

# LEEDS

Starting at Gateway Yorkshire (Leeds Tourist Information Centre), adjacent to the main railway station booking office, cross the road at the zebra crossing and descend the stairs in the round tower. **The Scarbrough Hotel** is facing you across the road. It was once the site of the original Leeds Manor House built around 1080, which had a semi-circular moat fed from the Bondmans Dam. (This can be seen behind the Queens Hotel). The excess water then ran via a Mill Race to power the King's Mill near Leeds Bridge and other mills on route. By 1341 the building had gone. In the 16th century it was remodelled by Richard Wilson (Chief Legal officer for Leeds Corporation) and a descendent, also called Richard Wilson, rebuilt it again in 1765 with gardens running down to the river.

In 1815 Henry Scarbrough turned part of the Manor House into the King's Arms Public House and in 1823 acquired the 1765 Manor and turned it into the Scarbrough Hotel. The hotel boasted excellent fare and in 1857 the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, and his entourage stayed overnight on their way to Harewood House. Charles Dickens stayed at the Scarbrough in 1858 when in town for Queen Victoria's opening of the Town Hall.

In the 1890's Fred Wood owner of the Leeds City Varieties owned the Scarbrough and several other hostellers. Auditions were held at the Scarbrough and other pubs and talent scouts would tour the pubs. The City Varieties were broadcast to the Scarbrough and the Pack Horse so that people could hear the first half free and hopefully pay to see the second half of the show.

Turn right when leaving the Scarbrough, noticing the Queens Hotel on your left. At the head of the columns are the Coats of Arms of towns and cities visited by the Midland Railway. You are now in City Square, which was completed in 1903. It was the gift of a local worthy Col. T W Harding who paid for all but two of the statues. The Black Prince was his choice - it looks good but has nothing to do with Leeds. The eight nymphs have names - four are called morn and four called even. Other statues include James Watt who installed a steam engine at Bean Ings Mill (now site of Yorkshire Post Newspapers). This became the world's first fully automated steam powered woollen mill in 1792.

Leave City Square by Infirmary Street which is to the right of the General Post Office. The Post Office was built on the

site of the Coloured Cloth Hall where dyed cloth was sold. Cross East Parade onto St Paul's Street, carry on until you see an ornate Moorish Building on the right which is St Paul's House built in 1878 for Sir John Barran as a textile garment makers. Sir John invented 'off the peg' clothing in 1855. This west side of Leeds was built by the Wilson family (mentioned earlier) between 1788 and 1810 and is mainly Georgian. Turn right at St Paul's House into Park Square. The street names to the west of Leeds mainly refer to "Park" as this was a Royal Hunting Park and private land up to 1788. No 12 Park Square was the scene of the Dripping Riots in 1865. A cook for Mr Henry Chorley JP, who lived at No. 12, was caught stealing a piece of dripping for which he had her jailed. The Leeds & Bradford Police Forces were called to stop rioters stoning his home. Rioting ceased when the 16th Lancers from York arrived and the cook was eventually released.

Walk to the top of the square, cross the Headrow, and carry on with the Town Hall to your left and library and art gallery to your right. The Town Hall was opened in 1858 by Queen Victoria. **The Victoria Hotel** in Great George Street is a Victorian gem, virtually unaltered since its construction in 1864/65. Built to cater for people attending the Law Courts in the Town Hall, the Victoria had dining rooms, private sitting rooms, a billiard room, public meeting rooms on the upper floors and the bars on the ground floor. In 1989 The Vic was chosen by Leeds Civic Trust to be given special recognition for "its splendid Victorian features and contribution to city life". On leaving the Vic turn left along Great George Street and look to your left at the junction with Calverley Street. Facing you is the Civic Hall opened by George V and Queen Mary in 1933, and in front of the Hall is Mandela Gardens opened by Nelson Mandela in 2001. On the corner of the junction with Cookridge Street is **The Courtyard** a new trendy bar, very popular with younger people. Part of the original buildings were used by Williams Potts & Co. Clockmakers. They made most of the public clocks around Leeds and Railway Station clocks around the country. Across the road is St Anne's Catholic Cathedral built in 1904. Go to the Headrow junction past the "Leeds Light" and turn left. On the right after the traffic lights is **The Guildford Hotel**, originally The Duncan, then the Green Dragon and in the 1920's it became The Guildford. It was demolished in the 1980's, but retained the original facade and was redesigned with a traditional Victorian atmosphere. It is a very comfortable friendly pub.

On leaving the Guildford turn right along The Headrow,

which resembles Regent Street in London. After the junction with Lands Lane is **The Horse & Trumpet** on the right, which was named after the 1st Btln of the Yorkshire regiment. Built in 1875 with an elaborate frontage of Burmantofts Faience (glazed earthenware), it has been much altered over the years, but still attracts a good cross section of customers. Behind the Trumpet is the famous **Leeds City Varieties Theatre**. The oldest working Music Hall in Britain, where "The Good Old Days" was broadcast from 1953 to 1983. Shows still continue, but are no longer televised. On leaving the Trumpet, turn right and right again onto Briggate, the original street of mediaeval Leeds, which was laid out by the then Lord of the Manor Maurice Paynel in 1207. Some of the yards off this street follow his original plan. Once occupied by the wealthy, the housing has now given way to shops and arcades and is the main retail centre of Leeds. Several ornate arcades lead off both left and right, the original one being Thorntons on the right. Notice the elaborate clock at the top, built by William Potts & Co. The figures depict characters from Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe". Another Potts' clock is situated in the Grand Arcade at the top of New Briggate to the north.

Turn left now through either the County Arcade where Sir Jimmy Saville started as a Disc jockey and manager of the now gone Leeds Mecca (The Spinning Disc), or through the adjacent Victoria Quarter, which has Harvey Nicholls based in what was The Leeds Empire Theatre. Victoria Quarter was once a road, and has now been covered with a stained glass roof and made into another arcade. All this area up until the 1890's was occupied by butchers and slaughter houses - hard to believe now. We now reach Vicar Lane and across the road on the left is Kirkgate Market which is an Edwardian gem built in 1904 and the largest retail market in Europe. Take the road to the right of the market, Kirkgate, one of the three medieval roads of Leeds leading to the Kirk (church). On this street in 1882 Michael Marks, a homeless, penniless Jewish refugee, met Isaac Dewhurst who loaned him £5 which led to him starting a market stall in 1884. Marks then met Dewhurst's accountant, Thomas Spencer, and this in turn led to the formation of Marks & Spencer. All this from a loan of £5 from Isaac Dewhurst. Walk down Kirkgate to St Peter's Church built in 1841. It was the first Parish Church in England to have Choir Stalls and Evensong sung daily with a full choir, and is well worth a visit. Next to the Parish Church is **The Palace** which recently won the Leeds in Bloom Competition, and the atmosphere is of a village pub in the centre of a city.

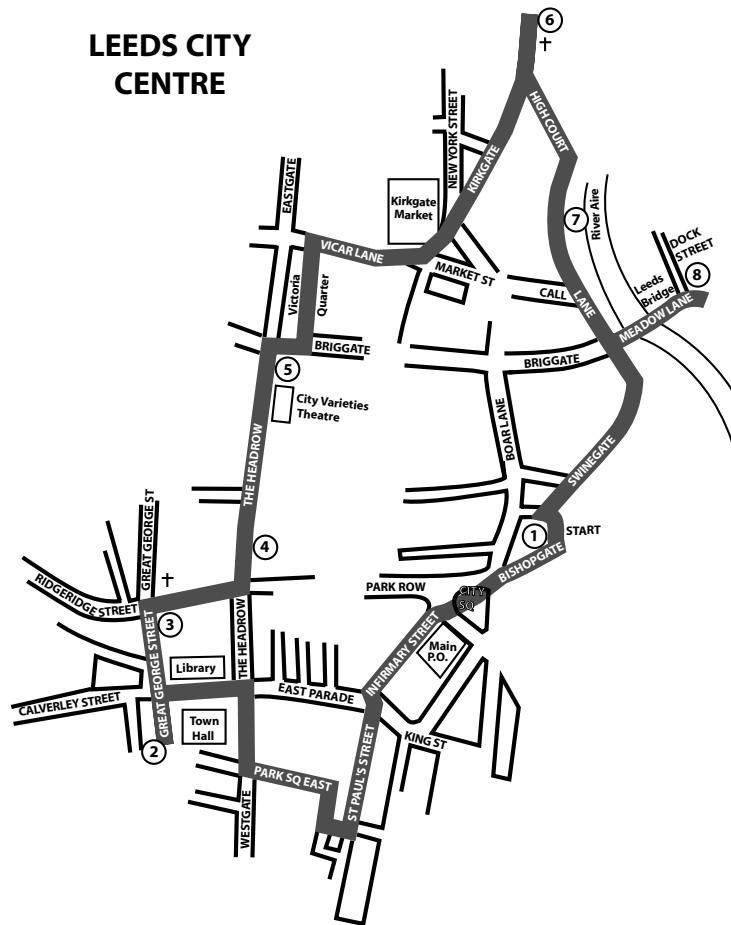
It was originally the home of a Leeds timber merchant, Edmund Maude, dating back to approximately 1741, with railings and lawns going down to the river, and first recorded as an inn in 1841. One landlord, Henry Teall, was a boat builder and a passage is said to lead from the cellars to the river. In 1874 it passed to the Castelow family, who brewed their own beer, and they extended to take in an adjacent cottage and pawnbrokers. Although the old Georgian doorway and staircase have gone, the tall window of the stairwell remains. The pub is said to be haunted by a grey apparition, supposedly of a lady, but it could be the ghost of actor, singer, poet and entertainer Michael Hall, who died here in 1848 aged 41. A benefit night was held at the Palace for his widow and children. Nearby High Court was a one time home of Mary Bateman, a mass poisoner, and the last witch from Leeds to be hanged in 1809. Turn left here onto The Calls. Note a stainless steel orb which is a fountain donated by the Leeds Development Corporation, who organised the restoration of the area between 1988 and 1995. The Calls is the third of the three original medieval streets and is a conservation area.

**Aire Bar** (formerly Sparrows Wharf) was built around 1835 and served as a corn merchants, clothing manufacturers and wines & spirits importers. Based in the cellar, a cosy atmosphere has been created with comfortable informal seating. Ideal for a quiet chat or a business meeting. Outdoor seating is also available by the riverside.

When leaving the Aire follow the road to the left until you reach the crossroads and traffic lights. Turn left over Leeds Bridge built in 1873, which replaced an earlier one made of stone in around 1380. The Leeds Cloth Market and Leeds Grammar School both started on the old bridge. Over the bridge on the left at the corner of Dock Street is the last of our pubs **The Adelphi** which is virtually unaltered since it was built about 1898. There was a pub on this site in 1839 with Elizabeth Oates as licensee, but the Council intent on improving the local roads had it resited. The frontage is eye-catching, but a trip inside is like walking back in time with very fine woodwork, fireplaces and tiling. The pub once had its own brewhouse and stables. The first meeting in the western world between members of the general public and staff from the Soviet Embassy in London was held here in the room on the right in Autumn 1988. The meeting was presided over by the Assistant Soviet Ambassador to the UK.

Retrace your steps over Leeds Bridge, turn left onto Swinegate and this takes you back to the start of the walk.

## LEEDS CITY CENTRE



- ① **Scarborough Hotel, Bishopsgate Street**  
Tel: 0113 243 4590
- ② **Victoria Hotel, 28 Great George Street**  
Tel: 0113 245 1386
- ③ **Courtyard, 29 Cookridge Street**  
Tel: 0113 203 1831
- ④ **Guildford Hotel, The Headrow**  
Tel: 0113 246 8635
- ⑤ **Horse & Trumpet, 51-53 The Headrow**  
Tel: 0113 243 0338
- ⑥ **The Palace, Kirkgate**  
Tel: 0113 244 5882
- ⑦ **Aire Bar, 32 The Calls**  
Tel: 0113 203 1811
- ⑧ **Adelphi Hotel, 3-5 Hunslet Road**  
Tel: 0113 245 6377

Please call pubs for details of opening times.

# DISCOVER LEEDS

## Classic Pub Walk Leeds

Take a stroll through the vibrant City of Leeds and learn something of its past and present glories. Discover some of its famous pubs along the way and sample some fine ales and great pub food.



*Arcades of Leeds*

*This leaflet has been written by Leeds City Tourist guide/White Rose Tourist Guide, Ken Goor. Established in 1985 in conjunction with Leeds Leisure Services. Guided walks to suit all tastes, also coach tours around Northern England. (With a splash of unexpected humour.) Tel: 0113 252 6807.*

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