The Black Sabbath Walking Tour

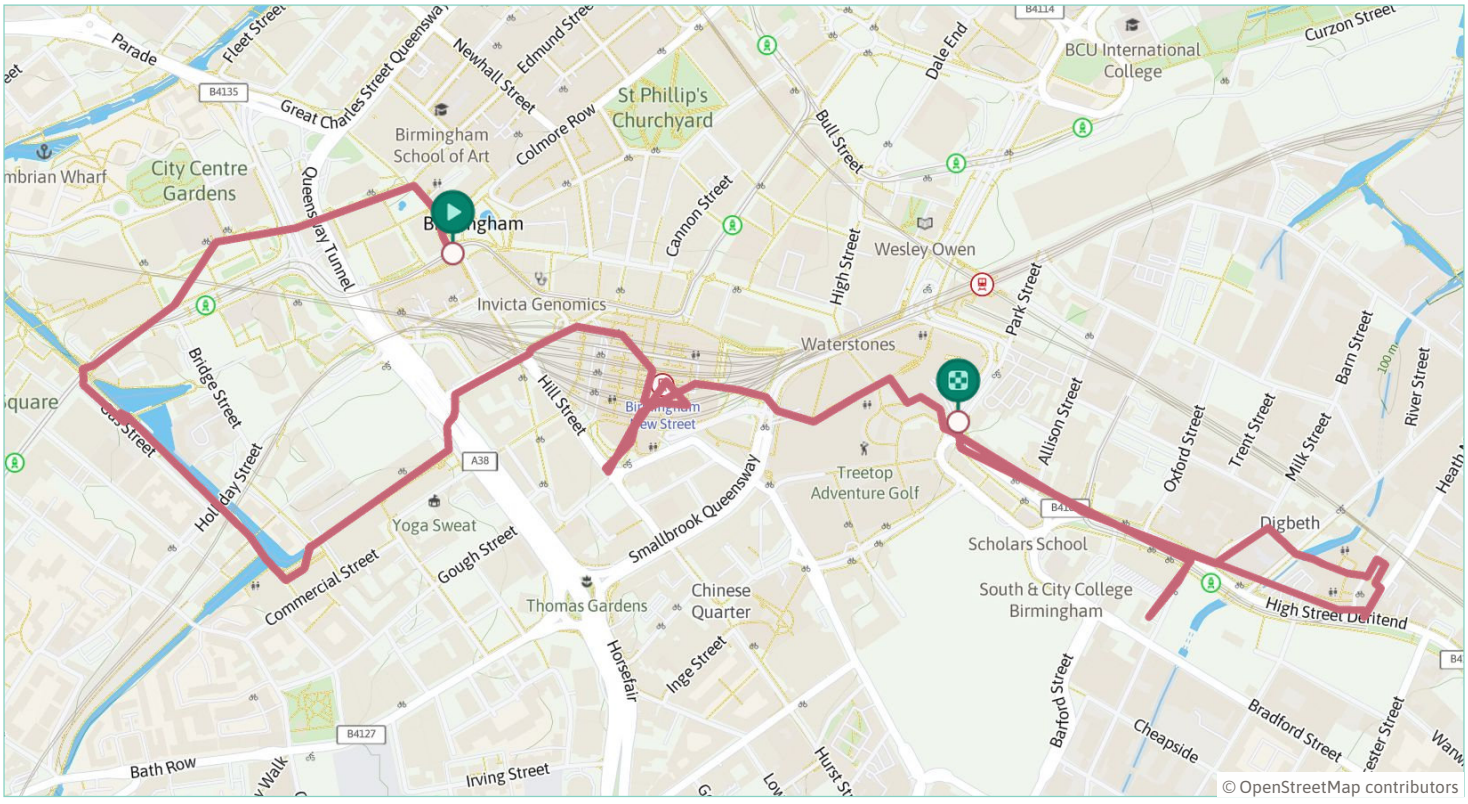
Explore the birthplace of heavy metal on this linear walk. Visit the iconic Black Sabbath bridge, colourful murals, street art and more.

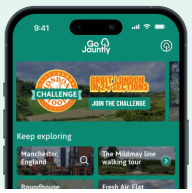
Distance 4.6 kilometres / 2.9 miles
Duration 1 hour and 10 minutes

Wheel friendly | Water feature | Public loos | Refreshments | Public transport

Use the QR code or link below to view this walk on our website or app.

View the walk here





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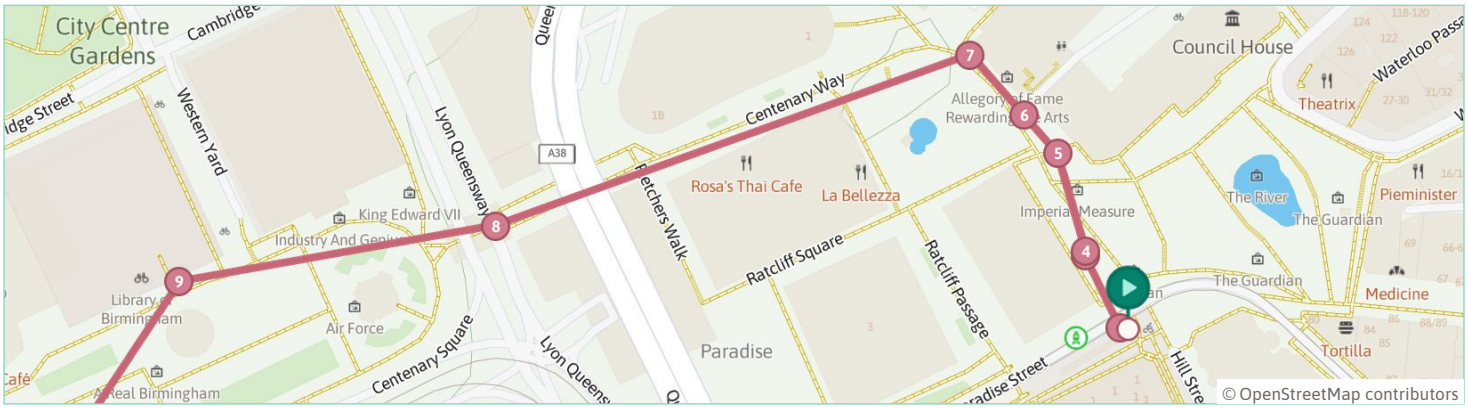

Step 1: This linear walk at the Town hall stop on the West Midlands Metro on Paradise St (B3 3DQ). If you arrived by the metro, jump off the tram.

Step 2: Carefully cross the road to the Town Hall, you won't miss this Grade I listed building styled on a Roman temple.

Step 3: The Town Hall played host to two iconic Black Sabbath homecoming gigs in 1971.

Step 4: You are in Victoria Square. Check out the huge Anthony Gormley statue called Iron:Man (also the name of a Black Sabbath song).

Step 5: Ahead of you is the impressive Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. It's open Tues 10am-5pm during term time and daily during school hols.

Step 6: Step inside and check out the free Ozzy Osbourne exhibition - Working Class Hero. It's on display until 27/09/26.

Step 7: After the museum, continue along Centenary Way towards Centenary Square.

Step 8: Cross the zebra crossing onto Centenary Square.

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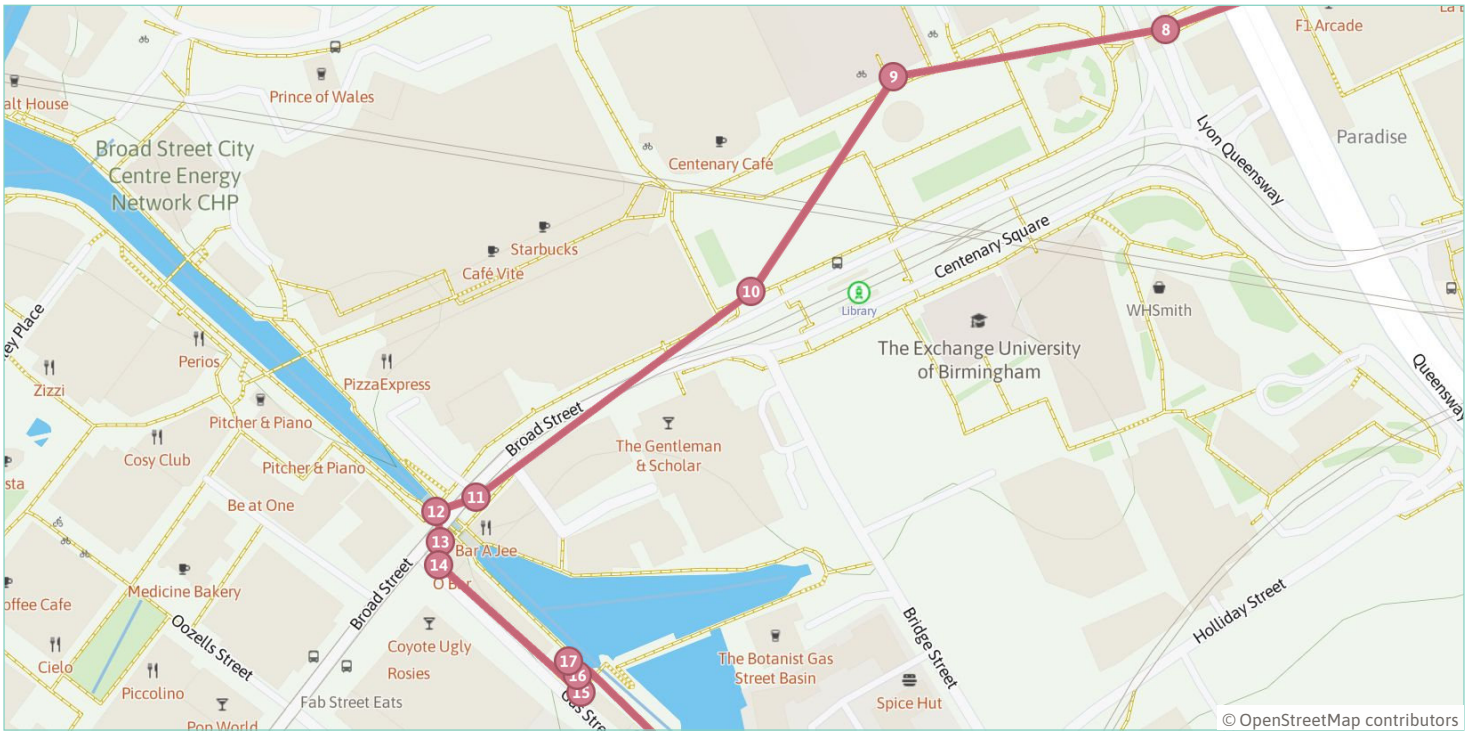


Step 9: Pop inside Birmingham Library if you have time, there are public loos and a secret rooftop garden on level 7.

Step 10: Head over the square towards the gold statue to join Broad St and continue on towards Black Sabbath bridge.

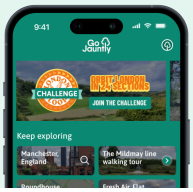
Step 11: Shortly on your right, is the iconic Black Sabbath bench & bridge, a great spot for a photo, don't forget to tag us on socials!

Step 12: The bench was unveiled in 2019 and has since become an famous spot in Birmingham.

Step 13: Cross over Broad St and head down Gas St.

Step 14: Walk along Gas St, get ready to turn left onto the canal towpath.

Step 15: Turn left through a metal gate that leads onto canalside walk.



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Step 16: It's a bit steep so take care.

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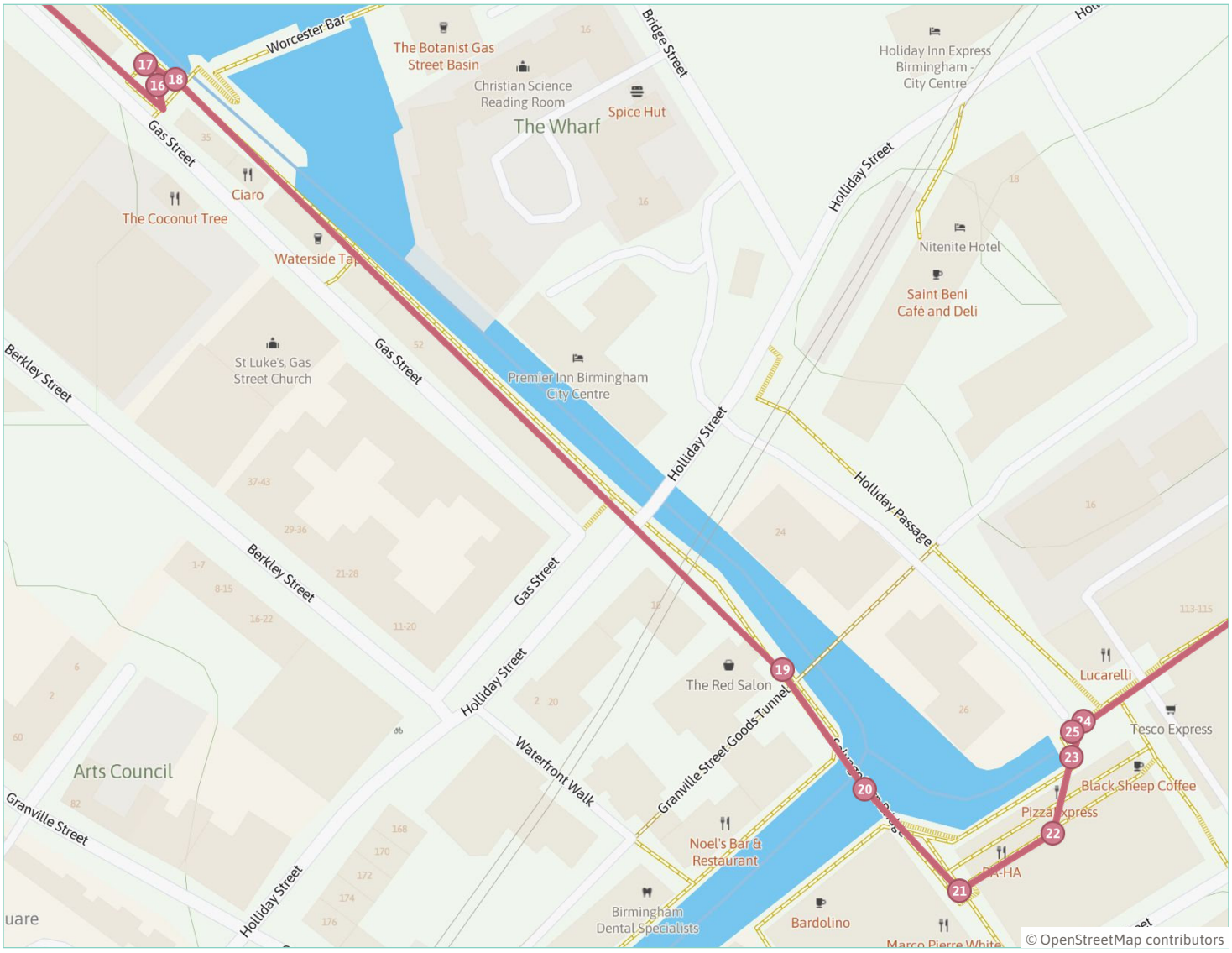

Step 17: You are now at Gas Street Basin.

Step 18: Continue with the canal on your left and go under a metal bridge.

Step 19: After a few minutes you'll reach Love Lock bridge.

Step 20: Can you see how it got its name?

Step 21: Turn left after crossing the bridge.

Step 22: There are plenty of restaurants here and places to chill if you need a break.

Step 23: Head inside the Mailbox building and continue straight.

Step 24: There are more restaurants and public toilets in here.

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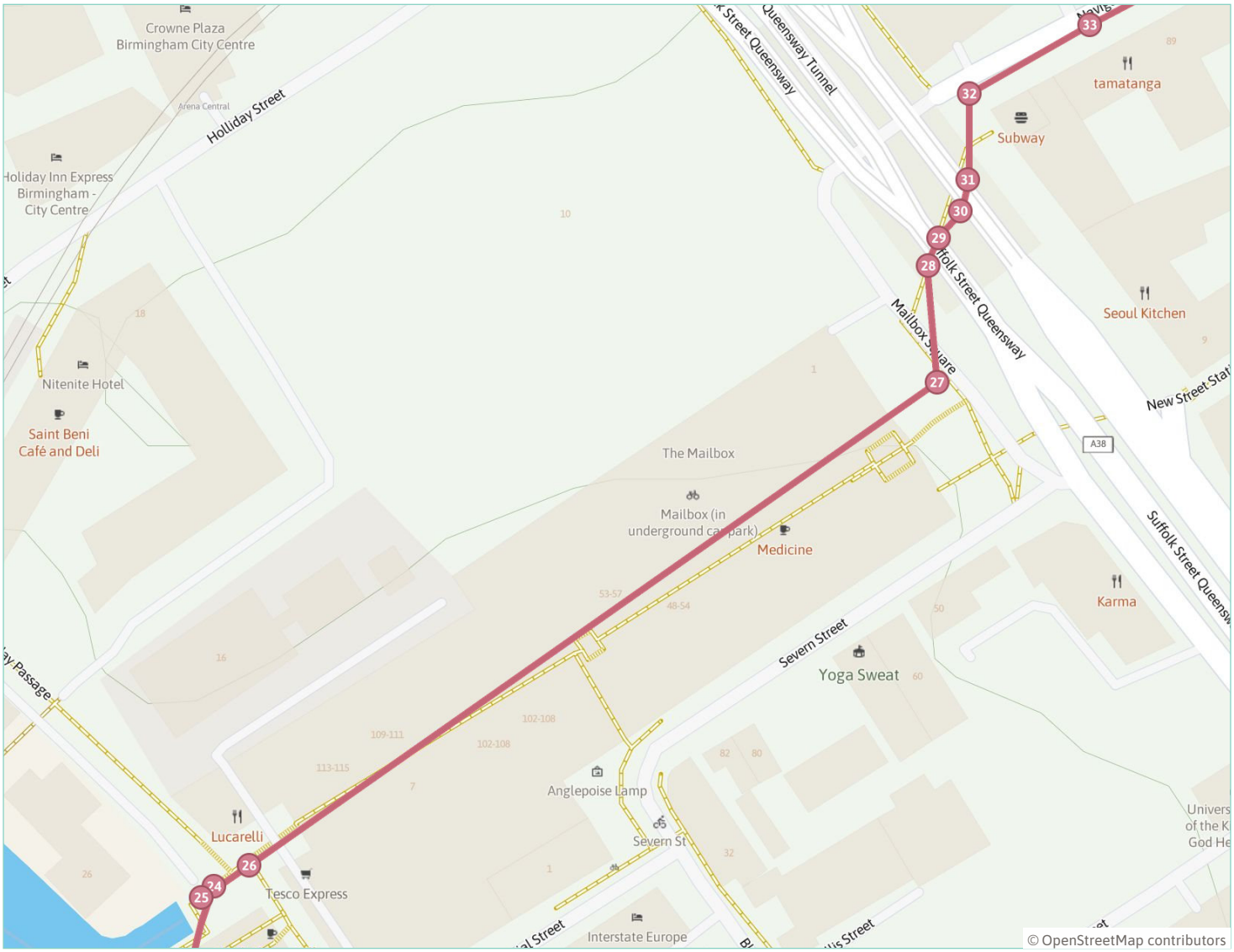

Step 25: Look out for the BBC studios on your right. Birmingham is a hub for film and TV.

Step 26: Exit the building onto Mailbox Square. There are lifts if you need them.

Step 27: Exit and cross the road to head under the flyover bridge.

Step 28: Under here you'll find public artworks commemorating Birmingham's rich music and arts scene.

Step 29: Did you know Duran Duran are also from Birmingham?

Step 30: And UB40!

Step 31: Check out the Black Sabbath display boards as you go.

Step 32: Exit onto Navigation Street. We are heading towards the Black Sabbath mural.

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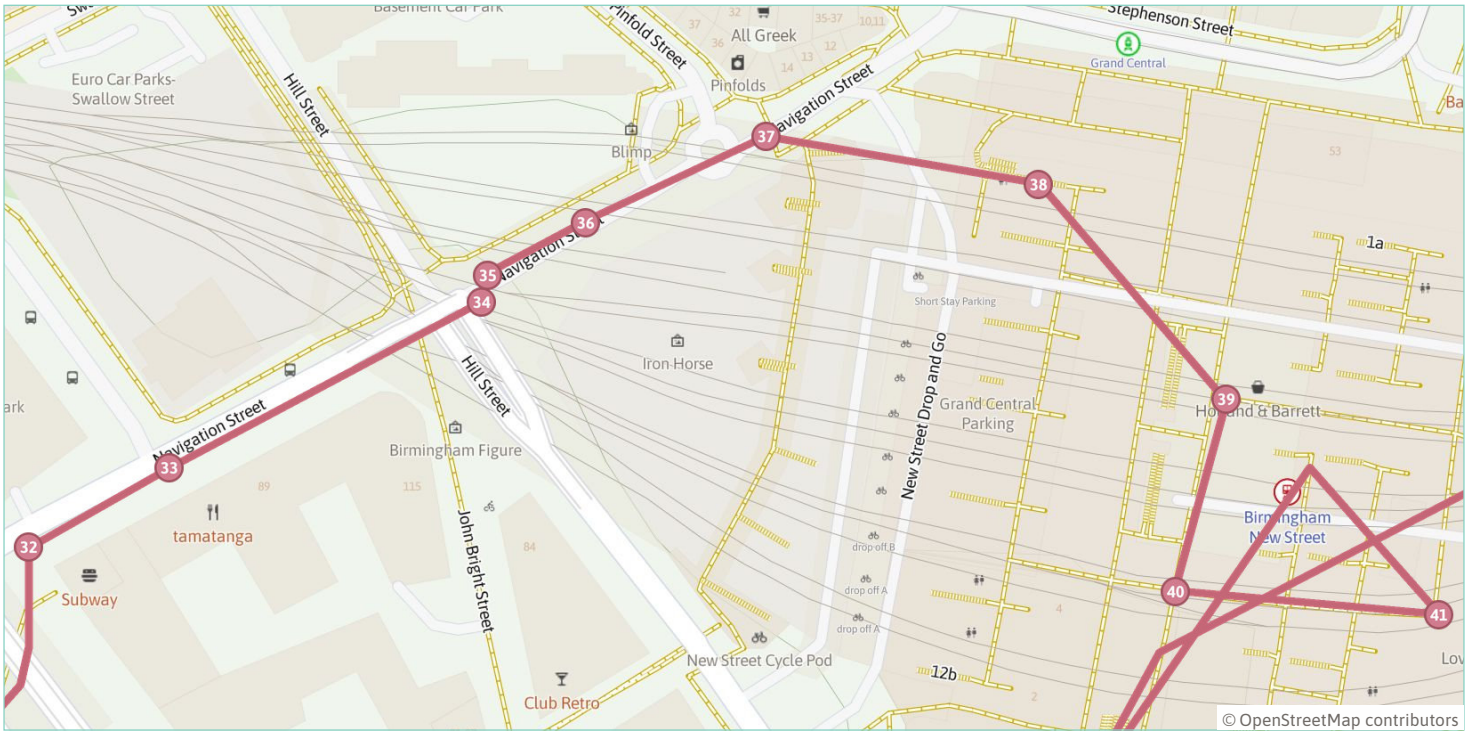
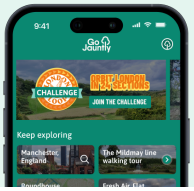


Step 33: Continue along Navigation Street.

Step 34: You'll soon see the mural on the left. Cross over at the lights to get a closer look.

Step 35: This is a great spot for a selfie with the lads!

Step 36: Continue along Navigation St with the mural to your left.



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Step 37: Cross the road to enter Grand Central station. Admire the striking mirrored building.

Step 38: Once inside, head up the escalator or lift and walk towards the train platforms.

Step 39: Once you enter the concourse you'll get a great view of Ozzy the Bull, named after the Black Sabbath frontman.

Step 40: Continue in the same direction and turn left.

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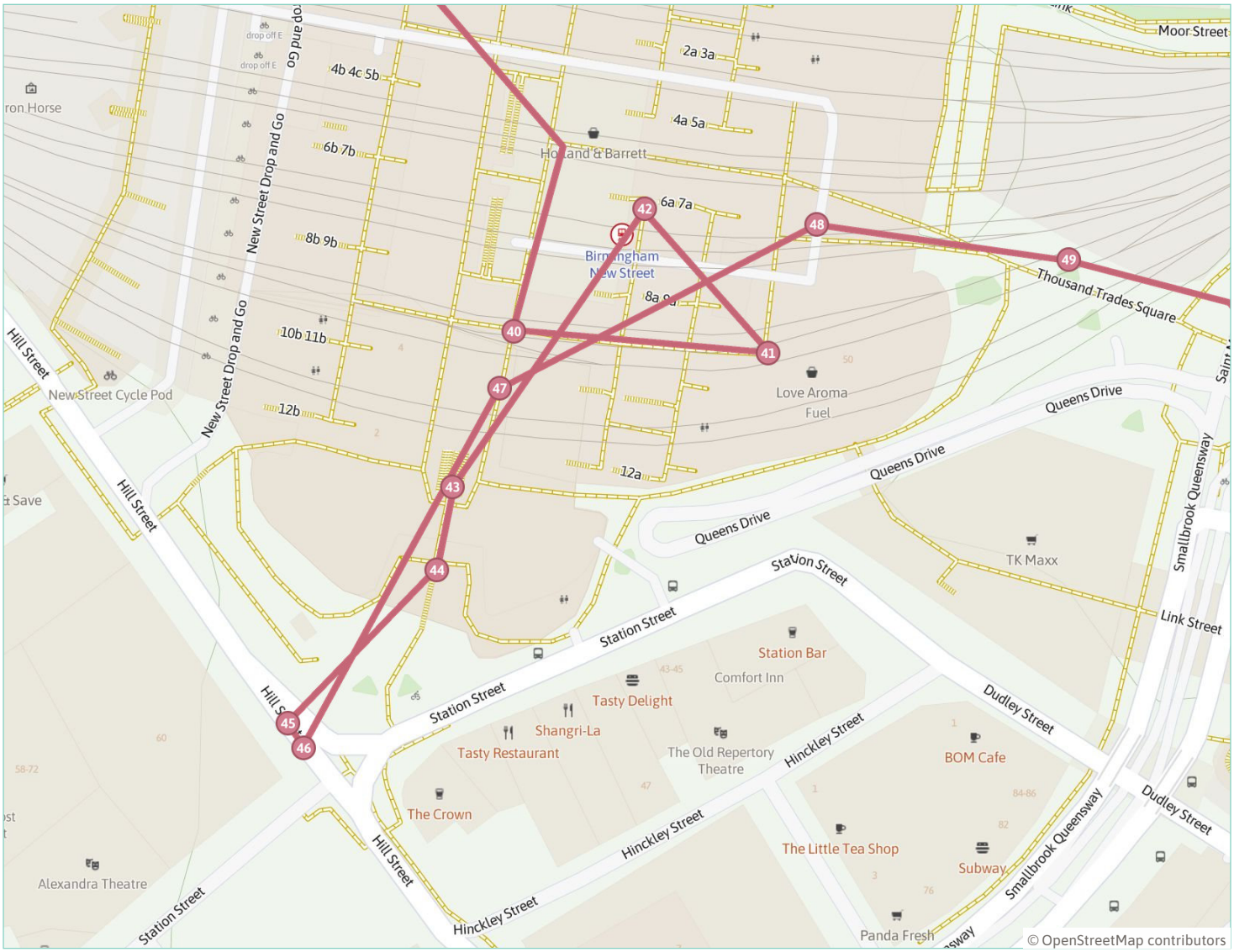

Step 41: Find the display about 'Back to the Beginning', a one-off benefit concert by Black Sabbath.

Step 42: Now head downstairs using the lift or escalators to get a closer look at Ozzy. You might see his head moving if you're lucky.

Step 43: Take the Station St exit.

Step 44: Use the stairs or take the lift down to street level. We're off to visit that pub just ahead of you.

Step 45: The Crown pub is where the band played their very first gig as 'Earth'. Sadly it's now closed but you can see some early photos of them.

Step 46: Read the sign to learn more about the birthplace of heavy metal.

Step 47: Head back through the station and take the exit towards Smallbrook Queensway & the Bullring shopping centre.

Step 48: Make sure you exit towards Smallbrook Queensway & the Bullring shopping centre.

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Step 49: Head towards the Bullring shopping centre ahead.

Step 50: Cross over St Martins Queensway and head into the Bullring opposite.

Step 51: We're walking through as a shortcut. There are plenty of shops here to explore if you have time.

Step 52: Keep walking straight, in the same direction towards the exit on St Martin's Walk.

Step 53: Exit onto St Martin's Walk and turn left.

Step 54: You'll see the impressive St Martin's church ahead. Turn left again towards the Selfridges building.

Step 55: Head towards this cool curvy building, this 'blobitecture' building is clad in exactly 15,000 shimmering anodised aluminum discs!

Step 56: Take a closer look and head inside.

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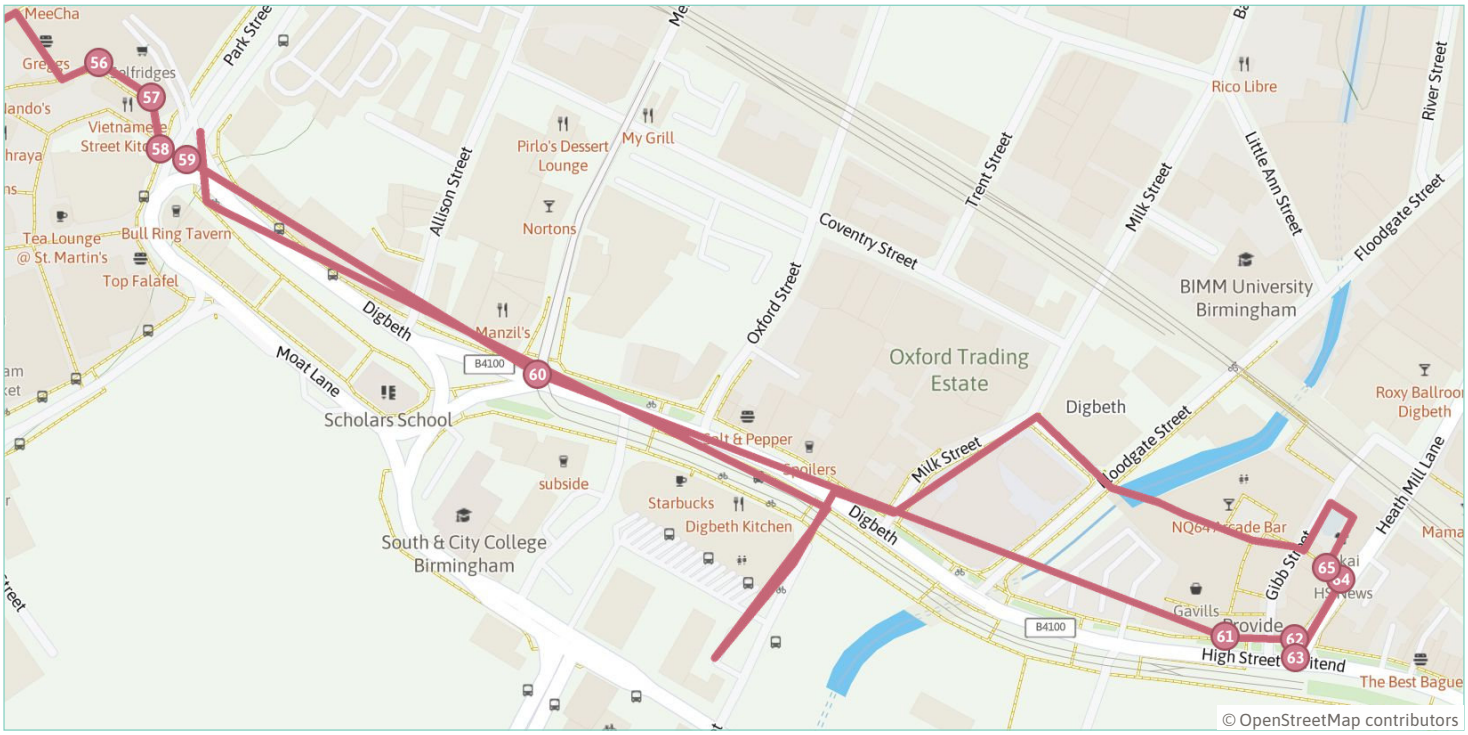
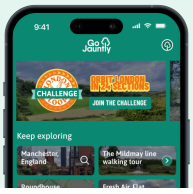


Step 57: As you enter you may see a life size brick figure of Ozzy (sometimes he gets moved to Menswear on Floor 2). Exit to continue the walk.

Step 58: Cross over Park St towards Digbeth.

Step 59: Cross over again so you are on the left hand side of the road.

Step 60: Continue on Digbeth for a few mins, admiring the street art all around. This cool neighbourhood is a vibrant, creative, industrial quarter.



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Step 61: Keep going straight, you'll see old red brick factories. The old Birds custard factory was located here.

Step 62: You'll soon reach The Old Crown pub, one of the city's most historic pub's. Turn left onto Heath Mill Lane.

Step 63: Walk on the left side of Heath Mill Lane and keep your eyes out for a small doorway on the left.

Step 64: Go through the doorway. For the step free way, head to Gibb Street instead.

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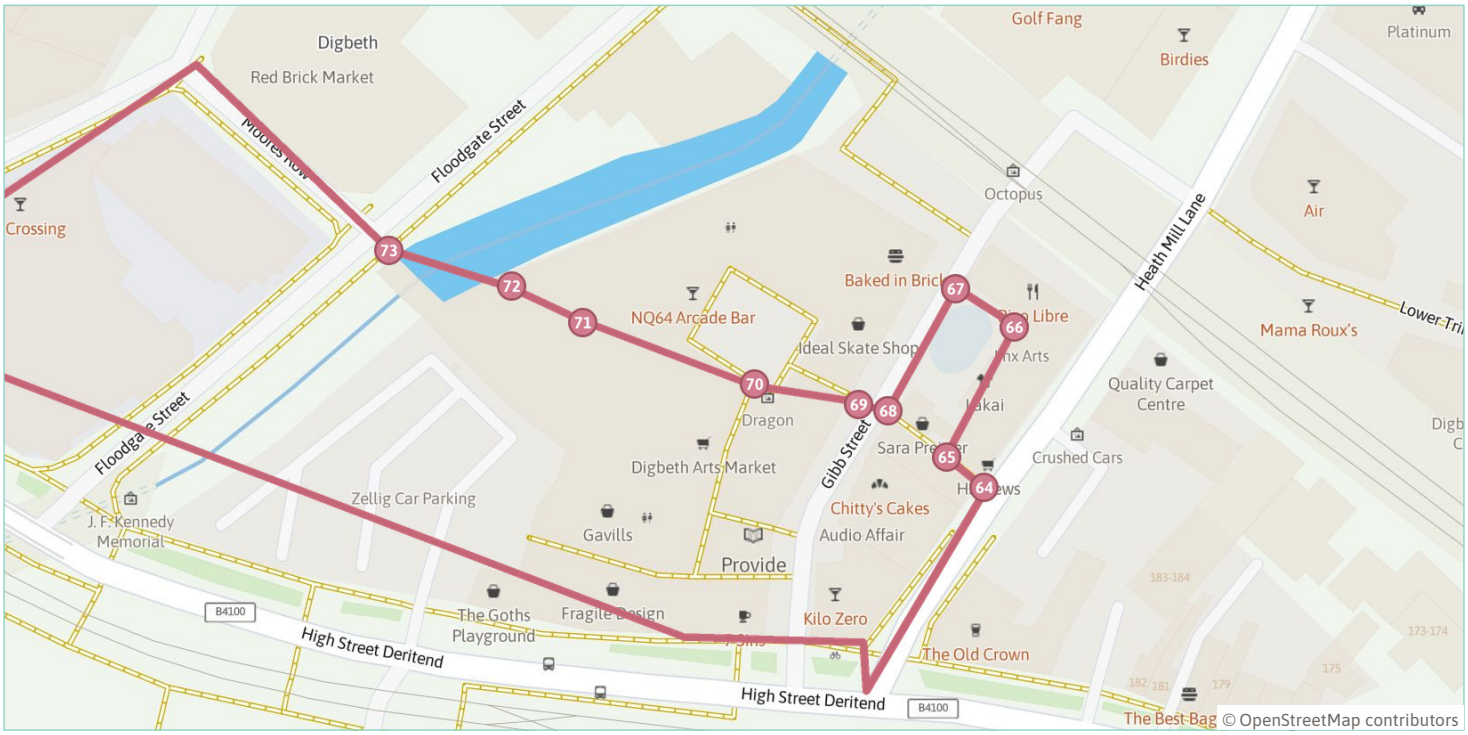

Step 65: Look out for this Ozzy mural as you enter!

Step 66: You are now at the Custard Factory, built on the former HQ of Bird's Custard. It's now a buzzing hub of indie shops, bars and street art.

Step 67: Continue onto Gibb St and turn left.

Step 68: Check out the Green Man, made from stone, fossils and living vegetation, it stands 14 metres tall.

Step 69: Take the pathway opposite the statue towards an outdoor square.

Step 70: Head inside the food hall.

Step 71: There are lots of delicious dining options in here.

Step 72: Follow the signs to exit onto Floodgate.

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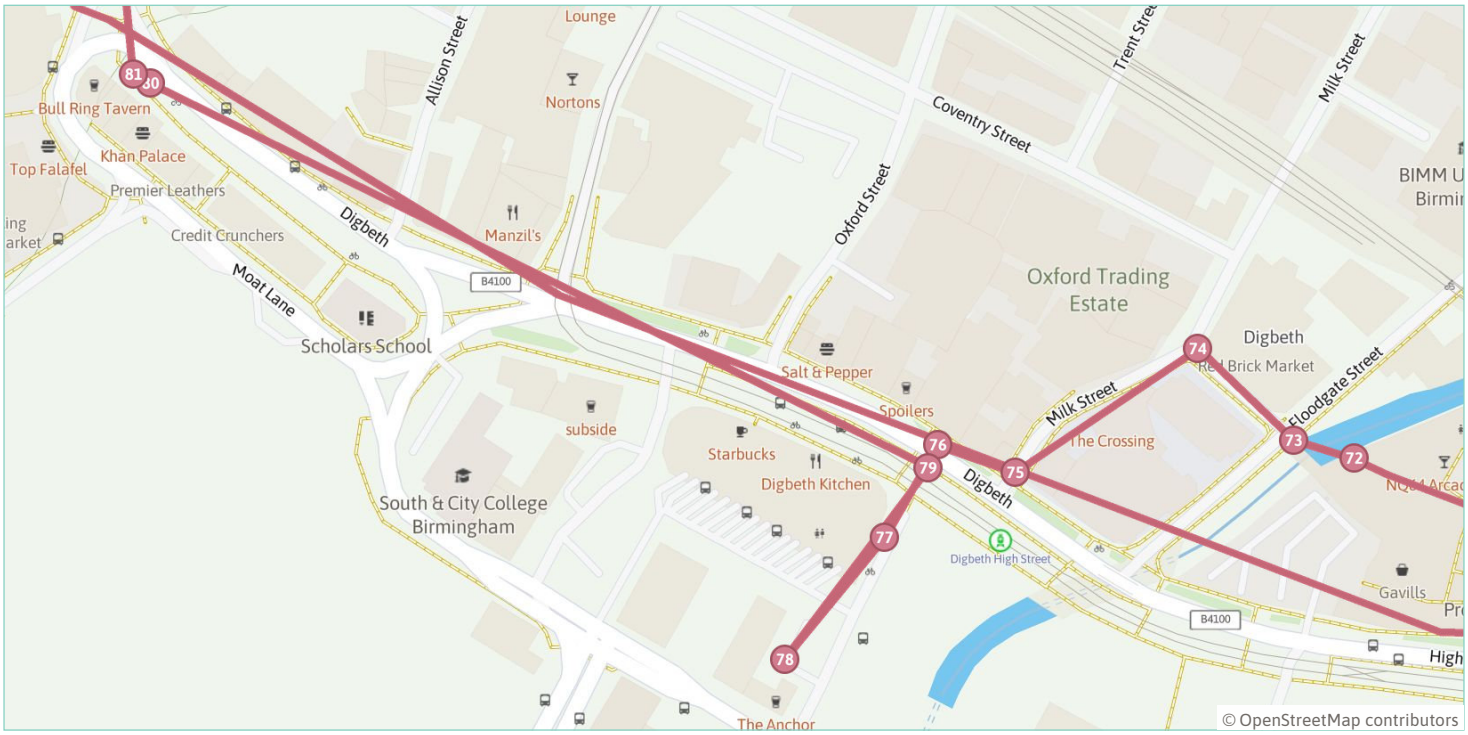

Step 73: Continue straight onto Moore's Row. Get ready to turn left.

Step 74: Turn left into Milk St, then right onto Digbeth.

Step 75: Cross Milk St and continue on Digbeth towards the pedestrian crossing.

Step 76: Cross over Digbeth towards the Coach Station.

Step 77: Continue ahead on Rea St, with the Coach station on your right to see another mural.

Step 78: You'll soon come across another Black Sabbath mural.

Step 79: Now head back the way you came to Digbeth.

Step 80: Walk back along Digbeth to the station.

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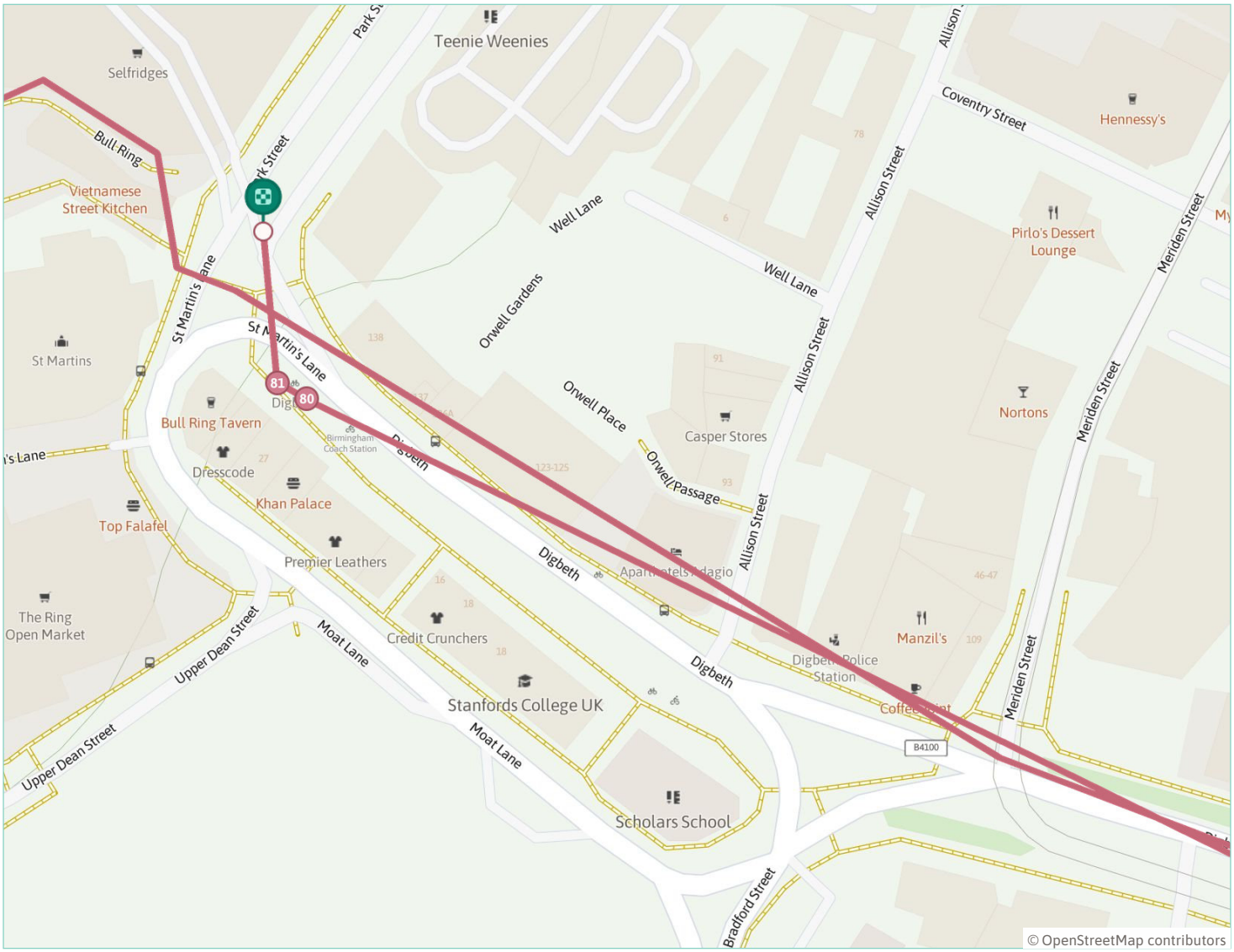
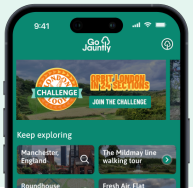


Step 81: Keep an eye out for one last mural on the left!



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Step 82: From New Street Station you can take an optional detour to Ozzy's childhood home in Aston at 14 Lodge Road. Jump on the 97 bus towards Chelmsley Wood and get off at Gibb St.

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