



Royal
Geographical
Society
with IBG

The key to the kingdom

A self-guided walk around Dover



Discover how Dover became the 'Lock and Key of England'
Find out the town's role in world wars and world records
Explore its appeal to artists, writers and royalty
Enjoy views of France and the famous White Cliffs

www.walktheworld.org.uk

Find Explore Walk





Contents

Introduction	4
Route overview	5
Practical information	6
Detailed route maps	8
Directions	10
Further information	14
Credits	15

© The Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers, London, 2012

Walk the World is part of Discovering Places, the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad campaign to inspire the UK to discover their local environment. Walk the World is delivered in partnership by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) with Discovering Places (The Heritage Alliance) and is principally funded by the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor. The digital and print maps used for Walk the World are licensed to RGS-IBG from Ordnance Survey.



The
Heritage
Alliance



The key to the Kingdom

Discover Dover at the gateway between Britain and Europe

Welcome to Walk the World! This walk in Dover is one of 20 in different parts of the UK. Each walk explores how the 206 participating nations in the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games have been part of the UK's history for many centuries.

Along the routes you will discover evidence of how different countries have shaped our towns and cities.

Dover has been called the 'Lock and Key of England'. Located just 21 miles from France, for centuries it has been the literal and symbolic gateway between Britain and Europe.



Ferry leaving Eastern Dock
Rory Walsh © RGS-IBG Discovering Britain



Crawling past the Castle
Rory Walsh © RGS-IBG Discovering Britain

Dover was a Roman dock and remains a busy port two thousand years later. As a frontier town, its history is entwined with military stories of defence and attack.

Over the centuries Dover has welcomed passing visitors from medieval pilgrims to modern tourists. The coastal landscape has inspired writers and artists. And the shortest channel crossing has seen a variety of record attempts.

This walk looks outward from Dover to explore the town's various international connections.

Route overview



Practical information

Location

Dover, Kent

Getting there

Train - The nearest mainline station is Dover Priory

Bus - Dover is served by a variety of local bus routes and national coaches

Car - The town is accessed via the A2, A20 and A258. There is limited seafront parking (charges apply).

Bicycle

Start point & Postcode

Dover Town Hall, Biggin Street CT16 1DL

Directions from railway station to start

Exit the station by walking up Priory Station Approach Road, which leads to Folkestone Road (the B2011). Take a left turn here, walk on for around 100 metres and take the first left onto Effingham Street.

Walk up this street, which then veers to the right taking you to Priory Road. Turn left onto this road and walk on until you reach a large stone building, the Town Hall, on the right.

Finish point

Prince of Wales Pier lighthouse

Onward journey

To return to Dover Priory station, see Directions 20 at the end of the commentary.

Distance

2 miles

Level

Gentle - A mostly flat route through the town and on the seafront

Terrain

The walk is on urban pavements and seafront footpaths

Conditions

There are some busy roads to cross on the way through the town, so be careful of traffic. The pier at the end of the route can be very blustery at any time of year!

Suitable for

Families - Plenty of sights for all ages, particularly at the seafront. Children will enjoy the beach

Wheelchairs - An entirely step-free route

Dogs - Must be kept on a lead

Refreshments

There are plenty of shops and cafés along the route, including a café on Prince of Wales Pier.

Facilities

Public toilets are available on the seafront and behind the Prince of Wales Pier café

Things to do

Dover Museum and Bronze Age Boat Gallery is open on Mondays to Saturdays from 9.30am to 5pm (all year round) and on Sundays from 10am to 3pm (April to September only). Nominal entrance fees. Tel: 01304 201066 Email: museumenquiries@dover.gov.uk

The Grand Shaft is a 43 metre staircase cut into the White Cliffs. It is open in July and August, Tuesdays to Sundays from 2pm to 5pm. You are advised to contact the tourist information office before planning a visit as the Shaft doesn't open every year.

**Tourist
information**

Located at Dover Museum in the Market Square (near to Stop 4) at the bottom of Cannon Street, CT16 1PH. (Tel: 01304 205108).

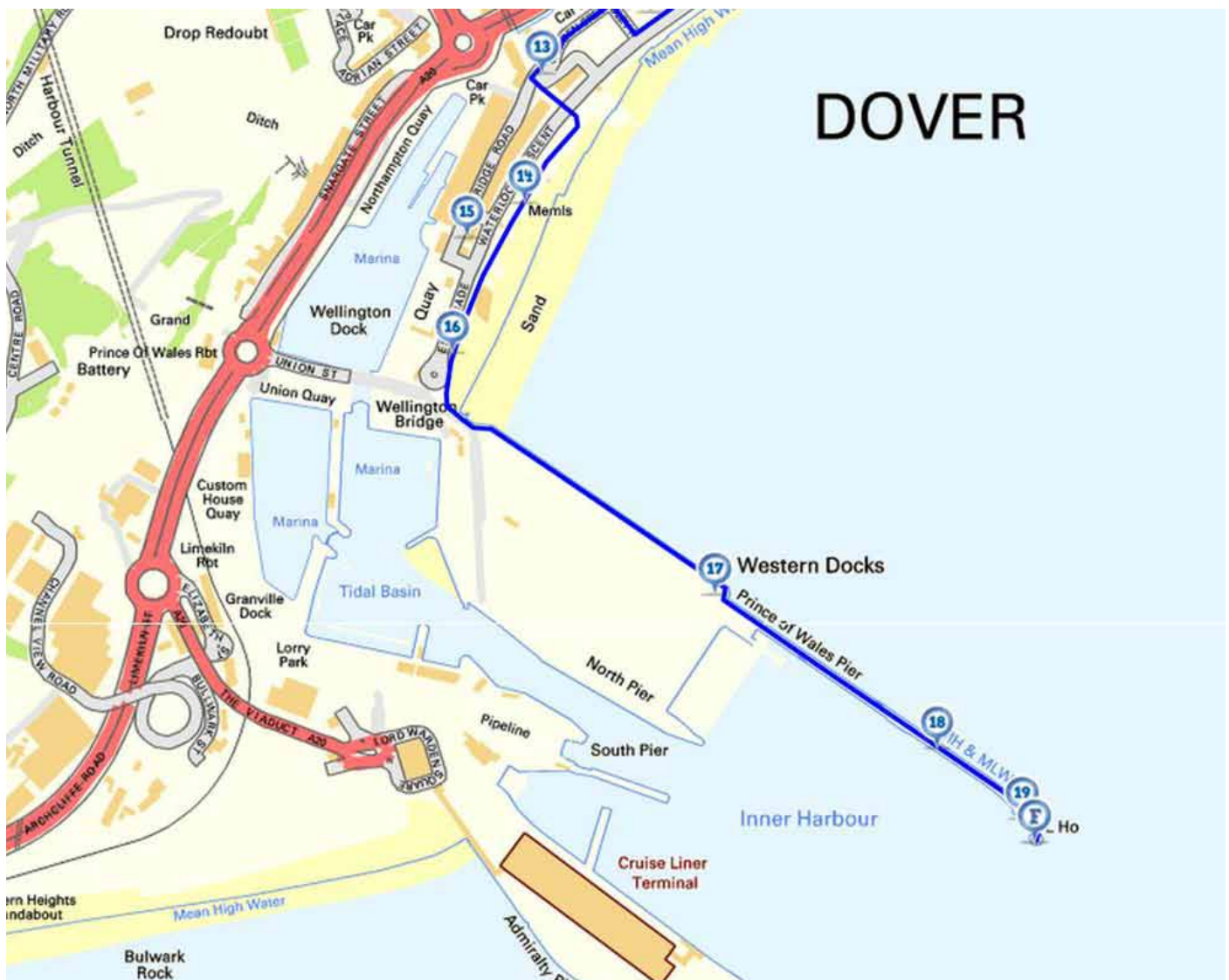
First half of the route



Stopping points

1. Dover Town Hall (Maison Dieu), Biggin Street
2. Zeebrugge Bell, Dover Town Hall
3. Dover War Memorial, Biggin Street
4. St Mary the Virgin Church, Cannon Street
5. View of Dover Castle
6. Timeline Pathway, Pencoast Gardens
7. River Dour Island
8. Old St James Church
9. View of Dover Straits and the Eastern Docks
10. Captain Matthew Webb statue
11. Merchant Navy Memorial
12. Charles Stewart Rolls statue

Second half of the route



Stopping points

- 13.** Indian War Memorial, Camden Crescent
- 14.** German armour plate and Frontline Britain Memorial
- 15.** Dover Harbour Board offices, Waterloo Crescent
- 16.** Charles II Restoration memorial
- 17.** Prince of Wales Pier marker
- 18.** View of Shakespeare Cliff and Lord Warden House
- 19.** View of the White Cliffs from Prince of Wales Pier
- 20.** View of Dover from Prince of Wales Pier lighthouse

Directions

Listen to each track then read the directions below to get to the next stop.

1. Welcome to Dover

Dover Town Hall, Biggin Street

Directions 1

To begin the walk make your way to Dover Town Hall on Biggin Street. For the best view use the pedestrian crossing by the letterbox to cross the road. When you can see a bell on the side of the building listen to Track 2.

2. Ringing the changes

Zeebrugge Bell, Dover Town Hall (Maison Dieu)

Directions 2

Cross the road at the traffic lights and turn right. Stop past the Maison Dieu outside the war memorial on the square of grass. Listen to Track 3.

3. Conflict and co-operation

Dover War Memorial, Biggin Street

Directions 3

Pass the war memorial and continue along Biggin Street. Cross over Pencester Road and continue on to Cannon Street. Walk down the left hand side and look above the shop fronts of the buildings opposite. Can you spot a figure of the Greek god Mercury? Also look out for a bear further down the street! When you reach St Mary the Virgin Church stop and listen to Track 4.

4. Windows on the world

St Mary the Virgin Church, Cannon Street

Directions 4

When you are ready, leave the church and return to Cannon Street. Facing the tower, take the path to the left of the church. Turn right at the end and stop on the path before the car park. Look at Dover Castle on the hill above to listen to Track 5.

5. Under lock and key

View of Dover Castle

Directions 5

Turn left and follow the path into the parkland. Make your way towards the bandstand. In front of the bandstand, look for a trail of flagstones with dates on them. When you have found the trail listen to Track 6.

6. A walk through time

Timeline Pathway, Pencester Gardens

Directions 6

When you have finished following the trail pass the bandstand and cross the park to the line of trees behind. When you reach the path turn right and follow the stream. Listen to Track 7 as you continue.

7. The waters

River Dour Island

Directions 7

At the end of the riverside path cross the small bridge and turn left into Dieu Stone Lane. Pass the car park and cross over at the traffic lights. Take note of the patch of grass behind a fence on the left then turn into Ashen Tree Lane. At the end use the traffic lights to the right to cross Castle Street. Turn left and continue uphill a short way then take the first right towards The White Horse pub. Stop at the ruin next to the pub and listen to Track 8.

8. The tidy ruin

Old St James Church

Directions 8

Leave the church and walk ahead past the Leisure Centre. Continue down Woolcomber Street. Use the double traffic lights to cross over the main road. Turn left then take the path by the car park at Marine Court. Cross the seafront road, taking care for traffic and the cycle path. Stop by the railings and listen to Track 9.

9. Eastern promise

View of Dover Straits and the Eastern Docks

Directions 9

Cross back over the seafront road. With the sea on your left follow the path beside the gardens. Stop at the statue of Captain Matthew Webb. Listen to Track 10.

10. Webbed feat

Captain Matthew Webb statue

Directions 10

Continue along the seafront. Stop beside the statue of a sea captain looking out to the water. Listen to Track 11.

11. Battling for survival

Merchant Navy Memorial

Directions 11

Continue a short distance along the seafront. Stop at the statue of Charles Stewart Rolls and listen to Track 12.

12. Fast flights

Charles Stewart Rolls statue

Directions 12 - Continue along the seafront then turn right into Wellesley Road. Pass the ferry mosaic on the corner and follow the road left into Camden Crescent. Stop at a safe place across from the war memorial in the middle of the traffic island. Listen to Track 13.

13. A sign of the time

Indian War Memorial

Directions 13

With the memorial on your left, head through New Bridge towards the sea. Turn right and continue along the seafront path. Stop when you reach a rectangular panel on the seafront with an eagle and German writing on. Listen to Track 14.

14. The Frontline

German armour plate & Frontline Britain memorial

Directions 14

Continue along the seafront path taking time to pause at the Dunkirk Veterans Association memorial. Pass the shelter with a spike on the roof then stop by a white stone plaque in the ground. Look across the road at the building with the large coat of arms above the door. Listen to Track 15.

15. Street stories

Dover Harbour Board offices, Waterloo Crescent

Directions 15

Follow the seafront up to a roundabout just before the pier. Stop beside a small porch with a memorial stone to King Charles II. Listen to Track 16.

16. Order restored

Charles II Restoration Memorial

Directions 16

With your back to the monument turn left then follow the path on the far side of the railings. Pass the Clock Tower on your right and go onto the pier. Continue along the pier until you find a stone marker on the left with the Prince of Wales written on it. Listen to Track 17.

17. Sea sailings

Prince of Wales Pier

Directions 17

Continue along the pier. Take your time to enjoy the views on both sides. Stop when you reach another stone marker, this time on the right hand side. This is the Clifford Jarrett memorial compass. Use the compass to find Shakespeare Cliff then listen to Track 18.

18. Words by the water

View of Shakespeare Cliff & Lord Warden House

Directions 18

Continue along Prince of Wales Pier. When you reach the gates at the café, turn around and look back at the White Cliffs. Listen to Track 19.

19. A symbol of Britain

View of The White Cliffs from Prince of Wales Pier

Directions 19

Remain at the pier and listen to Track 20 as you look at the view of the cliffs.

20. The key to the Kingdom

View of Dover from Prince of Wales Pier lighthouse

Directions 20

You may like to return to the beach or explore the town further. **To return to Dover Priory station;** retrace your way back to the Indian War Memorial (Stop 13). At the roundabout, continue into Camden Crescent and then take the first left, which leads to Townwall Street. Turn left at Townwall Street then continue until you reach a second roundabout. Turn right here onto York Street. Continue for around 300 metres until you reach a third roundabout. Turn left turn onto Folkestone Road, the railway station will appear on your right.

Further information

The Channel Swimming Association

www.channelswimmingassociation.com

Dover Museum

www.doverdc.co.uk/museum.aspx

Dover War Memorial Project

www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk

English Heritage - Dover Castle

www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/dover-castle

The National Trust - The White Cliffs of Dover

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/white-cliffs-dover

St Mary's Church

www.stmarysdover.org.uk

Dover – Lock and Key of the Kingdom

www.dover-kent.co.uk/home.htm

The Dover Society

www.doversociety.org.uk

Dover Western Heights

www.doverwesternheights.org

Friends of Dover Castle

www.dover-castle-friends.org

Port of Dover

www.doverport.co.uk

White Cliffs Country

www.whitecliffscountry.org.uk

Credits

The RGS-IBG would like to thank the following people and organisations for their assistance in producing this Walk the World walk:

- **Rory Walsh** for researching the walk, providing photographs and the audio commentary
- **Caroline Millar** for editing the walk materials and audio files
- **Olivia Antrobus** and **Claire Young** for additional research
- **Andrew Berridge** and **Eirian Evans** for providing additional photographs

Walk the World is part of Discovering Places, the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad campaign to inspire the UK to discover their local environment. Walk the World is delivered in partnership by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) with Discovering Places (The Heritage Alliance) and is principally funded by the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor. The digital and print maps used for Walk the World are licensed to RGS-IBG from Ordnance Survey.



The
Heritage
Alliance





The UK is an island nation but we are by no means isolated -
we are a hub of worldwide connections.

Walk the World is an exciting series of free geographically-themed
walks that show how the UK is linked with the 206 countries which
competed at London 2012.

Each walk explores how the Olympic and Paralympic Nations
and their people have shaped our surroundings -
often in surprising ways.

The self-guided walks are fun, informative and inspiring.
Prepare to discover something new, to be surprised and
to find the unexpected.

Visit www.walktheworld.org.uk

Submit your own links

Search for other walks

Find out how to create your own walk