

# Visitor Information Centre

To book accommodation in York and for all other visitor enquiries; Tel: 01904 621756

Website: [www.visitYork.org](http://www.visitYork.org)

## Park and Ride Bus Services

Buses run at regular intervals

### White Line

(from Askham Bar on the A64) 01904 551400

### Yellow Line

(from Grimston Bar on the A1079) 01904 551400

### Green Line

(from Rawcliffe Bar on the A19) 01904 551400

### Red Line

(from the Designer Outlet A19 / A64) 01904 551400

### Silver Line

(from Monks Cross on the A1036) 01904 551400

## Shopmobility / Disabled Access

Visitors are welcome to use the excellent facilities of the Shopmobility scheme. Scooters, powered wheelchairs or manual wheelchairs are available. Shopmobility is located on level 2, Piccadilly Car Park. Tel: 01904 679222

## Useful Telephone Numbers

- All emergencies 999
- Non emergency calls 0845 60 60 247
- York District Hospital 01904 631313

# Acknowledgements

This guide has been published by York Minster Quarter. Every effort has been made to ensure that details are correct at the time of going to print (May 2011).

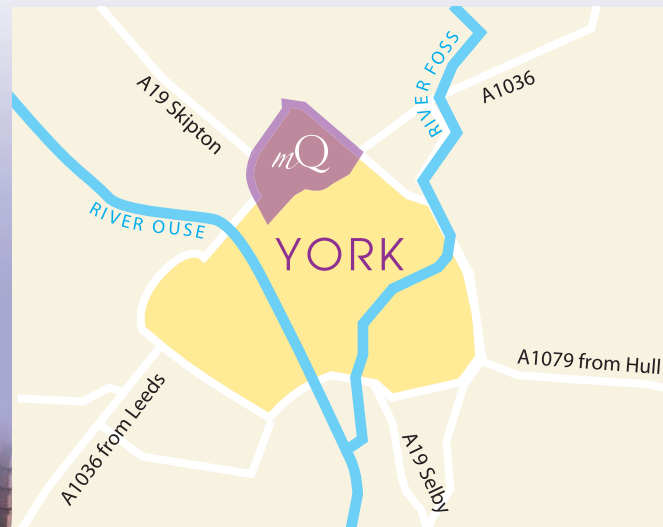
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# How to find the Minster Quarter



# Exploring York

York has a rich and colourful history that dates back to Roman times. Walking through the streets is the best way to discover it and savour the city's rich history, architecture and archaeology at every turn.

Other walking trails are available from the Visitor Information Centre and other outlets in York. All these trails are available online from [www.visitYork.org/explore](http://www.visitYork.org/explore).

Location for the start of the walk, just 10 minutes walk from York Railway Station, close to car parks at Marygate, Union Terrace and Bootham Row.

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

# mQ Discover the minster quarter



HISTORY



SHOPPING



LEISURE



all in the heart of York

# Discover *the* minster quarter

## A Constantine and the Roman Column



The statue by the South Door of York Minster shows Constantine the Great who was proclaimed Emperor of Rome, here in York, in AD306. This event probably took place in

the main hall (the *basilica*) at the back of the Roman headquarters building (the *principia*). Part of the *basilica* lies under the Minster's central tower. Across the road, the Roman column came originally from the interior of the *basilica*. Beginning in York, Constantine's reign (306-337) initiated momentous changes in the course of world history. It saw the lifting of religious persecution in the Roman Empire and also the positive promotion of Christianity.

## Z St Michael le Belfrey

Sitting adjacent to, and dwarfed by, York Minster, St Michael le Belfrey was built in the 1530s to serve the people of its own particular parish. In April 1570, one of York's most famous sons was baptised here: Guy Fawkes. In 1605 Guy Fawkes and his associates were caught attempting to blow up the Houses of Parliament, as part of a Catholic plot to kill King James I. For his part in the conspiracy he was publicly hanged, drawn and quartered. This treasonous plot is remembered every year in Britain on Bonfire Night, the 5th of November.

## W Peter's Prison

It may seem odd that a church would have had its own prison, but as the area, called the Liberty of St Peter, had its own laws, it needed its own prison to punish offenders. The Peter prison was used until 1837. Nowadays, York Minster is one of only two cathedrals in the world to still have its own police force.

## Y York Minster



The full name of York Minster is The Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of St. Peter in York. It is the seat of the Archbishop of York who is the head of the Northern Province of the Church of England (the Anglican Church). The first York Minster was a small temporary wooden structure built for the baptism of Edwin, King of Northumbria, in 627 and very unlike today's great Cathedral. The York Minster you see today was built over a period of about 250 years beginning around 1220 in the time of Archbishop Walter de Grey.

## R The 'Robin Hoods Tower'



This is in fact not a medieval tower, but was remodelled by the Victorians in a 'fairy tale' idea of how an ancient tower might look.

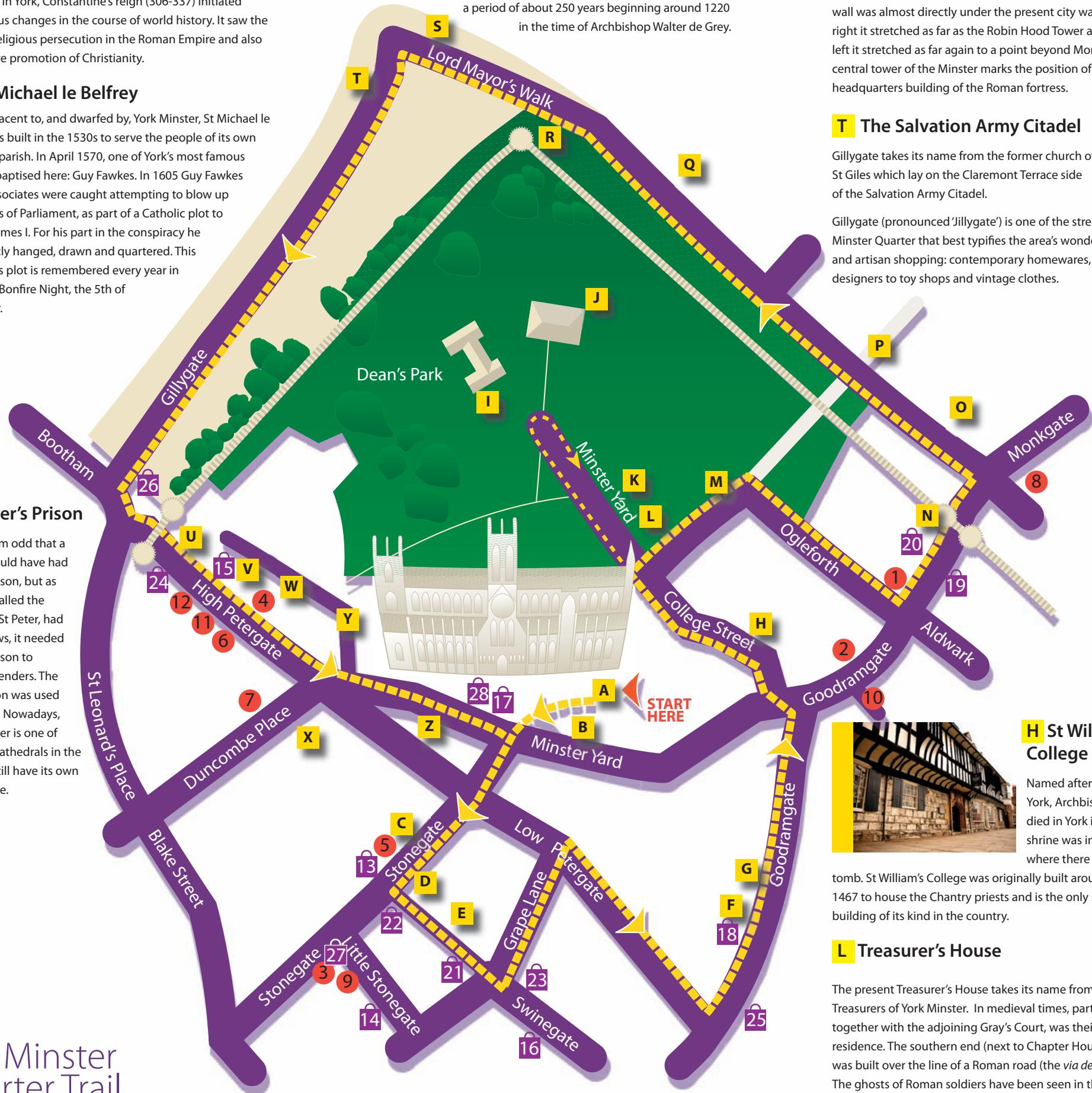
## P Via Decumana

Stand outside numbers 24 and 26 Lord Mayor's Walk and face the Minster. You are looking along the line of the ancient Roman street, the *via decumana* that passed through the Roman fortress wall in the middle of its north east side. This wall was almost directly under the present city wall; on the right it stretched as far as the Robin Hood Tower and on the left it stretched as far again to a point beyond Monk Bar. The central tower of the Minster marks the position of the headquarters building of the Roman fortress.

## T The Salvation Army Citadel

Gillygate takes its name from the former church of St Giles which lay on the Claremont Terrace side of the Salvation Army Citadel.

Gillygate (pronounced 'Jillygate') is one of the streets in the Minster Quarter that best typifies the area's wonderful eclectic and artisan shopping: contemporary homewares, interior designers to toy shops and vintage clothes.



## The Minster Quarter Trail

Starting at Constantine's Statue the best way to take the Minster Quarter trail is to follow these points of interests in an anti-clockwise direction illustrated on the map above.

## HISTORY

### Points of Interest

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>A</b> Constantine's Statue                | <b>P</b> Line of the <i>via decumana</i>                    |
| <b>B</b> Roman Pillar                        | <b>Q</b> York St John University                            |
| <b>C</b> 12th C. House                       | <b>R</b> Robin Hood Tower                                   |
| <b>D</b> Printer's Devil                     | <b>S</b> De Grey Court YSJ                                  |
| <b>E</b> Barley Hall                         | <b>T</b> Salvation Army Citadel                             |
| <b>F</b> Holy Trinity Church                 | <b>U</b> Bootham Bar, site of the Roman <i>porta dextra</i> |
| <b>G</b> Our Lady's Row                      | <b>V</b> Precentor's Court                                  |
| <b>H</b> St William's College & Courtyard    | <b>W</b> Peter's Prison                                     |
| <b>I</b> York Minster Library                | <b>X</b> Memorial Gardens – Boer War                        |
| <b>J</b> The Deanery                         | <b>Y</b> West front and window of York Minster              |
| <b>K</b> Minster Court                       | <b>Z</b> St Michael le Belfrey                              |
| <b>L</b> Treasurer's House                   |   |
| <b>M</b> Gray's Court                        |   |
| <b>N</b> Monk Bar Museum                     |   |
| <b>O</b> St Maurice's churchyard /Bile Beans |   |

## LEISURE

### Food & Drink

- 1 Ambiente Tapas
- 2 Golden Slipper
- 3 Kennedy's Bar
- 4 La Cremeria
- 5 Little Betty's
- 6 Plunketts



### Accommodation

- 7 Best Western Dean Court Hotel
- 8 Monk Bar Hotel
- 9 The Fort

### Business

- 10 Bedern Hall
- 11 Ebor Law Solicitors
- 12 Taylor York Commercial Property

## SHOPPING

### Retailers

- |                                 |                                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>13</b> Cavendish Jewellers   | <b>21</b> Mulberry Company          |
| <b>14</b> Fifty 50 Hair Design  | <b>22</b> Mulberry Hall             |
| <b>15</b> Fosters Jewellers     | <b>23</b> Porcupine                 |
| <b>16</b> Geoffrey Stuart Hair  | <b>24</b> Porta Dextra Gallery      |
| <b>17</b> Ghost Trail           | <b>25</b> R A Braithwaite Jewellers |
| <b>18</b> Make Your mark        | <b>26</b> Sound Organisation        |
| <b>19</b> Monk Bar Chocolatiers | <b>27</b> Stonegate Teddy Bears     |
| <b>20</b> Monk Bar Model Shop   | <b>28</b> York Minster Gift Shop    |

This is a list of businesses that are supporters of the Minster Quarter. For more details go to our website at [www.minsterquarter.com](http://www.minsterquarter.com)

# Discover *the* minster quarter all in *the* heart of York



The Minster Quarter with majestic York Minster at its core and medieval walls around its border, is an area rich in architecture and steeped in history. It boasts an eclectic and unique mix of shops, world-renowned boutiques and professional businesses plus ancient churches, modern and traditional pubs, cafés, restaurants and hotels.

This leaflet doubles as both a guide and a walking tour of the oldest part of York and takes you past medieval timbers and Georgian facades, and at almost every step you'll discover hidden treasures.

York Minster itself, after which the Quarter is named, is at the 'heart' of York. At the end of this trail, at the western end of York Minster, look up at the main window and see the tracery which gives the window its name, 'The Heart of Yorkshire'.

## History

The importance of the Minster Quarter starts in Roman times. The legendary 9th Roman legion arrived here in AD71, and quickly began building a fortress as a defence against the local Celtic tribe, the Brigantes. The fortress of *Eboracum*, as the Romans called it, was designed to house the entire legion – up to 6,000 men and at its centre stood a large headquarters building or *principia*. In AD306, it was at York, probably in the *principia*, that Constantine the Great was proclaimed Emperor. Much later in history, the central tower of York Minster was built over one corner of the *principia*. York Minster is one of the greatest Christian cathedrals in Europe and the largest Gothic building in the northern hemisphere. The remains of the Roman Legionary Headquarters can be seen in York Minster's Undercroft, Treasury and Crypt, where visitors are taken through 2,000 years of history.

This leaflet incorporates a 40 minute walking trail. On this walk you can discover the birthplace of one of the most notorious of York's sons, explore a stunning medieval townhouse and take in the magnificent home of a famous Victorian industrialist now haunted by ghosts of Roman soldiers.

## Leisure & Shopping

There are approximately 300 shops, cafés, pubs, bars, restaurants and attractions in the Quarter's ancient streets. Against the backdrop of the impressive Minster, the Minster Quarter offers visitors a unique experience in the heart of the ancient and beautiful city of York. The Minster Quarter has the kind of ambience that once experienced, will entice you back again and again, discovering more than you did before.

