

This walk starts in the Market Place. Allow 1 - 2 hours to walk around the river bank and winding streets.

1. The Market Place

Continue the walk by crossing into Saddler Street keeping to the left until you reach a bridge.

2. Elvet Bridge

Do not cross **Elvet Bridge** but descend the stone steps on the left. Easier alternate routes are marked on the map in blue. At the bottom of the steps you will see **Jimmy Allen's Bar**.

3 House of Correction (Jimmy Allen's)

Go under Elvet Bridge for the start of the riverside walk. A little way down the path look back at Elvet Bridge to see the remains of what was a thirteenth century chapel built into the bridge. Follow the footpath along the riverside path, eventually you will see a garden folly in the design of a small doric temple.

4 The Count's House

As you proceed up hill you will see the remains of a tree on the left.

5. King David's Hiding Place

Go up the hill to **Prebends Bridge 6**. This bridge was rebuilt after the Great Flood in 1771. Take a short walk across the bridge for a picturesque view of the cathedral and the riverside, and a plaque of the poem written by Sir Walter Scott.

Re-cross the bridge and walk up the slope leading to an archway **Watergate 7**. The old postern was removed in 1778 to allow carriages down to Prebend's Bridge. Notice the original castle walls



Watergate

flanking the archway. You are now entering South Bailey. A short walk along this street you will see the Church of **Saint Mary-le-less 8** standing in the shadow of the Cathedral. This was a medieval garrison church and is now St. John's College Chapel.

Further on down South Bailey is the **Gatehouse to the College 9**. In 1500 the original Priory Gate to the monastery was rebuilt producing this nice entrance way to the Cathedral.

As you approach the eastern side of the Cathedral look up at the Rose Window constructed by James Wyatt. To the right are the cobblestones of Bow Lane.

10. Bow Lane

On this corner is **Durham Heritage Centre and museum 11** formerly the Church of **St Mary-le-Bow** which was another garrison church.

Opposite is Dun Cow Lane. Walk up this narrow street beside the Cathedral and enter **Durham's World Heritage Site**. See main panel.

On entering **Palace Green 12** turn right and you will pass the Almshouses (now a cafe) and Bishop Cosin's Hall before walking down Owengate and left into Saddler Street.

13. North Gate

Continue walking down this street. As today, medieval Durham's Saddler Street and Fleshergate were busy with traders and also being the main route to the Cathedral and castle. Saddler street was famous for shoe making while old Fleshergate was the butcher's quarter.

Finally you arrive in the Market place again. We hope you enjoyed your walk.



The North Gate

10. BOW LANE

During his reign, King William I decided to visit Durham to see the body of St Cuthbert whose tomb is in Durham Cathedral. He threatened to kill senior churchmen if they had misled him if the saint's body had not been preserved. However before the king had even seen the coffin, he was afflicted by dread and a burning fever. He fled the City and did not dismount his horse until he had crossed the River Tees some twenty miles away. The route William took was down Bow Lane and this is known as the "King's ride" or "King's gate".

13. THE NORTH GATE

Was built in 1072 as part of the fortifications and gates protecting the Castle and Cathedral. In the fifteenth century Bishop Langley had the gate rebuilt and added a gaol. An eyewitness reported the conditions were appalling. In 1820 the gate was dismantled to allow through access by large carriages.



1. THE MARKET PLACE

The origin of the Market place is medieval but now largely Victorian.

The Guildhall, with balcony dates from 1346. Town Hall was built to the rear of the Guildhall in the seventeenth century. The main hall of the Town Hall was designed on the lines of Westminster Hall London.

The Equestrian Statue is the third Marquess of Londonderry (1778-1854). The statue was sculpted by Raphael Monti (1861). He used the new electroplated copper method giving the statue its green colour.



The restored Statue of Neptune was commissioned in 1729. It was originally sited on a 'Pant' (public fountain) to celebrate the inauguration of a company whose aim was to make Durham an inland port.

2. ELVET BRIDGE

Was built in the twelfth century. Two chantry chapels were built at either end of the bridge. Travellers would pray for a safe journey and make a donation to the church and for maintenance of the bridge.

3. HOUSE OF CORRECTION

Built in 1662 as a gaol, now a public house named after Jimmy Allen, a Northumbrian gypsy, who was official piper to the Duchess of Northumberland. His law breaking exploits meant he was on the run for most of his life. In 1803 he was convicted of horse stealing. He died in the House of Correction in 1810, aged 77, shortly before his pardon arrived.

4. THE COUNT'S HOUSE

A garden folly in the style of a Doric monument built in the 1820's. Count Josef Boruwlaski having travelled and performed around Europe arrived in Durham in 1822. An exiled Polish Count, 39 inches tall, he was a fine musician and raconteur. He was 98 years old when he died and is buried in Durham Cathedral. A suit of his clothes, violin, and a statue of him can be seen in the Town Hall in the Market Place.

5. KING DAVID'S HIDING PLACE



It is believed King David of Scotland escaped death by hiding in this tree after the battle of Neville's Cross. The Rev. Tristram had the remains of the tree transported here from the banks of the River Browney, three miles to the east of Durham.