



Royal
Geographical
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with IBG

Building bridges

A free self-guided walk in Newcastle



www.walktheworld.org.uk

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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



Building bridges

Discover how industry and the arts made Newcastle a global city

Welcome to Walk the World! This walk in Newcastle is one of 20 in different parts of the UK. Each of these walks 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 many countries have shaped our towns and cities.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne is one of the major cities of north east England. Newcastle came into its own in the nineteenth century. Fuelled by coal and oiled by the River Tyne, the city attracted trades, goods and people from around the world.



Newcastle's medieval Tyne Bridge
© Newcastle City Library

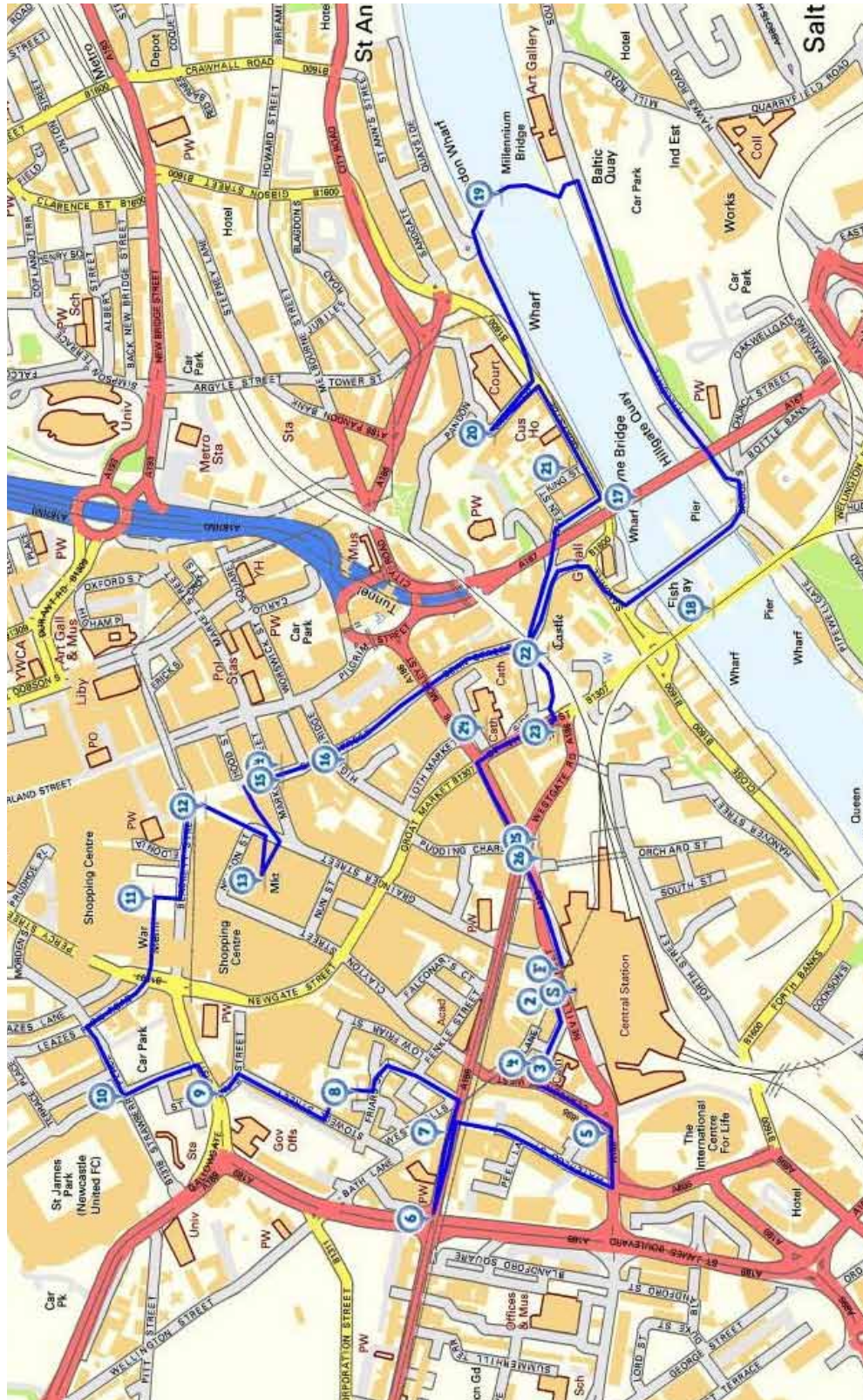


The River Tyne, Newcastle
Nick Stanworth © RGS-IBG Discovering Britain

In later years however Newcastle's industries experienced severe decline. The city had to reinvent itself and it has since become a vibrant centre for the arts.

This walk explores how Newcastle has constantly adapted since it was formed by the Romans. You can hear about some of the international industries and communities that have shaped Newcastle and visit some of the key sites in the city's history - including a castle, a friary, a Premier League football stadium, "Britain's finest street" and its world-famous bridges.

Route overview



Practical information

Location	Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Northeast England
Getting there	<p>Train - Very well served by the national rail network. Direct services include the East Coast Main Line (London Kings's Cross to Edinburgh), CrossCountry services to Yorkshire, the Midlands and South West, TransPennine services to Manchester and Liverpool.</p> <p>Bus - Served by a variety of local bus routes and long distance coaches. There are two bus stations, Haymarket and Eldon Square. The latter is closest to the walk route.</p> <p>Car - Major roads include A1 to Edinburgh and London and the A19 to Sunderland and Middlebrough. Some city centre parking though charges apply.</p>
Start & finish point	Newcastle Central railway station, NE1 5DL
Distance	3 ½ miles
Level	Moderate - a busy city centre walk with a few slopes and one steep hill.
Suitable for	Families - plenty of sights to entertain children, take care at the river's edge and crossing busy roads.
Conditions	The route is along pavements and paved footpaths. Take care crossing busy roads. The section by the River Tyne can be breezy so wrap up warm. Steep steps at Castle Keep, alternate directions are given.

Refreshments

There are numerous cafés, pubs and restaurants along the route. Eldon Square (Stop 11) is ideal to stop for a packed lunch outdoors.

Toilets

Public toilets are available in the city centre and inside the museums.

Other info

Newcastle city centre can be very busy at weekends. The area around St James' Park (Stop 10) can be very busy on match days.

Family-friendly activities

The **BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art** is open daily from 10am to 6pm, except Tuesdays when opening is at 10.30am. Free entry. Tel: 0191 4781810

The Castle Keep is open 10am to 5pm Mondays to Saturdays and 12 midday to 5pm on Sundays. Entry £4 for adults, under 18s free. Tel: 0191 232 7938

Newcastle's Life Science Centre is open daily from 10am to 6pm Mondays to Saturdays, 11am to 6pm on Sundays.

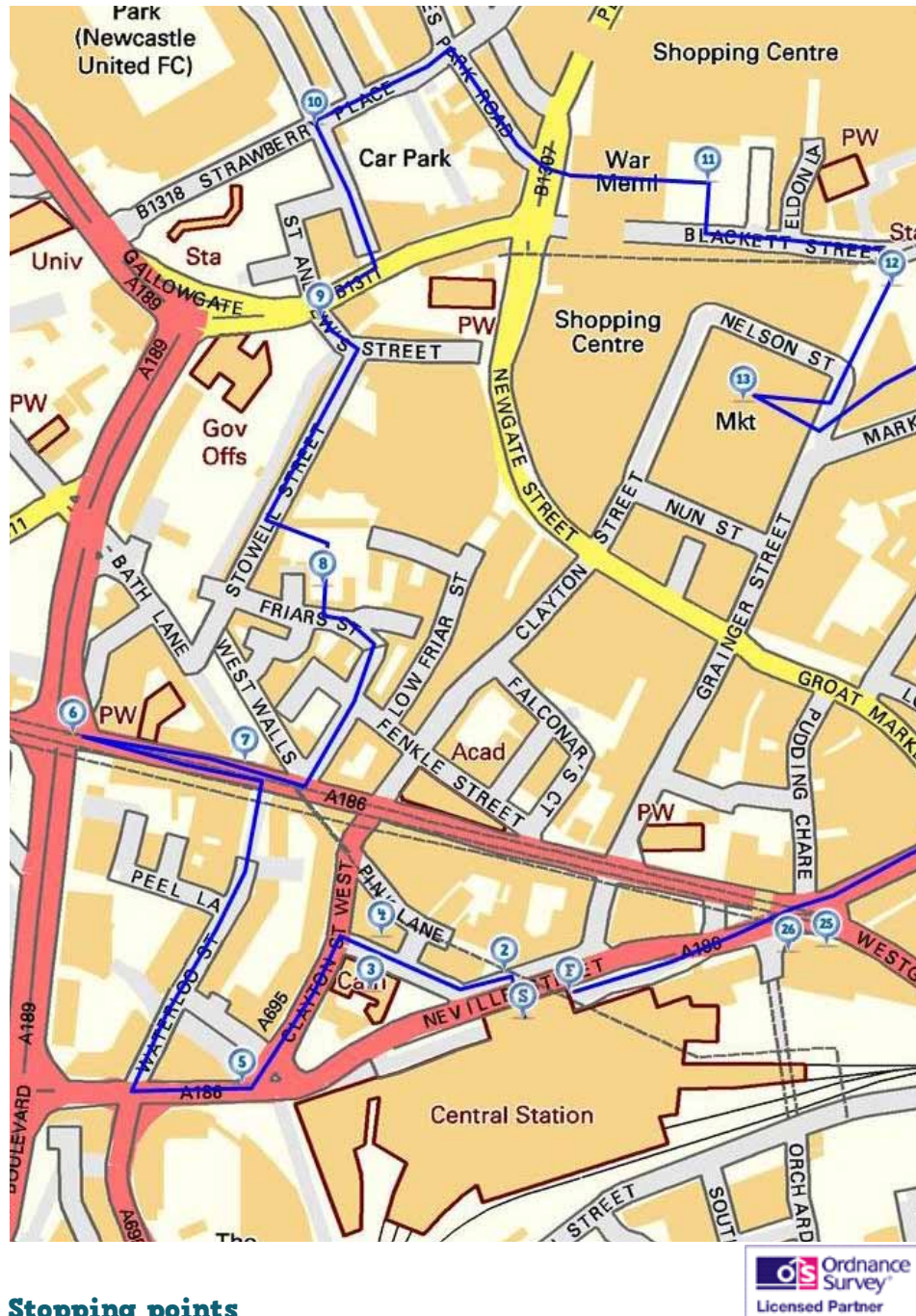
Tours are available of **St James' Park** stadium, £10 adults, £7 concs, £5 children. Booking essential. Tel: 0844 372 1892

The **Theatre Royal** is open daily all year; opening times vary according to performances. Tel: 0191 232 0997

Tourist information

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Visitor Information Centre. Located at 8-9 Central Arcade, which is just off Market Street (near Stops 13-15) Tel: 0191 2778000

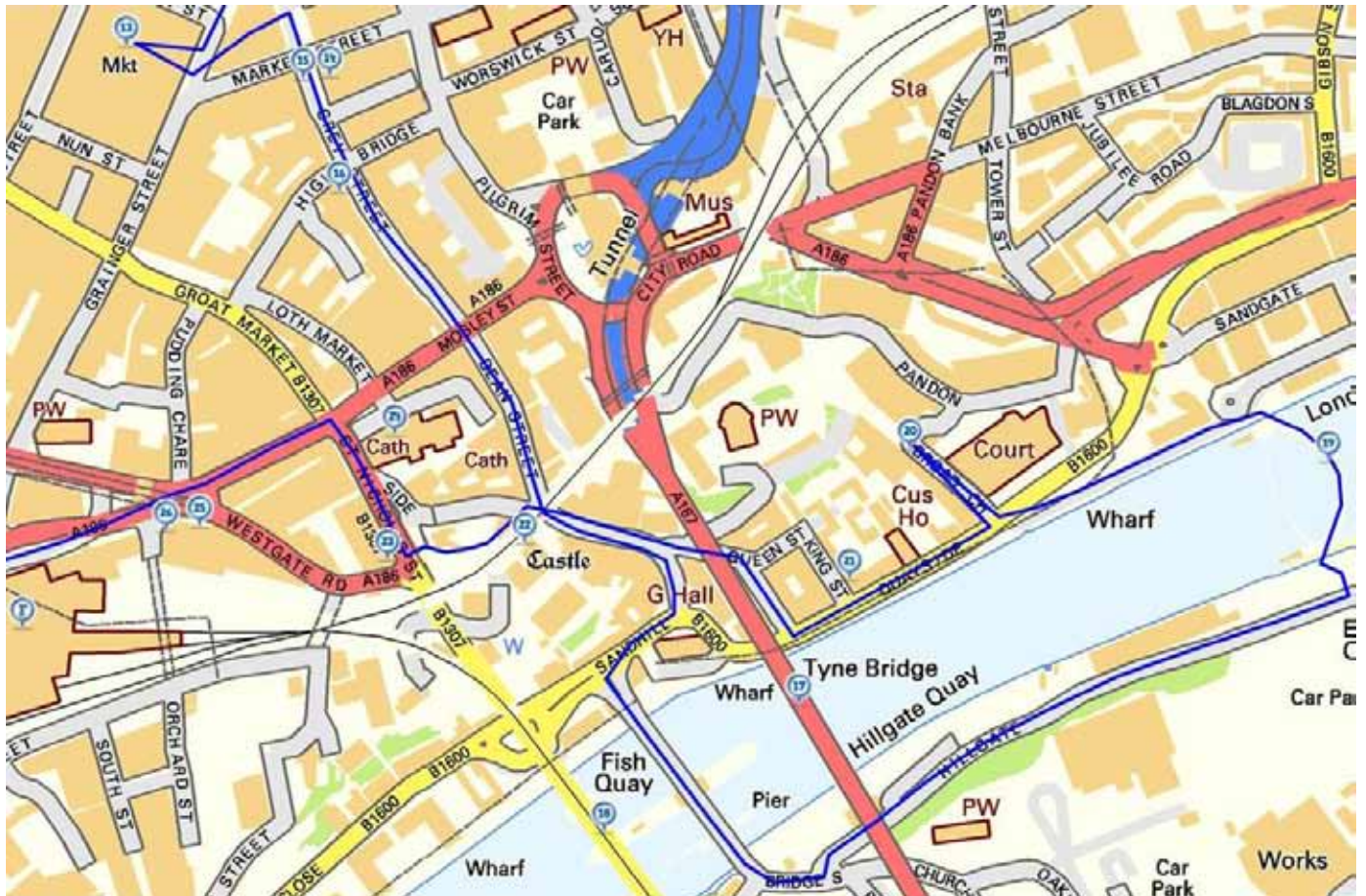
Detail of the first part of the route



Stopping points

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Newcastle Central Station | 8. Blackfriars |
| 2. Newcastle Central Station | 9. Chinatown and Tyneside Irish Centre |
| 3. St Mary's Cathedral | 10. St James' Park |
| 4. Newcastle Chinese Christian Church | 11. Eldon Square |
| 5. International Centre For Life | 12. Grey's Monument |
| 6. Robert Sinclair Tobacco buildings | 13. Grainger Market and Central Arcade |
| 7. Tyne Theatre | |

Detail of the second part of the route



Stopping points

- | | |
|---|--|
| 13. Grainger Market and Central Arcade | 21. Tyne-Tees Shipping Company boards |
| 14. Theatre Royal | 22. Castle Keep and the Black Gate |
| 15. Grey Street | 23. St Nicholas Buildings |
| 16. 53 Grey Street | 24. St Nicholas Cathedral |
| 17. Tyne Bridge | 25. The Literary and Philosophical Society |
| 18. High Level Bridge and Swing Bridge | 26. The North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers |
| 19. Gateshead Millennium Bridge and BALTIC | F. Newcastle Central Station |
| 20. Trinity House | |

Directions

These directions are for use with the Newcastle walk audio commentary. Listen to each track then read the directions below to get to the next stop.

1. Welcome to Newcastle

Newcastle Central Station, Neville Street

Directions 1 - Make your way to Newcastle Central railway station. Stop outside the station entrance on Neville Street. The best view is probably on the opposite side of the road. When you are ready listen to Track 2.

2. A station fit for a queen

Newcastle Central Station, Neville Street

Directions 2 - Continue along the right hand side of Neville Street. Head toward the junction of Bewick Street then stop outside the church with a tall spire. Stop beside the statue outside of Cardinal Basil Hume. Stop here and listen to Track 3.

3. The Irish Brigade

St Mary's Cathedral, Neville Street

Directions 3 - Continue along Bewick Street until you reach the Chinese Christian Church on the right. Stop outside the Church and listen to Track 4.

4. Chinese Christians

Newcastle Chinese Christian Church, Bewick Street

Directions 4 - Continue along Bewick Street and turn left down Clayton Street. At the end of the road turn right on to Westmorland Road. Stop across the road from the large Centre for Life building and listen to Track 5.

5. Life sciences

International Centre For Life

Directions 5 - Turn right into Waterloo Street. Pass a red building then turn left into Temple Street. Follow this street as it bends right then left. When you reach the main road turn right and stop at the corner of Westgate Road and St James' Boulevard. Look up for the buildings with Robert Sinclair Tobacco written on the walls. Listen here to Track 6.

6. Smoke on the Tyne

Robert Sinclair Tobacco buildings

Directions 6 - Retrace your steps along Westgate Road. Continue until you see the Tyne Theatre on the right. Stop by the silver sculpture across the road from the Theatre and listen to Track 7.

7. Ever changing

Tyne Theatre, Westgate Road

Directions 7 - Continue along the left side of Westgate Road then turn into Cross Street. Continue into the small cobbled road which is Friars Street. Go through the Friary entrance arch and into the courtyard. Listen here to Track 8.

8. Friars' retreat

Blackfriars

Directions 8 - When you are ready, leave the friary courtyard through an arch opposite the way you came in. Turn right onto Stowell Street, lined with lanterns and Chinese shops. Continue to the end then turn left onto St Andrew's Street. Stop in front of the ornate Chinese arch. Listen to Track 9.

9. The North East Far East

Chinese arch and Tyneside Irish Centre

Directions 9 - Pass through the arch and cross over the road. Stop here for a good view of the medieval town walls on your left. Continue into Strawberry Lane. At the end of this road, stop at a safe place in front of the sports stadium and listen to Track 10.

10. Goal!

St James' Park, Strawberry Lane

Directions 10 - Retrace your steps down Strawberry Lane and turn left. At the end of Gallowgate, cross over the busy junction at a safe place and continue under the shopping centre arch. Turn left into Eldon Square. Stop here to listen to Track 11.

11. Battles fought on foreign fields

Eldon Square

Directions 11 - Go out of Eldon Square and turn left onto Blackett Street. Continue up to the column with a statue on the top. Listen here to Track 12.

12. Tea, Prime Minister?

Grey's Monument

Directions 12 - From Grey's Monument take the pedestrianised road on the right. Continue up to the Grainger Market entrance on the right hand side. Go a little way into the market, Stop when you have a view of some of the stalls and listen to Track 13.

13. Market forces

Grainger Market and Central Arcade

If you want to find Marks and Spencer, make your way towards the back of the market. When you are ready, retrace your steps and exit into Grainger Street. Turn slightly right and go through the entrance to Central Arcade on the other side of the street. When you reach the end of the Arcade, cross the road and turn right. Stop outside the Theatre Royal and listen to Track 14.

14. A Royal stage

Theatre Royal

Directions 14 - **Directions 14** - Cross back over Grey Street. Look downhill to the end of the street as it curves to the left. Listen to Track 15.

15. Britain's finest street

Grey Street

Directions 15 - Continue along the right hand side of Grey Street, taking your time to look at the spectacular buildings. Look for number 53 with a round plaque on the wall. Stop by the plaque and listen to Track 16.

16. Lisbon letters

53 Grey Street

Directions 16 - Walk all the way to the bottom of Grey Street and continue onto Dean Street. Continue downhill then turn left onto Sandhill. Cross over the busy riverside road and walk onto the smallest bridge. Stop halfway across it and look towards the arched bridge to the left. Listen to Track 17.

17. Icon of Newcastle

Tyne Bridge

Directions 17 - Remain on the smaller bridge. Turn the other way to look at the high bridge on the other side. Listen to Track 18.

18. Roman and rail crossings

High Level Bridge and Swing Bridge

Directions 18 - Continue over the Swing Bridge. Take your time to enjoy the views. Once you are across, turn left and follow the riverside path. Pass under the Tyne Bridge and continue up to the curved silver building called the Sage. Pass the Sage and follow the riverside path up to the white hooped bridge. Stop when you have a good view of it or are halfway across it. Listen to Track 19.

19. Artistry from Industry

Gateshead Millennium Bridge / BALTIC Centre

Directions 19 - Cross over the Millennium Bridge; again take your time to enjoy the views. Once you are across, turn left and re-join the road along the river. Pass the Law Courts then turn right into Broad Chare. Continue up to the pedestrianised section then turn left into Trinity House. Stop in the courtyard and listen to Track 20.

20. Safe passage

Trinity House, Broad Chare

Directions 20 - Retrace your steps along Broad Chare and turn right. Stay on the right hand pavement and continue towards the Tyne Bridge. At the corner of King Street, stop by a sign on the wall for the Tyne-Tees Steam Shipping Company. Listen here to Track 21.

21. Sign of the past

Tyne-Tees Shipping Company boards, King Street

Directions 21 - Continue along the Quayside and turn into Queen Street. Go underneath the railway bridge - take care as this road is quite steep. Take a flight of steps immediately on the left. At the top stop outside the castle. Listen here to Track 22.

For a step free route: Continue uphill to the top of Side and turn left. The Castle is the other side of the railway bridge

22. Oldcastle

Castle Keep and The Black Gate

Directions 22 - Cross over at the traffic lights and turn left onto the end of Westgate Road. Continue a little way until you find a green plaque on the wall of one of the buildings. Stop by the plaque and listen to Track 23.

23. Brothers in arms

St Nicholas Buildings, Westgate Road

Directions 23 - Retrace your steps along Westgate Road. Cross the road at a safe place opposite the Black Gate. Turn left up St Nicholas' Street. When you reach the tall church at the top of the road, stop by the statue outside and listen to Track 24.

24. Soldiers, sailors and Santa

St Nicholas Cathedral, St Nicholas' Street

Directions 24 - When you are ready, leave the Cathedral. Use the traffic islands at the end of St Nicholas' Street to turn left into the left hand side of Collingwood Street. At the junction use the traffic island to the left to cross over to The Literary and Philosophical Society building at the end of Westgate Road. Listen to Track 25.

25. An enlightening society

The Literary and Philosophical Society

Directions 25 - Next door to the Literary and Philosophical Society is a building with metal railings outside. Stop in front of it and listen to Track 26.

26. Coals to Newcastle

The North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers

Directions 26 - Continue along the road as it joins Neville Street. Pass the statue of Robert Stephenson on the opposite side then stop outside Newcastle Central Station. Listen to Track 27.

27. Building Bridges

Newcastle Central Station

Directions 27 - We hope that you have enjoyed the walk! We are now back at Newcastle Central Station where the route began. From here you may like to explore to the city centre shops or visit the attractions, such as the Centre For Life, BALTIC or Castle Keep.

Further information

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

www.balticmill.com

Castle Keep

www.castlekeep-newcastle.org.uk

Centre for Life

www.life.org.uk

The Literary and Philosophical Society

www.litandphil.org.uk

Newcastle Chinese Christian Fellowship

www.nccf.org.uk

Newcastle Gateshead

www.newcastlegateshead.com

Newcastle Quayside

www.newcastlequayside.co.uk

Newcastle United FC

www.nufc.co.uk

North of England Institute and Mechanical Engineers

www.mininginstitute.org.uk/index.html

St Mary's Cathedral

www.stmaryscathedral.org.uk

St Nicholas Cathedral

www.stnicholascathedral.co.uk

Theatre Royal

www.theatreroyal.co.uk

Trinity House

trinityhousenewcastle.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:

- **Nick Stanworth** for creating and researching the walk and taking photographs
- **Rory Walsh** for additional research, editing the walk materials and taking photographs
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The
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Scenes from around Newcastle
Nick Stanworth / Rory Walsh © RGS-IBG Discovering Britain



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 aim to show how the UK is linked with the 206 countries
due to compete 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

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