blackburn)

The buses arrive at their designated stops around Ewood Park every 5/10 minutes. For their timetables, visit **transdevbus.co.uk/blackburn/services**.

If you require any further information about the bus services in Blackburn, head to the Transdev Bus website **transdevbus.co.uk**, email **customer.services@transdevbus.co.uk** or call 01254 933 784.

By Train

Blackburn Station is approximately a mile and a half away from Ewood Park. Mill Hill Station is approximately one mile away from the ground. There are direct trains from Manchester Victoria, Salford Crescent and Preston. To view train times, head to the National Rail website: **nationalrail.co.uk**

Ewood Park is a 10 minute walk away from Mill Hill Station and a 20 minute walk from Blackburn Station.

To contact National Rail, please call 03457 484950 (open 24/365 except Christmas Day). Alternatively, the serving train provider, Northern, have a helpline you can contact at any time. Please call 0800 138 5560.

By Taxi/Drop-Off Points

If you are arriving by car, taxi, or minibus and require a drop-off point, you can use one of the two areas located at either end of the Jack Walker Stand. If your seat is located near the Bryan Douglas Darwen End Stand, please use the Velvet Street drop-off point. Likewise, if your seat is located near the Blackburn End Stand, please use the Kidder Street drop-off point. Both are within 50 yards of access into the stadium.

Drop-off points also serve as pick up points after the match, however, please note that traffic will be heavy at this time and surrounding roads around the stadium are closed 15 minutes after full time.



ARRIVAL AT THE STADIUM

Parking

We have an official away supporter car park. Accessible parking is available by pre-booking through our Stadium Department by contacting 01254 508283 during office hours. All spaces are subject to availability.

Car Park F (Darwen End): Matchday £15

For more information regarding parking, please contact the Stadium Department on 01254 508283.

Coach Parking

Coach and minibus parking is available at Ewood Park on the Coach Park and can be booked in advance or on the matchday. To pre-book your space, please contact the Stadium Department on 01254 508283.

The prices are as follows:Coach£25Minibus£20

Residents Parking

There is a resident parking scheme in place in the surrounding streets of Ewood Park which is strictly enforced. Parking in the surrounding streets may lead you to being fined and your vehicle may be clamped or removed.

Matchday Staff

If you have any questions or need assistance on a matchday, please do not hesitate to ask one of our team or matchday stewards who will be easy to spot in and around the stadium. We also have accessibility stewards who will be more than happy to help you should you require any assistance.

Road Closures Post-Match

Please be aware that a block is put on movement of traffic after full time for 15 minutes.

ACCESSING THE STADIUM

Turnstiles

The majority of our tickets will be digital, and therefore are scanned at the turnstiles. If required, you can print your ticket off at home instead. Accessible turnstiles are located at each corner of the stadium, as shown on the map.

Turnstiles at Ewood Park open 90 minutes before kick-off. Please be advised to arrive at least 45 minutes before kick-off to avoid any delays. For supporters' own safety, randomly selected searches will be conducted of supporters, as well as bag searches.

Lifts

If you require access, please contact the Stadium Department on 01254 508283.



REFRESHMENTS & FOOD

Matchday Food

The new season 23/24 will introduce dedicated kiosks to the concourses, enhancing the supporter's experience by offering a new range of products from our Pie Stop, Hot Dog Stand and Concourse Bars.

Matchday Hospitality

Executive boxes allow you to have your very own private domain within Ewood Park with superb views of the pitch, and an option of either a one or four course meal served at the table. All executive lounges and boxes are accessible by lifts.

For enquiries and bookings, please contact the Hospitality Sales Team on 01254 508008.

Away Supporter Friendly Pubs

There are a couple of pubs who will accept away supporters in their establishment. Some pubs may limit the number of visiting fans entering the establishment, they may request you to hide your Club colours, or not allow children.

The Black Bull 4 minute drive from Ewood Park

Food & Drink Policy

Blackburn Rovers have formulised the entry policy in terms of food and beverage on matchdays. In honour of football tradition, our supporters are permitted to enter the stadium with flasks and home prepared foods.

In accordance with common practice, entry to the stadium with fast food and beverages purchased at restaurants, takeaways, pubs and other retail outlets away from Ewood Park is prohibited. This is upon entry to all concourses, restaurants, lounges and facilities within the stadium. Blackburn Rovers endeavours to raise awareness to customers of this policy by displaying signage on all ingress routes and at the turnstiles.

Allergens

If you have an allergy or intolerance, please speak to a member of our catering team before you order or purchase any food or drink. Our menu changes regularly so please speak to a member of the team, even if you have visited Ewood Park previously.



We are a cashless stadium, and therefore only accept payment via card. This is to help us serve you as quickly and efficiently as possible. We do also accept Apple Pay and Google Pay.

FACILITIES IN THE STADIUM

Toilets

Toilets are available throughout the stadium, and are located in the concourse and hospitality areas including Blues Bar.

Baby Changing Facilities

Baby Changing Facilities are located in accessible toilets in the lower tier concourses and within hospitality suites. If you require these facilities, please speak to a steward who will advise you of the nearest facility.

Pram Storage

Any family supporters wishing to bring a pram to Ewood Park can arrange to have it stored until the final whistle. Please speak to a steward upon arrival who will arrange this for you.

DISABLED SUPPORTERS

If you require extra help on a matchday, or need step free access around the stadium, please take a look at our Disabled Supporters Guide by clicking here.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Security

In line with Ground Regulations you can expect to be searched prior to entry and ejected from the ground or premises if the terms and conditions of entry are breached.

Ewood Park Emergency Procedure

In the event of any emergency, there will be an announcement over the Public Address system proceeded by a loud "chime" sound. For supporters who are deaf/hard of hearing, this message will appear on the big screen. Follow the directions of the stewards/Police Officers & Club Officials. If you are located in the lower tier, remain where you are until a steward assists you and listen or look carefully at the displayed message. Comply immediately if it affects your location. Stewards, Police Officers and Club Officials will direct you to safe areas which may be through exit doors/gates to the street or onto the playing area. If you are in the upper tier, make your way to the safe holding/refuge areas which are located on the stairwells at each end of the stand.

Minimum Age for Entry

In line with safeguarding standards, Blackburn Rovers has a minimum age requirement for entry. All children under the age of 12 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

#OneRovers

Blackburn Rovers is a welcoming venue and an inclusive organisation and does not tolerate discrimination in any form. Please be reminded that Ground Regulations apply to all who enter and particular notice is drawn to:

- •Ground Regulation 10 which states racial, homophobic or discriminatory abuse, chanting and/or harassment is strictly forbidden and will result in arrest and/or ejection from the Ground. The Club may impose a ban for one or more matches.
- Ground Regulation 11 which states the following is an offence under the Football (Offences) Act 1991 (as amended) "11.2 the chanting of anything of an indecent or discriminatory nature." Conviction may result in a Banning Order being made.

If you hear or are made aware of anything of a discriminatory nature please report it immediately to a steward/Police Officer or a Club Official if it is safe to do so; or text 07340 294474, email **discrimination@rovers.co.uk** or use the Kick It Out App, available to download via the Apple Store or Google Play.

Blackburn Rovers reserves the right to impose sanctions which may include a ban on any person who breaches Ground Regulations or whose actions are considered to be discriminatory or inflammatory.

Smoking Policy

Ewood Park is a non-smoking/vaping venue. A limited smoking facility is provided at half time.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's concern.

Blackburn Rovers FC has an ongoing commitment to ensuring the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk, and everyone is expected to share that commitment. For further information or to report a concern, please refer to the Safeguarding Matters and Complaints Procedure by visiting **rovers.co.uk/help-info/safeguarding**.

DEPARTING THE STADIUM

As Ewood Park is situated in a residential area, we ask you to respect our neighbours and their homes. Please dispose of your rubbish in the bins provided, use the toilets provided in the stadium and be mindful of minimising noise and disruption.

Please note that traffic will be heavy when departing, and surrounding roads around the stadium are closed 15 minutes after full time.



THE HISTORY OF EWOOD PARK



The Blackburn Rovers club was formed in 1875 following a meeting on November 5th in St Leger Hotel on King William Street, Blackburn. The meeting was organised by two old boys of Shrewsbury School, John Lewis and Arthur Constantine. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of forming a football club to play under Association rules. Seventeen people attended the meeting, the majority of whom were Blackburn Grammar School old boys.

Rovers' first game, which took place at Church on 11th December 1875, was reported as a 1-1draw by the Blackburn Times.

The Club's first ground was located at Oozehead. The ground had many issues, including a watering hole near the centre circle. The team overcome the difficulty by the strategic placing of timber boards and turf over the hole for the duration of the match. The team then decided to move to Pleasington Cricket Ground, and then onto Alexandra Meadows.

Blackburn Rovers became one of the 23 football clubs to form the Lancashire Football Association in 1878. They played in the FA Cup for the first time in 1879, beating Tyne Association Football Club 5-1.

Rovers played their first ever game at Ewood Park in 1881 (when it was known as Ewood Bridge), against Sheffield Wednesday on the 9th April 1881.

Ewood Park was built as a multi-sport venue, hosting football, athletics and dog racing. The Rovers Community deemed Ewood Park was the ideal venue for the club after having already played numerous games there. Ewood Park then became Rovers official home ground, with the first game being against Accrington on 13th September 1890. The result was 0-0, and was viewed by 10,000 people.

Soon after, Blackburn Rovers became founding members of the Football League in 1888. Bob Crompton began playing for Blackburn Rovers in 1897-98. This was the start of his 45 year association with the club.

Throughout the 20th century, the stadium has seen many redevelopments. Improvements were made in the 1910s, 1920s, and 1950s, with floodlights installed in 1958, the Darwen End built in 1890 and the Riverside Stand erected in 1913. The most significant changes, however, took place in 1990.

In 1990, the stadium capacity was increased to 31,367, as it saw a new stand in the west side of the stadium, which is named the Jack Walker Stand, in honour of the clubs owner at the time. From 1991 to 2000, Walker was the owner of Blackburn Rovers. He was born and raised in Blackburn, and is regarded as one of the most prosperous club owners in English football history.

The investment that Walker brought to Rovers enabled the club to go from a mid-table team to a Premier League Champions be securing players like Alan Shearer, Chris Sutton and Tim Sherwood.

In recent years, Ewood Park hasn't just been the home to Blackburn Rovers. It has also been a venue for music concerts and other events for the local people living in Blackburn. Ongoing developments are being made to modernise and enhance the stadium, including concourse areas, modern amenities, whilst still having a nod to the history that can be found all around Ewood Park.

To learn more about Blackburn Rovers History, visit rovers.co.uk/club/history/club-history





Have a great time at Ewood Park! Enjoy the match, and we hope to see you again soon!

If you would like to contact the club, please use the following:

Stadium Address:

Ewood Park, Nutall Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 4FJ

Club Contact Details:

Telephone: 01254 372001 Customer Services: enquiries@rovers.co.uk Official Website: www.rovers.co.uk

Follow us on Social Media

lia @rovers

