

Tour 4: Historic York 1

Welcome to our fourth virtual tour. This time we visit the **historic city of York** in northern England. It's easy...

1. Use **Google Maps Street View** and follow the directions and answer questions to find 14 code numbers **A–G** and **P–V**. Record these as you go. These will allow you to find the 'Final location'.

Notes:

- i. You may need to 'explore' a bit at some locations to find the numbers and may need to 'zoom in' to read them.
 - ii. **Historic York** is a small place, take little 'steps' while in the town to avoid overshooting.
2. This **Google Maps Street View** tour takes you along the pathways and streets of York. There are also hot-links that take you directly to amazing 360° panoramas **inside** some of the buildings.
 3. **At the end of the tour there are instructions for how to find the 'final location' and how to 'log' your find by 'discovering' the York Virtual Tour 1 trackable (TB7TPV9).**

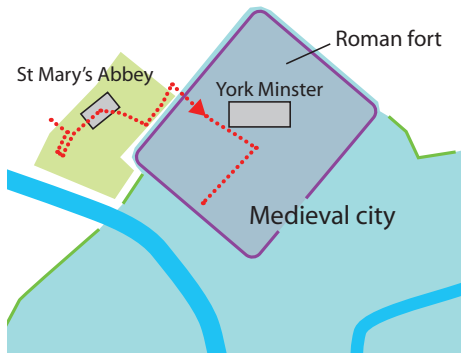
Good luck!

Eboracum, Jorvik or York?

* York has had many names. It was originally a Roman city (*Eboracum*) and was occupied continuously through the 'Dark Ages', firstly as an Anglian *Eoforwic* and later Viking *Jorvik*, through the Middle Ages and on to the present.

We arrive (just like medieval pilgrims) at St Mary's Abbey on the city outskirts, visit a museum and an art gallery, then enter the city through one of its ancient gates (or 'bars'), marvel at one of Europe's greatest churches... and finish with a well-earned cup of tea!

And there's lots more to see along the way.



A - The gate of St Mary's Abbey

→ Start on Google Maps Street View at <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1A>
(or N53 57.733 W001 05.373 - be exact!)

* You are standing at the gateway of York's Museum Gardens, which were originally the grounds of Saint Mary's Abbey. The arch in front of you was one of the abbey gates.

→ Step through the arch and stop by the red "No Cycling" sign in the middle of the path.

* St Mary's was once the richest abbey in the north of England and from this gate into the Abbey precinct you can see St Olaf's church (look up on the left). The church was founded in 1055 and dedicated to Saint Olaf II of Norway.

Visitors arriving overland may have entered through this gate and some stayed overnight in the Hospitium which we shall visit next.

? Look left. How many arched alcove are there in the wall in front of you? This is **A**.

B - St Mary's Abbey Hospitium

➔ Walk along the path into park. **Don't** go up the little path to the left. Go a little further to the **crossroads** and **turn right**. Continue to the building with the external staircase.

✳ The stone and timber-framed building called the Hospitium was where the Abbey offered hospitality to its guests such as merchants who were not allowed to stay in the main abbey with the monks.

Originally, it would have been very close to the River Ouse and the archway you can see at the left of the building would have led to a water gate.

The building may also have been used as a warehouse.

The stone ground floor is 14th century in date. The water gate arch was added around 1500 AD.

Today it is a popular wedding venue.

? There is a small yellow sign on the building. How many screws hold it to the wall? This is **B**.

C - St Mary's Abbey church

➔ Turn around. **Go back** to the crossroads and **go straight across**. Stop where the path goes through a broken archway.

✳ The abbey church now is a ruin but enough remains to give an idea of how splendid it was originally.

The land here was granted to Abbot Stephen and a group of monks from Whitby after the Norman Conquest in 1066. The abbey, dedicated to the St Mary the Virgin, was founded in 1088-89.

There was a dispute and a riot here in 1132! After this, some of the monks left to form the Cistercian monastery at Fountains Abbey.

The Abbey ruins you see here today are 13th century in date.

? How many wooden benches are there near to the broken arch? This is **C**.

D - The Yorkshire Museum

➔ Follow the path as it curves to the right and **stop outside the grand building** with the classical four-column entrance.

This is the Yorkshire museum. **Go inside** to look at its most famous exhibit.

Click: <https://tinyurl.com/VTYork1D>

* This amazing 8th-century Anglian iron & bronze helmet was found buried in a wood-lined pit during excavations of Viking York (Jorvik) in 1976-1982.

The helmet's animal ornament and Christian inscription date it to a time *after* the pagan Anglo-Saxons but *before* the Vikings (i.e. c.750-775 AD). It was made in Northumbria. Damage shows that it had seen action in battle.

? According to the notice behind the helmet King Edwin was baptised in 62**D** AD.

* **Optional** The access to the Yorkshire museum is some of the best on Google Maps. Take as long as you like to wander round.

➔ When you're ready, **go back out to the entrance**. (if you are 'lost', click <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1E>)

E - The Multi-angular Tower

* **Optional** Check how you are doing:
If **A + B + C + D = 18** then you're doing fine!

→ Walk on past the front of the museum and **turn sharp left** where there is a white sign (it looks like a low, white wall from this side). Walk on a short way and stop behind the group of tourists on your right.

* The tourists are looking at the Multi-angular Tower which stands at the corner of what was the Roman legionary fort of Eboracum.

The fort was built c.300 AD by Emperor Constantius Chorus, who died in York in 306.

The fort would have been rectangular (like a playing card) and this tower was positioned at the south west corner.

The tower was built of local limestone with courses of flat red Roman bricks running through it, the upper courses of stone above the Roman level (with the cross-shaped arrow slits) are Medieval in date.

? How many warning cones are there next to the lamp-post here? This is **E**.

F - York city wall

➔ Continue a short way until you come to a building. Go through the green gate immediately on the right of the building.

* Look up to your right to see part of the city walls.

York has more miles of intact city walls than any other city in England, measuring 13 feet (4m) high and 6 feet (1.8m) wide.

Some of the walls are Roman, dating from the first century AD, but most of what you see today is Medieval (12th–14th century).

The walls were heavily restored in the 19th century.

? On the big blue rubbish bins beside the path what is the **last digit** of the telephone number? This is **F**.

G York Art Gallery

➔ Continue along the path. Enter the open square. Walk straight ahead towards the arched gateway. **Stop** near the red letterbox.

To your left is the **York Art Gallery**.

Go inside: <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1G>.

Once inside the gallery, **walk straight ahead** until you come face to face with a dramatic painting of a desolate battlefield with shattered trees and flooded shell-holes.

* This is *The Menin Road* (1919), probably the most famous, monumental and emotive painting by the British First World War artist John Nash and evokes the horrors of war in the battles around Ypres in Belgium.

? To your right is another WWI painting by John Nash (*Oppy Wood, 1917. Evening*). How many soldiers are in the trench? This is **G**.

* **Optional** The Google Maps access to the gallery is amazing. Spend some time wandering.

➔ When you're ready, **go back outside** to the red letterbox in the square (if you are 'lost', click <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1H>)

A bit of 'magic'

* The gate in front of you (to the right of the letterbox) is another of the gates in the walls of St Mary's Abbey.

The abbey's very large precinct was immediately outside the city walls, and was originally enclosed by a ditch, but later in the 13th century stone walls - nearly three-quarters of a mile (1.2km) long - were built around it.

! We want to go through the gate but Google makes this difficult so we will have to resort to some "magic" using the numbers **A-G** you have collected so far to 'teleport' through it.

* **Optional** Check how you are doing:
If $A+B+C+D+E+F+G=31$ then you're doing fine!

→ **'Teleport'** to the other side of the gate ...
On your browser, type in the following web address, inserting the numbers A-G.

<https://tinyurl.com/yorkABCDEFGG>

P - 'Bars' and 'Gates'

➔ Well done! You have teleported through the gate and are now looking back at it.

* To your left is *Bootham Bar* - one of York's four city **gates**. It was built in the 14th century but stands on the site of one of the gates of the Roman fortress.

In York, *gates* are called '*Bars*' and *streets* are called '*Gates*' (see below)!

Bootham Bar takes its name from the booths (market stalls) which would have been nearby.

? How many statues stand on top of the gatehouse? This is **P**.

➔ **Walk through Bootham Bar** on to High Petergate.

* High Petergate is one of the most fascinating streets in York, with ancient houses leaning precariously over the roadway.

'Gate' is the word used in York to mean 'street' (from Scandinavian '*gata*').

Ancient *snickelways* (or very narrow lanes) lead off High Petergate, with some amazing names like *Mad Alice Lane*!

Q - York Minster

➔ Continue on High Petergate until you reach York Minster (the huge church on your left - you can't miss it!). **Go inside** the minster, click <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1Q>

* The *Metropolitical church of St Peter in York* is a cathedral but is always known as York Minster, **not** York Cathedral. 'Minster' is an honorific title given to Anglo-Saxon missionary churches.

It is the seat of the Archbishop of York and is the second largest Gothic cathedral in Northern Europe!

Famous stained glass windows in the Minster include the *Five Sisters Window* and the *Rose Window*.

? How many tall, thin vertical panels are there in the large stained glass window **directly behind you** (the West Window)? This is **Q**.

* **Optional** If you'd like to see a great view over the city from the roof of York Minster, click <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1X>

➔ **Go back outside** (if you are 'lost', click <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1R>)

R - What a 'Guy'!

➔ Continue a very short distance along High Petergate. There is a building on the right with blue shutters. Next to it is the Guy Fawkes Inn.

* Guy Fawkes (1570–1606) was born in this house on High Petergate (and was baptised in St Michael-le-Belfry church opposite the house).

Fawkes was a member of a group of 13 English Catholic gentlemen (led by Robert Catesby) who planned the failed *Gunpowder Treason Plot* of 1605. They attempted to blow up the Houses of Parliament and King James. Fawkes was executed with 7 other plotters.

The failure of the Plot is celebrated as *Guy Fawkes Night* in the UK every 5 November when his effigy is traditionally burned on a bonfire, accompanied by fireworks.

? In a window of the inn is a small brown sign with a blue circle on it. The white number in the circle is 8.**R**

S - A sign of the times

➔ Continue on High Petergate to the first crossroads (with the green-painted shop *Shared Earth* on the left). Turn **right** onto **Stonegate**.

Walk along Stonegate and stop where you can read the “Ye Olde Starre Inn” sign that stretches *across the road above you*.

* Stonegate follows the line of the main road through the Roman fortress - the *Via Pretoria*. It led to the Basilica which was located where York Minster now stands.

Stonegate was the first stone paved road in York – its name is from the early 12th century.

The unusual overhead sign of the 17th century ‘*Ye Olde Starre Inne*’, was put up in 1733.

There may have been an inn on this site since the Viking town, as there is a 10th century cellar under it!

? According to the sign, when was *Ye Olde Starre Inn* established? (164**S**).

* **Optional** Check how you are doing:
If **P + Q + R + S = 20** then you're doing fine!

T - The Stonegate Devil

→ Stand directly under the *Ye Olde Starre Inn* sign.

On the wall just to the left of the shop *Walker and Preston's* is a small statue of a red 'devil'

* The chained painted red devil that sits above the door of No. 33 Stonegate was a traditional symbol used by a printer to display his trade (like 'three balls' for a pawn-broker, or a 'stripey pole' for a barber).

Printer's 'devils' were the small boys who fetched and carried the printer's type.

Stonegate was at one time known as the Street of the Printers.

? Under the street sign 'Coffee Yard' (near the 'devil') is a green sign. It has a **row of white circles/dots**. How many? This is **T**.

U - Barley Hall

→ Go down **Coffee Yard passage** to the courtyard. The half-timbered building here is **Barley Hall**.

* 'Hidden' off Stonegate (and down into Coffee Yard) you can see **Barley Hall** which is a splendid time-capsule of a 15th-century timber-framed hall and a 14th-century monastic hospice. It was restored in the 1980s.

? There is a smallish green door here. It has no windows but there are 3 rows of round holes. How many holes in the **top** row? This is **U**.

V - Time for tea!

➔ Go back to Stonegate and **turn left**. Continue until Stonegate opens out into St Helen's Square.

On your left, with its impressive gold lettering, is the welcome sight of world-renowned *Betty's Tea Rooms*.

Go inside for a well-earned cup of tea (and maybe more) to celebrate the end of your adventure! <https://tinyurl.com/vtYork1V>

* *Betty's Tea Rooms* (in York and Harrogate) are the most famous tea rooms in England!

Over 100 years ago the Swiss baker and confectioner Fritz Bützer travelled to England to make his fortune. He opened *Betty's* in Harrogate in 1919.

Betty's in York opened in 1936 and its Art Deco interiors were inspired by the Queen Mary ocean liner!

? What is the total number of silver jugs and teapots **that you can see** in the wall cabinet? This is **V**.

* **Optional** (1) Have afternoon Tea!!

(2) Check how you are doing:

If $P+Q+R+S+T+U+V = 37$ then you're doing fine!

'Final location'

→ On your browser, type in the following web address, inserting the numbers A-G & P-V. This takes you to a 360° panorama view of the 'final location'. Have a good look around.

<https://tinyurl.com/yorkABCDEFGHIJGKLMNOPQRSTU>

There's a big yellow and blue thing here. A red panel tells you it's name - **what is the name?**

Send the name to:

VirtualYork@gmail.com

(make the subject '**Tour 4**')... and we will send you the code for a Geocaching trackable.

To 'log' the find just use the code to 'discover' the trackable.

And finally... If you found this tour on Facebook (or whatever) **please leave a brief message there** so as to keep the thread alive

(but please DON'T include the 'answers').

Thanks, C&G GCZ Team

**For more tours
see next page**

More tours

➔ This tour is No. 4 in our 'caching from home' series.

Our other tours (so far) are:

Tour 1: Cambridge (Part 1)

Click on this link for instructions:

<https://tinyurl.com/CambTour1>

Tour 2: Cambridge (Part 2)

Visit this trackable and click on the link there for instructions:

<https://coord.info/TB97NKT>

Tour 3: Herculaneum Roman City

Visit this trackable and click on the link there for instructions:

<https://coord.info/TB8G84E>

Many thanks to our Geocaching 'play testers': Janechick, poshrule, Flamingo Flurrier, Flamingo chaser, and ecopuffinparents.

PS please send any comments or questions to VirtualYork@gmail.com (make subject "Tour 4").