

At TFNation, we are serious about doing everything we can to provide a welcoming, accessible and inclusive environment for all of our attendees.

This pack gives a general overview of the accessibility and inclusion services and facilities offered by the convention

Unfortunately, we cannot make every aspect of TFNation barrier-free. We are limited by finances, logistics, facilities, and volunteer staffing. If you have any suggestions or resources to help make TFNation more accessible, please contact us direct at support@tfnation.com.

#### The Hotel

The Hilton Birmingham Metropole is accessible friendly.

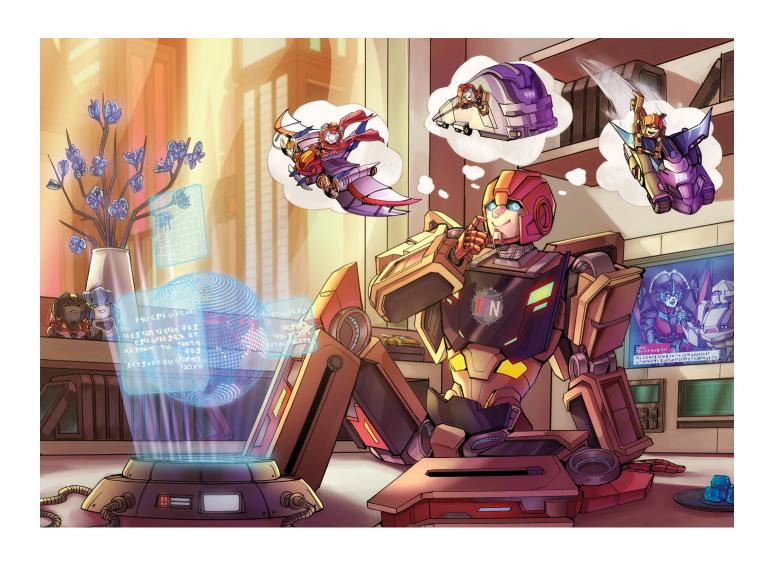
A list of hotel facilities can be found here:

https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/bhxmetw-hilton-birmingham-metropole/hotel-info/

The hotel also has its own accessibility pack, which can be found here

https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/bhxmetw-hilton-birmingham-metropole/hotel-info/

Hotel staff are friendly and helpful. Please feel free to contact them directly if you have any questions.





### **Travel**

The hotel is located in the centre of the UK and is easily accessible by air, rail or car, whether you are travelling from North or South or internationally.

## **Travel By Air**

From Birmingham International Airport (BHX) a courtesy monorail takes passengers to Birmingham International Rail Station.

From the Rail Station, the Hilton operates a complimentary courtesy bus to take its guests the short distance to the venue. The bus can be called by using the yellow phone next to the Subway fast food store.

Alternatively, the venue is approximately a 15 minute walk from the Rail Station.

# **Travel by Rail**

A courtesy bus runs to and from Birmingham International Train Station. The bus can be called by using the yellow phone next to the Subway fast food store.

Alternatively, the venue is approximately a 15 minute walk from the Rail Station.

# **Travel by Car**

The hotel is located 200 yards from junction 6 of the M42 motorway and A45.

Please use the postcode B40 1PP with your Sat Nav.

From the North M6, then M42 exit at junction 6.

From the South M40, M42 exit at junction 6. M5, M42 exit at junction 6. M1, M6, M40, M42 exit at junction 6.

#### **Volunteers**

We have a large team of friendly volunteers, who will do all that they can to assist you. During the weekend they will be wearing brightly coloured t-shirts with "volunteer" or "crew" written on them.

### **Panel Rooms**

Each TFNation panel room can have taped off wheelchair/scooter seating available on request. Tripods should not be set up in aisles.

## **Event Seating**

If you need accessible seating for an event at TFNation (or if you have visual impairments, hearing impairments, wheelchairs/scooters, or with other mobility issues), please alert one of our volunteers and they will do everything they can to get you accommodated.

Any accessible seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. We advise you to arrive 20

minutes before panels start, so our volunteers will have time to help you.

Unfortunately, there is no room for storage of unused scooters or wheelchairs within the convention. If you want to transfer from your scooter or wheelchair to a stationary chair, your scooter or wheelchair will have to be stored outside of the panel room area.

A TFNation volunteer will assist in relocating and returning your mobility aid to you after the show. Please contact TFNation directly, if you have any questions.

## **Scheduling**

Where possible, TFNation schedules 10 minute breaks between the end of one panel and the start of the next one. This is to give everybody time to use hotel facilities, and to travel safely between the rooms.

Unfortunately it is not always possible to schedule breaks, especially during busy periods.



### Waiting in Queues or lines

If you have physical challenges with standing in queues or lines, please alert a TFNation volunteer and they will assist you.

If you have limited mobility or if you use a mobility device such as a scooter, a walker, crutches, or a wheelchair, you may wait near the front of the line so that you will be able to take advantage of the accessible seating.

### **Publication Formats**

PDF versions of the TFNation Programme will be available on the TFNation website prior to the convention.

A large-print PDF of the TFN schedule will also be available for you to download and print.

### Maps

A map of the hotel is contained within the TFNation Programme.

Large maps will also be displayed at the hotel.

Maps showing accessible paths in the hotel are available on request

### **Gender Identity**

Diversity of gender identity is embraced at TFNation. All are welcome to use the restroom that best fits their identity. There are Men's and Women's toilets available during the convention in the Hilton. Please see the Hotel Maps page for specific locations.

### **Parents**

If you need a space at TFNation to feed your infant or toddler, change nappies / diapers, or breast feed, please contact our volunteers who will be happy to give advice.

Parents with infants, young children, or children with special needs, should please contact TFNation volunteers if they require any advice or assistance.

### **Support Animals**

Support Animals are welcome at TFNation. A special badge is available for your support animal if you would like one.

The Hilton is dog friendly, but has a weight limit of 26 lbs. If you have a larger dog, please contact the hotel for advice.

### **Shuttles**

The Hilton has a free shuttle bus which can take you to the airport and back.

Some shuttles are accessible. Please speak to the driver if you need assistance.

The bus can be called to meet you at the airport. Please speak to the hotel for details.

### **Medical Needs**

There are qualified First Aiders available at all times. If you need First Aid, please speak to one of our volunteers.

Should you need to take prescribed medication e.g. insulin and would like a quiet place to administer them please ask a TFNation volunteer for advice.

## **Potential Barriers**

TFNation strives to be accessible to all attendees. Unfortunately, due to financial, logistics, facilities, and volunteer staffing limitations, some barriers still remain.



Here are some of the potential barriers you may need to consider.

- Public areas can get very crowded.
- Not all of the Hilton shuttles are always wheelchair/scooter accessible.
- Valet parking is not always available at the Hilton during the convention.
- Most of TFNation's event rooms are illuminated with fluorescent lighting.
- Some panels, events, or spaces may utilise strobe lighting and/or black lights.
- Some panels, events, can be loud.
- Most convention signage features regularsized print. If you have questions about signage during the convention, please visit the ticket desk
- TFNation is not scent-free.
- Some public hotel toilet facilities may use binary language such as "Men" and "Women".

TFNation welcomes suggestions for making our convention more accessible! If you have a comment or suggestion about accessibility at TFN, please directly email support@tfnation.com

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thank you to LooseScrews, Ed Pirrie, Liam Shalloo, Alex (EphDraws) Tarca & Adam Worden, for their lovely artwork.

Thanks also to Sarah Bullock for her hard work ensuring these things made sense.



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