Fishergate Postern Tower

Fishergate Postern Tower (FPT) was built around 1505. It is at the end of Piccadilly, beside a little gateway at an end of the walls. Water once filled the gap between this tower and York Castle. It has four floors, a narrow spiral staircase, an unusually complete Tudor toilet and many masons' marks. The present roof was probably added by 1600 when this turned open battlements into the row of square windows all round the top floor.

Friends of York Walls lease the tower from the City of York Council. Displays here are about the tower and the history of the City Walls. Entry is free on our open days, and we can also open for payment. Planned 2026 Open Day dates are listed in the next column.

For £20, you can "Sponsor a Stone" in your name or for someone else – you choose a stone on an external wall of the tower, then a certificate and book entries link that stone uniquely to the name you give [the next column explains how to sponsor your own stone]. Currently we need money for better displays, and for running costs. Please help FOYW to promote York's City Walls, and to carry on returning the tower to fuller community use.

The Walls near Fishergate Postern Tower

F P T Open Days in 2026

Saturday 31st January = Residents Weekend
Sunday 1st February = Residents Weekend
Saturday 14th February & Saturday 28th February
Saturday 14th March & Saturday 28th March
Saturday 18th April = Sheriff's Army visit
Saturday 9th May & Saturday 30th May
Saturday 13th June & Saturday 27th June
Saturday 11th July & Saturday 25th July
Saturday 8th August & Saturday 29th August
Saturday 12th & Saturday 19th September = Heritage Open Days
Saturday 26th September = York Unlocked
Sunday 27th September = York Unlocked
Saturday 31st October = Halloween Saturday
Saturday 7th November

PLUS other possible dates - check the website for details.

Free entry. Open 10:00am to 4:00pm. No need to book.

Any openings may be restricted by safety issues or by volunteer availability. Please check our website, where you may also find extra events. If you would like to pay for a special opening please contact us via the email address below.

Please help us -

We are an all-volunteer charity that helps people understand and enjoy York's old defensive walls. Joining the email list for our bi-monthly newsletter is **FREE**. To become a full friend: volunteer or make a donation. Please use our website at:- www.yorkwalls.org.uk or, alternatively, send us an email at: **friendsofyorkwalls@yorkwalls.org.uk**

We would like to do more but we need more volunteers - as guides at FPT, to help us with publicity, as walks and talks guides, to join the committee, become a trustee, etc..

Sponsoring a Stone

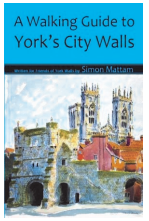
Stones can be sponsored on the website, or by sending an email message to: stones@yorkwalls.org.uk

Scan the QR code on your smart phone and go directly to sponsor a stone link.

YORK'S CITY WALLS

This leaflet is produced by the Friends of York Walls to help you to understand and enjoy York's old defensive walls. We promote the City Walls and open a Tudor tower on them. Look inside this leaflet for a map of the Walls, plus photos and facts about the Walls.

The map overleaf shows the route of a 4.5km brass stud marked "City Walls Trail". For full details - go to the 'Walls Trail' pages on our website at - yorkwalls.org.uk or get the "York's City Walls Audio Trail" via the Guide.AI app and download Guide ID80. See information and links below.



Or buy our book:- "A Walking Guide to York's City Walls"
ISBN 9780992900205

Walls Trail Link

The Friends of York Walls

York's City Walls Audio Trail

An Audio Guide to walking around York's City Walls

See details at - https://www.yorkwalls.org.uk/?page_id=8183

York's City Walls

York's old City Walls are the most complete in England. They were built mainly in the 13th century on top of older earth banks. There are a few bits of dry moat left around the banks. The slopes are well known for their daffodils in March and April. At other times they are grassy or covered with wild flowers.

A walk all round the Walls (going up on the wall-walk, or just using the pavement outside them) takes about 2 hours. It will take longer if you pause much to look at things like the four main 'bars' (these are fortified gateways), the 2 lesser bars, the postern (this is a small gateway defended by a tower), the many other towers and details like arrow slits, musket loops, sculptures and masons' marks. There are also good views of many interesting buildings from up on the walls. The wall-walk is usually open daily from 8.00 am till dusk, but may not open in bad weather. For details see City of York Council web page www.york.gov.uk/york-city-centre/city-walls/3

Wheelchairs, pushchairs and dogs are not practical up on the narrow wall-walk, but they are fine in the Museum Gardens where you can see York's best Roman walls. These include the Multangular Tower which is topped with a row of arrow-slits from the time it was made a part of the City Walls. Also here are the remains of St Mary's Abbey - they include England's best abbey-defending walls. These, along with Clifford's Tower, the castle wall nearby and the City Walls, were all built at about the same time using the same Magnesian Limestone.

You can do a self-guided walk by using the Friends of York Walls website "Walls Trail" pages [FREE], or the book "A Walking Guide to York's City Walls" [£6.99], or the new "York's City Walls Audio Trail" [£1.99 via the Guide.AI app, guide ID 80]. Further information on all these is available at — **www.yorkwalls.org.uk**

Friends of York Walls Charity Number 1159300

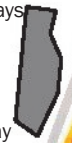
St Mary's Tower (in the Abbey's defensive walls)

Bootham Bar (with portcullis and walk-through room)

The walls' longest remaining bit of dry moat

Monk Bar (with portcullis)

Multangular Tower



East of the station the City Walls were pierced for roads and railways during the 19th century

Railway Station

Red Tower (at the south edge of the land once flooded to make the King's Fishpool)

Fishergate Postern Tower

Walmgate Bar (the only bar which still has a barbican extending from its gateway to defend it)

Micklegate Bar

Victoria Bar

Clifford's Tower

Museum Gardens

York Minster

Boothom

Gillygate

Lord Mayor's Walk

Monkgate

Marygate

Jewbury

Layerthorpe

Petergate

Goodramgate

Lendal

Peasholme Green

Foss Islands Road

Station Rd

Rougier St

Coney Street

Parliament St

Shambles

Fossgate

River Foss

Micklegate

Walmgate

Piccadilly

Queen St

Blossom St

Nunnery Lane

Fishergate Bar

Paragon Street

Bishopgate St

River Ouse

Fishergate

N

200 metres

York's Old Defensive Walls

KEY

The "City Walls Trail". Brass studs in paths mark this route when it is not up on the Walls.

The City Walls.

Other medieval defensive walls.

Gardens and green space usually freely open to the public; please respect rules that are displayed.

Selected roads and road names.

This map of York's City Walls Trail is copyright of The Friends of York Walls. Leaflet sponsors are always welcome.

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