



For 35 years this 14 mile walk has been the best way to get to know London and is enjoyed by more than a million people a year connecting more than 50 of the Capital's top attractions. It can be walked in a day but there is so much to see along the way many make a weekend of it and some even a week!

Starting at **Leicester Square** – the home of movie premiers and many a red carpet, you will be made to feel equally special along this brilliantly signed path which was originally created to celebrate The Queen's Silver Jubilee and is now well looked after by The Mayor and surrounding authorities. Within minutes the walkway links, via Westminster Library, to **The National Gallery** and next-door **National Portrait Gallery** in **Trafalgar Square**, through **Admiralty Arch** and along **The Mall** to **Buckingham Palace**.

Along the way information panels interpret the view unveiled by, among others, Nelson Mandela and Her Majesty The Queen. After the unusual sight of pelicans in the beautiful **St James's Park** there is a chance to see the back of **Downing Street**, the **Cabinet War Rooms** – where Churchill famously planned – and **Horse Guards Parade** – particularly spectacular at 11am during the **Changing of the Guard**. **Parliament Square**, overseen by 'Big Ben' and connecting government (**The House of Commons** and **House of Lords**), law (**The Supreme Court**) and the Church (**Westminster Abbey**) is only 2 minutes further along the path. Beyond **Sovereign's Gate**, where The Queen enters to open parliament every year, is **Victoria Tower Gardens** where Rodin's **Burghers of Calais** sculpture is the perfect distraction while children play in the Park.

Over the bridge to **The Museum of Garden History** and **Lambeth Palace**, home of The Archbishop of Canterbury, the walkway now hugs the **River Thames** passing the **London Aquarium** and **London Eye** while magicians and acrobats entertain. It took 20 years to secure a pathway along the Riverbank, thanks to the Trustees of the Jubilee Walkway Trust, so do enjoy every step along 'The Queen's Walk' as well as the skateboarders under the **Southbank Centre**, free runners at **OXO Tower** and painters along the banks outside the **Tate Modern**.

Tempting as it is to cross **Millennium Bridge** to go see **St Paul's** you would miss **Shakespeare's Globe Theatre**, **The Golden Hind**, **Southwark Cathedral**, **London Dungeon**, **HMS Belfast** and **City Hall** if you did! **Tower Bridge** is well worth the extra couple of miles and from there **St Katherine's Docks** is a welcome oasis that many people miss in a rush to see the Crown Jewels at **The Tower of London** but the Jewels haven't gone anywhere since 1303 – apart from the odd coronation of course! Along Great Tower Street to **Monument** – where the Great Fire of London started in 1666 its only a short walk along King William Street to Bank – home of **The Bank of England** whose walls are 4 metres thick to deter intruders!

Look out for The Lord Mayor of London's **Mansion House** – Dick Whittington, who famously walked before you in search of London's 'streets of gold' was once Lord Mayor and interestingly opposite there now happens to be a gold colour walkway disc on Cheapside – to mark where The Queen once stood to unveil the viewing panel in 2008. Turing right along King Street off Cheapside to **Guildhall** and the amazing **Guildhall Art Gallery** and pass the various grand livery company halls to Moorgate and up on to the city walkways around the **Barbican** to get great views of the original Roman city wall and an easy connection to **The Museum of London**.

Alternatively go direct to St Paul's Cathedral and follow **Fleet Street** to Chancery Lane where lawyers with arms full of paper can be seen to scuttle between chambers and the nearby **Royal Courts of Justice**. Along Serle Street to **Lincoln's Inn Fields** take time to enjoy the **Sir John Soane's Museum** – which amazingly is almost untouched since the talented architect who lived there died in 1837. At Holborn there is an option to go north up to Kings Cross via the back of **Great Ormond Street Hospital** and **The Brunswick Centre** to see **St Pancras Station**, **The British Library** and come back by UCL through Gordon, Woburn and Russell Square's before a neat short cut off Montague Place which gives a sneaky back door (no queue) entrance into **The British Museum**.

It's easy to realise why this is London's most visited attraction – the glass roof on the round library provides a glorious setting to the layers of history interpreted inside. From Holborn **The Masonic Temple**, **Royal Opera House** and eclectic array of shops in **Covent Garden** (also home to **The London Transport Museum**) are all connected by the Walkway.



## **Jubilee Walkway**

### **Route Directions**



Its only a 20 minutes back to Leicester Square from here and far more interesting as well as quicker than taking the tube – but now that you have walked the Jubilee Walkway you will realise how much people miss by popping underground to get places. Life in London, like most places, is at street level and the Jubilee Walkway is a fantastic way to live it.

Jim Walker  
Outdoor Trust CEO

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