

**STIG ALBECK**

# **TRAVEL TO THE UNITED KINGDOM & IRELAND**



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# The United Kingdom & Ireland

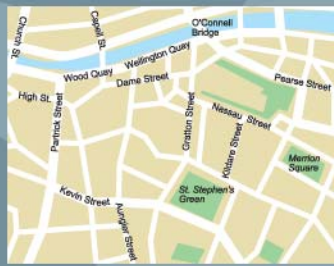
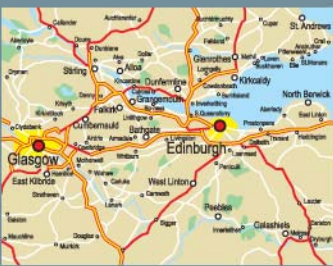


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The United Kingdom & Ireland

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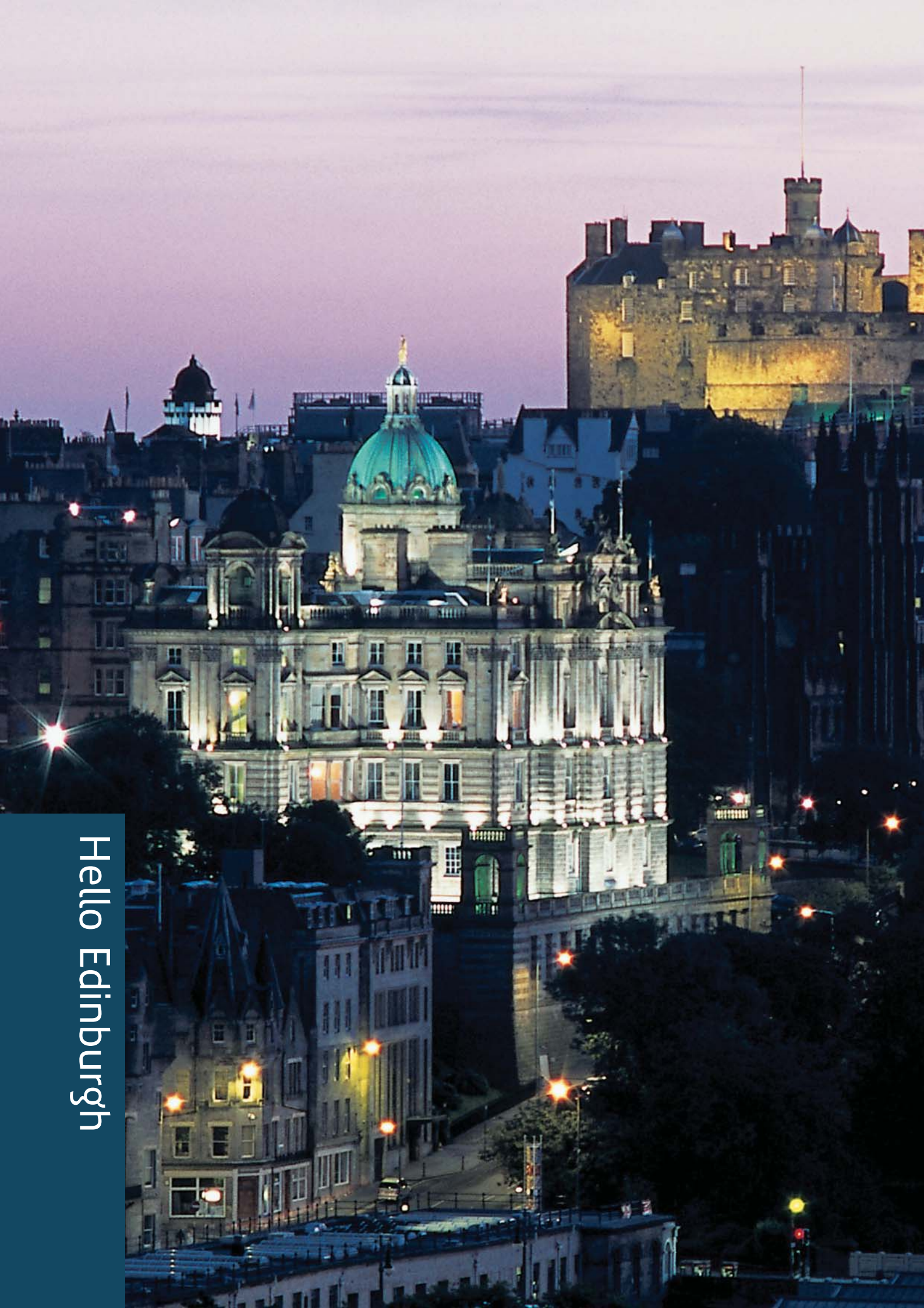
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Hello Edinburgh

## A visit to Edinburgh

[www.edinburgh.org](http://www.edinburgh.org)

[www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com)

Edinburgh is the old and charming capital of Scotland, where kilts and bagpipe music can be experienced in the streets. The sandstone buildings, the numerous exciting backyards in the old part of the city, the hills offering breathtaking views in and around the city and the fantastically beautiful surroundings are just a few of the things you can experience when visiting the city.

Edinburgh Castle is quite literally the high point of the city with its dramatic location at the top of a cliff in the city centre. Below, the Royal Mile runs through many of the sights of the old city sections, while the new, elegant neighbourhood with the famous Princes Street as its main street lies nearby. A thoroughly Scottish atmosphere permeates Edinburgh – kilt and bagpipe shops are everywhere and the next establishment serving haggis or a glass of Scotch whisky is never far away.

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## Historical outline: Edinburgh

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The first settlers arrived in Edinburgh around 850 BC, probably attracted by the naturally favourable defensive position of the 134-metre-high Castle Rock, which serves as a fine lookout post over the water to the north. In the 500s the English moved north from England and colonised the south-eastern regions of Scotland. It was during this time that Edinburgh acquired its name, when King Edwin of Northumberland built his castle here. It was originally called Edwinsburgh. The castle at Edinburgh was long the southernmost border of Scotland. It was not until 1018, during the reign of King Malcolm II, that the border came to be delineated along the River Tweed.

The fact that the city no longer merely consisted of a castle on the border, but became the centre of a Scottish region, contributed to the rapid development in trade below Castle Rock in the eleventh century. In the 1100s the first large, permanent habitations were established in the area below the castle and thus the city of Edinburgh became a reality.

Edinburgh received a municipal charter in 1329 under Robert the Bruce, which further contributed to the growth of the city. During the following century, the city became the leading city in Scotland and, in 1437, the nation's capital. A few years later, in the mid-1400s, city walls were built surrounding the habitation and the market areas.

The city continued to grow and the area within the city walls quickly became cramped. Thus, Edinburgh was expanded vertically by several storeys (with time, it has reached an impressive twelve storeys in height), and this distinguished it from many other cities of the time. In addition to an increase in population, the city underwent a cultural and scientific development. Institutions of education and businesses (for instance, in the field of printing) were founded in Edinburgh during this period. The city was now the leading one in the region.

The year 1513 came to mark a turning point in the city's development. The Scottish king, James IV, and his 10,000 soldiers fought at the Battle of Flodden. He was killed, and for a while, the development of Edinburgh stood still.

The English king, Henry VIII, wanted his son to marry King James IV's sister, Mary, but the Scots sent Mary to France. Edinburgh was then attacked by England under Henry VIII's leadership.

It was during these decades in the mid-1500s, that it came to religious conflicts in the light of the Reformation. The conflicts between the Catholics and the supporters of the Reformation culminated in 1560, when the Scottish parliament founded the Scottish Protestant Church, which was independent of the Papal States in the Vatican. The Pope's authority vanished, and Latin was relegated to use only at the High Mass.

King James VII became king of both England and Scotland and settled in London. The influence of Edinburgh was thus further decreased and religious discrepancies flared up once again.

In 1633, King Charles I suggested introducing a diocese in Scotland. This merely fed the fire of Christian conflict. After a few years, the Presbyterian community won the religious struggle. The incident contributed to a new period of cultural and intellectual growth in Edinburgh.

The Act of Union of 1707 reduced the political influence of the city and established one united parliament for both England and Scotland, thus leaving Scotland to be governed from London. The last half of the 1700s was a period of solid growth with respect to both population and economy. The population quadrupled to 400,000 during this period. The old sections of the city were redeveloped and new areas with many beautiful Georgian buildings were established. The city that visitors meet with today has come into existence over centuries of construction work and interesting historical incidents. It has been influenced by twentieth-century redevelopment of certain parts of the city at the same time that the modern Edinburgh has been established.

After 1945, the city became an international centre for finance and education. In addition to this cultural development, the former position of Edinburgh as the home of the government has been re-established. A new Scottish parliament has been established, and Edinburgh is once again the absolute political centre of Scotland.

Today, Edinburgh is considered one of the best places to live in Great Britain, due to a flourishing culture, a low crime rate, and a highly-educated population – all of these are things from which tourists benefit.

# Tour 1: Edinburgh

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## 1. Edinburgh Castle



### Castle Esplanade

[www.historic-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk)

[www.nms.ac.uk/war](http://www.nms.ac.uk/war)

Edinburgh Castle is visible from every part of the city, as it is located on one of Edinburgh's mountaintops; an extinct volcano. The first castle was built on this strategically well-placed mountain back in the sixth century, while present-day Edinburgh Castle was established in the 1100s and subsequently enlarged and rebuilt during the many centuries which followed.

One enters Edinburgh Castle at the forecourt, the Castle Esplanade, which provides the setting for the annual traditional Edinburgh Tattoo, where you can experience military marches and bagpipe music.

The Edinburgh Castle area contains a number of different buildings and offers magnificent views of Edinburgh and the surrounding area.

One enters the grounds through the Gate House and immediately comes to the fortified areas - among these is the Half Moon Battery. The next building one passes through is the Portcullis Gate, after which one finds oneself in the Middle Yard, which is the beginning of the actual fort and castle

area. At Middle Yard you can see The One O'Clock Gun, which is fired every day except Sunday at precisely 13:00 hours.

This tradition originates from a time when ships needed a source according to which to set their marine chronometers correctly when sailing out. If you walk up the rounded stairs, the Lang Stairs, you will reach the Upper Yard, where you will find the little St. Margaret's Chapel, built by King David I in the 1100s. The chapel is believed to be the oldest surviving building in Edinburgh. In the area outside the chapel you can see the Mons Meg cannon from the 1400s. The canon was fired in 1558 to salute the marriage of Mary Queen of Scots to the French king, Francois II. On that occasion, the 150-kilo cannonball used was found near the botanical gardens, 3 kilometres from the spot.

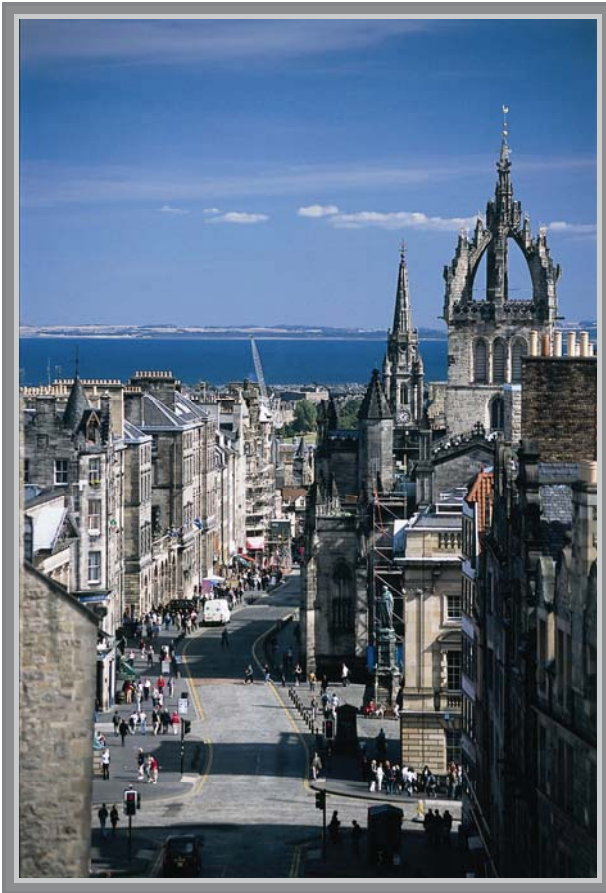
At the top of Edinburgh Castle, you will find Crown Square, which is the centre of the complex. The Scottish National War Memorial from 1927, a memorial for the Scots who died in the First World War, is located on the square.

The building houses the National War Museum of Scotland. The museum describes Scottish war history through the last centuries and exhibits a number of uniforms and weapons.

Also located at Crown Square is the castle building, Royal Palace, and the Great Hall, built in 1511 as an assembly hall for the parliament of Scotland. Royal Palace was built in the 1400s and houses the Scottish Crown Jewels, which are forged in Scottish gold. The beautiful crown was first used at the crowning of Robert the Bruce in 1306. The Royal Palace also presents interestingly decorated Royal Apartments. Another place of interest is the New Barracks, which lies to the west and is the largest building on the grounds. It was built in the 1790s in neo-classicist style.



## 2. Royal Mile



### **Gatorna Castle Hill, Lawnmarket, High Street och Canongate**

The Royal Mile, Edinburgh's main street, consists of four successive streets: Castlehill, Lawnmarket, High Street and Canongate. The name Royal Mile originates from the fact that it is a mile long and that it connects the city's two castles, Edinburgh Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Castle Hill, Lawnmarket, and High Street are the busiest streets, where most of the famous buildings and sights are located, while Canongate is a quieter street with low buildings. However, it does have its share of interesting buildings and museums.

## 3. Tartan Weaving Mill & Exhibition

### **555 Castlehill/Royal Mile**

[www.geoffreykilts.co.uk/tartanweavingmill.htm](http://www.geoffreykilts.co.uk/tartanweavingmill.htm)

The former water reservoir of the Royal Mile now houses the great Tartan Weaving Mill and an exhibition of the traditional Scottish highland dress. You can try on a genuine Highland costume and learn about the history of the various national costumes and clans.

## 4. Camera Obscura and World of Illusions

### **549 Castlehill/Royal Mile**

[www.camera-obscura.co.uk](http://www.camera-obscura.co.uk)

Camera Obscura is the name of one of Edinburgh's most spectacular attractions. At the top of the old building you can sit in a room around a wooden plate where the entire city of Edinburgh is reflected and thus shown as a moving picture through revolving mirrors. The place was opened back in 1853 by an optician who wanted to give the citizens of the city a new attraction at a time when movie theatres did not exist and the photograph had barely been invented.

The other floors of the house are the home of the museum World of Illusions, which creates numerous optical illusions, such as holograms and reflected images. The museum is a fun and interesting place for curious souls.

## 5. Scotch Whisky Heritage Centre

### **354 Castlehill**

[www.whisky-heritage.co.uk](http://www.whisky-heritage.co.uk)

The Scotch Whiskey centre tells the story of the production and history of whiskey. The journey from the ingredients: barley, yeast, and water, to the finest single malt whiskey is a fascinating one, and a tour of the centre will teach you the difference between the three different types of whiskey; malt, grain, and blended.

Various samples will give visitors an impression of the great regional differences in whiskeys. If you are interested in whiskey and haven't planned a visit to a distillery, this centre is a must.

## 6. The Hub

### Castlehill

[www.thehub-edinburgh.com](http://www.thehub-edinburgh.com)

The former Highland Tolbooth, St. John's Church, is now the home of The Hub, the information centre for the Edinburgh Festival. The church was closed down in 1979. The Gothic spire of the building is the highest in central Edinburgh and can be studied from the top of the nearby Camera Obscura.

## 7. Gladstone's Land

477 Lawnmarket

[www.nts.org.uk/Property/25](http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/25)

With its more than 350 years, Gladstone's Land is the oldest preserved residence on the Royal Mile. The building is named after one of its former owners, the merchant Thomas Gladstone. Today, the house is partially a museum, which has attempted to recreate the atmosphere of a typical wealthy household from Edinburgh ca. 1620.

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The highlight of the tour of the open apartment is the original painted ceiling in the best room, facing The Royal Mile. The ceiling is typical of the 1600s, but only a few of its kind are preserved, and the one in Gladstone's Land is among the best kept.

## 8. The Writers' Museum

**Lady's Stair Close, Lawnmarket**

[www.cac.org.uk](http://www.cac.org.uk)

The Writer's Museum is situated in Lady Stair's House from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, in a courtyard behind Lawnmarket. The museum is dedicated to Scotland's great literary figures, such as Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott, and Robert Louis Stevenson. The museum displays manuscripts, personal belongings, and portraits and produces temporary exhibitions which feature contemporary authors.

## 9. The Heart of Midlothian

**Parliament Square**

Built into the cobblestone pavement of Parliament Square, one finds the so-called Heart of Midlothian. It records the position of the entrance to the 15<sup>th</sup>-century prison, Old Tolbooth Prison. The heart is a symbol of the sorrows and unfortunate destinies caused by the place. The name Midlothian originates from the region, The Lothians, which surrounds Edinburgh.

## 10. St. Giles' Cathedral



## Parliament Square

[www.stgilescathedral.org.uk](http://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk)

Edinburgh's cathedral was founded in the 1120s in Roman style. The name St. Giles' is a tribute to the patron saint of cripples and lepers, a very popular saint in the Middle Ages. However, the present church stems primarily from the end of the 1300s and 1400s. Historically, the church is of great significance to the Scottish history, since it was here that John Knox, the Scottish leader of the Protestant Reformation, preached in the 1500s.

Among the details of the church are the beautiful stained glass windows dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which are considered among the best in Scotland. The Thistle Chapel from 1911 was built for the knights of The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle. It is a small and beautiful chapel with a decorative interior. Today, the church functions as a Church of Scotland parish church for part of Edinburgh's Old Town and you are welcome to attend one of the Sunday services.

The crown spire of St. Giles' Cathedral is a symbol of the Crown and the significance of this church.

## 11. The City Chambers

**High Street, Royal Mile**

[www.edinburgh.gov.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk)

The City Chambers is the home of the Edinburgh city council. The blueprints of the buildings were approved in 1753, although the buildings themselves were not raised at that time. In the yard, you will find a statue of Alexander the Great. Once the rural deanery was located here, and it is also the place at which Mary Queen of Scots spent her final hours.

## 12. Mercat Cross

### **Parliament Square**

Mercat Cross is the name of the octagonal building behind St. Giles' Cathedral. It served as the place from which royal proclamations and other official announcements were read to the public. The site of the original Mercat Cross is marked by a cobblestone surface near the current building, which was built in 1885. Pieces of the Mercat Cross from the 1300s are incorporated into the present building.

## 13. Parliament House

### **Parliament Square**

The stately building, Parliament House, was the meeting-place of the Scottish Parliament from 1639 to 1707. Following the Act of Union of 1707 and the dissolution of the Scottish Parliament (Scotland being thereafter ruled over by the Parliament in London), the former Parliament building became the home of the Scottish High Court.

## 14. 3D Loch Ness Experience

### **Parliament Square/Royal Mile**

**[www.3dlochness.com](http://www.3dlochness.com)**

At the Loch Ness Centre in central Edinburgh, you can hear the facts behind the many stories which flourish about the sea serpent in Loch Ness Lake in northern Scotland. The 3D-show takes 20 minutes and takes you through a series of eyewitness accounts, photographs and actual investigations of the alleged animal in Loch Ness. The tales are based partly on scientific research and partly on subjective statements, but what do you think? Could the tale of the sea serpent be true?

## 15. The Police Centre

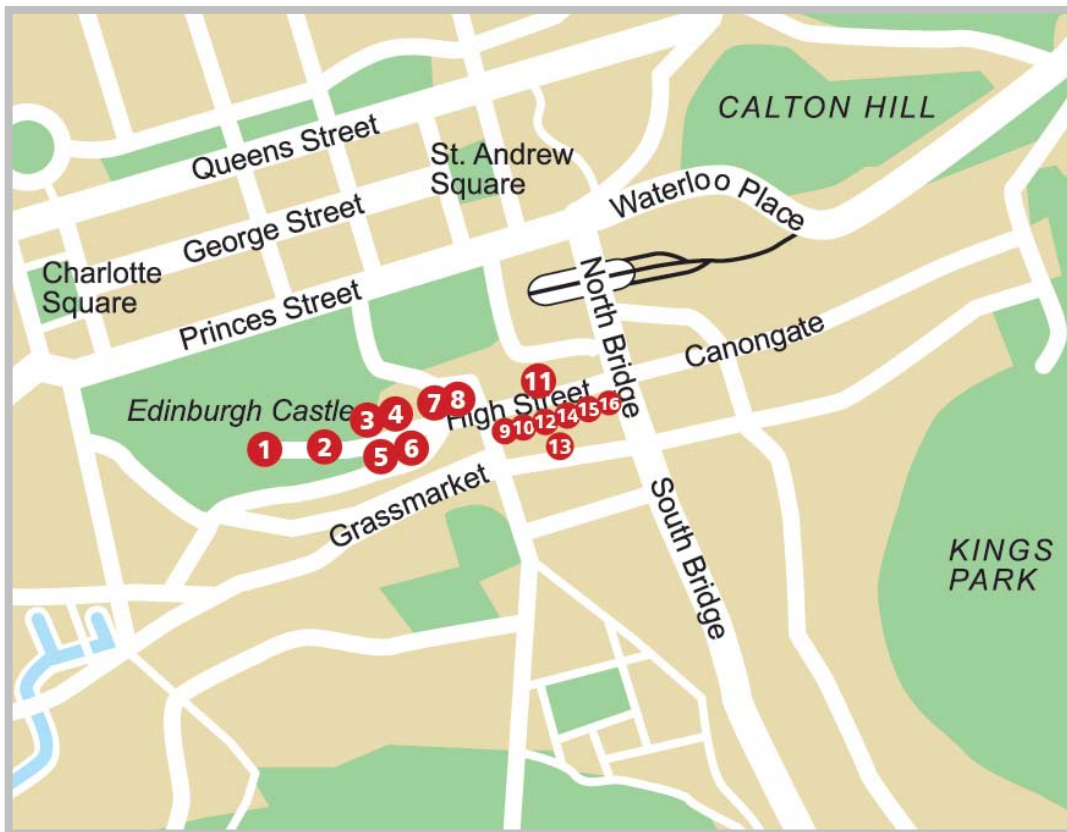
### **High Street, Royal Mile**

The Police Centre is a small police museum describing the history of Edinburgh's police. You can see old uniforms, weapons, and a special exhibition about some of the most hard-core criminals throughout time.

## 16. Tron Kirk

### **High Street, Royal Mile**

The former parish church, Tron Kirk, is one of the most characteristic buildings on the Royal Mile. The church was built in the period from 1636 to 1647 at the request of King Charles I. The style was inspired by contemporary Dutch church architecture. The spire was destroyed in a fire in 1824 and the new spire was constructed in 1828. From 1952 Tron Kirk functioned no longer as a parish church. The City Council bought the building and part of the church now serves as the city's tourist information centre.



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## Tour 2: Edinburgh

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### 17. Tweeddale Court

#### High Street, Royal Mile

Numerous courtyards are connected to the streets of the Royal Mile by long, narrow lanes. Some of these have very decorative entrances – one of them is Tweeddale Court. The courtyard buildings are often quite stately. At the back of Tweeddale Court you will find the Tweeddale Mansion, which was occupied by Dame Margaret Kerr, daughter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Lothian. Since 1984 the mansion has been the home of the Scottish Poetry Library. On the eastern side of High Street, between North/South Bridge and Canongate, you will find many of these narrow streets. They offer many new, interesting places for the main street visitors. It is just a matter of exploring.

### 18. John Knox's House

#### Canongate, Royal Mile

[www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk](http://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk)

The beautiful John Knox's House was built in the 1400s and rebuilt in the following century. It is thought to have been the home of the Scottish religious reformist John Knox, as well as the place where he died in 1752, hence the name. The house is now a museum about the life and work of John Knox, and it is a fine example of a townhouse from that period.

### 19. Canongate Tolbooth

#### 163 Canongate, Royal Mile

[www.cac.org.uk](http://www.cac.org.uk)

The city's old tollbooth was built in 1591 and served as a collection point for tolls and other taxes for the City Council. The building also housed other public functions, such as a courtroom and a prison. The distinctive, projected clock was installed in 1820 to replace the former clock, which had hung here since the 1600s.

It now houses a museum exhibit on the people of Edinburgh, The People's Story.

### 20. The Museum of Edinburgh

#### 142 Canongate, Royal Mile

[www.cac.org.uk](http://www.cac.org.uk)

The Museum of Edinburgh exhibits the history of the city from prehistory to the present. In addition to many informative descriptions, the museum displays many objects such as decorative arts and crafts and colourful shop signs. The museum takes up part of the Huntly House, an aristocratic home dating from the 1500s. However, the house has been expanded during the following centuries.

### 21. Canongate Kirk

#### Canongate, Royal Mile

[www.canongatekirk.com](http://www.canongatekirk.com)

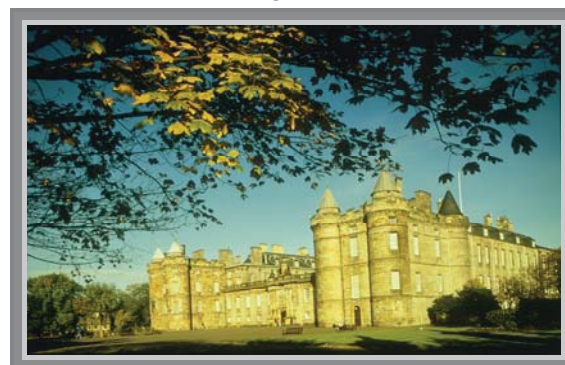
Canongate Kirk is one of Edinburgh's centrally located parish churches. It was consecrated in 1691 and is architecturally distinct from other buildings of the period. Many famous Scots are buried in the graveyard (Kirkyard) behind the church, such as the economist Adam Smith and the author Robert Ferguson.

### 22. Old Free Church of Scotland

#### Canongate, Royal Mile

The church in front of Holyroodhouse was built in 1850 as the Holyrood Free Church of Scotland. It no longer functions as a church, but as one of the workshops of the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

### 23. Palace of Holyroodhouse



### Canongate, Royal Mile

[www.royal.gov.uk](http://www.royal.gov.uk)

The Palace of Holyroodhouse is located at the eastern end of the Royal Mile and is the Queen's official residence in Edinburgh. The beautiful Baroque palace was built in the 1500s, but was expanded and remodelled a hundred years later.

One can see the interior of the palace when the queen is not in residence. Among the highlights are the exquisite collection of tapestries, the Great Gallery with portraits of Scottish kings, the royal apartments, and the throne room.

The castle is probably best known for having housed Mary Queen of Scots during her brief reign. She was married in the adjacent church, Holyrood Abbey, which is now a beautiful, romantic ruin. The impressive fountain in front of the palace was built at the request of Queen Victoria.

#### 23a. Holyrood Abbey

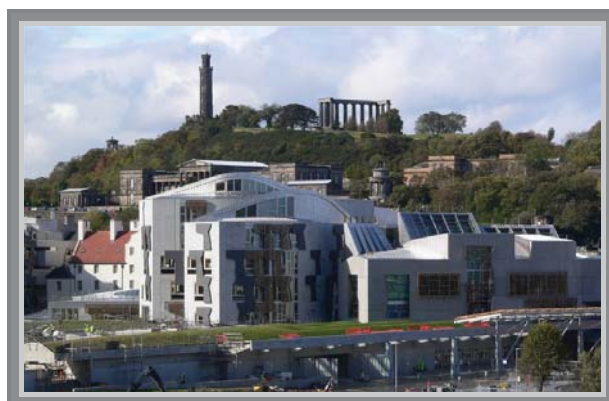
King David I founded Holyrood Abbey in 1128 at this exact spot, supposedly because he had had a vision here. Several Scottish kings are buried in the church, Mary Queen of Scots was married here, and King Charles I was crowned here in 1633.

In 1768 the roof of the church collapsed, and in spite of its glorious history, the building was left to fall into the ruin it is today.

#### 23b. The Queen's Gallery

The Queen's Gallery art museum forms part of the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The museum showcases temporary exhibitions of art from the royal collection. The museum opened in 2002 in connection with the jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.

## 24. The Scottish Parliament



### Holyrood Road

[www.scottish.parliament.uk](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk)

The new and contemporary Scottish Parliament was built from 1998 to its opening in 2004, almost 300 years after the parliament was transferred to London as a result of the Act of Union between England and Scotland in 1707.

The building was designed by Enric Miralles. One can visit the parliament and watch the debates when the members are in the chamber. There are infinite architectural details in the building's interior as well as in the large, outdoor gardens. A walk in the gardens is an excellent way to get a good impression of the place.

## 25. Dynamic Earth

### Holyrood Road

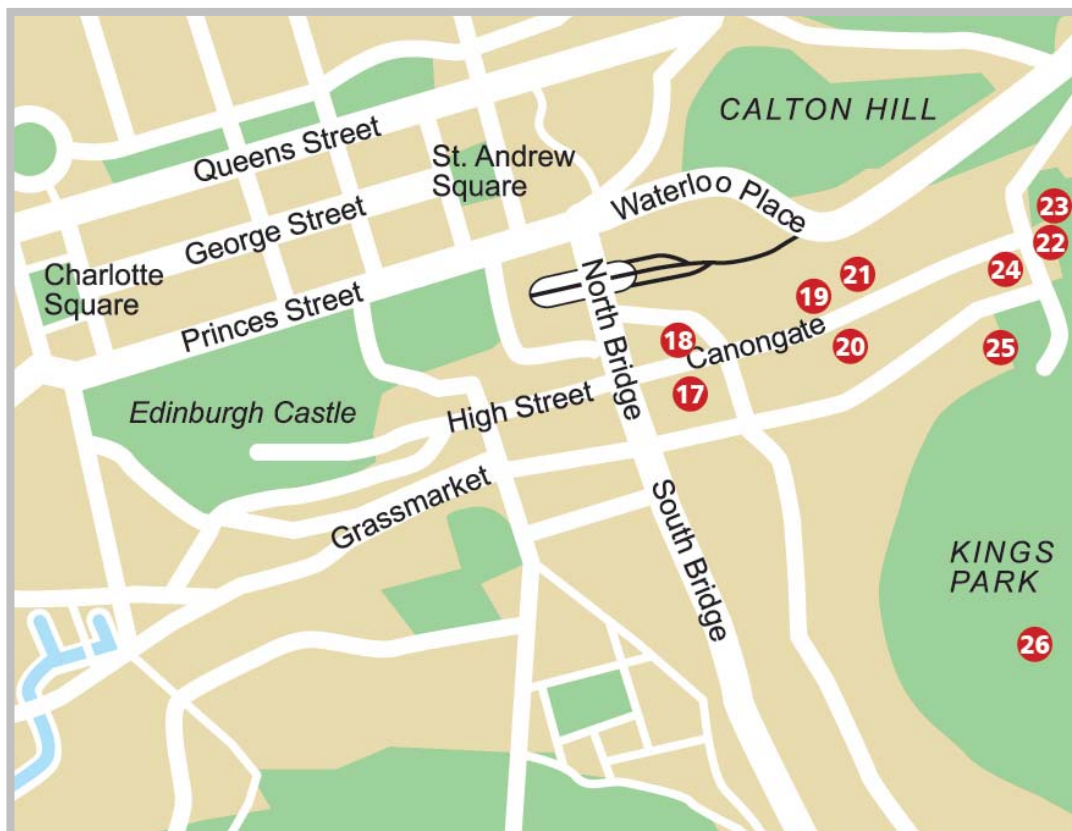
[www.dynamicearth.co.uk](http://www.dynamicearth.co.uk)

Dynamic Earth offers a journey through the origin of life and the history of the earth. This highly recommendable attraction was created for the celebration of the new millennium. The special effects in Dynamic Earth are numerous and spectacular. In various exhibitions one experiences great shows and presentations, for instance, about the Big Bang. One can travel through the various climates, animals, and plants on the Earth, walk on volcanoes, and visit polar areas and the tropics. One can also travel to the future in the well-made Future Dome, where one can attempt to influence the course of life on our planet.

## 26. Arthur's Seat

### Queen's Drive

Situated behind the Palace of Holyroodhouse and the city of Edinburgh itself, the extinct volcano, Arthur's Seat, serves as a beautiful backdrop. A climb to the top offers an incredible panoramic view of the city. Arthur's Seat rises to a height of 251 metres. From the area south of the Palace of Holyroodhouse, there are many good paths accessing the different hills in the area, among others the outermost, steep edge facing the city of Edinburgh.





## Tour 3: Edinburgh

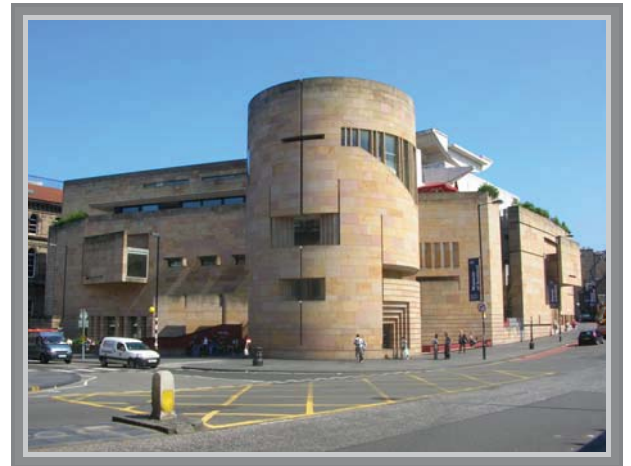
### 27. Royal Museum of Scotland Chambers Street

[www.nms.ac.uk/royal](http://www.nms.ac.uk/royal)

The Royal Museum of Scotland and the adjoining building Museum of Scotland are both a part of The National Museum of Scotland. The Royal Museum, which is built in Victorian style with a glass-roofed atrium, houses exhibitions with an international perspective in the fields of art, culture, nature and science.

The collections are exciting and eclectic; one can witness natural history, industrial technology and decorative arts from Scotland and the rest of the world, dating from ancient times until today.

### 28. Museum of Scotland



#### Chambers Street

[www.nms.ac.uk/scotland](http://www.nms.ac.uk/scotland)

The Museum of Scotland opened in 1998 in this fascinating sandstone building, which is one of the landmarks of the neighbourhood.

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With its more than 10,000 articles on exhibit, the museum tells the story of Scotland and its people. Effects date from the earliest finds to the country's time as a kingdom to present-day Scotland. From the restaurant on the top floor, there is a beautiful view of the Old Town and Edinburgh Castle.

## 29. Greyfriars Kirk



### Greyfriars Place

[www.greyfriarskirk.com](http://www.greyfriarskirk.com)

Greyfriars Kirk was built in 1612 and is known as the place where the National Covenant was signed in 1638. The National Covenant is synonymous with the Scottish religious Reformation.

The church is an oasis, away from the busy streets of Edinburgh, surrounded by buildings that shield it from the traffic. Surrounding the church is a graveyard with gravestones and memorial tablets on the graveyard walls as well as on the ground.

The name stems from the pre-Reformation Franciscan order of the Grey Friars.

## 30. Grassmarket

### Grassmarket

The open square, the Grassmarket, used to be one of Edinburgh's marketplaces as well as the main site of the public executions, which took place in the many gallows that were positioned here until the 1700s. Fortunately, nowadays the square is much more pleasant, and both it and the surrounding streets abound with bars and places to eat.

## 31. Victoria Street

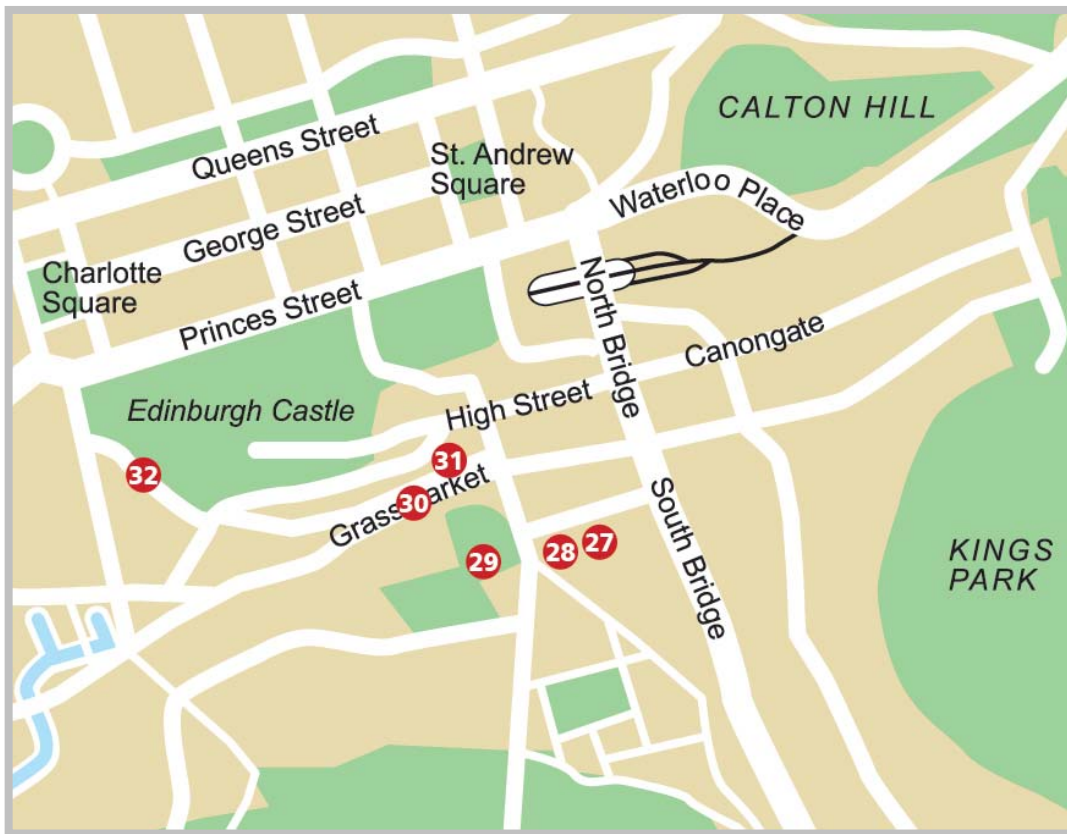
### Victoria Street

Many will probably recognize Victoria Street from photographs of Edinburgh. The street unites Grassmarket Square below with the streets stretching towards the hill on which Edinburgh Castle stands above. Some of the highest buildings in the city are located on this street. Above the north end of Victoria Street is Victoria Terrace, which is reached by a staircase at the north end of the street. Victoria Street is famous for the many colourful shop facades that can be found both in Edinburgh and the rest of Britain.

## 32. Kings Stables Road

### Kings Stables Road

King Stables Road lies in continuation of the Grassmarket. The street in itself is not a tourist attraction, but you will find the entrance to the Princes Street Gardens north of Edinburgh Castle here. On the way from the Grassmarket to the Princes Street Gardens you can enjoy a magnificent view of Edinburgh Castle and its striking location at the top of the city.



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## Tour 4: Edinburgh

### 33. Calton Hill



#### Ingång från Waterloo Place

The 100-metre-high Calton Hill is situated northeast of the Old Town, and from the top there is a fantastic view of Edinburgh Castle, the city, Arthur's Seat and the nearby Firth of Forth to the north. Many interesting buildings and monuments are situated at the top of Calton Hill.

#### 33a. Nelson's Monument

Nelson's Monument is the fort-like building with the central, high tower. It was erected during the years from 1807 to 1815 to commemorate Lord Nelson and the 1805 Battle of Trafalgar. At the top of the tower is a mast from which a time-ball is dropped on weekdays at exactly 12 noon, to give the ships in the Firth of Forth a chance to set their marine chronometers.

#### 33b. National Monument

The National Monument is built to commemorate the Scots who died in the Napoleonic Wars in the beginning of the 1800s. The construction began in 1822 and was supposed to be a copy of the Parthenon on Acropolis in Athens, but money ran out and the construction stopped with only twelve of the planned columns completed. Today, the building still looks unfinished. The city of Glasgow offered to cover the costs of completing the

construction, but Edinburgh was too proud to accept this offer from the competing Scottish city.

#### 33c. Dugald Stewart Monument

This Greek-style monument was built as a memorial to the Scottish philosopher Dugald Stewart. It is modelled on the Monument of Lysicrates in Athens.

#### 33d. City Observatory

[www.astronomyedinburgh.com](http://www.astronomyedinburgh.com)

The centrally placed buildings on Calton Hill are the home of the City Observatory. One can clearly see the domed building, from which it is possible to look at the stars. The oldest building in the complex is from 1776, while the monumental central building is from 1818.

### 34. Royal High School

#### Regent Road

The Royal High School is one of the oldest schools in Scotland, with roots dating back to 1128. Until 1973 it was a school exclusively for boys, but is now co-educational. The main building was built in a grandiose, neo-classical, Greek Doric style in 1829. It is no longer used as part of the school, but is still public property. For a long time the building was considered a potential home for the new Scottish Parliament, but eventually it was decided to build the new Parliament building at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

### 35. St. Andrews House

#### Regent Road

The monumental building St. Andrew's House was built from 1935-1939 in the imposing style of the period with inspiration from Art Deco. It is one of the largest buildings in Edinburgh. Its size can be perceived from the street and from Calton Hill, north of the building. The building stands on the site of one of the city's former prisons. St. Andrew's House was built to house the Scottish

Government and still has this function. The official opening ceremony in 1939 was cancelled due to the beginning of World War II, and took place the following year instead.

### 36. Register House

#### 2 Princes Street

[www.nas.gov.uk](http://www.nas.gov.uk)

This imposing, domed building was built in 1772-1792 as a public building. It was one of the earliest buildings of the New Town. Today it is the home of the National Archives of Scotland.

### 37. Balmoral Hotel

#### 1 Princes Street

[www.thebalmoralhotel.com](http://www.thebalmoralhotel.com)

The Balmoral Hotel is Edinburgh's distinguished traditional hotel. It opened in 1902 as the North British Hotel, a typical railway hotel, situated as it is above the Waverly train station.

At the end of the 1980s, the hotel was refurbished and named after the summer residence of the British royal family, Balmoral Castle.

Many celebrities have lived here over the years. Most recently, author J.K. Rowling finished writing the last book in the Harry Potter series in Room 652 on 11 January 2007.

A characteristic mark of the hotel's past as a railway hotel is the clock tower, which has always been set two minutes fast to ensure that people who arrived at the last minute in Waverly Station did not miss their trains.

### 38. North Bridge

#### North Bridge

[www.thescotsmanhotel.co.uk](http://www.thescotsmanhotel.co.uk)

North Bridge connects Princes Street with the Royal Mile. The bridge spans the railway ground at Waverly Station, and provides one with a great view of many of the famous buildings of the city.

On the southern side of North Bridge, you will find The Scotsman building, which used to house the newspaper of the same name, but which is now an exclusive hotel.

### 39. Scott Monument



#### East Princes Street Gardens

[www.cac.org.uk](http://www.cac.org.uk)

After the death of the world-famous author Sir Walter Scott in 1832, this stately monument was erected in his honour. It was built from 1841-1844. The tower is 61 metres high, and from the top one has a lovely view of the city and the charming Princes Street Gardens in which the monument stands. From the outside, it is difficult to see how one can get to the top of it, but it is reachable by a narrow spiral staircase.

### 40. Scottish National Portrait Gallery

#### Queen Street 1

[www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

Scotland's National Portrait Gallery depicts the history of the country from the 1500s to today through paintings of those who influenced the nation's development. You can see royalty, rebels and artists, works by Dali and Picasso, and a sculpture of the author Sir Walter Scott by Bertel Thorvaldsen.

The museum also has a fine collection of Scottish art from the 1900s.

#### 41. National Gallery of Scotland



##### The Mound

[www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

The National Gallery of Scotland contains an exquisite collection of European and Scottish paintings. You can see works by Raphael, Velasquez, van Gogh, and Gauguin. The imposing adjacent building, the Royal Scottish Academy Building, which faces Princes Street, is part of the museum. It was designed by William Henry Playfair and built in 1826.

#### 42. Floral Clock

##### Princes Street Gardens, The Mound

The Floral Clock is situated in the northeastern corner of the beautiful Princes Street Gardens. This lovely and different attraction was established in 1903. Each year, 20,000 flowers are used for the beautiful decoration.

#### 43. Princes Street

##### Princes Street

Princes Street is Edinburgh's new main street in that it is the main street of the New Town, which was designed and established north of the Royal Mile, which is the main street of the Old Town. The extremes of the so-called New Town are Charlotte Square to the west and St. Andrew Square to the east, while Princes Street to the south and Queen Street to the north frame the central part of the New Town.

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## 44. Charlotte Square

### Charlotte Square

Charlotte Square is considered the most beautiful and harmonious square in the New Town and it is on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Charlotte Square was designed by Robert Adam in 1792 in characteristic Georgian style. The square was finished in 1820 as the last part of the first planned areas of New Town. In the middle of the square is an equestrian statue of Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's Prince consort.

### 44a. Georgian House

#### 7 Charlotte Square

This typical Georgian house was built in 1796 and is a beautiful example of the Georgian Style.

Nowadays, the house is a museum and the interior of its three floors dates back to the 1800s, giving a fantastic impression of the living conditions of the time.

## 45. St. Mary's Cathedral

### Palmerston Place

The beautiful, neo-Gothic St. Mary's Cathedral was built in 1879 after the drawings of Sir George Gilbert Scott. With its three spires, it is one of the characteristic buildings in the cityscape of Edinburgh. The high altar depicts the Scottish saints, Columba and Margaret. In the church area, you will find the 17<sup>th</sup>-century house which now houses the Theological Institute.

## 46. Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

### 75 Belford Road

[www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art contains a very fine collection of art ranging from 1900 to today.

There are paintings by Scottish artists such as Peploe, Fergusson, Gillies and Redpath, as well as international artists such as Kirchner, Matisse, and Picasso.

The museum is located in a former school building from the 1820s. Outside, you will find the beautifully designed sculpture park.

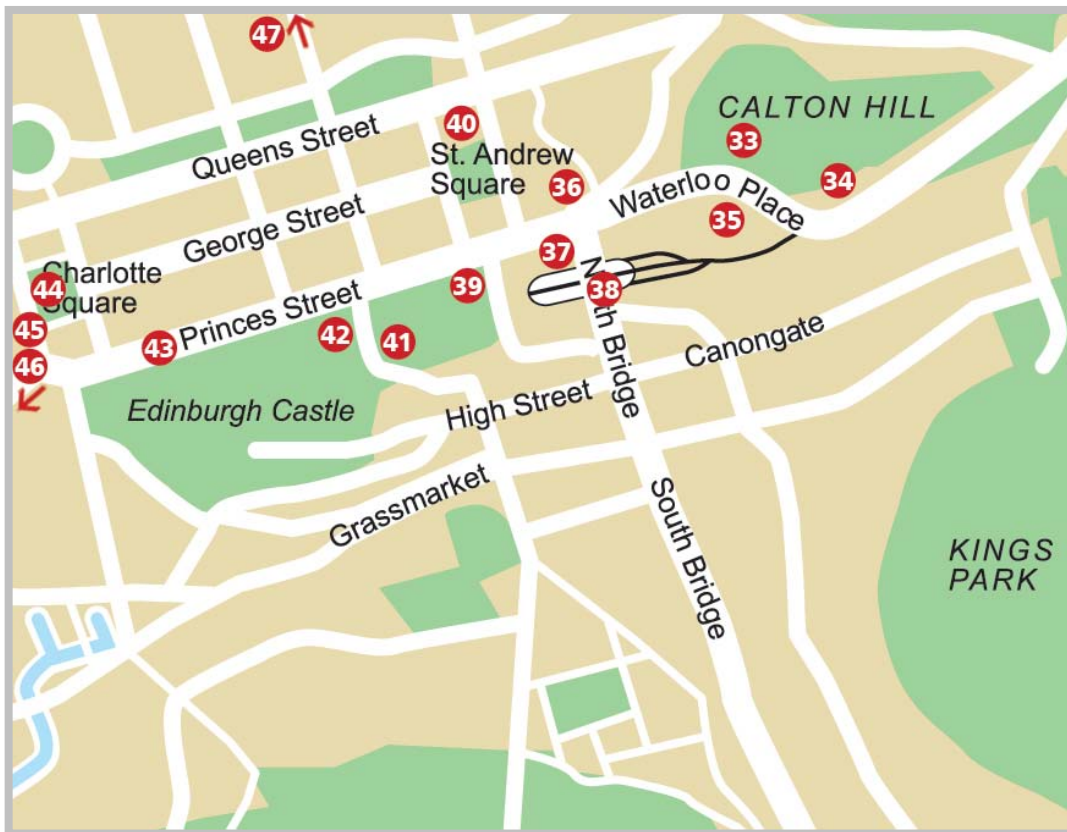
## 47. Royal Botanic Garden



### Inverleith Row 20

[www.rbge.org.uk](http://www.rbge.org.uk)

Edinburgh's Royal Botanic Garden contains one of the widest ranges of species in the world. It was originally founded at Holyrood in 1670 and has had its present location since 1820. It features a Chinese Hillside, Great Britain's largest Palm House, an orchid house and the famous Rock Garden.



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## Day Tours from Edinburgh

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### 48. Royal Yacht Britannia



**Ocean Terminal, Leith, 4 km NE**

**[www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk](http://www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk)**

Northeast of Edinburgh lies the port of Leith, which is a district of the Scottish capital. You can see Leith from Edinburgh Castle. The port of Leith is the home of the former royal yacht, Britannia, which was built in 1953 for Queen Elizabeth II.

Visitors can experience the five decks of the ship and see for themselves what life was like on board the royal cruises. Many prominent guests, such as Winston Churchill and Nelson Mandela, have been received here.

Among the rooms open to visitors are the queen's bedroom, the official reception room, and the state dining room.

### 49. Scottish Mining Museum



**Lady Victoria Colliery, Newtongrange, 15 km SE**

**[www.scottishminningmuseum.com](http://www.scottishminningmuseum.com)**

Southeast of Edinburgh is the interesting Mining Museum, which is located in a coalmine from the 1800s. Coalminers serve as guides in the fascinating mine galleries, where one gets an impression of the daily functions and the engineering work behind the excavations. Here, one can also see Scotland's largest steam engine.

### 50. Glenkinchie Whisky Distillery

**Pencaitland, Tranent, 30 km SE**

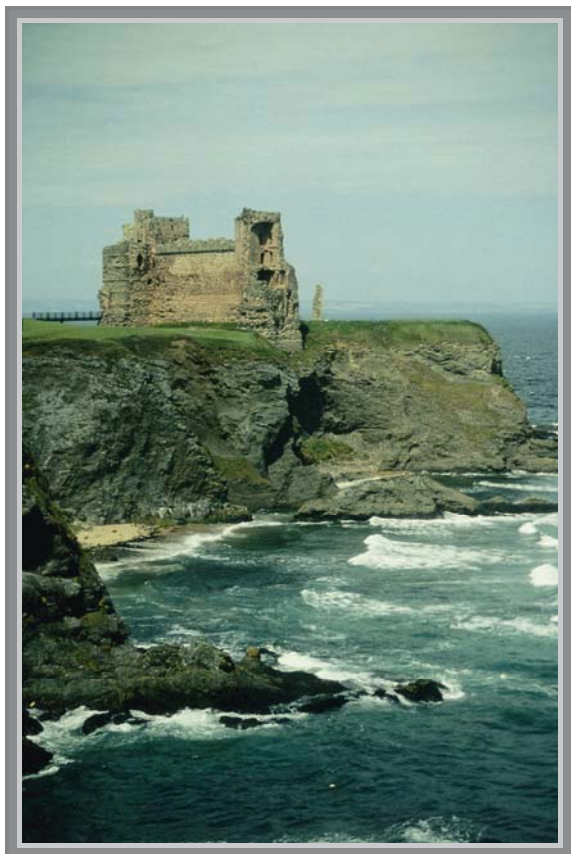
**[www.discovering-distilleries.com](http://www.discovering-distilleries.com)**

The Scottish national drink, whiskey, is made of barley, yeast, and water in the case of malt whiskey. That the Scots are able to create so many taste variations from these three simple ingredients is one of the things that can be learned by visiting a distillery. Glenkinchie produces the so-called single malt whiskey, which is considered the finest type of the three whiskey sorts: malt, grain (made, for example, from wheat), and blended (a blend of the expensive malt and the cheaper grain).

Glenkinchie is located in the whiskey area Lowlands, which gives a soft, round whiskey taste, in contrast to the smoked type which comes from Isle and Islay.

A visit to the distillery includes a tour of the production, and you will receive a good and thorough exposition of all the processes from the raw materials to the finished product. The tour ends with a whiskey tasting in a cosy bar.

### 51. Tantallon Castle



**North Berwick, 45 km E**

[www.historic-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk)

The great castle ruin, Tantallon, is breathtakingly situated at the top of the striking coastal cliff facing the ocean. The castle was built in the 1300s and belonged to the Douglas family. You can clearly see the defence walls and towers of the castle. You will be able to visit parts of this most fascinating castle where you can drink in the atmosphere of Scotland's history.

### 52. Rosslyn Chapel

**Roslin, 15 km**

[www.rosslynchapel.com](http://www.rosslynchapel.com)

The erection of the small Rosslyn Chapel began in 1456 and is believed to have been finished in the 1490s. The woodcarvings and the abundant decoration are some of the details that took decades to produce.

The crypt of the chapel has been the burial place of the Sinclair family, descendants of the Norman knights, for generations. The crypt was once reachable from the church, but has been sealed shut for a long time. This has led to many theories about the contents of the crypt – one of the subjects of Dan Brown's book *The Da Vinci Code*.

There are also speculations about the chapel's relation to the order of the Knights Templar. The order was dissolved long before the building of Rosslyn Chapel, but still...?

### 53. South Queensferry

**South Queensferry, 15 km NW**

The town of South Queensferry is situated on the south shore of the Firth of Forth, and the village of North Queensberry lies on the north shore. Before the opening of Forth Road Bridge in 1964, there were ferry services between the two cities.

Today South Queensferry is a charming town offering many attractions, not least the impressive bridges spanning the Firth of Forth.

**53a. Forth Rail Bridge**

[www.forthbridges.org.uk](http://www.forthbridges.org.uk)

[www.oroccopier.co.uk](http://www.oroccopier.co.uk)

Forth Rail Bridge, or simply Forth Bridge, is one of the world's most impressive, historic bridges. The enormous steel construction that suspends the double-tracked railroad from Edinburgh to the north, 46 metres above the ocean, was opened in 1890 after seven years of construction. It was one of the most remarkable engineering accomplishments of the time.

To understand the uniqueness of the bridge, one simply has to look at it. It is an icon of the large, riveted steel bridges of the period.

The bridge is 2.5 kilometres long, and the two main spans are 104 metres high. More than 55,000 tons of steel, more than 18,000 cubic metres of granite and over 8 million rivets were used in the construction. The modern suspension bridge, Forth Road Bridge, stands just west of Forth Rail Bridge and is a spectacular sight as well.

There are many great views of the bridges, for instance from Orocco Pier and from the village of North Queensferry..

**53b. Dalmeny House**

[www.dalmeny.co.uk](http://www.dalmeny.co.uk)

The Dalmeny House mansion is the first in Scotland to be built in the Tudor style, in 1815.

The mansion exhibits an exquisite art collection with paintings by Gainsborough and Raeburn, as well as a large collection of Napoleon's personal belongings.

**53c. Hopetoun House**

[www.hopetounhouse.com](http://www.hopetounhouse.com)

Hopetoun House is considered to be the high point of architecture among Scottish manor houses. William Adam and William Bruce were among the architects who designed the beautiful building in the 1700s. It contains interesting art and interior, and a visit gives a fine impression of aristocratic life outside of the large cities.

**54. North Queensferry**

**North Queensferry, 18 km NV**

[www.deepseaworld.com](http://www.deepseaworld.com)

The village of North Queensferry offers great views of the Firth of Forth bridges and is also the home of one of the greatest aquariums in Great Britain, the Deep Sea World.

**55. Stirling**

**Stirling, 70 km NW**

[www.stirling-tourism.co.uk](http://www.stirling-tourism.co.uk)

The town of Stirling is one of the most interesting provincial towns of Scotland. It has a rich history and was once the capital of Scotland. One of the dramatic events that took place in the area was the Battle of Stirling in 1648. The battle was fought during the Scottish Civil War.

There are many tourist attractions in the town; Stirling Castle is one of the greatest sights. As Edinburgh Castle, the castle is situated at the top of a cliff in the centre of the city, and thus offers a magnificent view of the beautiful valleys to the west.

**56. Glasgow**

**Glasgow, 75 km W**

[www.seeglasgow.com](http://www.seeglasgow.com)

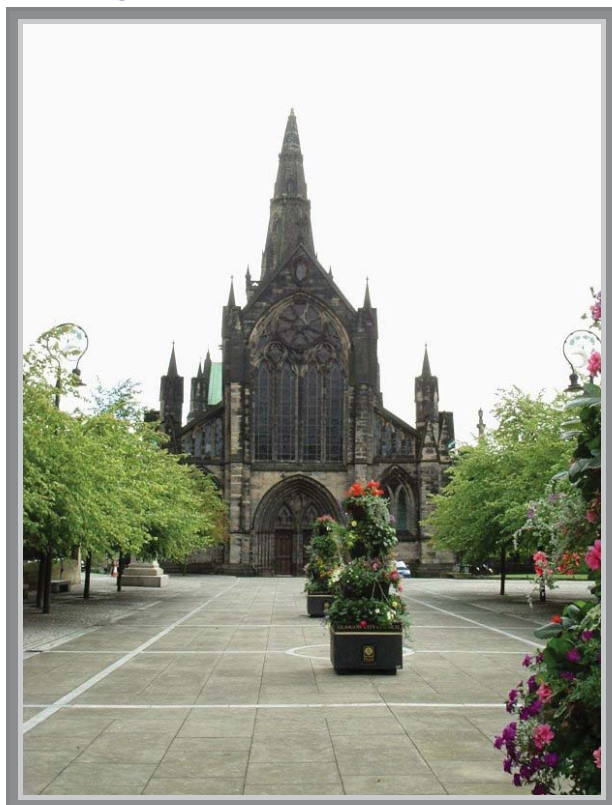
Once Glasgow, Scotland's largest city, was definitively industrial, but in recent decades, the city has developed into a contemporary cultural metropolis with a wide selection of museums, activities, and contemporary architecture – not to mention historic sights.

### 56a. George Square

#### George Square

Start your visit on George Square in the city centre. A 25-metre-high statue of Sir Walter Scott dominates the square, but there are also many statues of other famous Scots. The square is the site of the town hall, City Chambers, which was built in 1888 in an exquisite renaissance style. The great entrance rooms and the large halls of the buildings offer interesting sights.

### 56b. Glasgow Cathedral



#### Castle Street

[www.glasgowcathedral.org.uk](http://www.glasgowcathedral.org.uk)

Glasgow Cathedral was founded around the year 1200 and was built up during the next 300 years. Originally Roman Catholic, the church survived the Scottish Reformation, since it quickly became a Protestant church.

The first church on the site was built by the patron saint of Glasgow, Saint Mungo, in 543, and his tomb can be seen in the crypt of the current

church. The stained-glass windows of the church are from the last part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### 56c. Glasgow Museums



[www.glasgowmuseums.com](http://www.glasgowmuseums.com)

Glasgow offers a wide range of museums. There is something for everyone. There are several art museums: The Burrell Collection (Pollok Country Park) contains more than 9,000 articles collected by Sir William Burrell and his wife Lady Constance Burrell. You can see works by Degas and Cézanne, and art from ancient China, Greece, Egypt, and Rome.

Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum (Argyle Street) is the home of one of the finest art collections in the country as well as several exhibitions. The museum has the largest number of visitors in Scotland. The Gallery of Modern Art (Exchange Square) is located in the beautiful neo-classicist building, the Stirling Library. It exhibits Scottish and international art of an extremely high standard.

St. Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art (Castle Street 2) describes the religions of the world through many beautiful works of art. The museum is located in a huge fieldstone building on the site of the palace of the Archbishops of the diocese of Glasgow.

The Provand's Lordship Museum (Castle Street 3) is located in the oldest building of the city. It was built in 1471 and displays interiors from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries.

The Museum of Transport (Bunhouse Road 1) describes and displays Scottish and international means of transport. Fossil Grove (Victoria Park) is situated in the lovely Victoria Park and exhibits fossils that are 330 million years old.

### 57. Loch Lomond

**Balloch, 110 km W**

[www.lochlomondshores.com](http://www.lochlomondshores.com)

[www.sealifeurope.com](http://www.sealifeurope.com)

[www.maidoftheloch.co.uk](http://www.maidoftheloch.co.uk)

Songs have been sung about the Loch Lomond Lake, and it is undoubtedly one of Scotland's natural wonders. Loch Lomond is situated on the border between the Highlands in the north and the relatively lower (but still hilly) landscapes in the south, the Lowlands.

Balloch at the southern point of the lake is a good place to start and is also the home of the visitor's centre, Loch Lomond Shores, where you can get information on the lake and the opportunities to take trips on and around the lake.

Located near the visitor's centre is the aquarium, Sea-Life, which contains examples of Scottish marine life. From the aquarium, you can go on a tour on the lake aboard the charming old steamers. If you want to take a walk along the lake and see the mountains, the village of Balhama on the east coast is an excellent place. Here, you will find a path along the lake, and it is also possible to hike in the mountains.

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## With children in Edinburgh

Deep Sea World (North Queensferry, 18 km NW):  
[www.deepseaworld.com](http://www.deepseaworld.com)

Dynamic Earth (Holyrood Road):  
[www.dynamicearth.co.uk](http://www.dynamicearth.co.uk)

Edinburgh Dungeon (31 Market Street):  
[www.thedungeons.com](http://www.thedungeons.com)

Edinburgh Zoo (Corstorphine Road):  
[www.edinburghzoo.org.uk](http://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk)

Movies'n'Motors (Ingliston, 10 km W):  
[www.moviesnmotors.com](http://www.moviesnmotors.com)

Museum of Childhood (42 High Street, Royal Mile):  
[www.cac.org.uk](http://www.cac.org.uk)

Museum of Flight (East Fortune Airfield):  
[www.nms.ac.uk](http://www.nms.ac.uk)

## Shopping in Edinburgh

Leith Street, Nicolson Street, Princes Street, Royal Mile (Lawnmarket och High Street)  
Cameron Toll Shopping Centre (6 Lady Road):  
[www.camerontoll.co.uk](http://www.camerontoll.co.uk)

Gyle Shopping Centre (21 Gyle Avenue):  
[www.gyleshopping.co.uk](http://www.gyleshopping.co.uk)

Jenners Department Store (48 Princes Street):  
[www.houseoffraser.co.uk](http://www.houseoffraser.co.uk)

Ocean Terminal (Ocean Drive, Leith):  
[www.oceanterminal.com](http://www.oceanterminal.com)

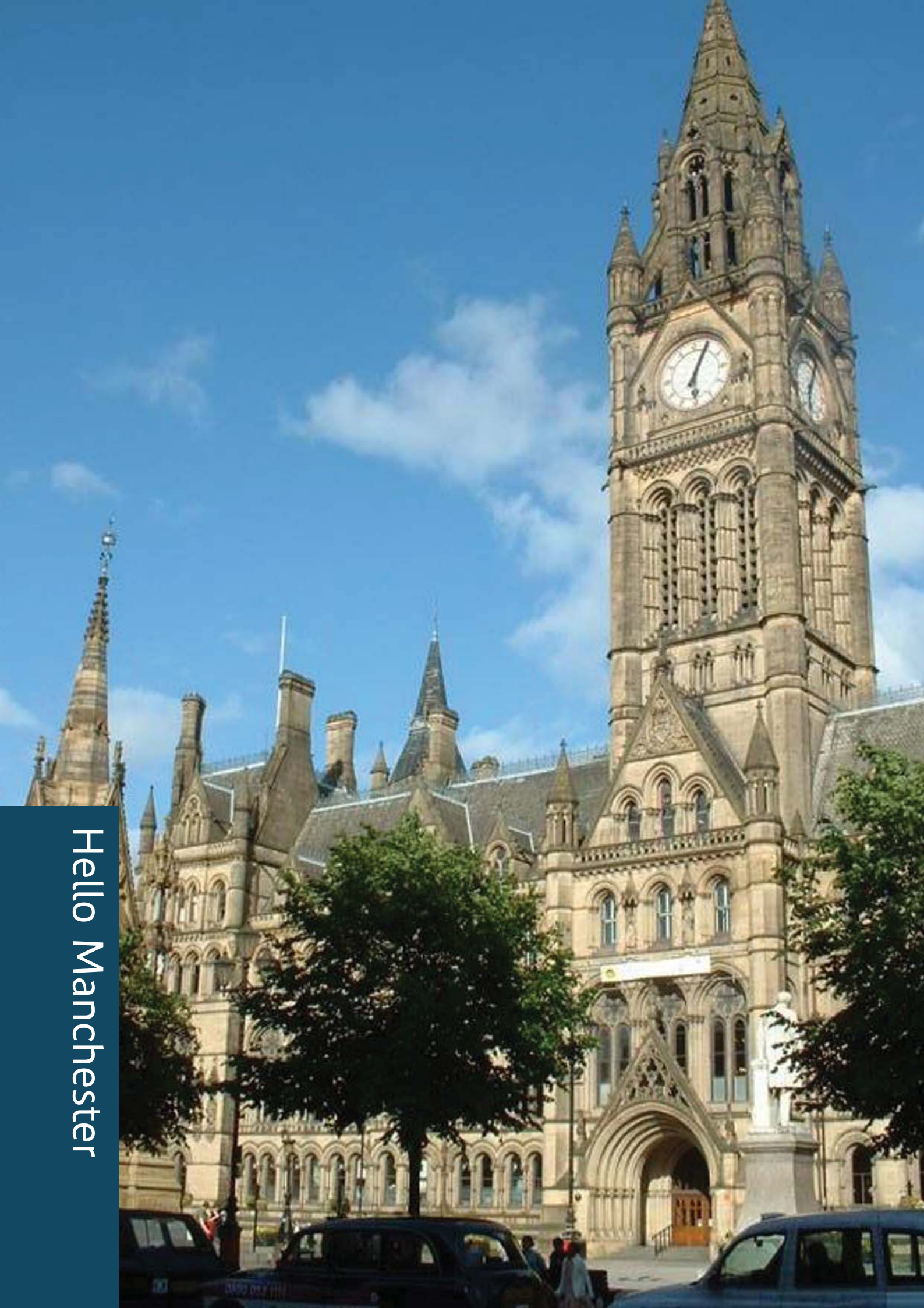
St. James Shopping Centre (Leith Street):  
[www.stjamesshopping.com](http://www.stjamesshopping.com)

## Public transport in Edinburgh

Edinburgh's city transport:  
[www.lothianbuses.co.uk](http://www.lothianbuses.co.uk)

Edinburgh Airport:  
[www.baa.com/main/airports/edinburgh](http://www.baa.com/main/airports/edinburgh)

British Rail:  
[www.rail.co.uk](http://www.rail.co.uk)



Hello Manchester



## A visit to Manchester

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[www.visitmanchester.com](http://www.visitmanchester.com)

[www.manchester.gov.uk/visitorcentre](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/visitorcentre)

With more than two millions inhabitants, Manchester is one of the largest urban areas outside of London, and as a tourist you will experience a rich and flourishing cultural life and a multitude of possible activities. Furthermore, Manchester is the heart of the historic industrial area, where textile production in particular has laid the foundation for the prosperity and growth of the city.

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## Historical outline: Manchester

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The Romans may have been the first to settle in what is now Manchester. The original Roman fort was built after order from Gnaeus Julius Agricola in the year 79AD. In addition to its defensive role, it was an intermediate station on the road between Chester and York. Its Roman name was Mamucium, and ruins stemming from this time can still be seen in the Castlefield area of the city. The Roman era in this area ended in 410.

For some time following the Roman era, there was not very much building activity. Then, the Danes and the Saxons – to name a few – invaded. In the eleventh century, the area came into the hands of the Grelley family and after some centuries, they helped to initiate a new conurbation. In 1301, Baron Thomas de Grelley bestowed certain rights upon Manchester, thus helping to put the city back on the map.

However, from 1301 and throughout the following centuries, Manchester was still only one among many small cities in the area, but with one significant difference: its textile production. Textile production based on wool took place already during the first couple of centuries after Manchester's renewed establishment, and a number of Flemish weavers settled there. Thus, in the course of the 1500s, Manchester had established itself as an important commercial town.

In the 1700s, cotton replaced wool's previous dominance, and the combination of a strong increase in demand and the use of new technology made Manchester the centre of an increasing industrialisation. Cotton spinning mills and a bona fide textile industry arose and the affluence of the city escalated. The successful industry required energy and transport routes to the city were

improved. The Bridgewater Canal, built in 1761, made it possible to sail coal there from Worsley.

In 1792, a project charter was made to ensure continued growth, and from that time on Manchester evolved quickly. At the turn of the nineteenth century, the development of Manchester exploded, and it grew to become the dominant city in the area.

Industrialisation and economic growth created a great many new opportunities for the city's inhabitants. Culturally, several new institutions were established, and in 1830 the world's first public railroad was opened connecting Manchester to Liverpool and providing tangible proof of the city's technological and economic capability. In 1835 a local administration was established and five small urban areas were united with Manchester proper, forming one united district. Later, several other nearby districts were merged with Manchester. Nineteenth-century Manchester provided Friedrich Engels with political inspiration, and the large working class influenced the establishment of the British labour movement.

In the 1800s several educational institutions were established along with some of the popular cultural institutions that still can be experienced in Manchester. The Hallé Orchestra was founded in 1857, and many of the city's great football teams, with Manchester United as the flagship were established. Industrially, the city did not waste time. The Manchester Ship canal was dug beginning in 1887. It was finished in 1894, making the port of Manchester the third largest in England. The end of the 1800s was also a golden age for the magnificent buildings of the city, such as the impressive Town Hall. Following the depression in the 1930s, the textile industry of Manchester declined. Foreign competition was a contributing factor, and it was the beginning of the industrial and economic collapse of the city. During World War II, a good deal of the military industry was

located in Manchester, causing it to be heavily bombarded from 1940-1941. In the post-war era, many neighbourhoods and buildings were redeveloped. Industrially, technological research and development set the agenda for the city, and culturally, Manchester United and the television company, Granada, were the driving force behind its development.

In recent decades a lot has happened to the image and cityscape of Manchester. The city was once considered one of England's old, worn-out industrial areas, but today, it is a modern industry and research combined with a flourishing cultural life that characterise the city. Many of the old industrial buildings near the city centre and by the harbour have been revitalised by the establishment of interesting museums, business areas and a vibrant nightlife with shopping and gastronomic attractions.

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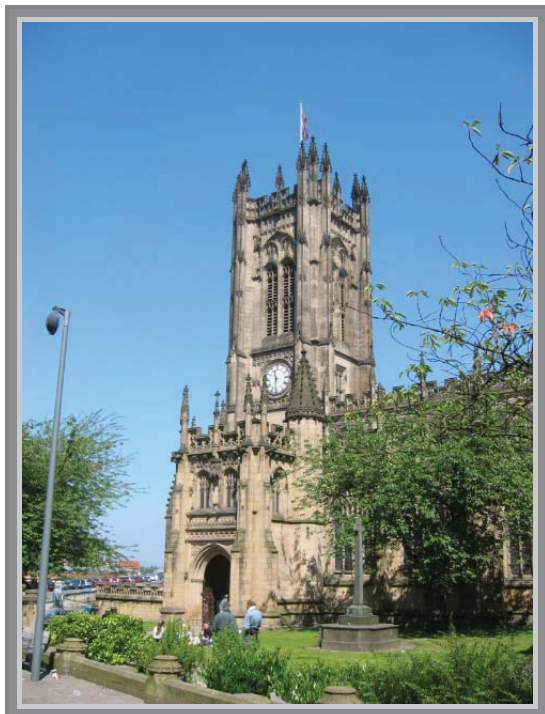
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## Tour 1: Manchester

### 1. Manchester Cathedral



#### Cathedral Street

[www.manchestercathedral.co.uk](http://www.manchestercathedral.co.uk)

**Metrolink: Victoria**

The present cathedral of Manchester was founded as a parish church in 1215. The original church building was expanded during the many centuries following. Fine interior decorations have been added continuously, for instance, the beautiful wood carvings in the church. In 1847 the church was elevated to its present status as a cathedral.

The building added a couple of metres in the 1860s, when the original tower had to be torn down due to the threat of collapse. A new tower was built as a higher copy of the original. A new, contemporary museum has been built next to the cathedral, interactively describing the history of the cathedral and its connection to the city of Manchester.

### 2. Urbis



#### Cathedral Gardens

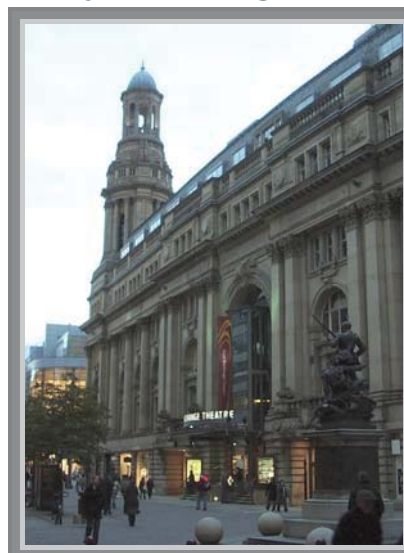
[www.urbis.org.uk](http://www.urbis.org.uk)

**Metrolink: Victoria**

Urbis is a museum portraying life in various cities across the world. Naturally, Manchester itself is represented along with foreign cities such as Paris, Tokyo, and Los Angeles.

The presentation is interactive and focuses on the art, music, and architecture of the cities. The Urbis building is made of glass and serves as an interesting element in the cityscape.

### 3. Royal Exchange



### St. Ann's Square

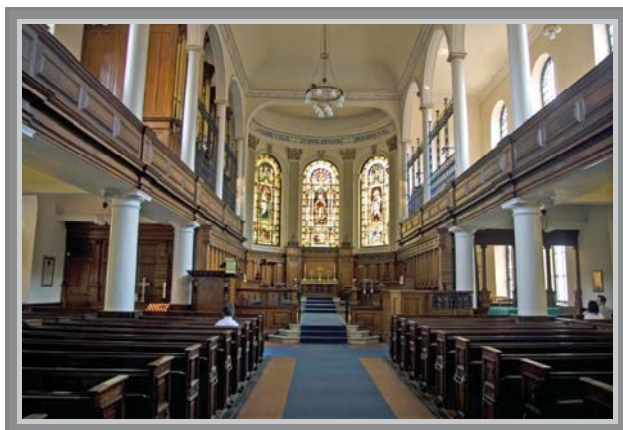
[www.royalexchangemanchester.co.uk](http://www.royalexchangemanchester.co.uk)

**Metrolink: Market Street**

The Royal Exchange building was established in the period 1867-1874 as a replacement for the former commodity exchange of the city, which had become too small. In particular, cotton and textiles, the area's main exports, were traded in the new Exchange building.

In 1968, the trading came to an end and the building stood empty during the following five years. In 1973, the first theatre performances took place in the building, and since 1976, it has been the home of the Royal Exchange Theatre. Today, it also houses a shopping centre, which offers an opportunity to enter this historic building.

### 4. St. Ann's Church



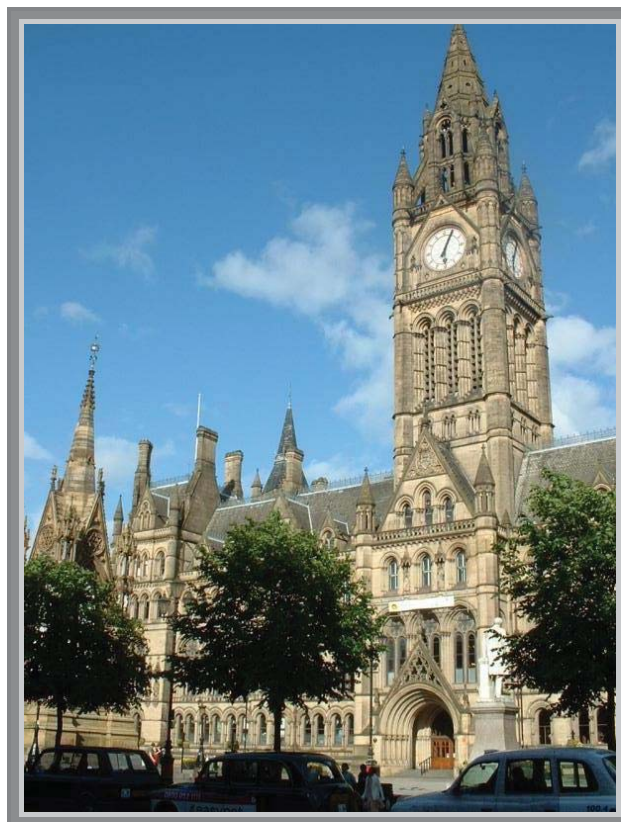
#### St. Ann's Street

[www.stannsmanchester.com](http://www.stannsmanchester.com)

**Metrolink: Market Street**

St. Ann's Church was built in 1709-1712. A large cornfield became the site for St. Ann's Church. It is built in neo-classical style with local sandstone. Originally, the interior was much simpler than it is today; the stained-glass windows were installed in the 1800s. The church was expanded upon in the decades following its opening. St. Ann's Square was established in 1720. From 1730 onwards, the building gathered momentum, and new streets – such as King Street – were established.

### 5. Manchester Town Hall



#### Albert Square

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

Manchester Town Hall was built in exquisite Victorian Gothic revival style in the period from 1868-1877. Besides being popular at the time, the style was chosen to honour Manchester's heritage in the textile trade of the Hanseatic League. The Town Hall was enlarged in the years 1934-1938.

The building is dominated by the 85-metre high bell tower, and the Great Hall inside features twelve murals by Ford Madox Brown. The murals reflect the recurrent themes of Manchester: Christianity, commerce and the textile industry.

### 6. Manchester Central Library



**St. Peter's Square**

[www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries/central](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries/central)

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

Manchester Central Library is located in one of the most characteristic buildings of the town. The library is circular with a colonnade around the second and third floors. It was built in 1934.

### 7. Manchester Art Gallery

**Mosley Street**

[www.manchestergalleries.org](http://www.manchestergalleries.org)

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

This art gallery is located in several buildings. The most characteristic one is the former Royal Manchester Institution, which was built in Greek neo-classical style from 1825 to 1835. As it is Manchester's art gallery, it naturally focuses on works and artists related to Manchester. Among the highlights are a series of works by the French impressionist, Pierre Adolphe Valette. Valette painted in Manchester at the beginning of the 1900s.

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## 8. Chinatown

### **The streets around Faulkner Street**

#### **Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

The first Chinese restaurants opened in Manchester in the years following World War II. More followed in the 1960s, and though some closed down, more opened in the 1970s, as did Chinese shops. The former warehouse buildings around Faulkner Street, George Street, and Nicholas Street were used, and gradually, an actual Chinese neighbourhood, Chinatown, had evolved.

Today, many cultural institutions are located here, and events such as the celebration of the Chinese New Year are celebrated with colourful dragons and fireworks. The Chinese Gate in Faulkner Street was built in 1987 in traditional Chinese style.

## 9. London Road Fire Station



### **London Road**

#### **Metrolink: Piccadilly**

#### **Station: Piccadilly**

The former fire station, the London Road Fire Station, was built in 1904-1906 in the style of a palace, with towers and cupolas. The building was the home of the Manchester fire department until the mid-1900s. Today, there is talk of using the building for various cultural activities.

## 10. The Manchester Museum



### **250 Oxford Road**

#### **[www.museum.man.ac.uk](http://www.museum.man.ac.uk)**

#### **Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

#### **Station: Oxford Road**

The Manchester Museum is beautifully located in the university's neo-Gothic buildings. Inside, more than six million artefacts make this one of the best and largest museum collections in England.

The museum dates back to 1821, when the natural history collection was established in the slipstream of the prosperity caused by the city's many successful industries.

Through time, the collections have grown and exhibit interesting objects from around the world. One of the popular exhibitions displays the cast of a Tyrannosaurus Rex that was excavated in North Dakota in 1992.

## 11. Whitworth Art Gallery



### **Oxford Road**

[www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk)

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

**Station: Oxford Road**

This art museum contains more than 30,000 articles. It displays a wide variety of works of art: watercolours, drawings, graphic art, and sculptures. The museum also has Britain's largest collection of textiles outside London.

The museum was founded in 1889, and since 1958 it has been part of the University of Manchester. The place is named after Sir Joseph Whitworth, who lived in the 1800s and willed a large sum of money to cultural purposes.

## 12. Victoria Baths



### **Hathersage Road**

[www.victoriabaths.org.uk](http://www.victoriabaths.org.uk)

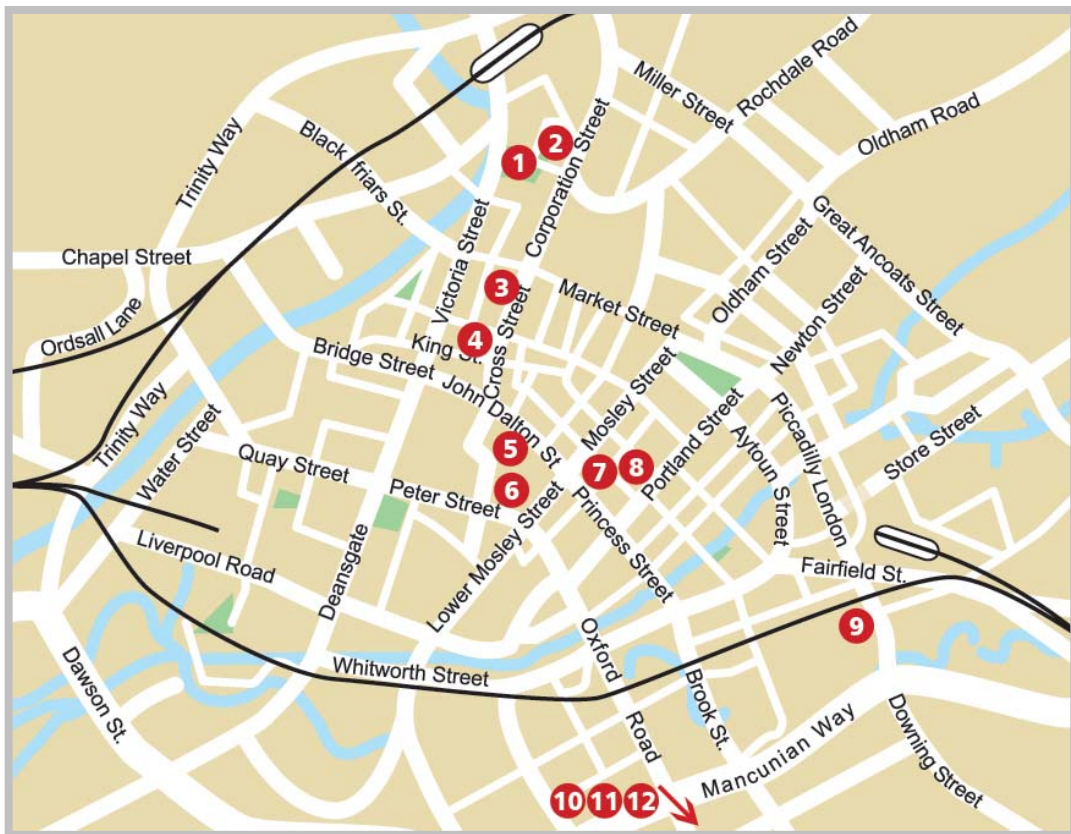
**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

**Station: Oxford Road**

The Victoria Baths opened in 1906, and offered luxurious bathing facilities to the public. Manchester was a wealthy city at the time, and the building was thus solidly built with many fine details, such as the terracotta decorations on the façade and the beautiful mosaic windows.

At the opening, the baths contained several swimming pools and a Turkish bath. In 1952, the place became the first public bath in England with a Jacuzzi installed. The baths were closed by Manchester's City Council in 1993, and have since been in the process of being restored in order to reopen the elegant rooms and historic bathing facilities.





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## Tour 2: Manchester

### 13. Palace Hotel



**Oxford Street**

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

**Station: Oxford Road**

The current Palace Hotel was established in 1996 in the former Refuge Assurance Building from 1891-1895. The building was expanded from 1910-1912 and again in 1932. Due to its high tower, it is one of the most visible buildings in Manchester.

### 14. Palace Theatre



**Oxford Road**

[www.livenation.co.uk/venues/manchester](http://www.livenation.co.uk/venues/manchester)

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

**Station: Oxford Road**

The Palace Theatre is one of Britain's leading theatres outside of London. It stages many productions, especially musicals. The theatre opened in 1891 with a sold-out performance for an audience of 3,675. Today, there are 1,998 seats in what was once referred to as *The Grand Old Lady of Oxford Street*.

### 15. Bridgewater Hall



**Lower Mosley Street**

[www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk](http://www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk)

[www.halle.co.uk](http://www.halle.co.uk)

**Metrolink: G-Mex/St. Peter's Square**

The Bridgewater Hall opened in 1996 as the new international concert venue in Manchester. Inside, the beautiful pipe organ with its 5,500 pipes dominates the 2,400-seat auditorium. The pipe organ was built by Marcussen & Son in Denmark from 1992-1995.

The Bridgewater Hall is the home of the Hallé Orchestra, which is the oldest professional orchestra in Great Britain. It was established in 1858 by Sir Charles Hallé.

## 16. Manchester Central

**Lower Mosley Street**

[www.manchestercentral.co.uk](http://www.manchestercentral.co.uk)

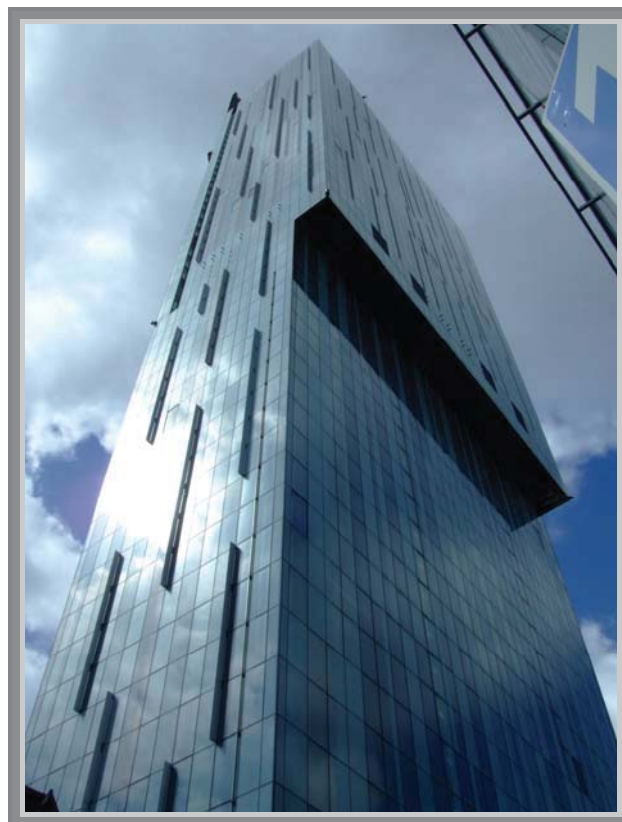
[www.g-mex.co.uk](http://www.g-mex.co.uk)

**Metrolink: G-Mex/St. Peter's Square**

Manchester Central was formerly known as the G-Mex (Greater Manchester Exhibition Centre).

The centre is housed in what was once Manchester Central railway station. A consortium consisting of three railway companies, Great Northern Railway, Midland Railway, and Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway established the building in 1875-1880. After almost one hundred years of transport, the railway station was closed down in 1969. In 1982, conversion of the former railway station into an exhibition centre began.

## 17. Beetham Tower



**Deansgate 301-303**

**Metrolink: G-Mex**

With its 48 floors and 171 metres, the Beetham Tower is Manchester's highest skyscraper. The building consists of a hotel up to level 22, a restaurant on level 23, and apartments from level 24 and upward. The two top floors consist of a penthouse apartment and a garden with more than twenty trees, each with a height of four metres. The building opened in 2006.

## 18. Castlefield Roman Fort

**Collier Street**

[www.manchester.gov.uk/planning/heritage/conservation/castlefield.htm](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/planning/heritage/conservation/castlefield.htm)

**Metrolink: G-Mex**

Castlefield is the site of a fort from the Roman era. You can still see part of the defence wall and the actual fort, whose remains have been restored and rebuilt. The buildings stem from around 200 BC.

The fort was situated on the fields, and gave the Castlefield area its name. In industrial times, a number of canals, locks, viaducts, industrial buildings and warehouses were established in the area. Today, they serve as a symbol of the city's days of glory in industrial England. Nowadays, the entire area is part of the country's first urban conservation area, the Castlefield Conservation Area.

### 19. Museum of Science and Industry



#### Liverpool Road

[www.msim.org.uk](http://www.msim.org.uk)

**Metrolink: G-Mex**

The Museum of Science and Industry welcomes its visitors to a world of science and industry. The museum focuses on Manchester's contributions to science and technology and their usage in research and industry. It has produced many special exhibitions, for example on paper production and coalmining.

The museum is located in a group of former industrial buildings. The historically most interesting building is the former Liverpool Road Railway Station. It was the Manchester terminus of the Liverpool and Manchester railway, which opened in 1830 as the world's first inter-city passenger railway. Liverpool Road Railway Station functioned as the terminus until 1844, when the railway was extended to join Hunt's Bank Station (the current Manchester Victoria). Liverpool Road was used as a freight station by British Rail until 1975.

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## 20. Opera House



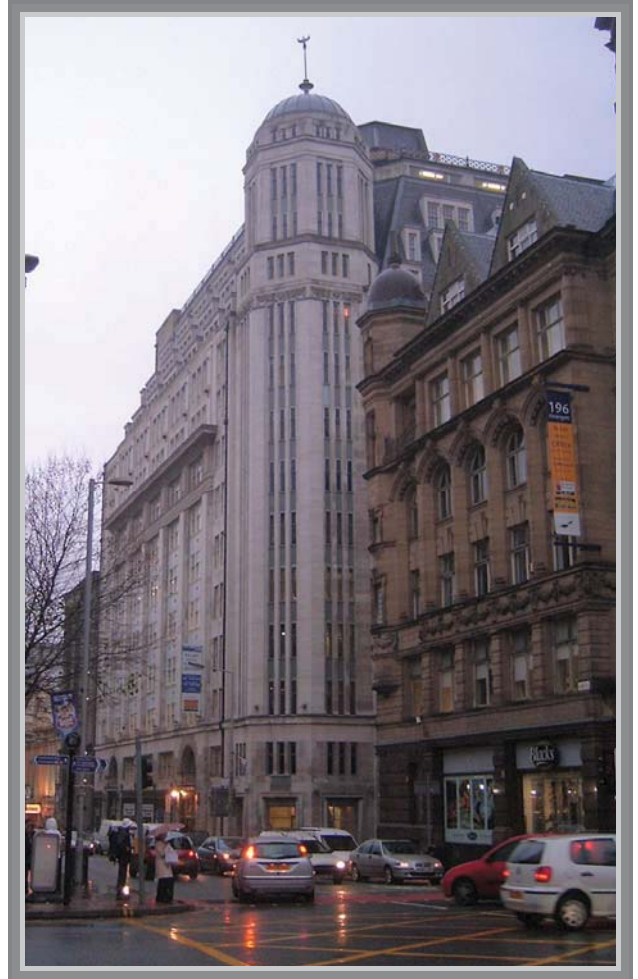
### Quay Street

[www.livenation.co.uk/venues/manchester](http://www.livenation.co.uk/venues/manchester)

### Metrolink: G-Mex

Along with the Palace Theatre, the Manchester Opera House is one of the leading venues in the city for large stage productions. The Opera is famous for its production of the *Phantom of the Opera*.

## 21. Sunlight House



### Quay Street

### Metrolink: G-Mex/St. Peter's Square

The Sunlight House was built at the request of John Sunlight in 1932 and, with its 14 floors, it was considered to be the first skyscraper in Northern England. It was planned as a 40-storey building, but this was forbidden by the City Council. Still, the Sunlight House was the highest building in Manchester for many years. Nowadays, it houses a shopping centre and offices.

## 22. John Rylands Library



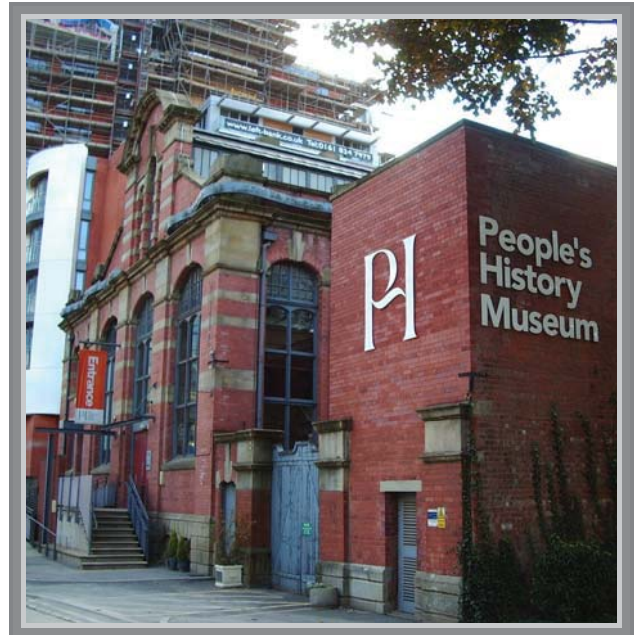
**Deansgate 150**

**[www.library.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk)**

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

In 1890, Mrs. Enriqueta Augustina Rylands purchased a site at the heart of Manchester on which she founded a library in memory of her late husband, John Rylands. The building was built in Victorian Gothic style and is reminiscent of a cathedral. The basis for the library was a collection of 40,000 books, which Enriqueta Rylands bought from George John Spencer in 1892. Among the books in Spencer's collection was an original Gutenberg Bible. The library opened to the public on 1 January 1900, and is now part of the University of Manchester.

## 23. People's History Museum

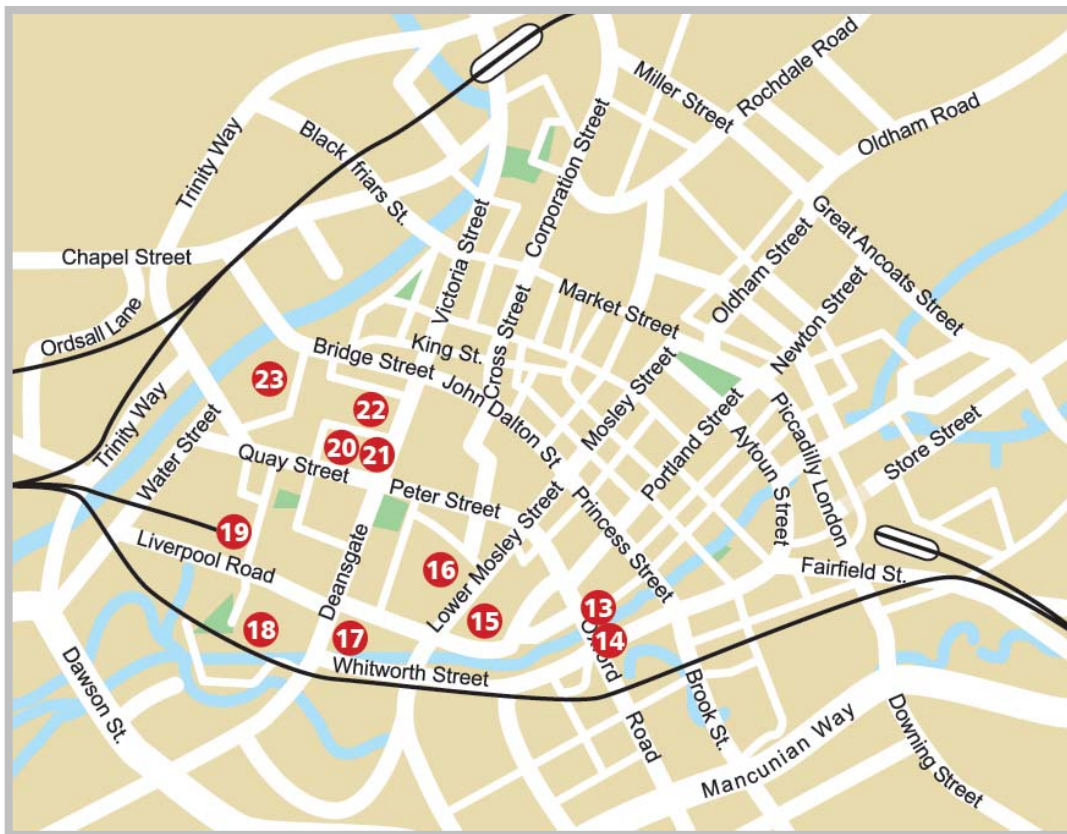


**Bridge Street**

**[www.phm.org.uk](http://www.phm.org.uk)**

**Metrolink: St. Peter's Square**

The People's History Museum tells the history of working-class people in Britain. The museum was founded in 1990 on the basis of the archives of the former Communist Party of Great Britain. The industrial past of Manchester with its large number of workers makes it a perfect location for the museum. It is located in a former hydraulic pumping station built in Edwardian style.



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## Tour 3: Manchester

### 24. Ordsall Hall Museum

**Ordsall Lane, Salford, 3 km SW**

**[www.salford.gov.uk/ordsallhall](http://www.salford.gov.uk/ordsallhall)**

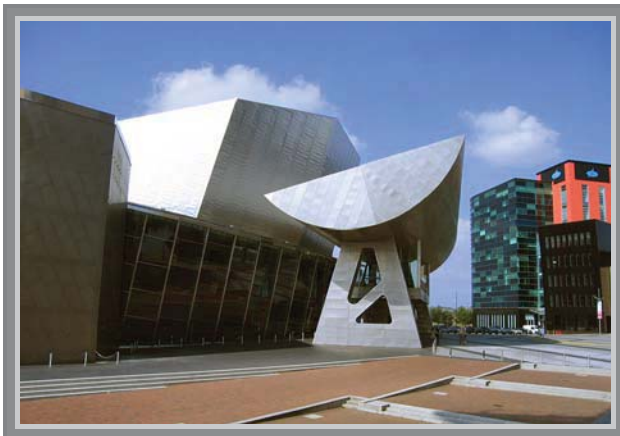
**Metrolink: Exchange Quay**

Ordsall Hall is a stately English home built in Tudor style. The first mention of Ordsall Hall was in 1177, but the current building is of a more recent date and has been expanded and rebuilt over centuries. The Great Hall of the building is from 1512.

For many years, Ordsall Hall was the family seat of the Radclyffe family, but the Salford City Council has owned the house since 1959. The place was opened to the public in 1972 and now houses a local history museum.

Ordsall Hall is a fine example of a typical English mansion with infinite numbers of beautiful details in the many rooms and halls. It is supposedly also the home of a ghost!

### 25. The Lowry



**Pier 8, Salford Quays, 4 km SW**

**[www.thelowry.com](http://www.thelowry.com)**

**Metrolink: Harbour City**

The Lowry is a combined theatre and gallery complex at which one can experience a wide range of exhibitions and performances, from comedies to operas. The Lowry is situated in the restored former dock area of Manchester, which has been revitalized in recent years. It is named after the artist Stephen Lowry, who portrayed the life and cityscape of the industrialised North England in his paintings from the first half of the 1900s. The Lowry opened in 2000.

### 26. Imperial War Museum North



**The Quays, Trafford Wharf, 4 km SW**

**<http://north.iwm.org.uk>**

**Metrolink: Harbour City**

Tanks, prisoners of war and the world wars are some of the things you can experience in this extremely informative war museum, which is a department of the Imperial War Museum in London. The museum describes the wars and battles in which British and Commonwealth soldiers have been involved since the beginning of the 1900s. As an introduction to the large



collections, the museum features an audio-visual show called *The Big Picture*, which binds the wars of Great Britain to the museum’s artifacts and themes. The building is designed by Daniel Liebeskind, and is one of Manchester’s most characteristic modern buildings. The museum opened in 2002.

### 27. Manchester United Museum and Tour

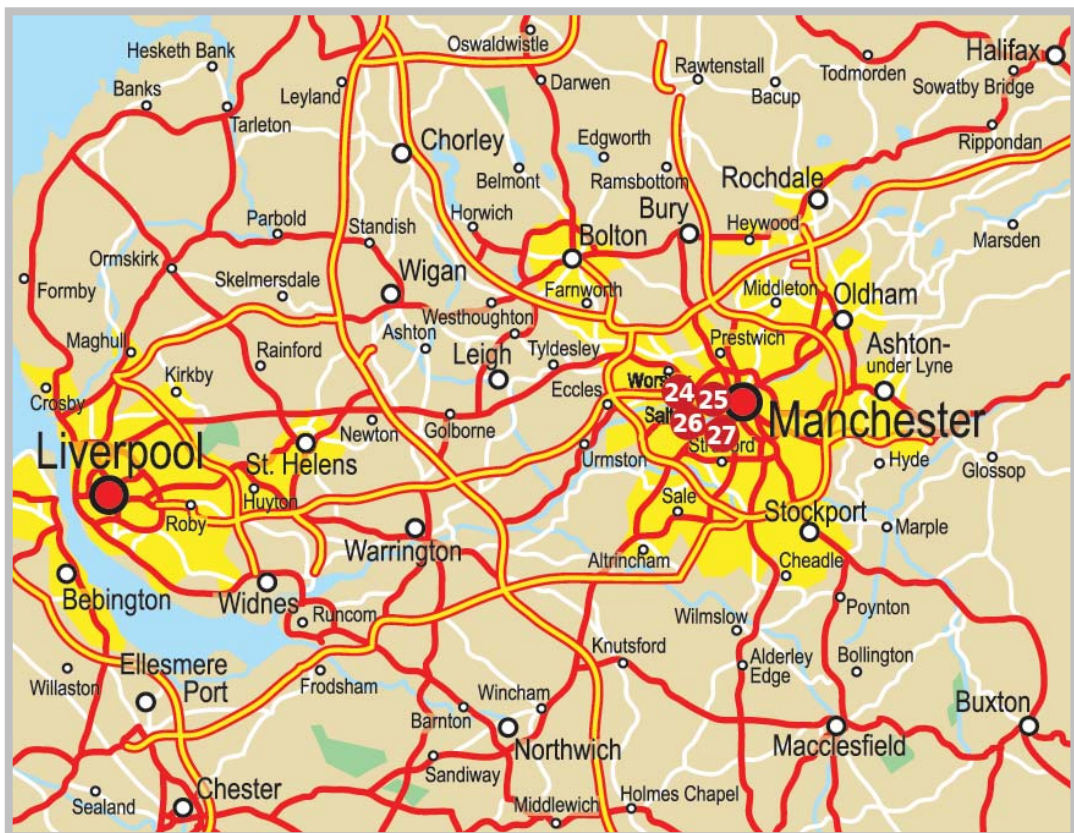


**Sir Matt Busby Way, 3 km SW**

[www.manutd.com](http://www.manutd.com)

**Metrolink: Old Trafford**

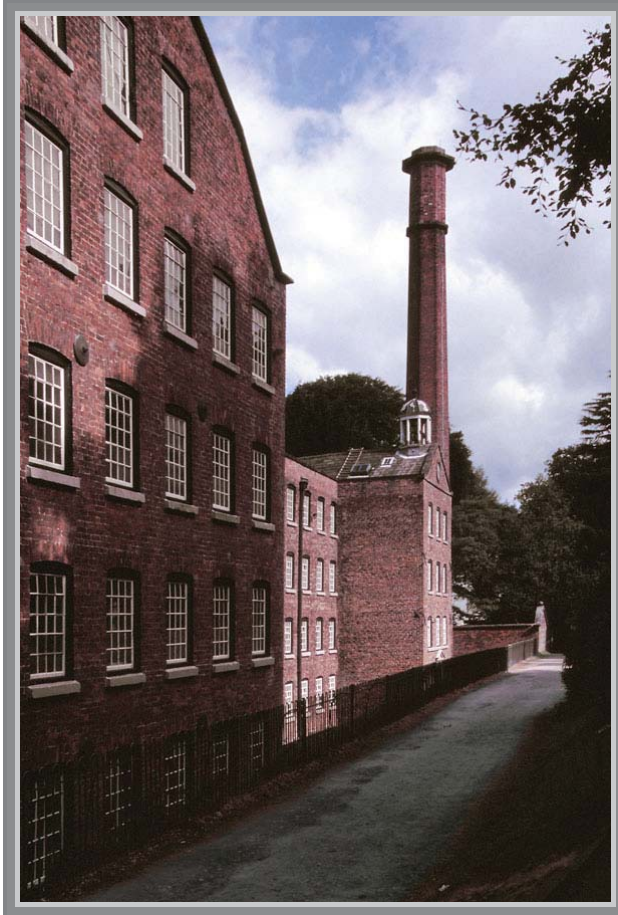
Manchester United is one of the most famous and popular football clubs in the world. Through time, numerous stars have played for the club whose history is presented in this museum. The museum also offers a tour of Old Trafford, the 68,000-seat stadium. One can watch replays of famous goals, read about the top players, watch clips from the international triumphs of Manchester United and admire the many trophies the club has won throughout the years.



## Day Tours from Manchester

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### 28. Quarry Bank Mill



**Quarry bank Road, Wilmslow, 15 km S**  
[www.quarrybankmill.co.uk](http://www.quarrybankmill.co.uk)

**Station: Wilmslow**

The Quarry Bank Mill offers an opportunity to witness the industrial development of the Manchester area in the 1700s. Waterpower was the foundation of the many industries that arose, and here, the water was used to run a large cotton-spinning mill. The machines, the life of the workers and factory owners, and the great significance of the textile industry for the prosperity of Manchester and its surroundings are described. One can also take a stroll in the beautiful neighbourhood.

### 29. Heaton Park



**Bury Old Road, 6 km N**  
[www.heatonpark.org.uk](http://www.heatonpark.org.uk)  
**Metrolink: Heaton Park**

Heaton Park is a 1.4-square-kilometre recreational oasis offering a multitude of possible activities. The historical centre of the park is Heaton Hall, a neo-classical palace from the 1700s, which functions as a museum. In the park, you can rent boats, play golf or bowl, go for a tour on the tramway on the original tracks from Middleton Road to the Manchester Corporation Tramways' former tram shelter, 300 metres inside the park. In the summertime, there are also outdoor theatre performances in the park, and children can play on the two large playgrounds.

### 30. Peak District National Park



Peak District National Park, 30 km SE

[www.peakdistrict.org](http://www.peakdistrict.org)

[www.visitbuxton.co.uk](http://www.visitbuxton.co.uk)

[www.speedwellcavern.co.uk](http://www.speedwellcavern.co.uk)

[www.derwentvalleymills.org](http://www.derwentvalleymills.org)

[www.tramway.co.uk](http://www.tramway.co.uk)

**Station: E.g. from Manchester to Buxton or several stops along the lines from Manchester to Sheffield and Glossop.**

Peak District is a national park located in the area between the cities of Manchester, Stoke, Derby, and Sheffield. The park covers an area of almost 1500 square kilometres and houses a variety of cultural and natural experiences in the beautiful, hilly landscape. Peak District was turned into a national park in 1951 and thus became the largest in the country. Much of the area consists of uplands above 300 metres, with a high point on Kinder Scout of 636 metres. The mountains are rounded, with soft cliffs here and there.

Among the many nature experiences one will find a small farm, charming villages and numerous available activities for the many tourists visiting the area.

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[www.job.oticon.dk](http://www.job.oticon.dk)

The spa town of Buxton is the largest one in the Peak District. Throughout the centuries, the hot springs here have attracted visitors and, in addition to wellness, Buxton offers beautiful architecture, the lovely Pavilion Gardens, a town-and art museum (the Buxton Museum and Art Gallery) and the opera house.

Near the town of Castleton you will find the ruins of Pevensey Castle, with a history dating back to the 1100s. Castleton is also the point of departure for a trip to the fascinating caves Speedwell Caverns, where one can take a boat trip. In connection with the Speedwell Caverns, one can visit the 141-metre-high shaft, Titan.

The Peak District offers an opportunity to witness the industrial history of England at first hand. There is a mining museum at Matlock Bath, and by the River Derwent are the Derwent Valley Mills, which are found on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The Derwent Valley Mills date from the 1700s and was a successful cotton spinning mill.

The preserved Matlock-Rowsley railway line offers an opportunity to travel in historic fashion with a steam locomotive. If you wish to travel further, the large National Tramway Museum is located in the town of Crich. Here, you can ride on trams from most parts of England, as well as from New York and Johannesburg.

## 31. Liverpool

**Liverpool, 55 km W**

[www.visitliverpool.com](http://www.visitliverpool.com)

**Station: Liverpool**

The port of Liverpool is the home of 800,000 people and is primarily known as the Beatles hometown as well as for its football team and its waterfront. But if you visit the city, you will also be met with beautiful, grandiose and experimental natural surroundings and a flourishing cultural life with infinite activities taking place all year round.

### 31a. The Dock Area



**Albert Dock & Pier Head**

[www.liverpoolworldheritage.com/albertdock.asp](http://www.liverpoolworldheritage.com/albertdock.asp)

[www.tate.org.uk/liverpool](http://www.tate.org.uk/liverpool)

[www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime)

[www.beatlesstory.com](http://www.beatlesstory.com)

In 2004, the Liverpool Waterfront was submitted to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The area reflects Liverpool's significance for the development of world trade and the city had a leading position in dock development and technology.

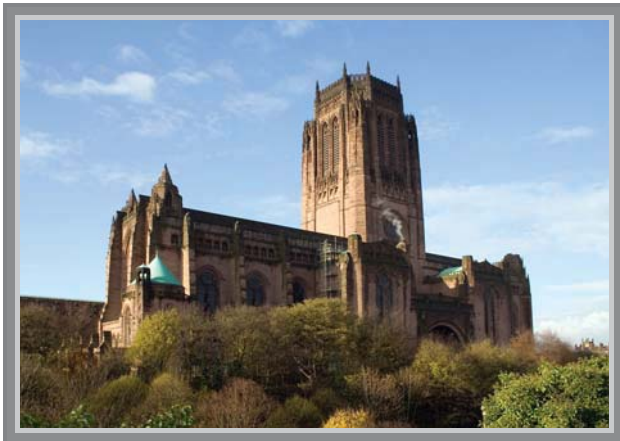
The Albert Dock from 1846 is the best example of the technology used here. The warehouse was built exclusively in cast iron, brick and stone, thus becoming the first building in England not to use a wooden structure. It was also the first fireproof warehouse, and with the first hydraulic system it made a logistic leap into the future.

Albert Dock closed in 1972, but was redeveloped in the 1980s and is now a lively area filled with bars, restaurants, the Tate Liverpool art museum, the Merseyside Maritime Museum and the Beatles museum – Beatles Story.

Pier Head is the name of the section of the waterfront where three of the most famous buildings in Liverpool are situated. The 90-metre-high Royal Liver Building was finished in 1911. The two clock towers of the building are each crowned by a Liver Bird, the symbol of Liverpool.

The smaller Cunard Building was built in 1914-1918 as the headquarters of the Cunard Line shipping company. The oldest of the buildings is the castle-like Port of Liverpool Building from 1907.

### 31b. Liverpool's Cathedrals



[www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk)

[www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk)

Liverpool is the home of two extraordinary churches; the Anglican Cathedral (Upper Duke Street, St. James Mount) and the Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral (Mount Pleasant). The Anglican Cathedral, the largest in the country, is built in neo-Gothic style with a bombastic tower and the highest Gothic vaults in Great Britain. In 1901, the decision to build a cathedral was made and a proposal submitted by a 22-year-old architect was chosen as the winner. King Edward VII laid the foundation stone in 1904, and after 74 years, Queen Elizabeth II could open the 189-metre-long, 101-metre-high cathedral. The church organ with its 10,000 pipes is also worth a look.

The Catholic Cathedral is the fourth of its kind in Liverpool, but only the second to be completed. The first was the Catholic St. Nicholas Pro-Cathedral, which was to be succeeded by a larger church in 1853, but only a small part of that one was finished. In 1933 a new foundation stone was laid for what was meant to become the second-largest church in the world, but this building came no further than the completion of the crypt. In 1967, the current cathedral was opened, and the circular church building is a characteristic element of the contemporary cityscape.

### 31c. Liverpool's Museum



[www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk)

Liverpool has a rich cultural life and many distinguished museums. The World Museum exhibits archaeological finds from all over the world and also houses a planetarium. Walker Art Gallery and Lady Lever Art Gallery are two of the many art museums. The Maritime Museums tells the maritime history of the city, and what about smuggling at the Customs and Excise National Museum?

### 31d. The Beatles' Liverpool



[www.beatlesstory.com](http://www.beatlesstory.com)

When John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, and George Harrison formed The Beatles, they also wrote music history and helped establish Liverpool as a music city.

If you want to experience the Liverpool of The Beatles, The Beatles Story (on Albert Dock) is the place to start. With 18 separate exhibitions, The Beatles Story tells the story of the group in impressive sets from Hamburg and of course the Cavern Club (10 Mathew Street) in Liverpool.

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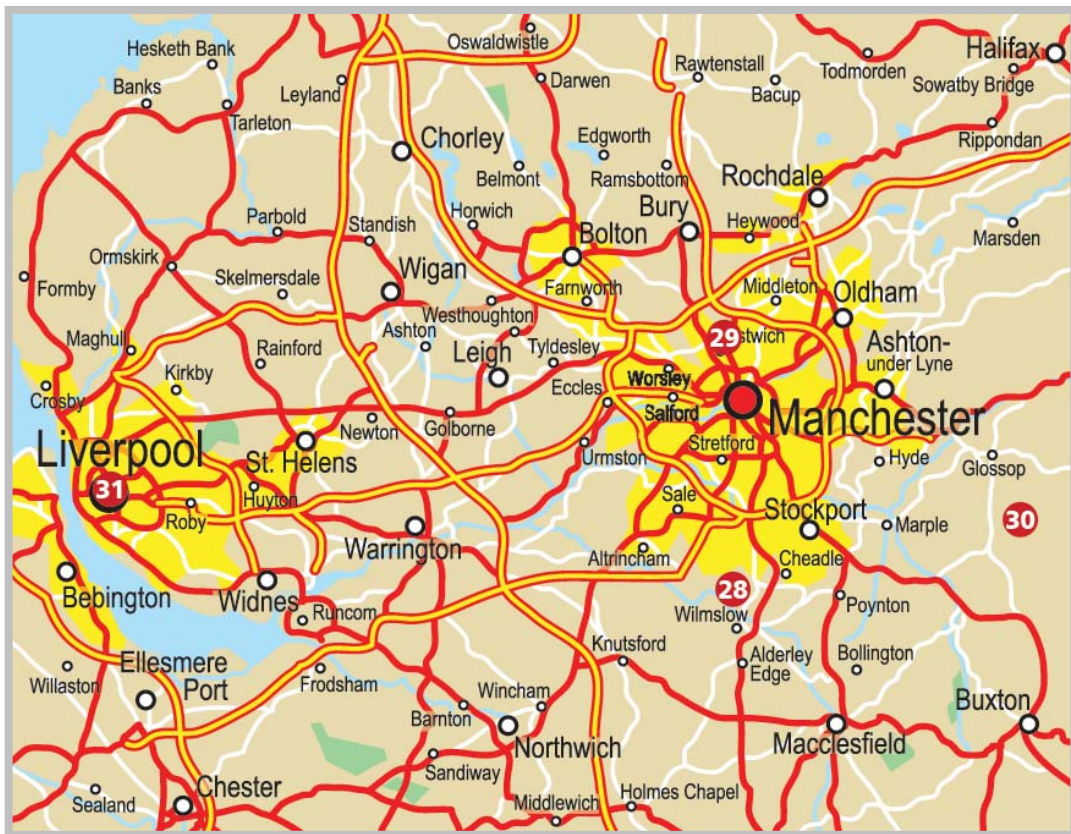
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Air & Space Museum (Liverpool Road):  
[www.msim.org.uk](http://www.msim.org.uk)

Alton Towers (Alton, 75 km SE):  
[www.alton-towers.co.uk](http://www.alton-towers.co.uk)

Camelot Theme Park (Charnock Richard, Chorley, 40 km NW):  
[www.camelotthemepark.co.uk](http://www.camelotthemepark.co.uk)

Museum of Transport (Boyle Street, Cheetham):  
[www.gmts.co.uk](http://www.gmts.co.uk)

## Shopping in Manchester

Cross Street, King Street, Market Street, around St. Ann's Square, Deansgate, around St. Peter's Square, Oxford Street, Mosley Street, Chinatown

Affleck's Palace (Church Street 52):  
[www.afflecks-palace.co.uk](http://www.afflecks-palace.co.uk)

Debenhams (Market Street 123):  
[www.debenhams.com](http://www.debenhams.com)

Harvey Nichols (New Cathedral Street 21):  
[www.harveynichols.com](http://www.harveynichols.com)

Manchester Arndale Shopping Centre (Market Street):  
[www.manchesterarndale.com](http://www.manchesterarndale.com)

Marks & Spencer (St. Ann's Gate):  
[www.marksandspencer.com](http://www.marksandspencer.com)

Merseyway (Stockport):  
[www.merseyway.com](http://www.merseyway.com)

Trafford Centre (Trafford Centre):  
[www.traffordcentre.co.uk](http://www.traffordcentre.co.uk)

## Public transport in Manchester

Manchester city transport:  
[www.gmppte.com](http://www.gmppte.com)

Manchester Metrolink:  
[www.metrolink.co.uk](http://www.metrolink.co.uk)

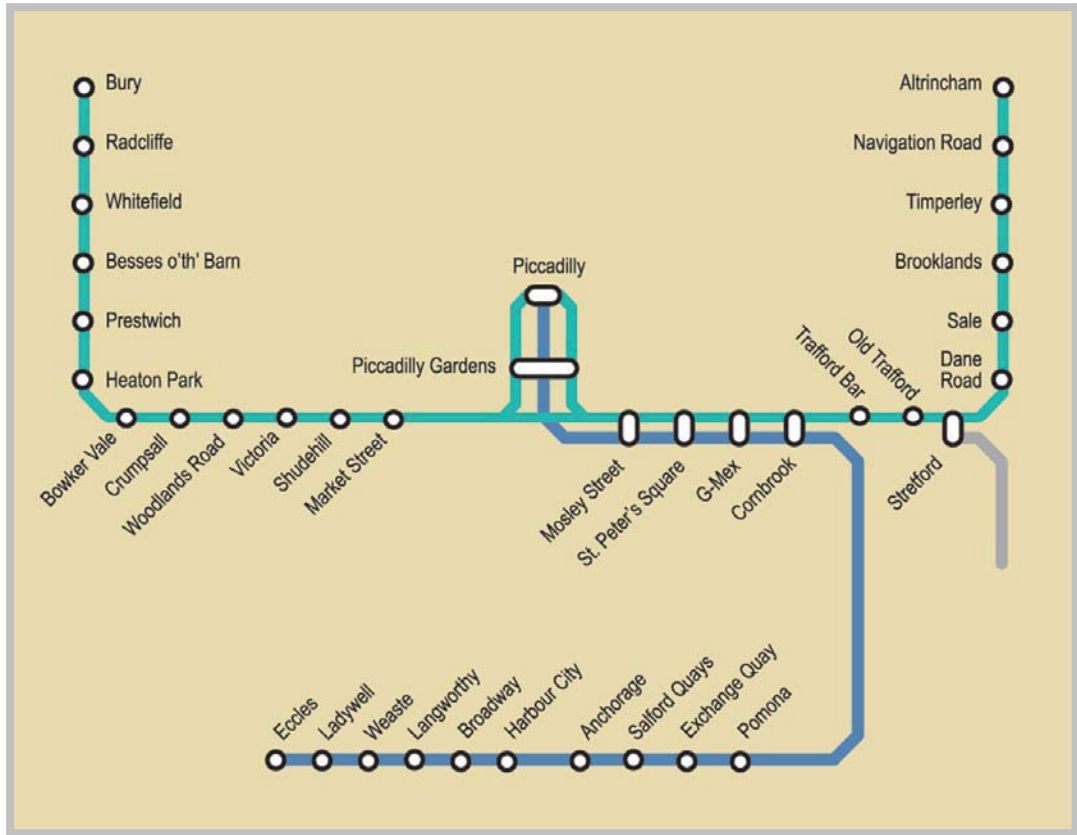
Liverpool city transport:  
[www.merseytravel.gov.uk](http://www.merseytravel.gov.uk)

Manchester Airport:  
[www.manchesterairport.co.uk](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk)

British Railroads:  
[www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)



# Metro Map





Hello London

## A visit to London

[www.visitlondon.com](http://www.visitlondon.com)

[www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)

London is the centre of the British world. As the capital of the British Empire, the city has been ranked among the leading cities of Europe for centuries, and cultures from all over the world have left their mark upon the streets of the British capital.

London is a colossal metropolis and has something for every taste – also literally, due to the many ethnic restaurants run by the international Londoners.

The museums of London are among the most abundant in the world and one could spend the entirety of one's vacation here. But the churches, the political institutions, the landmarks, and the many interesting examples of contemporary and experimental architecture also offer great experiences.

For many, London is the epitome of shopping and the many shopping centres and streets abound with everything your shopping-heart desires.

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## Historical outline: London

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The Romans invaded England in 43AD, and as they had to cross the River Thames, they built a wooden bridge close to the location of present-day London Bridge. The bridge quickly became the junction for traffic between south and north and thus began the development of London.

Many buildings were established in this early period of growth. A forum (market place) was established at what is today Leadenhall Market, and the first temple at St. Paul's was opened. The city was concentrated north of the River Thames where The Monument is located today.

Around 200AD, the Roman province in England was divided in two and London became the capital of the most significant part and York the capital of the other.

Defence walls were built and the administration of the province changed several times. In the 400s the Roman power over the area ended and the Anglo-Saxon immigration began. London, now partly in ruins, was placed under the rule of other cities in one of the new, small kingdoms.

During the 7th century, the first cathedral was built at St. Paul's. The Pope's emissary was supposed to have established an archiepiscopal see, but chose Canterbury instead. However, London continued to grow, primarily due to its fortunate position on the River Thames, which meant an increase in trade and the creation of new neighbourhoods.

In 842 and 851, London was attacked by the Vikings and in 865 they invaded England. In the winter of 871-872 the Vikings settled in London, but expansion of the fortifications and the re-establishment of the Roman walls kept the enemy at distance.

In 911, London came under the control of the English kings. Already in the 920s, the city became the most important commercial city of in the nation, and in 978 the king made London the capital. The Viking attacks augmented, and in 1013 the king had to flee. The following year, the Danish Vikings took control over London and large parts of England. After years of power struggles, the Viking leader, Canute the Great, became king of England. After the first Viking kings, the throne passed to a Saxon, but the Norman leader, William the Conqueror, believed himself to be the rightful king. After William's victory at the Battle of Hastings he took the throne.

London flourished enormously in the following years due to the rights over the surrounding areas that were granted it, but many buildings were constructed as well. The Tower of London to the east and Windsor Castle further west were built in defence of the city. Following the French example, London was provided with a civil administrative government led by a mayor. One of the initiatives taken was to prevent the frequent fires by building stone firewalls.

London's general political influence increased significantly in the 1100s. Previously, it had merely been a centre of commerce. Westminster Palace was built, and with it, the political power of the nation was established.

During the 1200s many monks came to the country, and they quickly amassed the necessary fortunes to pay for the building of many of the great churches we see today.

London's international role also developed. The city's industries and the busy port were just the beginning.

When the House of Tudor began its reign, London once again experienced a building boom, and in this period in particular, many palaces were built. In 1588 the Spanish Armada tried to invade England, but the nation's defences were strong and it helped initiate more stable conditions in London, which continued to grow. London had already become a metropolis when the Great Fire of London ravaged the city in 1666. Many of the old neighbourhoods of London were lost and the city had to be rebuilt.

With the victory at The Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 England became the leading European power. The city had grown extensively in area and the population increased from 750,000 in 1720 to 2,700,000 in 1851, by which time the industrial revolution had brought rapid development in both London and England. The city was now one of the leading cities of the world as the centre of the British Empire. It had the world's first underground railway in 1860, and in 1901 the city had 6,600,000 inhabitants.

During the 1900s London experienced a period of decline. The bombardments during the Second World War ruined large parts of the city and the imperial dominance was weakened. Many industrial areas fell into decay, but from the last part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, renewed cultural and economic developments took place, making London the city it is today.

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# Tour 1: London

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## 1. Houses of Parliament



### Parliament Square

[www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk)

### Underground: Westminster

The English Parliament, Houses of Parliament, also known as Westminster Palace, since this location had been the seat of the English monarchs since the 11th century. In 1547, the king moved to Whitehall Palace, but the House of Lords remained at Westminster. A fire destroyed the Palace in 1834, leaving only Westminster Hall intact.

The current Westminster Palace was built in 1840-1888 in an impressive, neo-Gothic style. It is the home of the two houses of Parliament. Political debates here are open to the public.

## 2. Big Ben



### Parliament Square

**Underground: Westminster**

Big Ben is the name of the 13-ton bell placed in the Westminster Palace tower. The tower itself is colloquially referred to by the same name. The tower is 96 metres high and the clock faces measure 7 metres in diameter. The little hand is 2.7 metres long and the big hand measures 4.3 metres.

## 3. Westminster Abbey

### Parliament Square

[www.westminster-abbey.org](http://www.westminster-abbey.org)

### Underground: Westminster

Westminster Abbey was founded as a convent in 1065, but acquired its current Gothic exterior in 1245. Since then, the church has functioned as the coronation church of the country.

Be sure to visit the many chapels of the church, especially the one behind the main altar in honour of St. Edward, whose sarcophagus is the most sacred spot in the abbey. The church also houses a museum, which is located in the earliest building from 1065.

#### 4. Churchill Museum & Cabinet War Rooms

**Clive Steps, King Charles Street**

<http://cwr.iwm.org.uk>

**Underground: Westminster**

It was from this basement that the English government, led by Winston Churchill, governed Great Britain during the bombardments of World War II. The original rooms were established in 1939.

The Churchill Museum was opened in the basement in 2005, which was originally used by Winston Churchill, his wife, and his closest staff. The centrepiece in the War Rooms is the Map Room, from which a great deal of the war was directed. Many decisive strategic plans were made here.

#### 5. Downing Street 10

**10 Downing Street**

**Underground: Westminster**

The most famous home in London is found in the small Downing Street – the Prime Minister's residence has been located here since 1735. Naturally, the building is not open to the public.

#### 6. Royal Horse Guards

**Underground: Westminster**

The former royal castle, Whitehall Palace, was situated at this spot; now it is the place where the Royal Horse Guards are located and keep watch.

Whitehall Palace was originally named York Palace, and was purchased from Cardinal Wolsey by King

Henry VIII in 1530. Whitehall Palace was expanded at the end of the 1600s, making it the largest castle complex in Europe at the time. After several fires, the castle was abandoned in 1700.

#### 7. St. James Park

**Mellan The Mall och Birdcage Walk**

[www.royalparcs.org.uk/parks/st\\_james\\_park](http://www.royalparcs.org.uk/parks/st_james_park)

**Underground: St. James Park**

The beautiful St. James's Park lies in the area between the Parliament and Buckingham Palace. It was established in 1820 on the former royal hunting grounds.

#### 8. Buckingham Palace



**Buckingham Palace Road**

[www.royal.gov.uk](http://www.royal.gov.uk)

**Underground: St. James Park**

Britain's royal castle, Buckingham Palace, was built in 1702 for the Duke of Buckingham. In 1762 King George III purchased the place and after many years of rebuilding, the castle became the official royal residence in 1837.

The castle contains 77,000 square metres of floorspace. The biggest room is the State Ballroom, which Queen Victoria had designed for state banquets. The 50-metre-long picture gallery is hung with works by Rubens and Rembrandt, and the throne room is certainly not lacking in grandiose decorations.

The Victoria Monument, erected in 1911, stands in front of the castle. From here, you can witness the changing of the guard, and there are parts of the Castle that are open to the public, such as the art gallery, the Queen's Gallery, which contains some part of the extensive and valuable art collection of the castle.

## 9. Westminster Cathedral

**42 Francis Street**

[www.westminstercathedral.org.uk](http://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk)

**Underground: Victoria**

The large Catholic church, Westminster Cathedral, was built in an enchanting neo-Byzantine style in 1903. It has a splendid marble interior and there is a great view from the 86-metre-high tower. The Pope visited the church in 1982, and in 1995 Queen Elizabeth II was the first monarch in centuries to visit the church.

## 10. Tate Britain

**Millbank**

[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

**Underground: Pimlico**

The famous Tate Gallery, whose collections were founded by the merchant Henry Tate in 1897, was divided into Tate Britain and Tate Modern in 2000. The beautiful collection of British art from the 1500s to the present is on display at Tate Britain.

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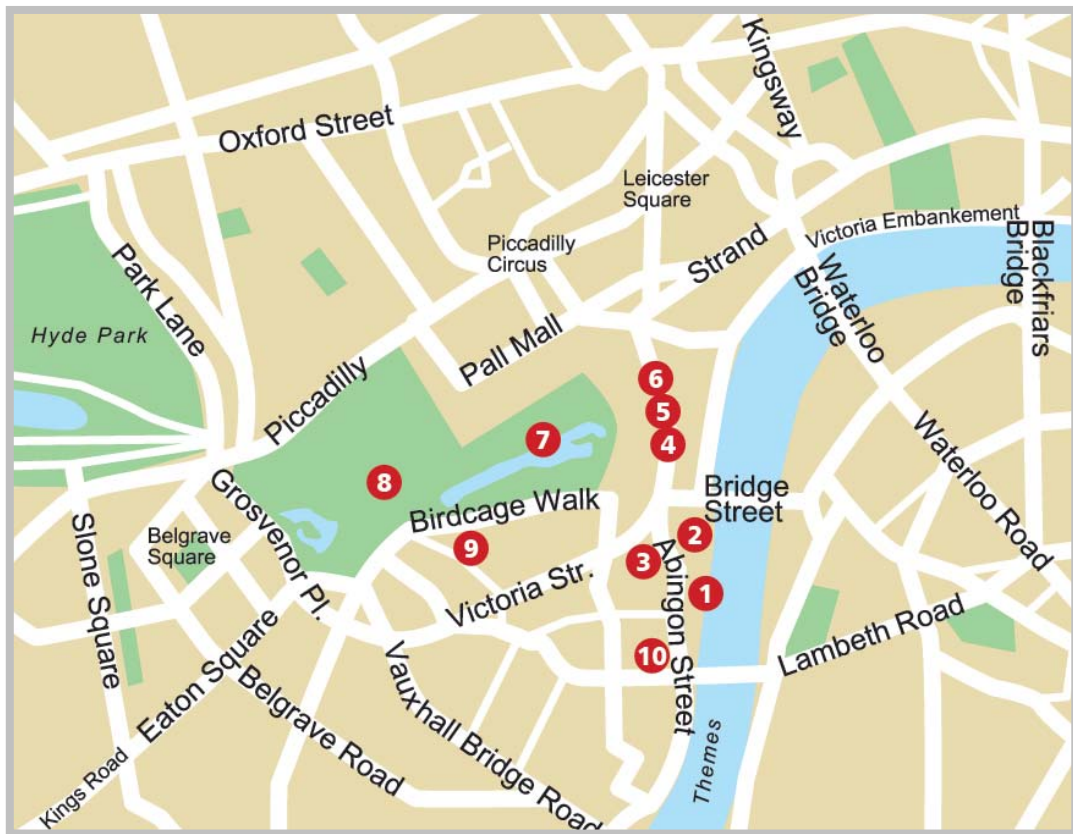
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## Tour 2: London

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### 11. London Eye



**Westminster Bridge Road**

[www.ba-londoneye.com](http://www.ba-londoneye.com)

**Underground: Waterloo**

The London Eye Ferris wheel is one of the new attractions of London. It was built for the celebration of the new millennium. The view from the enclosed glass gondolas in the 135-metre-high wheel is spectacular. It takes 30 minutes for one complete rotation.

### 12. Imperial War Museum

**Lambeth Road**

[www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)

**Underground: Lambeth North**

The Imperial War Museum is located in a former hospital and tells the story of the wars. Situations depicting the trenches of the First World War and the bombardments of the Second World War are very realistically presented.

### 13. Tate Modern

**Bankside**

[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

**Underground: Southwark**

This is London's second Tate Museum in addition to Tate Britain. The museum opened in 2000 and is intriguingly situated in an old power station. Tate Modern displays an enormous collection of international art from 1900 to the present; works by Monet, Matisse, and Picasso.

In front of the museum, the elegant Millennium Bridge from 2000 crosses the River Thames.

### 14. Globe Theatre

**21 New Globe Walk**

[www.shakespeares-globe.org](http://www.shakespeares-globe.org)

**Underground: Mansion House**

The Globe Theatre is the name of the historic theatre which was erected in 1599 by Shakespeare's theatre company. It was destroyed by a fire in 1613 and rebuilt the year after. It was closed down in 1642, but re-opened in 1997 in a reconstructed version of the original theatre.

Characteristic of the theatre is its layout, with an open-air scene surrounded by a three-story, circular wooden construction where the audience was seated. It could house up to 1,300 spectators for each performance; 700 of these were standing in front of the stage.

The Globe Theatre is situated just 200 metres from its original location.

### 15. Southwark Cathedral

**Cathedral Street**

[www.southwark.anglican.org](http://www.southwark.anglican.org)

**Underground: London Bridge**

Southwark Cathedral is a beautiful French inspired Gothic church from the 1200s. More recent restorations have changed it drastically, but one can still get a sense of medieval times. The church is Anglican.

In front of the church, the London Bridge crosses the River Thames. The establishment of this stone bridge was begun as early as the 1100s.

### 16. HMS Belfast



**Morgan's Lane Tooley Street**

[www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)

**Underground: London Bridge**

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Education: Chemical Engineer

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HMS Belfast is a large light cruiser, which served in the British Navy from 1938-1953. From 1939-1942 she was at the Devonport operating base after a collision with a magnetic mine laid by the German submarine U-21. Belfast was repaired and strengthened and participated in Arctic convoys to the Soviet Union and she also took part in the great landing phase of the D-Day landings in Normandy during the Second World War. *Belfast* is now a naval museum on which one gets a good impression of what life was like on the ships.

## 17. London City Hall

### **The Queens Walk**

[www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk)

### **Underground:**

With its bulbous shape, London's city hall is one of the characteristic architectural works on the south bank of the River Thames. The building opened in 2002 and is designed by the famous architect, Norman Foster. Inside, a 500-metre-long helical walkway ascends the full height of the building. Adjacent to the city hall, one can see a sunken amphitheatre called The Scoop. It is used for outdoor performances in the summer.

## 18. Tower Bridge



### **Tower Bridge**

[www.towerbridge.org.uk](http://www.towerbridge.org.uk)

### **Underground: Tower Hill**

Tower Bridge is one of London's world-famous landmarks, built as an engineering milestone in 1894.

The two towers are built in neo-Gothic style and are connected by the two pedestrian walkways at the top. From here, you have a great view of the Tower of London and Sir Norman Foster's cigar-shaped, contemporary skyscraper The Gherkin (St. Mary Axe 30), built in 2001-2004.

The two bascules rarely rise, but when they do it is an impressive sight. It happened frequently during the construction of the bridge because of the heavy traffic on the River Thames. A visit to the Tower Bridge Experience takes you to the top. There, you can see old photographs and films from the construction and visit the original steam engines which raised the bascules.

## 19. Tower of London



### **Tower Hill**

[www.hrp.org.uk/TowerOfLondon](http://www.hrp.org.uk/TowerOfLondon)

**Underground: Tower Hill**

The building of the Tower of London fort began with the central White Tower in 1066, when William the Conqueror wanted to maintain control of the River Thames and London. In the 1100s, Richard the Lionheart enclosed the White Tower with a curtain wall and had a moat dug around it. In addition to fortifications, a palace was built here. Today, a visit to the Tower provides a meeting with the famous Beefeaters, the ceremonial guardians. Their uniforms and traditions date from the Tudor period.

The Tower is the home of the valuable British Crown Jewels and regalia and a weapon collection. You can also see the fort's torture chamber and the dungeon at Traitor's Gate. Famous prisoners include King Henry VI and Rudolf Hess.

Towern innebär i dag ett möte med de välkända Beefeater-vakterna. Deras uniformer och traditioner härstammar från Tudortiden.

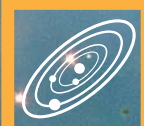
I Towern finns en utställning med Englands värdefulla kronjuveler och -regalier samt en vapensamling. Man kan också se fästningens roll som tortyrkammare och fängelse vid Traitor's Gate. Bland kända fångar kan till exempel nämnas kung Henrik VI och Rudolf Hess.



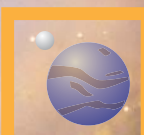
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## Tour 3: London

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### 20. Monument

**Monument Street****Underground: Monument**

The Monument is a 61-metre-high column erected in memory of the Great Fire of London in 1666.

The location and height were chosen because the Great Fire of London started 61 metres from the spot. Inside, you can reach the top of the Doric column by a narrow, winding staircase. At the top – above the column – is a gilded urn of fire.

### 21. Leadenhall Market

**Whittington Avenue**

[www.leadenhallmarket.co.uk](http://www.leadenhallmarket.co.uk)

**Underground: Monument**

Leadenhall market has been the number one shopping venue for buying fish and meat since the 1300s. Before that time, the Roman forum was full of activities. The current Victorian arcades were built in 1881 with the glass and iron roof structure.

The place is extremely atmospheric, almost like a time capsule in the heart of the city.

### 22. 30 St Mary Axe

**30 Saint Mary Axe**

[www.30stmaryaxe.com](http://www.30stmaryaxe.com)

**Underground: Liverpool Street**

The 180-metre-high building, 30 St Mary Axe, ‘The Gherkin’, is one of the most characteristic buildings on the London skyline. It looks like a giant cigar covered in varicoloured glass. It was built from 2001 to 2004 and designed by Sir Norman Foster.

### 23. Bank of England Museum

**Bartholomew Lane**

[www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/museum](http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/museum)

**Underground: Bank**

The Bank of England is the home of the gold reserves of the country. It houses a museum telling the story of the Bank of England.

### 24. Guildhall

**Gresham Street**

[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)

**Underground: Bank**

The Guildhall was London’s town hall for several hundred years. The large, beautiful, medieval-style Great Hall is still used for official functions. The walls display the coat of arms of London’s historic guilds.

Parts of the current building have been preserved from 1411, and the Guildhall is the only secular stone building to have survived the Great Fire of London in 1666.

### 25. Museum of London

**150 London Wall**

[www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk)

**Underground: St Pauls**

The Museum of London documents the history of London from prehistoric times to the present. It contains many interesting historic artefacts. You can walk down a reconstruction of a street from Victorian London and see the state coach of the Lord Mayor of the City of London. Outside of the building, a part of the old Roman city wall has been preserved.

## 26. St. Paul's Cathedral

### **Paternoster Square**

[www.stpauls.co.uk](http://www.stpauls.co.uk)

### **Underground: St. Paul's**

The grandiose St. Paul's Cathedral is the fifth church building at this site. The first was built in the early 600s. The fourth church had a 149-metre-high central spire, which was ruined when struck by lightning in 1561. The spire was not rebuilt and the entire church was destroyed in the Great Fire of London.

The current church was finished in 1708 and its impressive size can best be experienced from the 113-metre-high dome, from which one has an amazing view of London from the Golden Gallery. The dome is second in size only to St. Peter's in Rome.

The church has many interesting features. Note the frescoes and the numerous details of the works. Both England's naval hero, Lord Nelson and Winston Churchill are buried in the crypt.

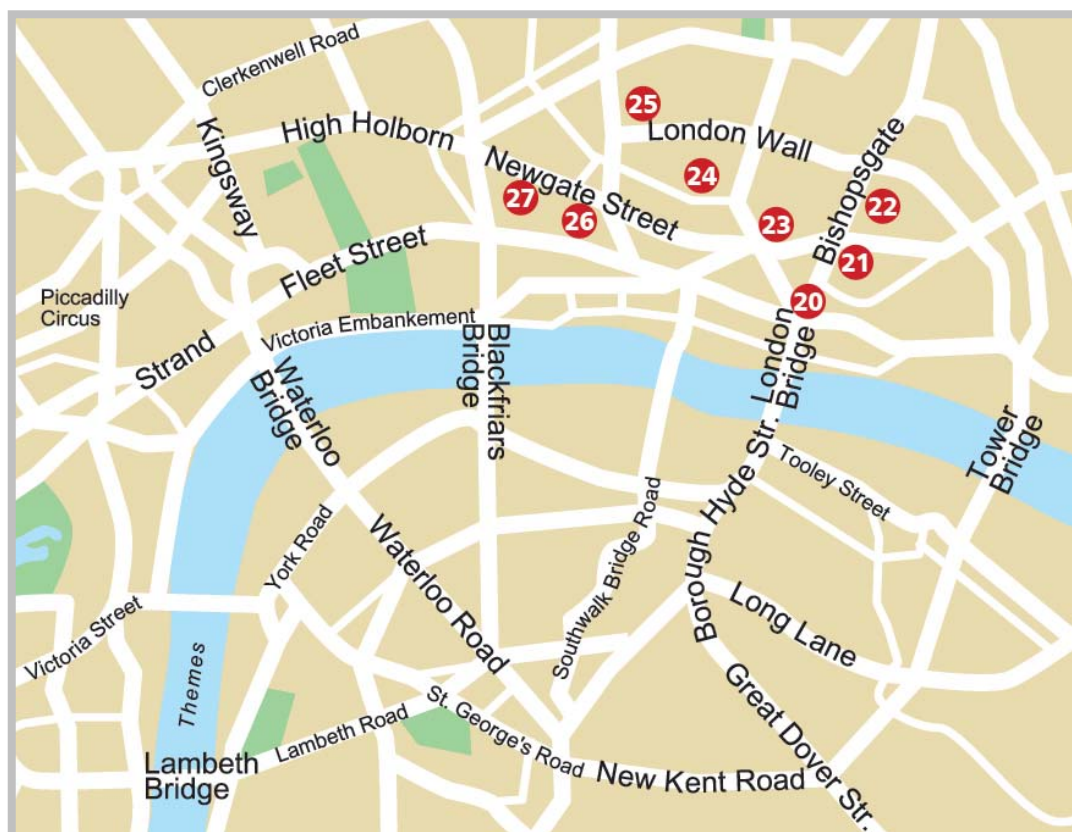
## 27. Old Bailey

### **Old Bailey**

[www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org)

### **Underground: St. Pauls**

In and around Old Bailey, which is a complex of London's old court buildings, you can see the judges with their traditional wigs. Old Bailey is a piece of living British legal history.





## Tour 4: London

### 28. The Temple Church

#### Inner Temple Lane

[www.thetemplechurch.com](http://www.thetemplechurch.com)

#### Underground: Temple

The Temple Church is a church from the end of the 1100s built by the Knights Templar. It was the English headquarters of the order.

The church comprises two separate sections built with an interval of 50 years. In keeping with the traditions of the order, the Round Church was constructed based on the design of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. Adjoining the Round Church is the rectangular Chancel.

During the Second World War, the Temple Church was heavily damaged by a bombardment in 1941, but it was later rebuilt. It became famous when it played a part in Dan Brown's book *The Da Vinci Code*. The church was also used as a location in the movie adaptation.

### 29. Courtauld Gallery & Gilbert Collection

#### Strand

[www.somerset-house.org.uk](http://www.somerset-house.org.uk)

#### Underground: Temple

The neo-classical Somerset House contains two large art collections. Courtauld Gallery exhibits many great works, primarily by impressionists such as Monet, van Gogh, Gauguin, Cézanne, and Renoir. The Gilbert Collection contains many works of art, for instance, pieces of decorative silver.

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### 30. Covent Garden Market



#### Covent Garden

[www.coventgardenmarket.com](http://www.coventgardenmarket.com)

#### Underground: Covent Garden

The covered market halls of Covent Garden from 1832 comprise the centre of a bustling area, which is a must-see. Notice the old underground station, which brings passengers from the street level to the underground platforms in large elevators.

At the Covent Garden Marketplace, you will find London's Transport Museum and one of the entrances to the Royal Opera House.

### 31. Trafalgar Square



### Trafalgar Square

#### Underground: Charing Cross

Trafalgar Square is one of the city's oases where people meet when the weather allows. The square was built in memory of Lord Nelson, whose statue stands atop the 56-metre column. He defeated the French and Spanish fleets in 1805. East of the square are South Africa House and the 18<sup>th</sup> century church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. To the west is Canada House, built in the 1820s, and to the north, The National Gallery.

### 32. National Gallery



#### Trafalgar Square

[www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)

#### Underground: Charing Cross

The National Gallery holds London's finest collection of paintings. The collection was founded in 1824. It contains a large number of works from 1200-1900 by leading European artists; you will find van Gogh's *Sunflowers* here.

### 33. National Portrait Gallery

#### St. Martin's Place

[www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk)

#### Underground: Charing Cross

London's portrait gallery, The National Gallery, displays England's history through paintings. The exhibition dates back to Elizabeth I and includes many famous people of the period.

### 34. Piccadilly Circus



#### Piccadilly Circus

##### Underground: Piccadilly Circus

Piccadilly Circus is one of London’s central squares and is always busy. Especially at night, the neon lights are an impressive sight, and one senses the intensity of the city on this square.

The first electric commercial was put up in 1910 and several followed. On the square, you can see the Shaftesbury Monument, a fountain that was built in 1893 and is the world’s first aluminium fountain.

The Criterion Theatre lies at the south side of the square, and to the northeast you will see the 19<sup>th</sup> - century music hall, the London Pavilion, which has functioned as a shopping centre since 1986 utförd i aluminium.

### 35. British Museum

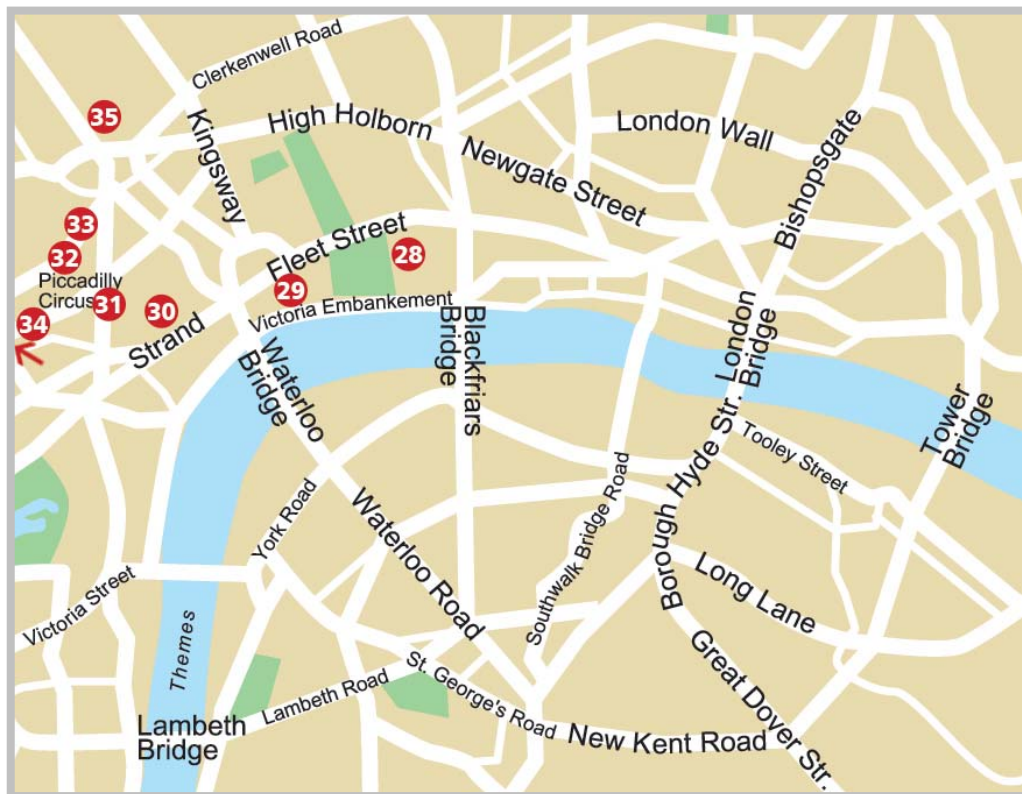
#### Great Russell Street

[www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk)

##### Underground: Tottenham Court Road

The British Museum was built in 1753 and houses one of the largest collections in the world. Here you can see articles from all over the world.

The highlights of the museum include The Parthenon Marbles and countless Egyptian antiquities such as sphinxes and mummies. There are effects stemming from one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the mausoleum at Halikarnassos, and an original stone sculpture from Easter Island. The amazing finds and unique works are so great in number that one could spend days at the museum and still manage only to see a small part of the collection.



# Tour 5: London

## 36. The Sherlock Holmes Museum

**221b Baker Street**

[www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk](http://www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk)

**Underground: Baker Street**

221b Baker Street is one of the most famous addresses in the world. It was here that Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson lived in the period from 1881-1904, according to author Arthur Conan Doyle's books on the world-famous detective. The building that houses the Sherlock Holmes Museum was built in 1815, and the interior has been designed exactly as the books describe it.

Madame Tussauds is London's famous wax museum where you can stand face to face with countless historical personalities.

The museum takes its name from the French wax sculptor Marie Tussaud, who made her first sculpture in 1777. She went to London in 1802 and was prevented from returning to her home country by war. Her first exhibition of a more permanent character was in The Baker Street Bazaar in 1835, and especially the Chamber of Horrors created a stir.

In 1884 the museum moved to its current location. The museum building has later been extended to include the domed building from the former London Planetarium and different shows are now on display in the dome.

## 37. Madame Tussauds

**Marylebone Road**

[www.madame-tussauds.co.uk](http://www.madame-tussauds.co.uk)

**Underground: Baker Street**

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Among the wax figures are Winston Churchill, Adolf Hitler, Jennifer Lopez, Jenna Jameson, Sean Connery and The Beatles.

### 38. Hyde Park

#### **Cumberland Gate**

[www.royalparcs.org.uk/parks/hyde\\_park](http://www.royalparcs.org.uk/parks/hyde_park)

#### **Underground: Marble Arch**

With its lawns and more than 4,000 trees and ponds, Hyde Park is one of London's large and popular parks.

In the northeast corner of the park you will find Speaker's Corner, where people have had the opportunity to speak publicly to passers-by since 1872.

Immediately in front of Speaker's Corner you see the Roman-inspired Marble Arch, which was built for the entrance of Buckingham Palace in 1828. The Arch was too narrow for the horse carriages, however, and was thus moved to its current position in 1851.

### 39. Kensington Palace

#### **Palace Avenue**

[www.hrp.org.uk/KensingtonPalace](http://www.hrp.org.uk/KensingtonPalace)

[www.royalparcs.org.uk/parks/kensington\\_gardens](http://www.royalparcs.org.uk/parks/kensington_gardens)

#### **Underground: Queensway eller South Kensington**

Kensington palace is a royal residence situated in the Kensington Gardens. Several members of the royalty have lived here since the 1600s.

Among its most famous tenants is King William III's Queen Anne. She had an Orangery and a magnificent Baroque parterre built in 1704. King George I spent money on new royal apartments and rooms, such as The Cupola Room, in 1722. King George II was the last reigning monarch to live here, and he had the gardens redesigned in a form still recognizable today.

In 1981 the palace became the residence of Charles and Diana, the Prince and Princess of Wales. It remained Diana's official home until her death in 1997.

The Kensington Gardens are situated next to Kensington Palace and constitute a park with formal avenues and the beautiful Italian Garden.

### 40. Royal Albert Hall

#### **Prince Consort Road**

[www.royalalberthall.com](http://www.royalalberthall.com)

#### **Underground: South Kensington**

The Royal Albert Hall is a concert hall named after Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert. Royal Albert Hall opened in 1871, and is the home of the so-called Proms concerts, which end each year with a final and very pompous concert, the Last Night of the Proms.

Both the interior and the exterior of the hall are beautiful and distinctive, and Hyde Park provides a suitable backdrop for the building.

### 41. Science Museum

#### **Exhibition Road**

[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

#### **Underground: South Kensington**

At the Science Museum one gets a tour of the history of science; there are plenty of interesting objects along the journey.

Among the several hundred thousand things in the museum, one can see the oldest surviving steam locomotive in the world, Robert Stephenson's Puffing Billy, which was built in 1813-1814. Flight and Space are some of the themes, which attract visitors to the museum, and in the IMAX 3D cinema one can always see fascinating films from the world of nature and science.

## 42. Victoria and Albert Museum

### Cromwell Road

[www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

#### Underground: South Kensington

The Victoria and Albert Museum is a vast museum of decorative art and design. The collection consists of several million objects in glass, ceramics, and metal; and there are also effects such as furniture, drawings, and photographs.

The museum was founded in 1852 as the South Kensington Museum and also housed a department of general science at the time. That department has since been separated from the museum and formed the foundation of the nearby Science Museum.

## 43. Museum of Natural History

### Exhibition Road

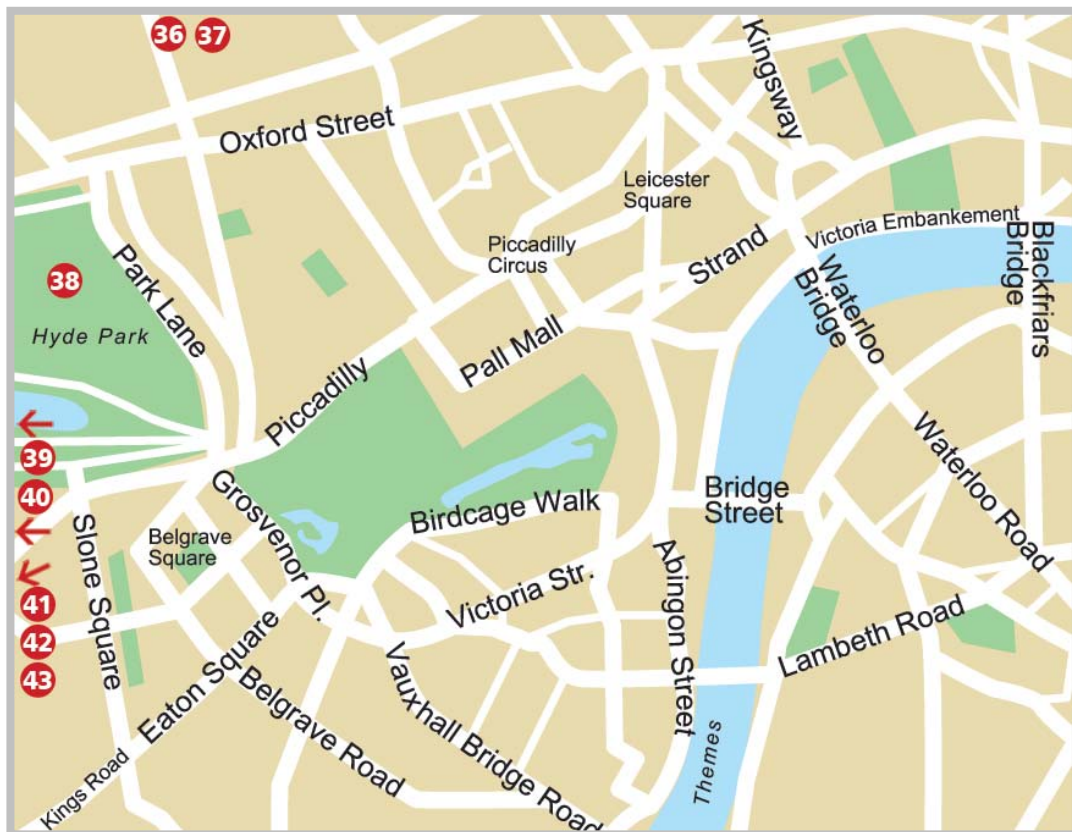
[www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)

#### Underground: South Kensington

London's great National History Museum portrays the natural history of the world through five main collections; Botany, Entomology, Mineralogy, Palaeontology, and Zoology. Roughly speaking, there is nothing that cannot be found among the millions of items in the museum.

Among the most famous items are the dinosaur skeletons and the 25-metre-long skeleton of a blue whale that stranded in Wexford Bay at the end of the 1800s.

The museum building was built in a beautiful Victorian style in 1881.



# Day Tours from London

## 44. Docklands



### Canary Wharf, 5 km E

#### Underground: Canary Wharf

#### Docklands Light Railway: Canary Wharf

The large area along the River Thames east of London was the industrial Dock Area of London for centuries. As the shipping industry moved to other ports, many docks were closed down and the Docklands became dilapidated in the 1960s and 1970s.

In recent decades, the Docklands have been redeveloped and are now the home of London City Airport, the University of East London, and numerous residential buildings and offices.

You can take the Docklands Light Railway through the area. The railway literally rides through and under the new buildings and the trip offers a view of the various buildings in the area, such as the Millennium Dome from 2000.

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## 45. Greenwich

**Greenwich, 8 km SE**

[www.greenwich.gov.uk](http://www.greenwich.gov.uk)

**Dockland Light Rail: Greenwich**

The city of Greenwich is the home of the world's meridian. It is from here that longitudes are determined, and this makes Greenwich the centre of the world. It is also from here that the clocks of the world can be set according to Greenwich Mean Time. However, there are many other attractions in the town, which, in spite of its proximity to central London, feels refreshingly rural.

### 45a. Royal Observatory



**Greenwich Royal Park**

[www.rog.nmm.ac.uk](http://www.rog.nmm.ac.uk)

It is here at the Royal Observatory that you will find the centre of time. As a visitor, you can stand on the Meridian Line, which is clearly marked on the ground. Charles II founded the observatory in 1675 and appointed John Flamsteed as his first Astronomer Royal. The Observatory was built to find the exact position east and west while at sea and out of sight of land, by astronomical means. John Harrison's definition was ground-breaking, and you can see his original clocks in The Harrison Gallery. The connection to the meridian was calculated in 1850 and officially passed in 1884. This led to a worldwide coordination of time and location.

## 45b. National Maritime Museum



**Romney Road**

[www.rog.nmm.ac.uk](http://www.rog.nmm.ac.uk)

In addition to the Observatory and the Flamsteed House, the comprehensive National Maritime Museum is now situated in the buildings surrounding the Greenwich Observatory, such as the 1600s mansion, Queen's House. The Museum is the world's largest maritime museum and naturally contains large collections from the maritime history of Britain and the world.

## 46. Windsor

**Windsor, 40 km W**

**Station: Windsor and Eton**

The city of Windsor is beautifully situated west of London by the River Thames. The city not only houses the royal residence, Windsor Castle, but also Eton College, with its rich tradition and history.

### 46a. Windsor Castle





**Castle Hill****[www.royal.gov.uk](http://www.royal.gov.uk)**

For more than 900 years, Windsor Castle has been the home of the British monarchs and it is one of the current royal addresses. William the Conqueror built the castle raised up above the landscape in 1070 as a western counterpart to his Tower of London. Thus, the city could be defended along the river. Throughout history other kings have made extensions to the castle.

As a visitor you can see the luxurious state apartments when the royal family are not in residence. The extremely beautiful halls are decorated with paintings from the exquisite royal art collection –works by Rembrandt, Rubens, and van Dyck hang in the halls.

In the private apartments of King George IV you will see some of the most beautiful decorations in the castle. Ten former monarchs are buried in St. George's Chapel, which was built by Edward VI in 1475. The place is one of the finest examples of late medieval architecture in all of England.

**46b. Eton College****Eton High Street****[www.etoncollege.com](http://www.etoncollege.com)**

Eton College is situated by the Thames and is the most famous British public school. It was founded by Henry VI in 1440. The classroom from 1443 in the Lower School is still in function.

The traditional school uniform is still used and has been worn by a great many of the country's leaders through the ages; among them twenty prime ministers and several princes. The museum, Eton Life, shows the history of the place from its founding to the present.

**47. Oxford****Oxford, 90 km NW****[www.oxfordcity.co.uk](http://www.oxfordcity.co.uk)****[www.ox.ac.uk](http://www.ox.ac.uk)****Station: Oxford**

The town of Oxford is located northwest of London and is known around the world for the university and its proud traditions.

Oxford University College was founded in 1249 as the first university in England. There are now 39 separate colleges, most of them built in the Gothic style for which the city is known.

Begin your visit in the Carfax Tower. It offers a great view of the city and the university.

Remember to visit Merton College, the oldest one in Oxford, from 1264, and Christ Church College, which is one of the largest.

Note that there is limited access to the buildings, since they all still function as educational institutions.

## 48. Cambridge



**Cambridge, 95 km N**  
[www.cambridge.gov.uk](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk)  
[www.cam.ac.uk](http://www.cam.ac.uk)  
**Station: Cambridge**

Cambridge is England's other famous university city, and lies north of London. People from Oxford founded the first college there in 1248. Nowadays, there are 31 separate colleges at the university.

As in Oxford, you can walk around and experience the atmosphere of the city. But remember to visit King's College Chapel from the 1400s, which is the architectural highlight of the city and one of the finest late Gothic buildings in the country. The world-famous King's College Chapel is known from countless photographs of the city.

Other interesting buildings in Cambridge include the Round Church, a church of the Knights Templar from the 1100s, Trinity College, and Queen's College. You can walk around town, but you can also try a relaxing boat trip on the River Cam in one of the flat-bottomed boats, the so-called punts.

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## 49. Brighton



**Brighton, 85 km S**

[www.brighton.co.uk](http://www.brighton.co.uk)

<http://volkseletricrailway.co.uk>

**Station: Brighton**

The fashionable and entertaining city of Brighton with its palms and beaches is situated on the south coast of England. Brighton offers much more than a swim. Brighton Pier is filled with shops, amusements, and entertainment. Another of the city's famous piers, West Pier, was the site of West Pier Concert Hall until a fire destroyed it in 2003. In the future, an observatory tower will be located here.

In Brighton you can ride the world's first electric railway, Volk's Electric Railway, which was founded by Magnus Volk in 1883. Perhaps the most impressive building of the city is the luxurious Indian-inspired palace, the Royal Pavilion from 1822, located in the city's park.

## 50. Bath

**Bath, 170 km W**

[www.visitbath.co.uk](http://www.visitbath.co.uk)

**Station: Bath**

A trip to Bath feels like a trip to the Roman Empire. The centre of the city is filled with ruins or finds from its Roman past, when it was known as Aqua, and both old and new buildings are clearly inspired by Roman or recent Italian style.

The centre of the city is so compressed that you can get everywhere on foot and then afterwards catch the train for London.

A few of the important attractions of Bath are mentioned here, but there are many more museums and beautiful buildings in this picturesque city.

### 50a. Roman Baths

**Stall Street**

[www.romanbaths.co.uk](http://www.romanbaths.co.uk)

[www.thermaebathspa.co.uk](http://www.thermaebathspa.co.uk)

Bath's most famous attraction is the great and impressive Roman baths, founded on the only hot spring in the British Isles. The large grounds are excavated and very well preserved.

As a visitor, you walk on the original Roman floors. You can see the rebuilding of the large baths, the rooms themselves, and a fine exhibition.

In the beautiful restaurant, the Pump Room, you can even taste the water.

Close to the Roman Baths, you can jump into the hot water yourself in the Thermae Spa.

### 50b. Bath Abbey

**Orange Grove**

[www.bathabbey.org](http://www.bathabbey.org)

The beautiful Bath Cathedral is one of the most famous church buildings in England. It was founded in the 600s, but the current Gothic building was built several centuries later and completed at the end of the 1400s. In connection to Bath Abbey, you will find an interesting crypt museum.

### 50c. Sally Lunn's Bun

**4 North Parade Passage**

[www.sallylunns.co.uk](http://www.sallylunns.co.uk)

This is one of the more extraordinary, but recommendable attractions of the city. It is a

restaurant, which carries the name of the Frenchwoman Sally Lunn, who came to England more than 300 years ago. She brought with her a recipe for the lovely buns now known as Sally Lunn's Buns. The buns are used for all of the restaurant's meals, for instance as a 'plate' beneath the meat dishes and as a sweet dessert with fruit.

One ought to visit this establishment, which is located in the oldest residential building of Bath. The atmosphere of the small rooms is wonderful and you can end your visit with a trip to the basement museum, where the kitchen from the 1100s is still preserved.

## 51. Stonehenge

140 km SW

[www.stonehenge.co.uk](http://www.stonehenge.co.uk)

For years, the prehistoric monument Stonehenge has amazed the modern world with its circular stone arrangement. The question is: how and why have these enormous megaliths been positioned at Salisbury Plains?

The surrounding banks and ditches date back to about 3100 BC, while the stones are believed to have been erected around 2200 BC.



## With children in London

Legoland (Windsor, 40 km W):  
[www.legoland.co.uk](http://www.legoland.co.uk)

London Aquarium (Belvedere Road):  
[www.londonaquarium.co.uk](http://www.londonaquarium.co.uk)

London Dungeon (Tooley Street 28-34):  
[www.thedungeons.com](http://www.thedungeons.com)

London Zoo (Regent's Park):  
[www.londonzoo.co.uk](http://www.londonzoo.co.uk)

London Transport Museum (Covent Garden):  
[www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)

Museum of Natural History (Exhibition Road):  
[www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)

Science Museum (Exhibition Road):  
[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

## Shopping in London

Bond Street, Brompton Road, Cork Street, Duke Street, King's Road, Knightsbridge, New Bond Street, Oxford Street, Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street, Sloane Square, Tottenham Court Road  
Covent Garden Market (Covent Garden):  
[www.coventgardenmarket.com](http://www.coventgardenmarket.com)

Harrods (Brompton Road 87-135):  
[www.harrods.com](http://www.harrods.com)

Harvey Nichols (Knightsbridge 109-125):  
[www.harveynichols.com](http://www.harveynichols.com)

John Lewis (Oxford Street 278-308):  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)

Peter Jones (Sloane Square/King's Road):  
[www.peterjones.co.uk](http://www.peterjones.co.uk)

Selfridge's (Oxford Street 400):  
[www.selfridges.com](http://www.selfridges.com)

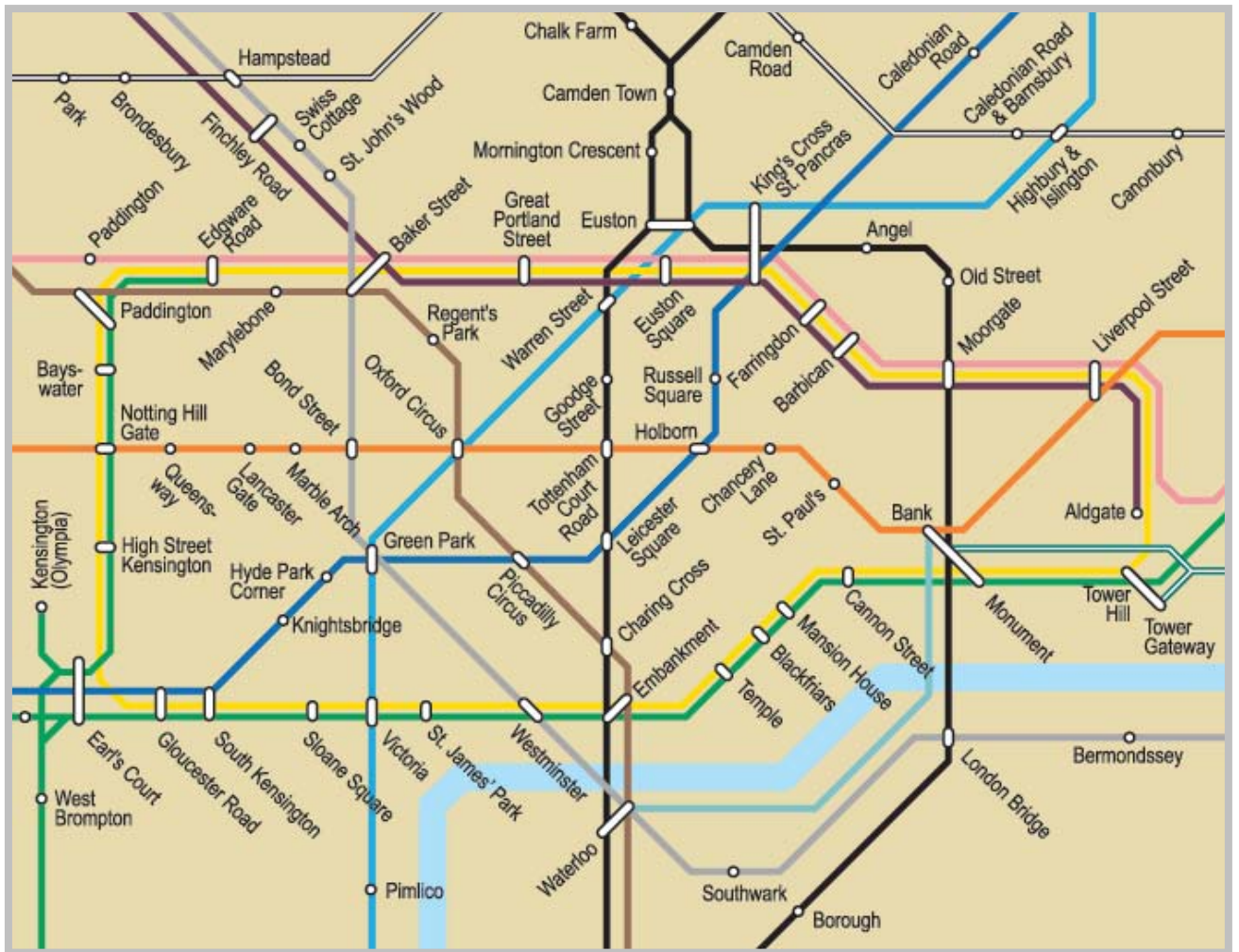
Whiteleys (151 Queensqay):  
[www.whiteleys.com](http://www.whiteleys.com)

## Public transport in London

London Underground:  
<http://tube.tfl.gov.uk>

London's airports:  
[www.baa.co.uk](http://www.baa.co.uk)

# Underground Map



## Facts about The United Kingdom



### Political

Official name	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Capital	London
Form of government	Constitutional monarchy
Head of state	Queen Elizabeth II
Head of Government	Prime Minister Gordon Brown
National Day	23 April (England)
Achieved independence	Has never been governed by other countries
Primary religions	Christianity
Language	English
Area	244 820 km <sup>2</sup>
Population (2001)	58 789 000

### Borders on


North	The Atlantic Ocean, The North Sea
South	The English Channel, Strait of Dover
East	The North Sea
West	The Atlantic Ocean, Irish Sea, Ireland

### Highest mountains

Ben Nevis	1 344 meters
Ben Macdhui	1 309 meters
Braeriach	1 296 meters
Cairn Toul	1 291 meters
Sgor an Lochain Uaine	1 258 meters
Cairn Gorm	1 244 meters
Aonach Beag	1 234 meters
Càrn Mor Dearg	1 223 meters
Aonach Mòr	1 221 meters
Ben Lawers	1 214 meters

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**Largest islands**

Great Britain	216 777 km <sup>2</sup>
Lewis with Harris	2 179 km <sup>2</sup>
Isle of Skye	1 656 km <sup>2</sup>
Mainland Shetland Hebrides	969 km <sup>2</sup>
Mull	875 km <sup>2</sup>
Anglesey	714 km <sup>2</sup>
Islay	620 km <sup>2</sup>
Mainland Orkney Islands	523 km <sup>2</sup>
Arran	432 km <sup>2</sup>
Isle of Wight	381 km <sup>2</sup>

**Largest lakes**

Lough Neagh	382 km <sup>2</sup>
Lower Lough Erne	105 km <sup>2</sup>
Loch Lomond	71 km <sup>2</sup>
Loch Ness	57 km <sup>2</sup>
Upper Lough Erne	44 km <sup>2</sup>
Loch Awe	39 km <sup>2</sup>
Loch Maree	29 km <sup>2</sup>
Loch Morar	27 km <sup>2</sup>
Loch Tay	26 km <sup>2</sup>
Loch Shin	23 km <sup>2</sup>

**Longest rivers**

River Severn	354 km
River Thames	346 km
River Trent	297 km
River Great Ouse	230 km
River Wye	215 km
River Tay	188 km
River Spey	172 km
River Clyde	172 km
River Tweed	155 km

**Largest cities (2006)**

London	8 279 000
Birmingham	2 284 000
Manchester	2 240 000
Leeds/Bradford	1 499 000
Glasgow	1 168 000
Newcastle	880 000
Liverpool	816 000
Nottingham	666 000
Sheffield	641 000
Bristol	551 000

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**Administrative divisions**

Provinces	Area	Capital
England	London	130 395 km <sup>2</sup>
Northern Ireland	Belfast	13 843 km <sup>2</sup>
Scotland	Edinburgh	78 772 km <sup>2</sup>
Wales	Cardiff	20 779 km <sup>2</sup>

**Monarchs since 1707**

Anne	1707-1714
George I	1714-1727
George II	1727-1760
George III	1760-1820
George IV	1820-1830
William IV	1830-1837
Victoria	1837–1901
Edward VII	1901–1910
George V	1910-1936
Edward VIII	1936-1936
George VI	1936-1952
Elizabeth II	1952-

**Prime Ministers since 1945**

Winston Churchill	1940-1945 and 1951-1955
Clement Attlee	1945-1951
Anthony Eden	1955-1957
Harold Macmillan	1957-1963
Alec Douglas-Home	1963-1964
Harold Wilson	1964-1970 and 1974-1976
Edward Heath	1970-1974
James Callaghan	1976-1979
Margaret Thatcher	1979-1990
John Major	1990-1997
Tony Blair	1997-2007
Gordon Brown	2007-

### Holidays and commemorative days \*

1 January	New Year's Day
Easter day/Easter Sunday -2 days	Good Friday
Varying dates	Easter Day
Easter Day + 1 day	Easter Monday
First Monday in May	May Day
Last Monday in May	Spring Bank Holiday
25 December (or first weekday)	Christmas Day (Holiday)
26 December (or second weekday)	Boxing Day (Holiday)

\* additional holidays vary from country to country

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**Various facts**

Currency	British pounds sterling
Currency code	GBP
Time zone	GMT (UTC+0)
Country postal code	GB
Internet domain	.uk
Telephone country code	+44

Climate - London	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	4.9	62
February	4.6	36
March	7.1	50
April	9.0	43
May	12.6	45
June	15.6	46
July	18.4	46
August	17.8	44
September	15.2	43
October	12.0	73
November	7.7	45
December	6.1	59

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))

Climate - Manchester	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	3.1	71
February	4.0	59
March	5.6	58
April	8.1	52
May	11.6	62
June	14.4	71
July	15.8	87
August	15.6	93
September	13.4	82
October	10.1	93
November	6.1	85
December	4.3	87

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))

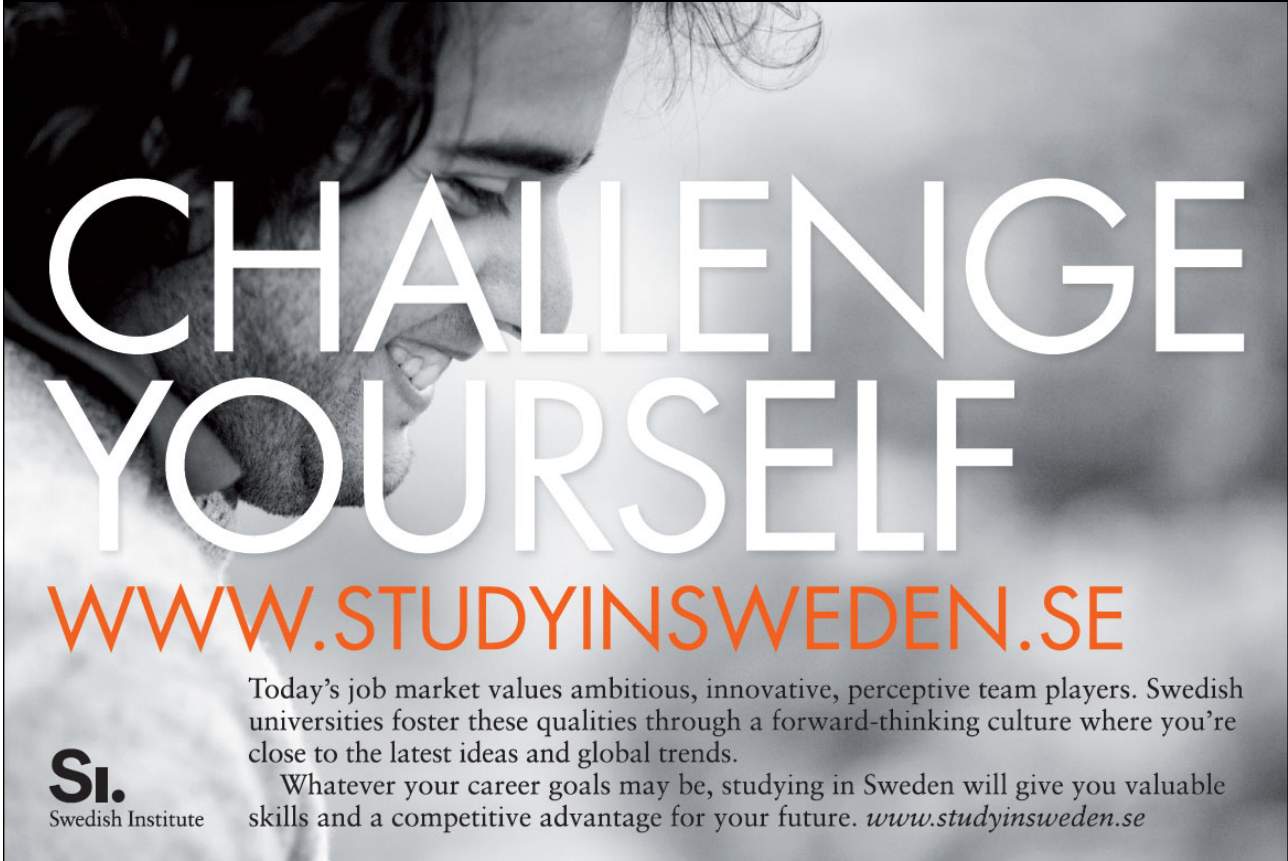
Climate - Edinburgh	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	3.1	55
February	3.3	41
March	5.2	47
April	7.1	39
May	9.9	50
June	12.8	50
July	14.5	64
August	14.3	69
September	12.3	63
October	9.6	62
November	5.8	63
December	4.1	61

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))

Climate - Belfast	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	4.1	83
February	4.4	55
March	5.6	59
April	7.7	51
May	10.5	56
June	13.4	65
July	14.7	79
August	14.5	78
September	12.5	82
October	9.4	85
November	6.2	75
December	4.7	84

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))

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Climate - Cardiff	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	4.5	91
February	4.4	64
March	6.0	73
April	8.0	52
May	11.1	62
June	14.0	65
July	16.0	69
August	15.9	77
September	14.0	83
October	11.2	93
November	7.4	98
December	5.6	95

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))



Hello Dublin



## A visit to Dublin

One of the main attractions in the Irish capital of Dublin is the Irish national spirit, which finds expression in the famous Irish pubs with live Irish music. One must not leave without memories of this unique part of Ireland.

However, there is much more to Dublin - the Vikings' historic settlement, the elegant and intellectual atmosphere of Trinity College, the expansive shopping streets, the green oases in the city centre and of course the Temple Bar District, where the song of Molly Malone still seems to linger in the streets.

Ireland is often referred to as 'The Green Island', a name that becomes obvious when visiting the landscape surrounding Dublin. A wonderful nature and a relaxed country life can be experienced close to the city. If one wants to experience wild nature, the hilly country near Wicklow Mountains and the Irish east coast offer many opportunities.

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## Historical outline: Dublin

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Dublin was officially founded in 988, although remains from earlier habitations date back to the town of Eblana around the year 100.

The Danish Vikings founded Dublin in the Wood Quay area, where many objects dating from that period have been found. The city acquired its name Dubh Linn (meaning Black Pool) from the confluence of the River Liffey and the River Poddle.

The Vikings controlled the area until the Irish attacked several times: in 1052, 1075 and 1124. The Viking era in Dublin ended when they were defeated by The English king, Henry II, in 1171.

The English settled and maintained control of the Irish east coast for centuries, despite numerous attacks made by the Irish from the expansive wastelands.

The 1300s saw several unsuccessful Scottish attempts to invade. In 1348 the plague raged in Dublin, arresting the city's development.

The 1500s brought a rebellion against England and Henry VIII, who responded by closing down the convents of Ireland.

In 1592, Trinity College was founded by the decision of Queen Elizabeth. Thus, Dublin's educational tradition began.

The reign of Queen Elizabeth also meant a greater English movement towards integrating those rural areas of Ireland that had, until now, partly been left to the local inhabitants. Until the 1600s, Dublin remained a small, fortified medieval town. In 1649 the town had about 9,000 inhabitants, and in the same year, Oliver Cromwell redistributed a number of Ireland's fertile rural areas to his soldiers, among others.

Ireland supported the Catholic James II in the 1690 Battle of Boyne, but they were defeated. and James's supporters were excluded by the parliament and protestant rule was established.

The population increased due to the large number of protestant immigrants who came to the island from several parts of Europe.

In the 1700s Dublin flourished, and the city became one of the most significant cities in the British Empire. Many Dubliners achieved considerable affluence, thus helping the city out of the Middle Ages. Many new areas were established, marked by the new Georgian houses and neighbourhoods which remain a significant feature of the city. After this prosperous century, an Irish assumption supported by the French was attempted in 1798.

The status of both Dublin and Ireland was reduced in 1801 upon the resignation of the Irish Parliament and the transfer of power to London. It was the beginning of a long period of stagnation for Dublin. Already in 1803 a new rebellion took place, but it was poorly planned and easily suppressed by the British. In the 1800s Catholics fought for increased rights in the nation, which was then still under protestant rule. A famine raged on the island from 1845 to 1851. Refugees flocked to Dublin, as it was not as badly affected as the rural areas. The increased pressure caused a decided economic decline for the city.

Charles Parnell stated the demand for Irish independence at the parliament in London, and at the turn of the century, the separatist political movement, Sinn Féin, was formed.

The Home Rule Act was passed in 1914, but suspended during World War I.

In 1916 there was once again a rebellion against British rule. It was put down at the General Post Office at O'Donnell Street, but no more than three years later, from 1919-1921, an actual revolution took place, leading to Irish independence and the creation of the Irish Free State.

Upon independence, Dublin became the capital of the republic, since the city was its natural political, cultural, and economic centre.

In 1949 Ireland withdrew from the Commonwealth and formed a republic. In the following decades, Dublin's development was slow and both the city and the country were among the poorest in Western Europe.

Through its membership of the European Union the Irish economy underwent a significant development from the 1980s and onwards, and Dublin quickly became one of Europe's great tourist attractions

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## Tour 1: Dublin

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### 1. Bank of Ireland

#### Foster Place

[www.bankofireland.com](http://www.bankofireland.com)

This building was erected in 1729 for the purpose of housing the Irish Parliament, and as such is historically interesting. When the parliament moved to London, the Bank of Ireland took over the place and has been there ever since.

Most noteworthy is the chamber of the former Upper House, the Irish House of Lords, in which the great murals from the 1700s and the chandelier are still intact. The building is also the home of the Bank of Ireland Art Collection, which tells the story of banking through 200 years of the nation's history.

### 2. Trinity College



#### College Green

[www.tcd.ie](http://www.tcd.ie)

Queen Elizabeth I founded this, the oldest university in Ireland, in 1592. However, the present beautiful buildings are of a later origin, built in the 1700s.

Trinity College is primarily known for its magnificent library, in which some of Ireland's greatest treasures are kept. The impressive Long Room is 64 metres long and holds 200,000 antique books. The most famous ones, such as the Book of Kells, are on display in a separate room. In the Long Room one can also find Ireland's oldest harp, the country's national symbol. The chapel from 1798 is worth a visit with its fine stained-glass paintings from 1867.

### 3. National Library

#### Kildare Street

[www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie)

The Irish National Library was built in 1890 and especially the domed Reading Room gives an impression of a classical library. The place has a unique atmosphere.

### 4. Leinster House



#### Kildare Street

[www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie)

The Leinster House palace was built between 1745-1748. It was originally named Kildare House after its first resident, the Earl of Kildare. The Earl of Kildare eventually became a member of the Upper House and was appointed Duke of Leinster; thus the palace's present name.

When the Irish Parliament was dissolved and transferred to London in 1800, many aristocrats sold their palaces. Leinster House was bought by the Royal Dublin Society, which owned the house until Irish independence, when it became the home of the Irish Parliament.

Its new status as the home of the parliament was meant to be temporary, but instead of building a new place, Leinster house has gradually been expanded, and thus remains the seat of the Irish Parliament, the Oireachtas.

## 5. National Museum



**Kildare Street**  
[www.museum.ie](http://www.museum.ie)

The National Museum opened in 1890. Obviously, as the country's national museum, it houses grand collections which give one a solid and well-communicated impression of Ireland. The exhibitions show finds from various places in Ireland. Of special interest are the sections with Celtic art, effects from the Viking Age, and the so-called Gold of Ireland, which is one of Europe's finest antique collections. The building on Kildare Street is the main one, but the National Museum also has other departments in Dublin – the Department of Natural History, The National History Museum on Merrion Street and the decorative art collection in Collins Barracks.

## 6. National Gallery



**Merrion Square West & Clare Street**  
[www.nationalgallery.ie](http://www.nationalgallery.ie)

The building that houses Ireland's National Gallery was built for the purpose in 1864. It was established in order to collect and exhibit the growing collection of especially Irish art.

In addition to the fine collection of art produced by national artists, the gallery also dedicates several rooms to Flemish, French and Spanish masterpieces. Monet, Degas, Rembrandt and Goya are just a few examples of the represented artists.

## 7. Merrion Square



### Merrion Square

Dublin is famous for its Georgian neighbourhoods. The terrace houses surrounding Merrion Square are some of the grandest examples. The area dates from the 1700s, when Ireland flourished economically and building activity was consequently great. Take a walk round the square and look at the houses. The north side especially is typical with its decorated entrances, the colours on the doors, the wrought-iron balconies and the other characteristics that make Georgian buildings so decorative. Merrion Square is also the home of an Oscar Wilde statue.

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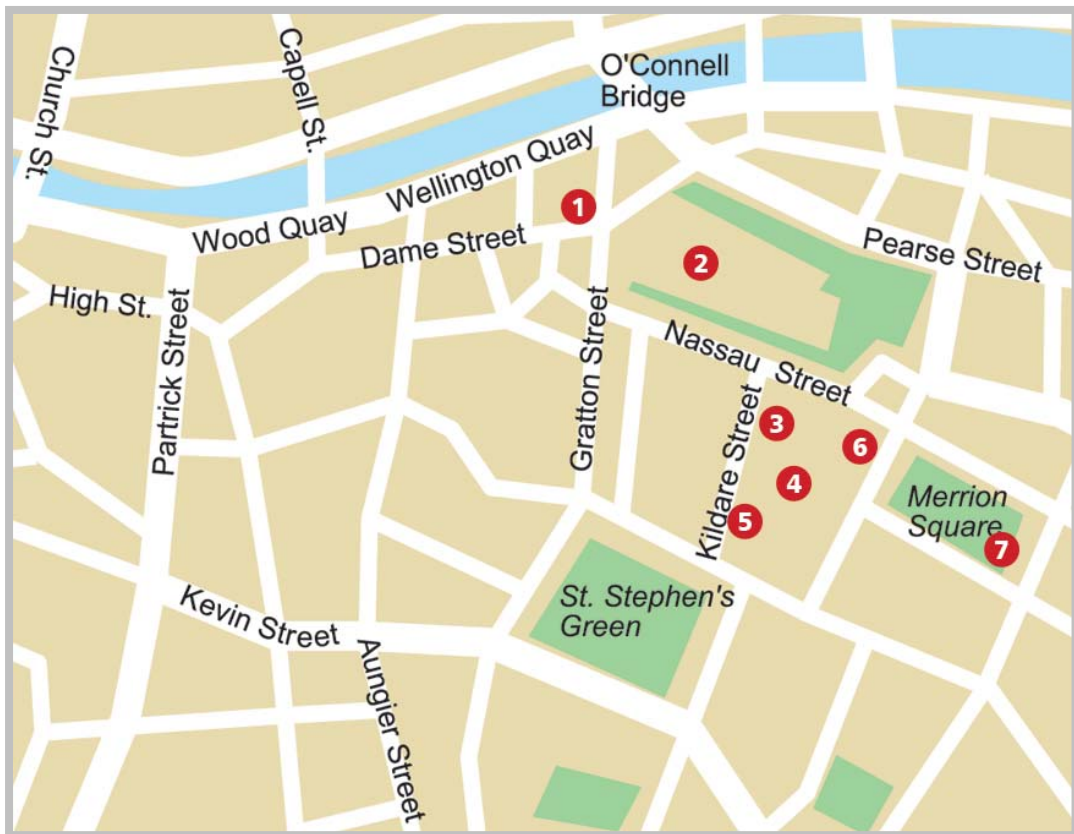
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## Tour 2: Dublin

### 8. St. Stephen's Green



#### St. Stephen's Green

This public park was laid out in 1880 and was originally one of the city's commons. Today it is a beautiful park with a pleasant atmosphere among the many flowerbeds, small lakes and busts, one of them of James Joyce.

On the north side of the large green square, we find Ireland's finest and most traditional hotel, the Shelbourne Hotel. It is a good idea to enjoy a cup of afternoon tea in the distinguished interior.

### 9. Mansion House



#### Dawson Street

[www.dublincity.ie](http://www.dublincity.ie)

This beautiful palace is built in Queen Anne style. It was built in 1710, and five years later, Dublin's mayor moved in. It has since been the official residence of the city's successive mayors.

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Education: Chemical Engineer

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A special event occurred on 21 January 1919, when the Irish assembly, Dáil Éireann, met for the first time. The meeting took place in the Round Room and had the purpose of declaring Irish independence.

## 10. St. Ann's Church

### Dawson Street

[www.stannschurch.ie](http://www.stannschurch.ie)

St. Ann's Church was built in 1707. However, the Romanesque facade was not added until 1868. The church is home to beautiful stained glass paintings from the 1800s and a curiosity: a water engine organ built in 1834

## 11. Grafton Street



### Grafton Street

Grafton Street is Dublin's most popular pedestrian shopping street. In addition to the numerous shops and restaurants you can see a statue of Ireland's most famous street vendor, the celebrated Molly Malone, at Nassau Street. The statue was erected in 1988.

## 12. Powerscourt Centre

### South William Street 59

[www.powerscourtcentre.com](http://www.powerscourtcentre.com)

Powerscourt Townhouse is originally a townhouse from 1774, built by Lord Powerscourt. In 1981 it was made into a large shopping centre called the Powerscourt Centre. The building still incorporates some of the original arrangements. The always-pleasant atmosphere of the place makes it a great place for shopping or merely relaxation.

## 13. City Hall



### Cork Hill, Dame Street

[www.dublincity.ie/yourcouncil/city\\_hall](http://www.dublincity.ie/yourcouncil/city_hall)

Dublin's City Hall was originally the Royal Exchange, built in Corinthian style in the period 1769-1779. It functioned as the Royal Exchange until 1852, when Dublin bought it for the purpose of housing its City Council.

The grandeur of the building is a symbol of Dublin's wealth and capacity in the 1700s, and among the beautiful rooms is the large central rotunda. The City Hall also houses an exhibition of Dublin's development from 1170 to the present, which focuses primarily on the development and role of the City Council.

## 14. Dublin Castle



### Dame Street

[www.dublincastle.ie](http://www.dublincastle.ie)

Dublin Castle has stood on this site since the 1200s. However, only Record Tower is preserved from that time. The present castle dates mainly from the 1700s. The castle's residential areas and reception rooms are built for the viceroys of Ireland. Of special interest is the Throne Room. Today, Dublin Castle is primarily used by the official Ireland as reception rooms for large official engagements.

## 15. Chester Beatty Library

### Dublin Castle, Dame Street

[www.cbi.ie](http://www.cbi.ie)

In 1968, the American Chester Beatty bequeathed his unique collection of books and manuscripts to the city of Dublin. Among the effects in the changing exhibitions are 6000-year-old stone tablets, papyri, beautiful editions of the Bible, The Koran, and numerous Asian books, made in materials which are unusual for that purpose – for example, bark and jade

## 16. Temple Bar District



### Temple Bar/Fleet Street

[www.templebar.ie](http://www.templebar.ie)

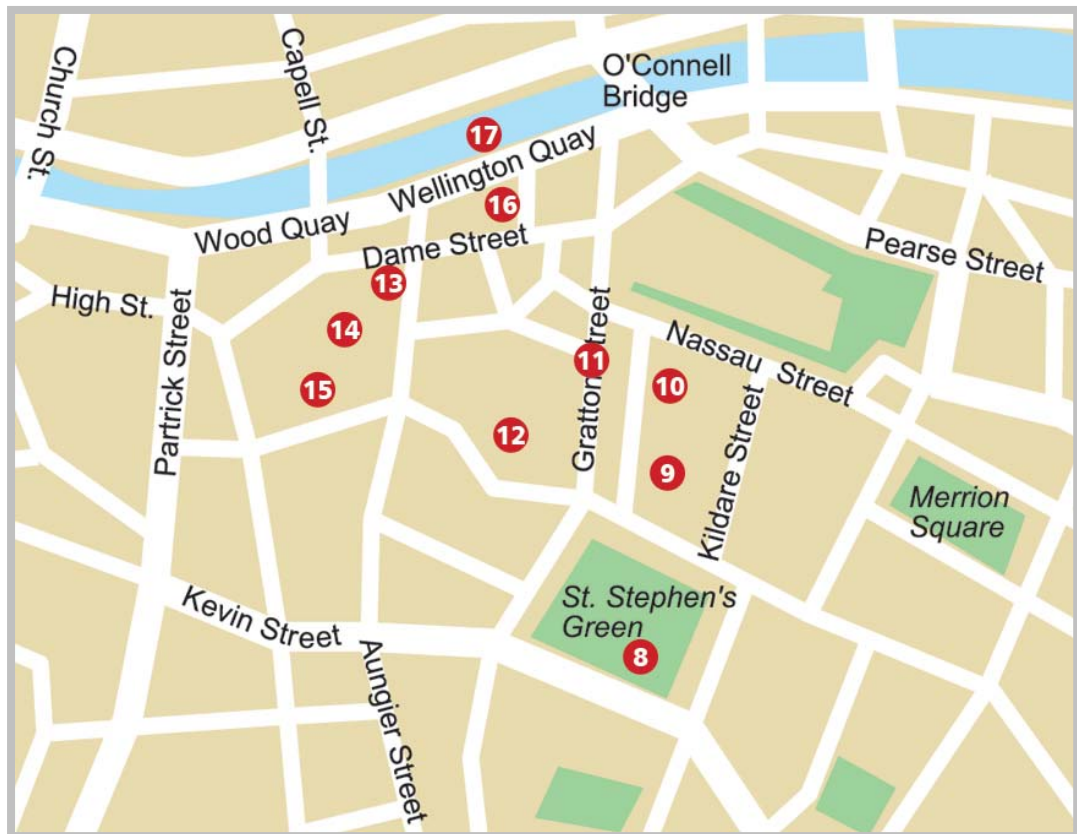
The Temple Bar District consists of relatively small houses in a number of narrow streets. It was a poor, worn-down neighbourhood until the 1960s. Today, it is one of Dublin's most popular neighbourhoods due to the cosy streets and the lively nightlife.

In the early 1990s, the area underwent an enormous transformation and renovation effort that made it what it is today. Culture flourishes, and a walk through the narrow streets offers entertainment, numerous galleries and small shops.

## 17. Ha'penny Bridge

### Ha'penny Bridge

This lovely, cast-iron bridge over the River Liffey, Ha'penny Bridge, was built in 1816. It was originally called Wellington Bridge and later Liffey Bridge, its official name to this day. It acquired its pet name thanks to the halfpenny toll that was levied for crossing the bridge until 1919.



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## Tour 3: Dublin

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### 18. Custom House



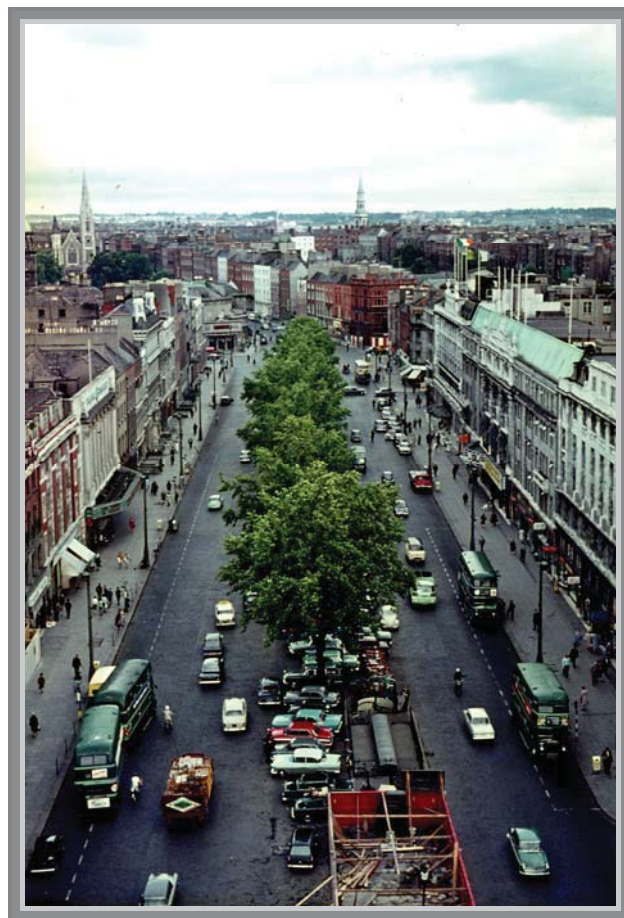
#### Custom House Quay

Custom House is the name of Dublin's distinguished old Custom Building, built in 1781-1791. After having been in use for only nine years, the custom functions were transferred to London in 1800. This did not, however, leave the building empty. Public offices, such as the tax police, moved into the building.

In 1921 the building was burnt to the ground. A reconstruction was begun during the following five years, but was only partial, and the building was not fully restored until 1991.

Today, the characteristic building houses exhibitions on the history of the Custom House and the architect James Gandon's buildings in Ireland.

### 19. O'Connell Street



#### O'Connell Street

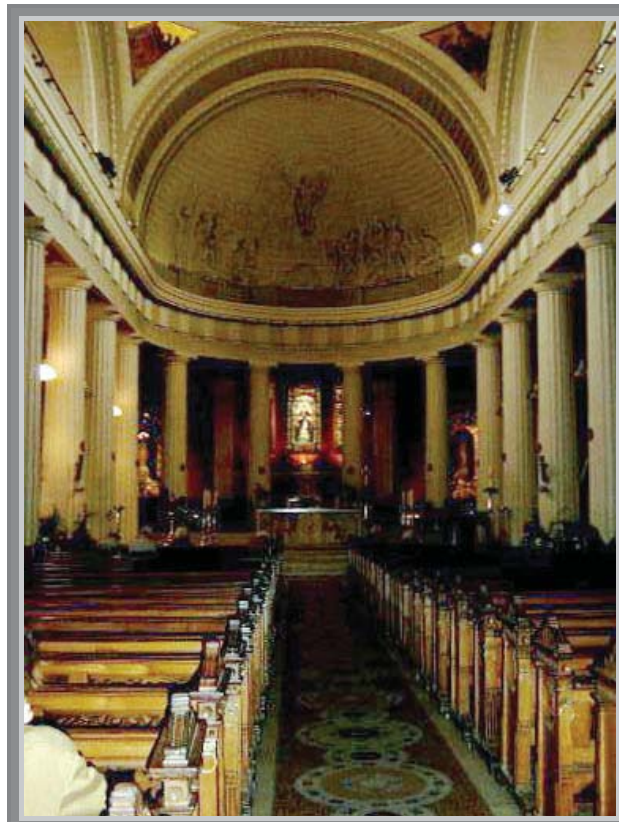
O'Connell Street is Dublin's main thoroughfare. Luke Gardiner designed it in the 1750s. He wished to create a tree-lined boulevard with beautiful mansions and townhouses. There are only a few original houses left today, but many of the present buildings are fortunately also worth a look. On the paved median space stands a large statue of Daniel O'Connell, the man behind the first liberties given to Irish Catholics in 1828.

## 20. General Post Office

**O'Connell Street**

Dublin's General Post Office was built in 1818. The building has historical significance, since it was the location of the Easter Rising in 1916. During the rebellion, the Irish declared Ireland a republic from the front stairs of the building, but the rebellion was put down under fire from gunboats on the River Liffey.

## 21. St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral



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**Marlborough Street 83****[www.procathedral.ie](http://www.procathedral.ie)**

St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral was built in 1815-1825 in a beautiful neo-classicist style. The church was quickly accepted as the Catholic Cathedral, but it was not until 1886 that it officially acquired the title of Pro-Cathedral. The cathedral is the home of the Palestrina Choir that regularly performs for audiences there.

**22. James Joyce Centre****North Great George's Street 35****[www.jamesjoyce.ie](http://www.jamesjoyce.ie)**

The world-renowned author James Joyce was born in Dublin, where all of his great stories take place. Most famous is his novel *Ulysses*, which was based on real life in Dublin on 16 June 1904.

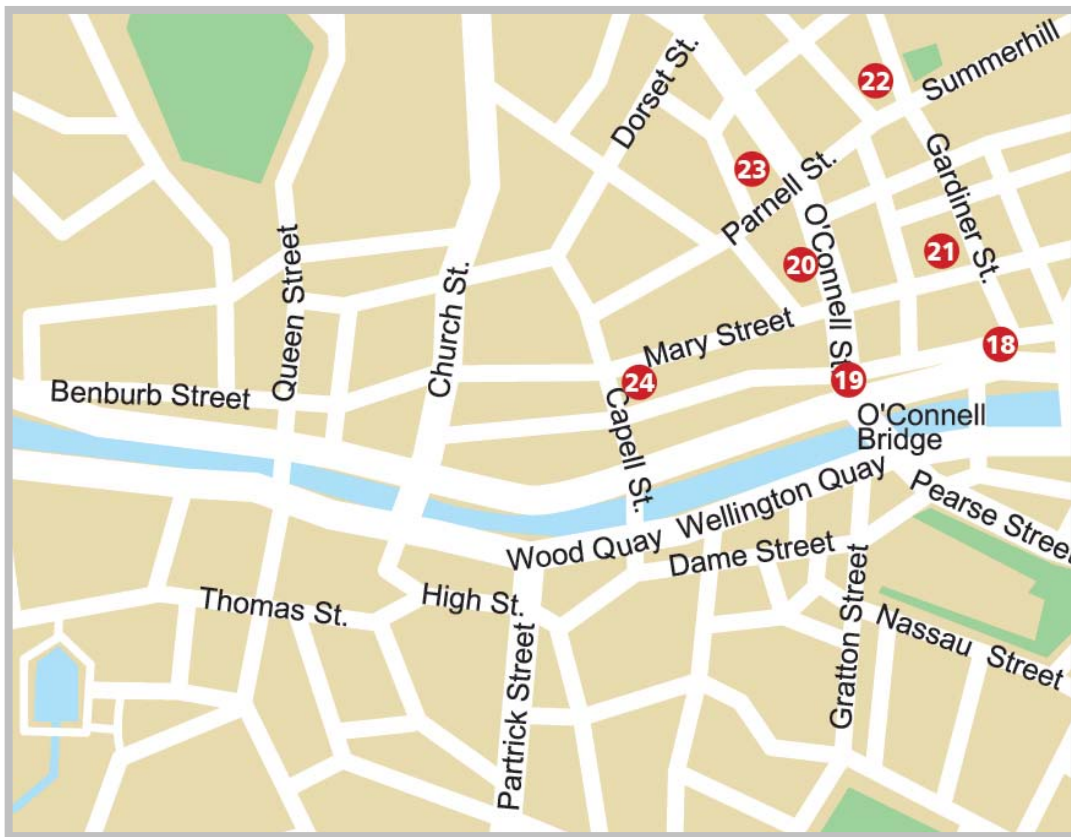
The James Joyce Centre occupies the Earl of Kenmare's townhouse from 1784. It showcases a beautiful Georgian interior. The actual exhibition in the centre illuminates the author's life and naturally, his work. Joyce enthusiasts can receive information on walks in the neighbourhoods where James Joyce or the fictional characters of *Ulysses* used to walk.

**23. Rotunda Hospital****Parnell Square****[www.rotunda.ie](http://www.rotunda.ie)**

In 1745, Bartholomew Mosse founded the Rotunda Hospital, which was the first to be specifically designed as a maternity hospital. In 1757 the hospital moved to its present location, and in 1764 the rotunda that gives the hospital its name was opened. The rotunda was used for large gatherings to collect money for hospital management, and a concert with Franz Liszt took place here. The rotunda showcases beautiful stained-glass paintings, impressive stuccoes and other plasterwork.

**24. St. Mary's Abbey****Meetinghouse Lane**

The Benedictines founded St. Mary's Abbey in 1139, but already in 1147 it was handed over to the Cistercians. It was Ireland's largest and most significant convent until it, along with the other convents in Ireland, was dissolved by King Henry VIII in 1539. The materials from it were consequently used to build other monuments. Only a vaulted hall remains, but it displays a model of the original convent.



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## Tour 4: Dublin

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### 25. Old Jameson Distillery

#### **Bow Street**

For whiskey enthusiasts, a visit to the Old Jameson Distillery is a must. The tour through John Jameson's old production machinery goes through the production process from the raw materials to the finished drops. The difference between Irish and Scottish whiskey is explained and the tour ends – naturally – with a complimentary glass of whiskey. Irish whiskey dates back to the 500s. The Jameson Distillery was in use from 1780-1971.

### 26. The Chimney Viewing Tower

#### **Smithfield Village**

At the top of the former chimney of the Old Jameson Distillery a glass platform offers a magnificent 360-degree panoramic view of Dublin.

### 27. Four Courts



### **Inns Quay**

In 1802, James Gandon, who also designed Custom House, finished the Four Courts building, built to house the four courts – hence the name. Its quiet existence as the home of administrative offices changed significantly in the first half of the twentieth century. In 1922 a group of Irish Republicans occupied the building to protest the Anglo-Irish Treaty that had established Ireland as part of the British Empire. During the occupation, Four Courts was bombed and ruined. In the following years, Four Courts was rebuilt according to the original drawings. One can see and read about the history of the place under the large dome of the building.

### 28. Wood Quay



#### **Wood Quay**

The riverside area Wood Quay is where the Vikings settled after sailing along the River Liffey. It is thus the site of origin for Ireland's capital. Excavations have unearthed finds from the Viking Age, which dates from 841. Today, the Dublin City Council has erected administration offices at the site.

## 29. Christ Church Cathedral



### Christchurch Place

[www.cccdub.ie](http://www.cccdub.ie)

In 1038 the Vikings built a wooden church at the site of the present Christ Church Cathedral, but when the Norman leader Strongbow conquered the area in 1172, he initiated the building of Christ Church Cathedral. The church building was finished in 1240, but it has been rebuilt and expanded all the way until the 1800s. A large reconstruction took place in 1870. Since the Reformation, the church has functioned as the Protestant community's cathedral.

In the 25-metre-high Gothic interior of the church, one finds the tomb of Strongbow. Of interest are the crypt, the remains of the original Viking church and parts of the church from the 1200s.

## 30. Dublinia

### St. Michael's Hill

[www.dublinia.ie](http://www.dublinia.ie)

The Dublinia exhibition is organized in Synod Hall, which previously housed the leading assembly of the protestant Church of Ireland. The bridge leading to the cathedral was built in 1870. The exhibition presents the life of the city and its inhabitants from the 1100s to the 1500s. It is possible to climb up into the tower and enjoy a fine view of Dublin.

## 31. St. Audoen's Church

### High Street

St. Audoen's Church is the oldest existing church in Dublin. However, only the twelfth-century tower is from the original building, while the present church building stems from the fifteenth century. Behind the church one finds the last remaining city gate of Dublin, St Audoen's Arch. One can also see parts of the city wall from the 1200s.

## 32. Guinness Storehouse

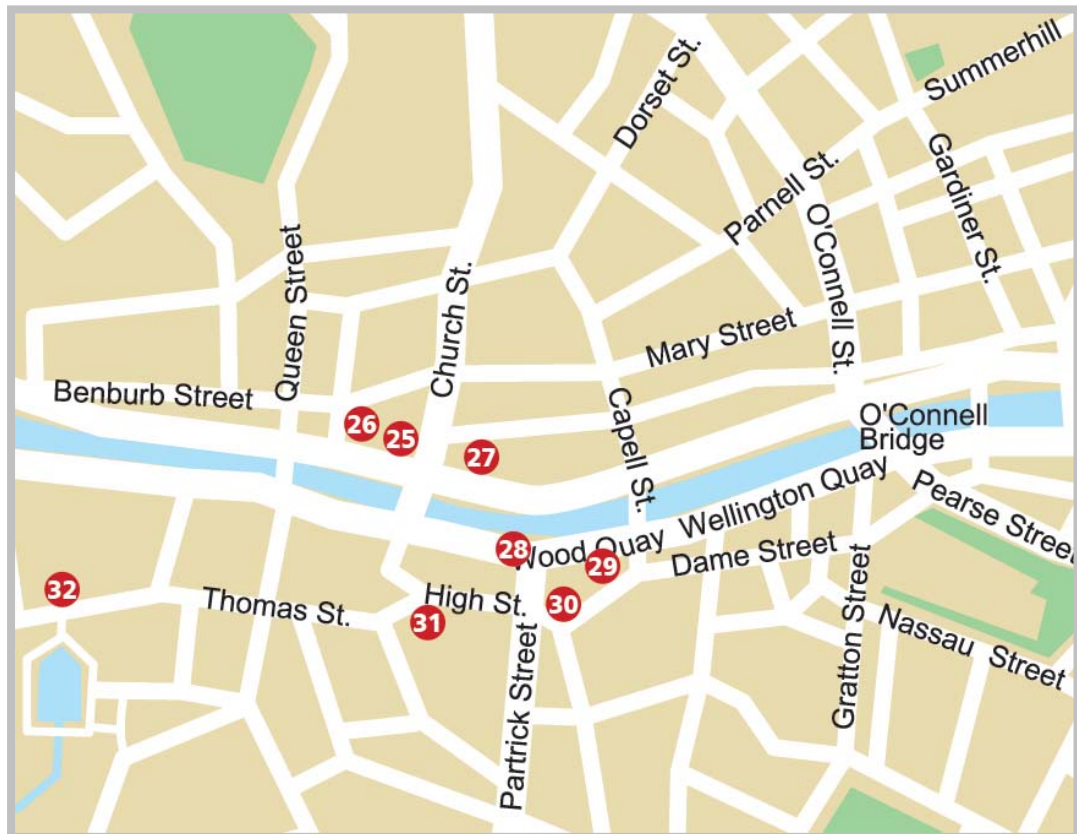


### St. James's Gate

[www.guinnessstorehouse.com](http://www.guinnessstorehouse.com)

Ireland is famous for many things around the world, and one of them is the dark Guinness beer with its fine, foamy head. The brewery is located near the city centre and is open to visitors.

A tour through the Guinness Brewery is a journey through the history and making of the dark beer. The impressive exhibition ends with a complimentary pint in the panorama bar on the top of the brewery, which offers a magnificent view of Dublin.



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## Day Tours from Dublin

### 33. Phoenix Park



#### Phoenix Park, 3 km W

On the Western outskirts of Dublin you will find the 712 hectare (1,760 acres) park, Phoenix Park. The popular park is the home of the Dublin Zoo. It is also the location of three of the city's well-known monuments.

The Wellington Monument can be seen at the entrance to the park. The 62 metres (210ft) tall obelisk was raised in commemoration of the Duke of Wellington's victories during the Napoleonic wars.

The Phoenix Monument consists of a central column with a phoenix rising from the ashes at the top. Lord Chesterfield had the Phoenix Monument erected in 1747.

The Papal Cross was erected at the exact spot where Pope John Paul II celebrated mass in the park in 1979 for more than one million Irishmen.

### 34. National Botanic Gardens

#### Glasnevin, 5 km N

[www.botanicgardens.ie](http://www.botanicgardens.ie)

The National Botanic Gardens are Ireland's most wonderful botanical gardens. They were founded in 1795 and contain, among the numerous different species, a large collection of orchids, cacti, and the famous rose garden.

The large greenhouses and the cast iron palm house, which was built in the mid-1800s, give the place a special atmosphere as one strolls through the garden.

### 35. Malahide Castle



#### Malahide, 15 km N

[www.historic.irishcastles.com/malahide.htm](http://www.historic.irishcastles.com/malahide.htm)

Malahide Castle is situated near the seaside town of Malahide and looks like a real baronial castle with its characteristic towers. The castle itself is from the 1300s, whereas the towers and walls are of a later origin.

Through the centuries, the castle was in the possession of the Talbot family, who lived here until 1973. Since then the castle has housed different exhibitions. One can experience typically Irish interior design from the eighteenth century and several portrait paintings. The castle also houses the great miniature railway, Fry Model Railway, which can bring a smile to the faces of boys of all ages.

### 36. Waterways Visitor Centre

#### Grand Canal Quay, 2 km E

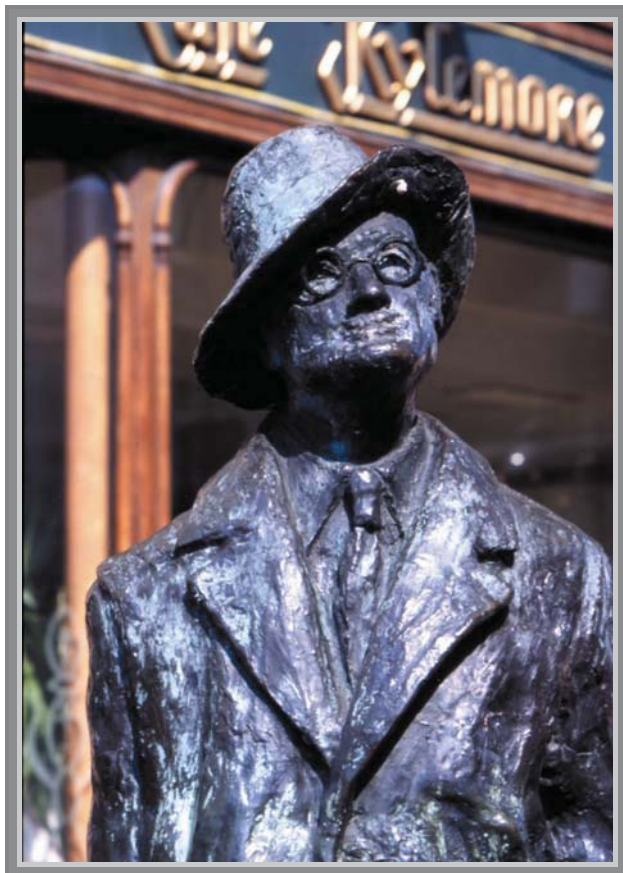
[www.waterwaysireland.org](http://www.waterwaysireland.org)

Ireland is traversed by many canals, which can be seen in and outside Dublin. Close to the city centre you will find the exhibition Waterways Visitor Centre, which gives a fine impression and general view of the many canals and their functions.

The canals were laid out in the affluent 1700s, when they served as modern ways of transportation that connected Ireland's rural areas with the capital, thus contributing to increased trade.

For Dublin, it meant a connection by water to the rest of the rivers all the way to Shannon and the West Coast.

### 37. James Joyce Tower



#### Dalkey, 17 km SE

[www.dun-laoghaire.com/dir.jjtower.html](http://www.dun-laoghaire.com/dir.jjtower.html)

South of Dun Laoghaire on the southern outskirts of Dublin, the James Joyce Museum is located in one of the old Martello towers, which was built in the beginning of the 1800s to withstand invasion by Napoleon.

The museum in the tower, where James Joyce briefly stayed, exhibits some of the author's work and personal belongings. From the gun platform at the top of the tower one has a magnificent view of Dublin Bay, where the ferries from Dun Laoghaire connect Ireland to Holyhead in Wales.

### 38. Killiney

#### 20 km SE

On the way south from Dun Laoghaire one can enjoy the beautiful view of the lengthy coastline to the Wicklow Mountains. The picturesque scenery gives one an impression of the rugged cliffs which can be experienced all around the green island.

### 39. Powerscourt

#### 25 km S

[www.powerscourt.ie](http://www.powerscourt.ie)

The Powerscourt House mansion was built as a manor house in 1731. A fire destroyed it in 1974, but parts of the old building have now been rebuilt. The building houses an exhibition of the history of the house.

The main attraction is the garden, which is among the most beautiful in Ireland. It was laid out in the same year as the building, but has been further embellished upon during the 1800s.

A walk through the gardens provides the possibility of enjoying the terraced Italian Garden, which leads down to the wonderful Lake Triton that takes its name from the fountain in the centre of the lake. You will also encounter the Japanese Garden as well as the Dolphin Pond as you walk through the park.

While visiting Powerscourt, you can make a trip to the Powerscourt Waterfall, a few kilometres from the gardens. With its 121 metres (400 ft) it is the highest waterfall in Ireland

#### 40. Wicklow Mountains

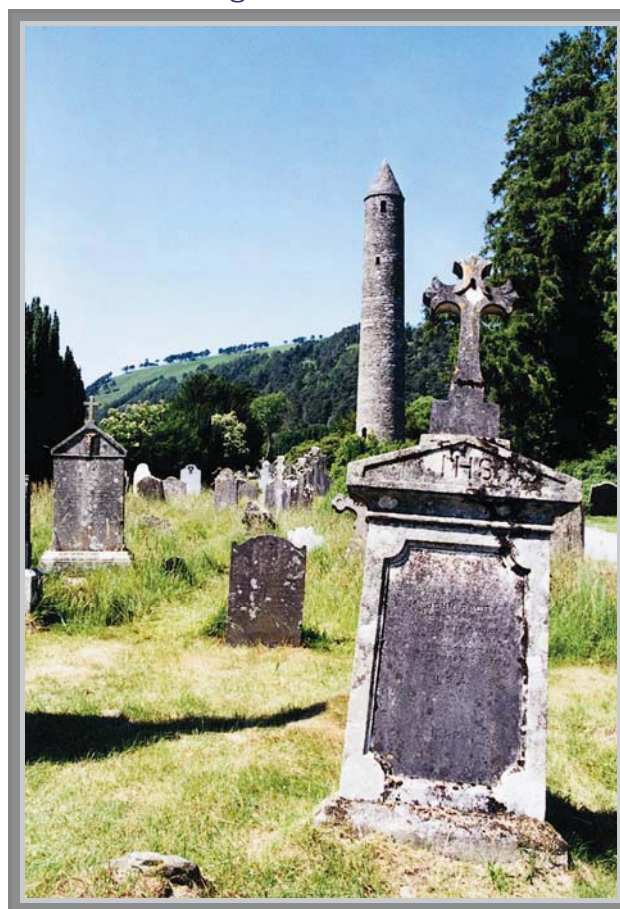
**50 km S**

[www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie)

If one longs for the wild nature of Ireland, the great hilly area of the Wicklow Mountains is an excellent choice. It gives a fine impression of the splendour of Ireland's diverse landscapes.

Windswept, wasteland pastures lie side by side with soft hills, rugged mountains, and picturesque lakes. It is a beautiful and very different landscape to experience. Visit the different vantage points: for instance, the Military Road, a route of just under 100 kilometres, laid out in the year 1800 in order to make the area more passable.

#### 41. Glendalough



##### **Glendalough, 55 km S**

Glendalough is incredibly beautifully situated in a long valley near two lakes in Wicklow Mountains. In Glendalough one can see the ruins of convents dating back to St. Kevin's first buildings in the 500s.

The convent weathered several Viking attacks, but still managed to flourish for centuries until English troops attacked the area in 1398. This began a period of decline for the convent, which was eventually dissolved during the general dissolution of Irish convents in 1539. The majority of the ruins that are left today are believed to stem from the eighth to the eleventh century, among them is the characteristic 30-metre-high Round Tower, which is the best kept of its kind in Ireland.

The Round Tower is situated in the graveyard, where one can see the ruins of the twelfth century cathedral. Notice St. Kevin's Cross, which dates from the same period. The cross is a typical Celtic High Cross.

The ruin by the next lake, Upper Lake, is presumed to have been the place where St. Kevin lived. St. Kevin's Cell is believed to have been the home of St. Kevin.

## 42. Castletown House

40 km W

[www.irish-architecture.com/castletown](http://www.irish-architecture.com/castletown)

Castletown House was built in 1722-1732 for the Speaker of the Irish House of Commons, William Conolly. The style is Italian, as is the mansion's Florentine architect, Alessandro Galilei. The interior dates from the 1700s and a tour of the place offers a good impression of the life of well-to-do people of the time.

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### With children in Dublin

Dracula Experience (Clontarf Road):  
[www.thebramstokerdraculaexperience.com](http://www.thebramstokerdraculaexperience.com)

Dublin Zoo (Phoenix Park):  
[www.dublinzoo.ie](http://www.dublinzoo.ie)

Fry Model Railway (Malahide Castle, Malahide):  
[www.castlesireland.com/fry-railway.html](http://www.castlesireland.com/fry-railway.html)

Wax Museum (Granby Row, Parnell Square)

### Shopping in Dublin

Grafton Street, O'Connell Street, Henry Street,  
Temple Bar District

Blanchardstown Centre (Blanchardstown):  
[www.blanchardstowncentre.com](http://www.blanchardstowncentre.com)

Dundrum Town Centre (Sandyford  
Road/Dundrum Bypass):  
[www.dundrum.ie](http://www.dundrum.ie)

Jervis Shopping Centre (Henry Street):  
[www.jervis.ie](http://www.jervis.ie)

Liffey Valley Shopping Centre (Coldcut Road/N4):  
[www.liffeyvalley.ie](http://www.liffeyvalley.ie)

Powerscourt Centre (South William Street 59):  
[www.powerscourtcentre.com](http://www.powerscourtcentre.com)

Stephen's Green Shopping Centre (St. Stephen's  
Green):  
[www.stephensgreen.com](http://www.stephensgreen.com)

### Public transportation in Dublin

Dublin city transportation:  
[www.luas.ie](http://www.luas.ie)

Dublin Airport:  
[www.dublin-airport.com](http://www.dublin-airport.com)

Irish Rail (incl. DART in Dublin):  
[www.irishrail.ie](http://www.irishrail.ie)

# Metro Map



## Facts about Ireland



### Political

Official name	Ireland (Éire)
Capital	Dublin (Baile Átha Cliath)
Form of government	Republic
Head of state	President Mary McAleese
Head of Government	Prime Minister Bertie Ahern
National Day	17 March
Achieved independence	6 December 1922, from Great Britain
Primary religions	Christianity
Language	English, Gaelic
Area	70 273 km <sup>2</sup>
Population (1999)	3 744 000

**Borders on**

North	Northern Ireland, The Atlantic Ocean
South	The Celtic Sea
East	Northern Ireland, The Irish Sea
West	The Atlantic Ocean

**Highest mountains**

Carrantuohill	1 041 meters
Beenkeragh	1 010 meters
Caher	1 001 meters
Cnoc na Péiste	988 meters
Caher West Top	975 meters
Maolán Bui	973 meters
Carrauntoohil Tooth	959 meters
Cnoc an Chuillin	958 meters
Brandon Mtn	952 meters
The Big Gun	939 meters

**Largest islands**

Ireland*	84 079 km <sup>2</sup>
Achill Island	148 km <sup>2</sup>
Arranmore	km <sup>2</sup>
Clare Island	16 km <sup>2</sup>

\* partly located in Great Britain

**Largest lakes**

Lough Corrib	200 km <sup>2</sup>
Lough Derg	118 km <sup>2</sup>
Lower Lough Erne	110 km <sup>2</sup>
Lough Ree	105 km <sup>2</sup>
Lough Mask	89 km <sup>2</sup>
Lough Conn	57 km <sup>2</sup>
Upper Lough Erne	43 km <sup>2</sup>
Lough Allen	36 km <sup>2</sup>
Lough Sheelin	19 km <sup>2</sup>
Lough Carra	15 km <sup>2</sup>

### Longest rivers

Shannon	340 km
Barrow	190 km
Suir	183 km
Nore	140 km
Liffey	125 km
Blackwater	120 km
Erne	120 km
Boyne	112 km
Suck	80 km

### Largest cities (2002)

Dublin	1 046 000
Cork	190 000
Limerick	91 000
Galway	73 000
Waterford	49 000
Kilkenny	22 000

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<b>Administrative divisions</b>		
<b>Countries</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Area</b>
Carlow	Carlow	896 km <sup>2</sup>
Cavan	Cavan	1 931 km <sup>2</sup>
Clare	Ennis	3 147 km <sup>2</sup>
Cork	Cork	7 457 km <sup>2</sup>
Donegal	Lifford	4 841 km <sup>2</sup>
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	Dun Laoghaire	127 km <sup>2</sup>
Fingal	Swords	448 km <sup>2</sup>
South Dublin	Tallaght	223 km <sup>2</sup>
Dublin	Dublin	123 km <sup>2</sup>
Galway	Galway	6 148 km <sup>2</sup>
Kerry	Tralee	4 746 km <sup>2</sup>
Kildare	Naas	1 693 km <sup>2</sup>
Kilkenny	Kilkenny	2 061 km <sup>2</sup>
Laois	Portlaoise	1 719 km <sup>2</sup>
Leitrim	Carrick-on-Shannon	1 588 km <sup>2</sup>
Limerick	Limerick	2 686 km <sup>2</sup>
Longford	Longford	1 091 km <sup>2</sup>
Louth	Dundalk	820 km <sup>2</sup>
Mayo	Castlebar	5 397 km <sup>2</sup>
Meath	Navan	2 342 km <sup>2</sup>
Monaghan	Monaghan	1 294 km <sup>2</sup>
Offaly	Tullamore	1 999 km <sup>2</sup>
Roscommon	Roscommon	2 547 km <sup>2</sup>
Sligo	Sligo	1 837 km <sup>2</sup>
North Tipperary	Nenagh	2 046 km <sup>2</sup>
South Tipperary	Clonmel	2 257 km <sup>2</sup>
Waterford	Waterford	1 837 km <sup>2</sup>
Westmeath	Mullingar	1 764 km <sup>2</sup>
Wexford	Wexford	2 352 km <sup>2</sup>
Wicklow	Wicklow	2 024 km <sup>2</sup>

**Heads of state since 1938**

Douglas Hyde	1938-1945
Seán T. O'Kelly	1945-1959
Éamon de Valera	1959-1973
Erskine H. Childers	1973-1974
Cearbhall Ó Dálaigh	1974-1976
Patrick Hillery	1976-1990
Mary Robinson	1990-1997
Mary McAleese	1997-

**Prime Ministers since 1937**

Éamon de Valera	1937-1948
John A. Costello	1948-1951
Éamon de Valera	1951-1954
John A. Costello	1954-1957
Éamon de Valera	1957-1959
Seán Lemass	1959-1966
Jack Lynch	1966-1973
Liam Cosgrave	1973-1977
Jack Lynch	1977-1979
Charles Haughey	1979-1981
Garret FitzGerald	1981-1982
Charles Haughey	1982-1982
Garret FitzGerald	1982-1987
Charles Haughey	1987-1992
Albert Reynolds	1992-1994
John Bruton	1994-1997
Bertie Ahern	1997-

### Holidays and commemoration days

1 January	New Year's Day
17 March	St. Patrick's Day
Easter day/Easter Sunday -2 days	Good Friday
Varying dates	Easter Day
Easter Day + 1 day	Easter Monday
First Monday in May	May Day
First Monday in June	June Day
First Monday in August	August Day
Last Monday in October	October Day
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Boxing Day

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**Various facts**

Currency	Euro
Currency code	EUR
Time zone	Western European Time (UTC+0)
Country postal code	IRL
Internet domain	.ie
Telephone country code	+353

Climate - Dublin	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	5.0	64
February	5.0	51
March	6.4	52
April	8.0	49
May	10.6	56
June	13.5	55
July	15.2	65
August	14.9	77
September	13.2	62
October	10.6	73
November	7.1	69
December	5.9	69

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))

Climate - Cork	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	5.2	125
February	5.1	94
March	6.3	86
April	7.9	67
May	10.3	68
June	13.1	62
July	15.0	68
August	14.7	82
September	12.8	83
October	10.4	106
November	7.2	112
December	6.1	127

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))

Climate – Shannon Airport	Mean temperature (°C)	Precipitation (millimetres)
January	5.3	100
February	5.5	74
March	7.2	69
April	8.9	58
May	11.4	60
June	14.1	65
July	15.7	74
August	15.5	90
September	13.7	83
October	11.1	96
November	7.6	97
December	6.3	108

**Source:** WorldClimate ([www.worldclimate.com](http://www.worldclimate.com))

A man wearing a tan hat, a yellow and blue tropical patterned short-sleeved shirt, and khaki shorts stands on a brick-paved platform next to a silver train car. He is looking towards the right. The background shows a clear blue sky and the side of the train with several windows.

## About the Author

Stig Albeck (1969) is the author behind the travel books at OnLibri.com. Stig writes the way you travel the destinations!

The books often take their departure in the world's most exhilarating cities and evolve to the attractions and sights in their vicinity. Stig is a devoted traveller and a passionate explorer which brings him around the world several times each year to search for new exciting destinations.

Going to big cities or more adventurous destinations, Stig writes his travel guides to help and inspire readers to get the full benefit of their destination of choice.

Travelling is about enjoying the moment, but also about taking home memories and gaining new knowledge. No matter how far or near by the destination might be there sure are great experiences waiting to be unveiled.

Stig holds a masters degree in marketing and tourism from Copenhagen Business School in Denmark. He has been working in the tourism industry and with global marketing of tourist destinations.

If you have questions or perhaps made a discovery that you would like to share, then send Stig an email to [travelstig@gmail.com](mailto:travelstig@gmail.com) (if you attach photos you agree to letting us use these for future travel guides).

Stig offers lectures on his travel experiences, or any specific tour that you might be about to head out for. To learn more about things like touring Australia, visiting the Mongolian capital Ulan Bator, or enjoying a fresh smoked omul at the Lake Baikal in February, visit [www.stigalbeck.com](http://www.stigalbeck.com).

*Bonne Voyage!*