



# The Jubilee Walkway Section 1

The Western Route: A 9.5km walk through the heart of London, passing some of its most iconic landmarks.

**Distance** 9.2 kilometers / 5.7 miles

**Duration** 2 hours and 35 minutes

WC

Public loos



Refreshments



Great views



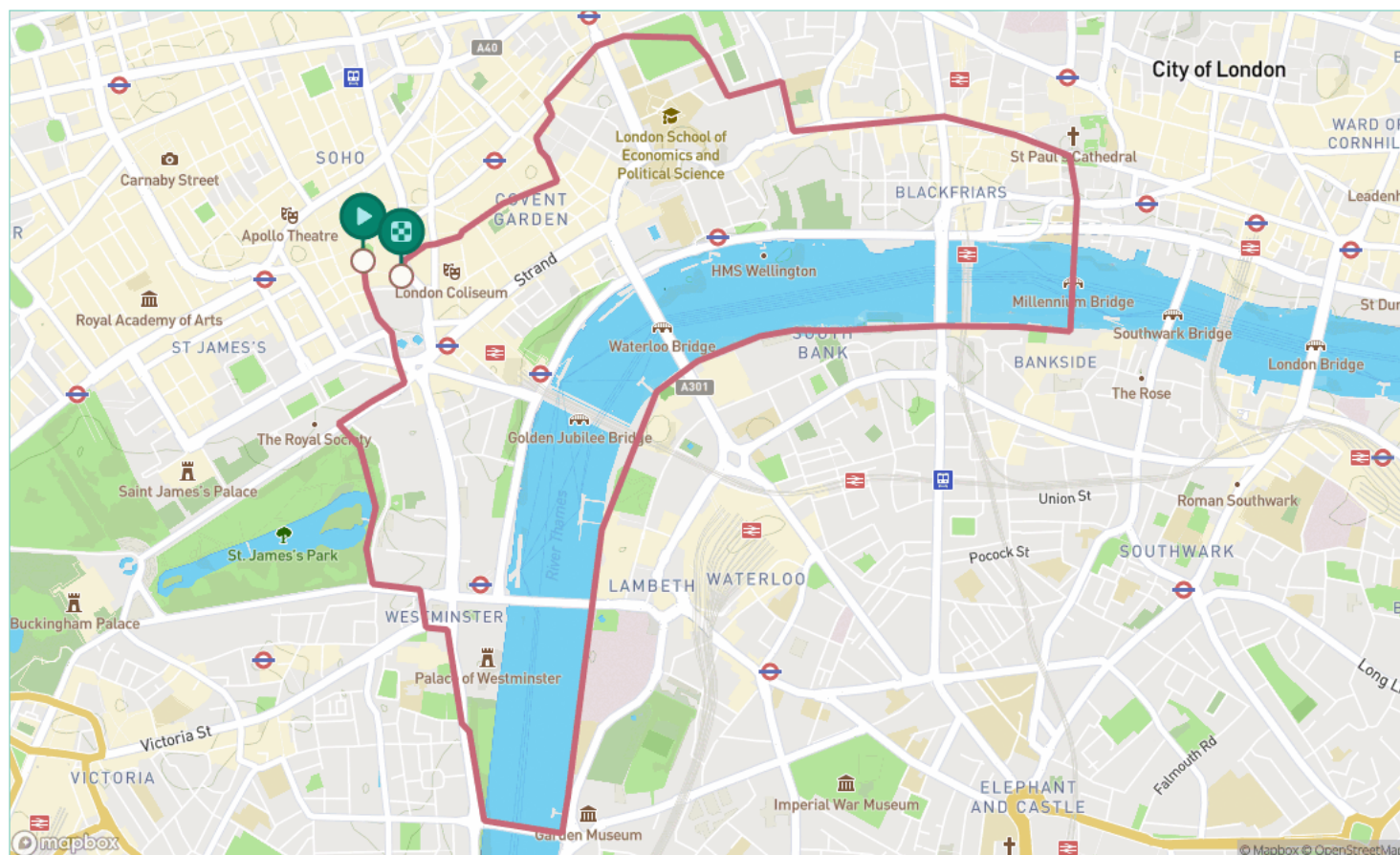
Child friendly



Water feature

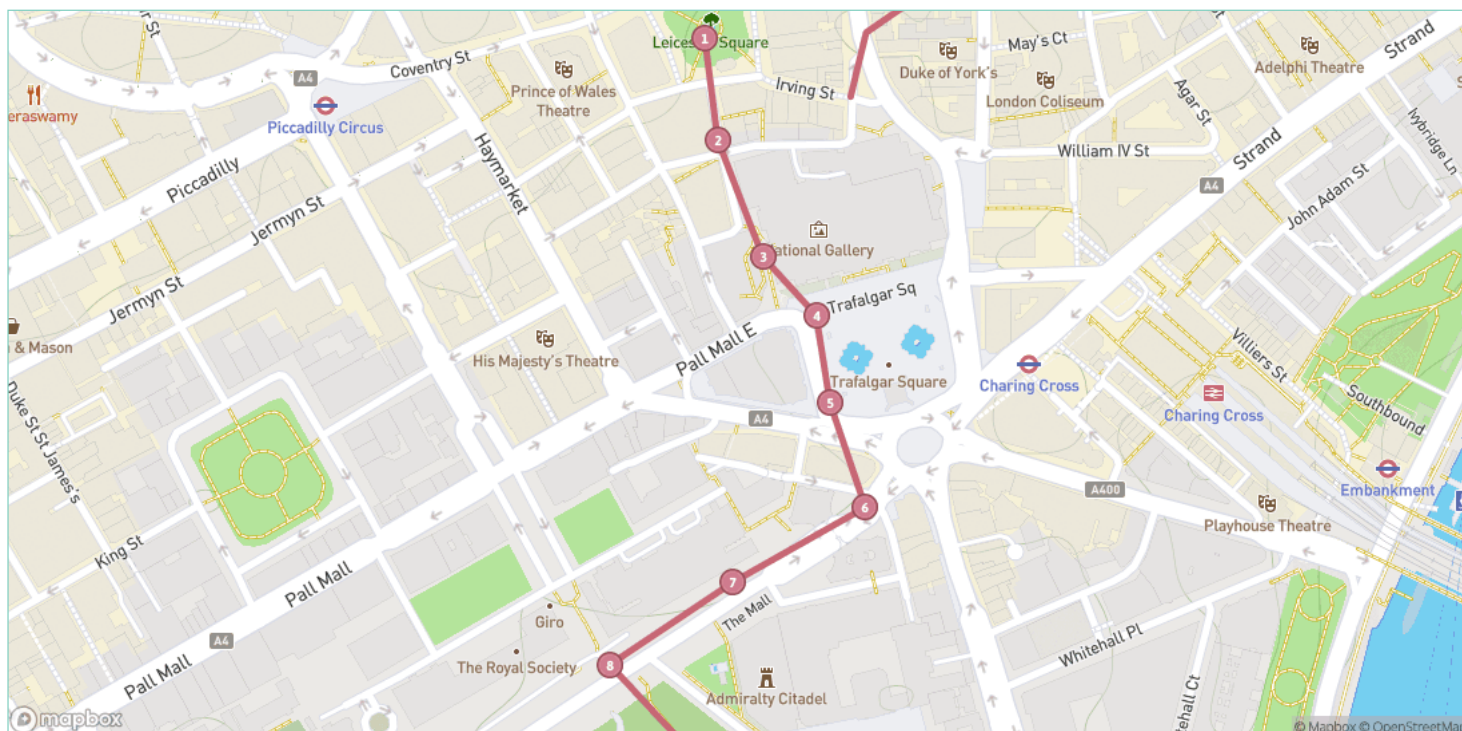


Public transport



Disclaimer: Directions are provided as guidance only. Weather, construction, closures or other factors may affect routes. Please take care when crossing roads and avoid private land. Always follow local signage and use common sense.

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**Step 1:** Welcome to Section 1 of the Jubilee Walkway. The nearest tube is Leicester Square. From the Jubilee Walkway panel in the centre of Leicester Square, exit the park via southwest corner by the Odeon West End Cinema.

**Step 2:** Follow the pedestrian area south down St Martin's Street. You should pass Westminster Reference Library on your left.

**Step 3:** Continue straight down to head on the path between the two parts of the National Gallery. The National Gallery was placed here in 1831 as it was considered the best at the very centre of London.

**Step 4:** You will enter into Trafalgar Square. Take a look at Lord Nelson's 171-foot column and surrounding statues and fountains.

**Step 5:** With Trafalgar Square behind you & Canada House to your right, cross Trafalgar Square road at the south of the square towards Uganda House.

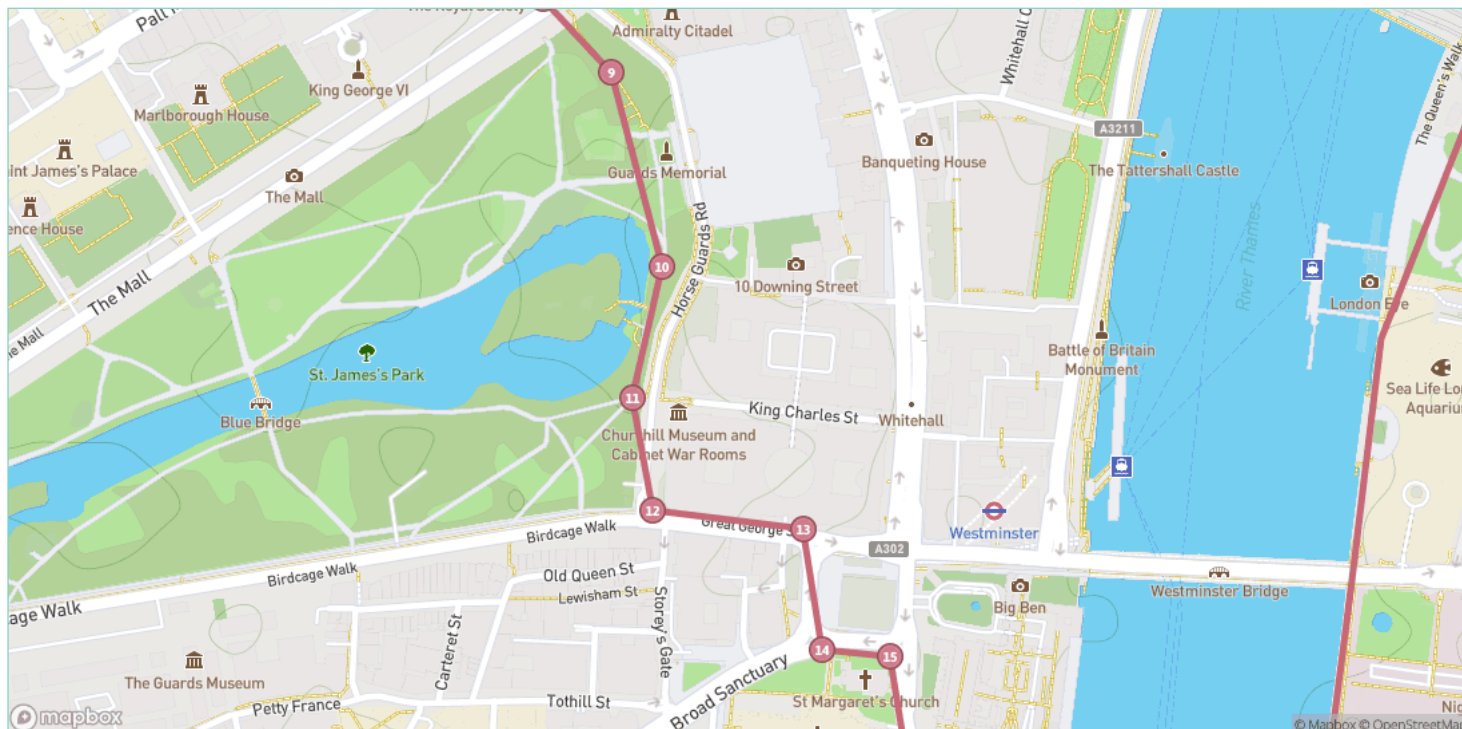
**Step 6:** Follow the curve of the road as it bends right to enter The Mall. Head under the large stone Admiralty Arch and stay on the right-hand side.

**Step 7:** Pass the Mall Galleries and The Royal Marines Memorial on the right as you stroll along the broad tree-lined avenue.

**Step 8:** At the Duke of York steps, cross The Mall towards St. James's park. You have clear views to Buckingham Palace on your right as you cross.

### Did you know?

The Mall is London's main Ceremonial route from Buckingham Palace to the City of London. The late Queen Elizabeth II's coach came along here to her Coronation in Westminster Abbey in 1953, and to St Paul's Cathedral for the thanksgiving services for her Silver, Golden, Diamond and Platinum Jubilees in 1977, 2002, 2012 and 2022.



**Step 9:** Enter the park and take a left to follow the path parallel to Horse Guards Road. To your left is Horse Guards Parade.

**Step 10:** Pass the toilets and continue straight to walk pass the lake on your right.

**Step 11:** Just past the lake turn left on the path to join Horse Guards Road. Turn right to walk on the pavement alongside the road.

**Step 12:** At the junction take a left onto Great George Street. Continue down this road until you reach Parliament Square and get a view of Big Ben.

### Did you know?

Parliament Square itself has many statues, including Millicent Fawcett, Sir Winston Churchill and Nelson Mandela.

**Step 13:** Look out for the Jubilee Walkway panel as you reach Parliament Square. Cross St George Street here and walk towards Westminster Abbey, passing in front of the UK Supreme Court on your right.

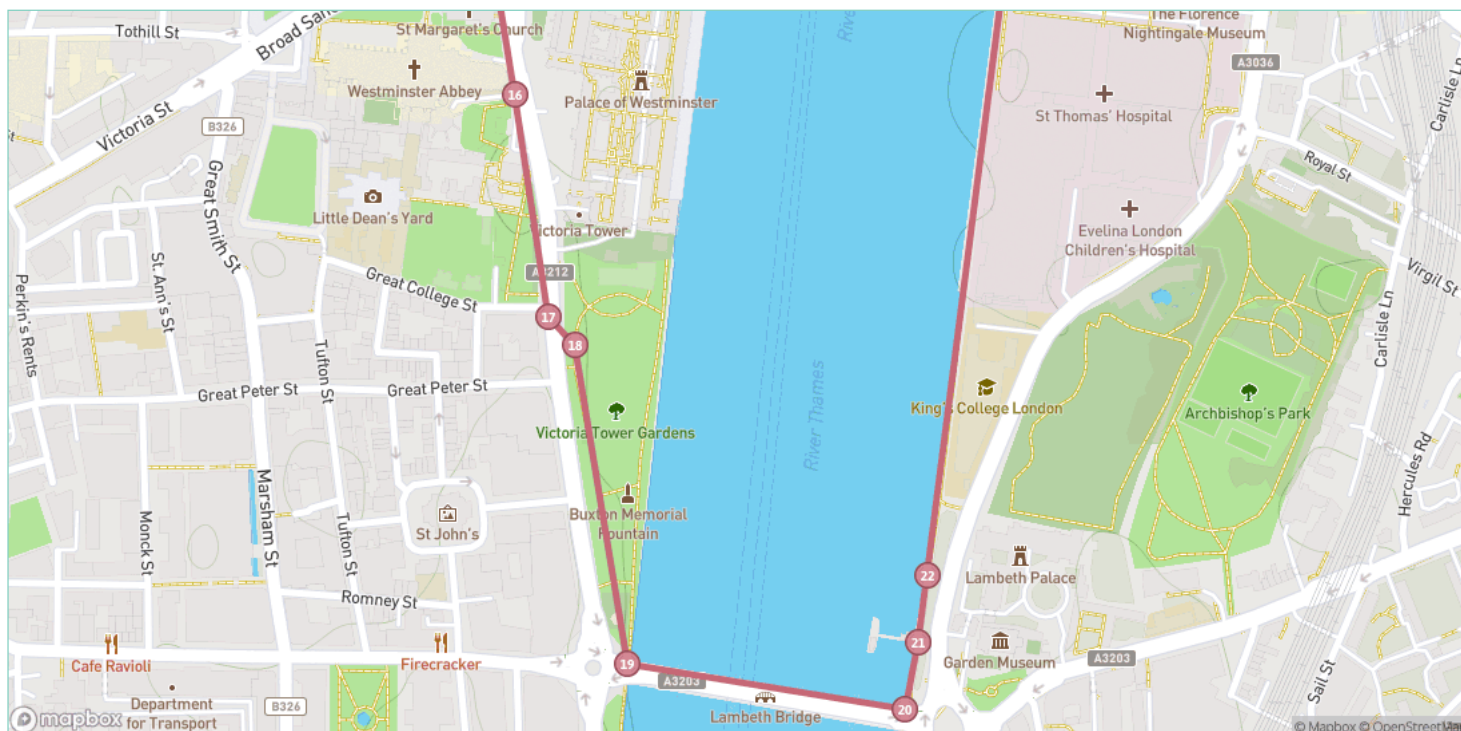
**Step 14:** Cross Broad Sanctuary to reach Westminster Abbey. Turn left to walk past St Margaret's Church and another Jubilee Walkway information panel.

### Did you know?

The history of Westminster Abbey goes back more than a thousand years when Benedictine monks came to this site in the 10th century.

**Step 15:** Turn right onto St Margaret's Street opposite the Houses of Parliament.





**Step 16:** Pass the sundial on the ground and Jewel Tower on your right and look across the road for views of the Houses of Parliament.

**Step 20:** Turn left at the other side of the bridge. Walk down the steps to join the Thames Path, walking with the river on your left.

### Did you know?

The site of the Houses of Parliament is officially known as the Palace of Westminster, and was the residence of kings. The clock tower contains the famous Big Ben bell, cast in 1858 and named after Benjamin Hall, commissioner of works at that time. In 2012 the tower was renamed 'Elizabeth Tower' to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee.

**Step 17:** Use the pedestrian crossing just beyond College Green to cross Millbank and enter Victoria Tower Gardens.

**Step 18:** Explore the park and it's numerous statues or head right immediately to walk towards Lambeth Bridge, past the playpark and toilets.

**Step 19:** Head up the steps and cross Lambeth Bridge.

**Step 21:** Opposite you will see the Museum of Garden History and Lambeth Palace.

### Did you know?

Lambeth Palace has been a historic London residence of Archbishops of Canterbury since the 13th century. The Museum of Garden History was set up in 1977 in the historic church of St Mary-at-Lambeth as the world's first museum of the history of gardens and gardening.

**Step 22:** The next stretch of the route follows takes the south bank of the Thames and joins both the Queen's Walk and the Thames Path National Trail.



**Step 23:** Head past St Thomas's Hospital and then take the foot tunnel under Westminster Bridge, to the left of the steps.

**Step 24:** Pass the old County Hall and London Eye before continuing along the Thames under the joint pedestrian and railway bridge.

### Did you know?

At 135 metres above London, the London Eye provides panoramic views of up to 25 miles on a clear day. It opened in March 2000 and the wheel design was used as a metaphor for the turning of the century.

**Step 25:** Pass the Southbank Centre and look out for the Southbank Skatepark to your right.

### Did you know?

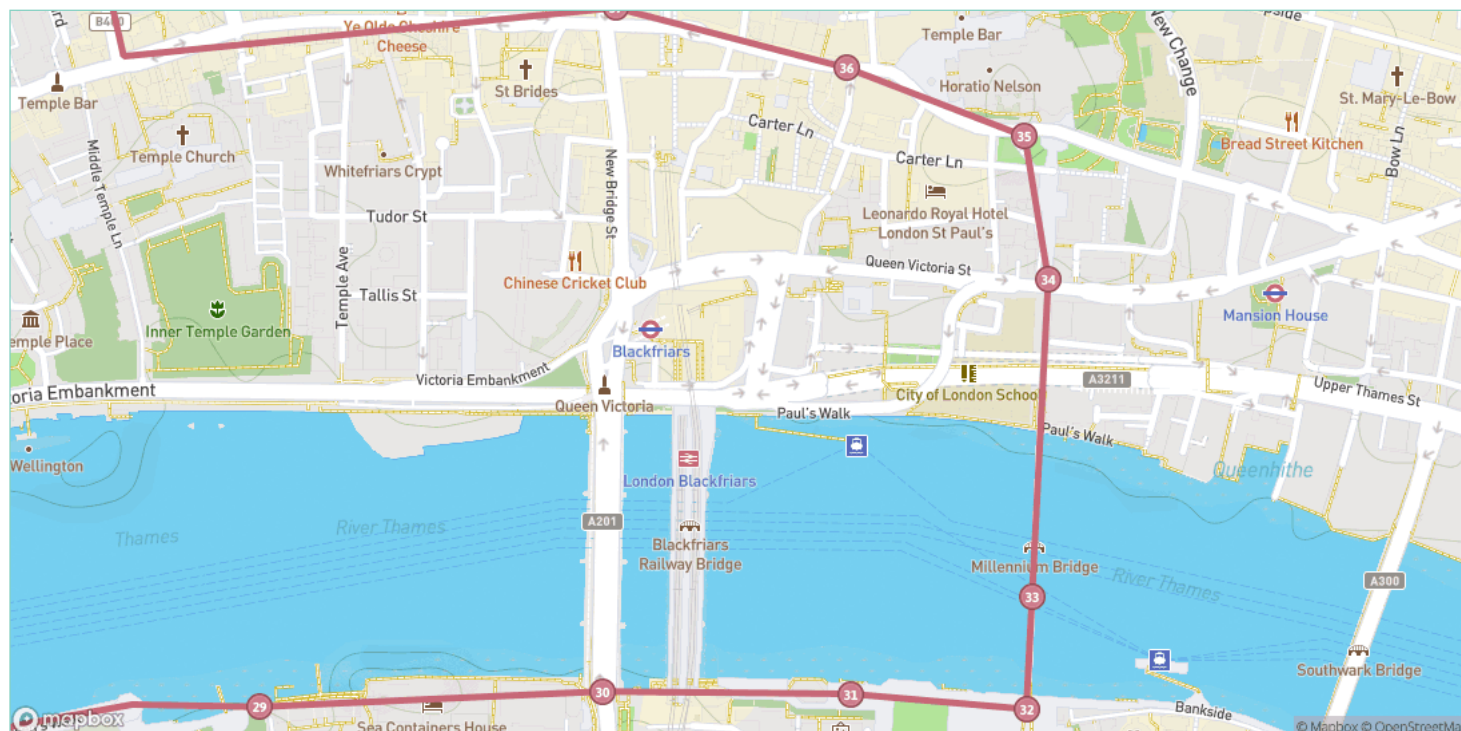
This stretch by the Southbank Centre is the site of the 1951 Festival of Britain and is now part of a riverside promenade which is alive with street performers. There are cafes and accessible toilets here.

**Step 26:** Head under Waterloo Bridge and stroll past the The National Theatre. It opened with a production of Hamlet in 1963.

**Step 27:** Keep strolling riverside, enjoying the number of stalls selling street food and second hand books along the south bank.

**Step 28:** You'll reach an observation point just before the OXO Tower. There are great views across to the City of London.

**Step 29:** You'll pass the OXO tower which, after falling into disrepair, was refurbished to become an award winning multi-use space.



**Step 30:** Head under Blackfriars Bridge and the railway bridge by using the pedestrian tunnels.

**Step 31:** Keep walking towards the Tate Modern with its iconic chimney. It's huge and you can't miss it!

#### Did you know?

Tate Modern, the former Bankside Power Station, houses Britain's collection of international, modern and contemporary art.

**Step 32:** In front of the Tate Modern you'll find the ramp up to Millennium Bridge. Walk up to join the bridge.

**Step 33:** Walk over the Millennium Bridge with its wonderful views towards St Paul's Cathedral. Be sure to look back at the Tate too.

**Step 34:** Continue straight ahead toward St Paul's Cathedral, crossing Queen Victoria Street when you get to it.

#### Did you know?

The Cathedral - the fourth to occupy this site - was designed by the court architect Sir Christopher Wren. Built between 1675 and 1710 after its predecessor was destroyed in the Great Fire of London, this magnificent building is considered as Wren's masterpiece.

**Step 35:** Walk through Carter Lane Gardens. Turn left into St Paul's Churchyard and cross at the zebra crossing as it turns into Ludgate Hill.

**Step 36:** Continue down Ludgate Hill, walking on the right-hand side of the road.





**Step 37:** At the large junction of Ludgate Circus, cross over Farringdon Street to continue into Fleet Street straight ahead.

**Step 41:** Enter the path. Walk via the north side if you fancy a visit to Sir John Soane's museum at Number 13.

### Did you know?

Fleet Street was once the home of Britain's national newspapers and news organisations. They have all moved out now, although signs remain if you look for them, including the distinctive art-deco Express building.

### Did you know?

John Soane was born in 1753, the son of a bricklayer, and died after a long and distinguished career, in 1837. He designed this house to live in, but also as a setting for his antiquities and his works of art. Today it is a fascinating collection of the books, casts and models that Soane collected for the benefit of students, and is open to the public.

**Step 38:** Turn right on to Chancery Lane.

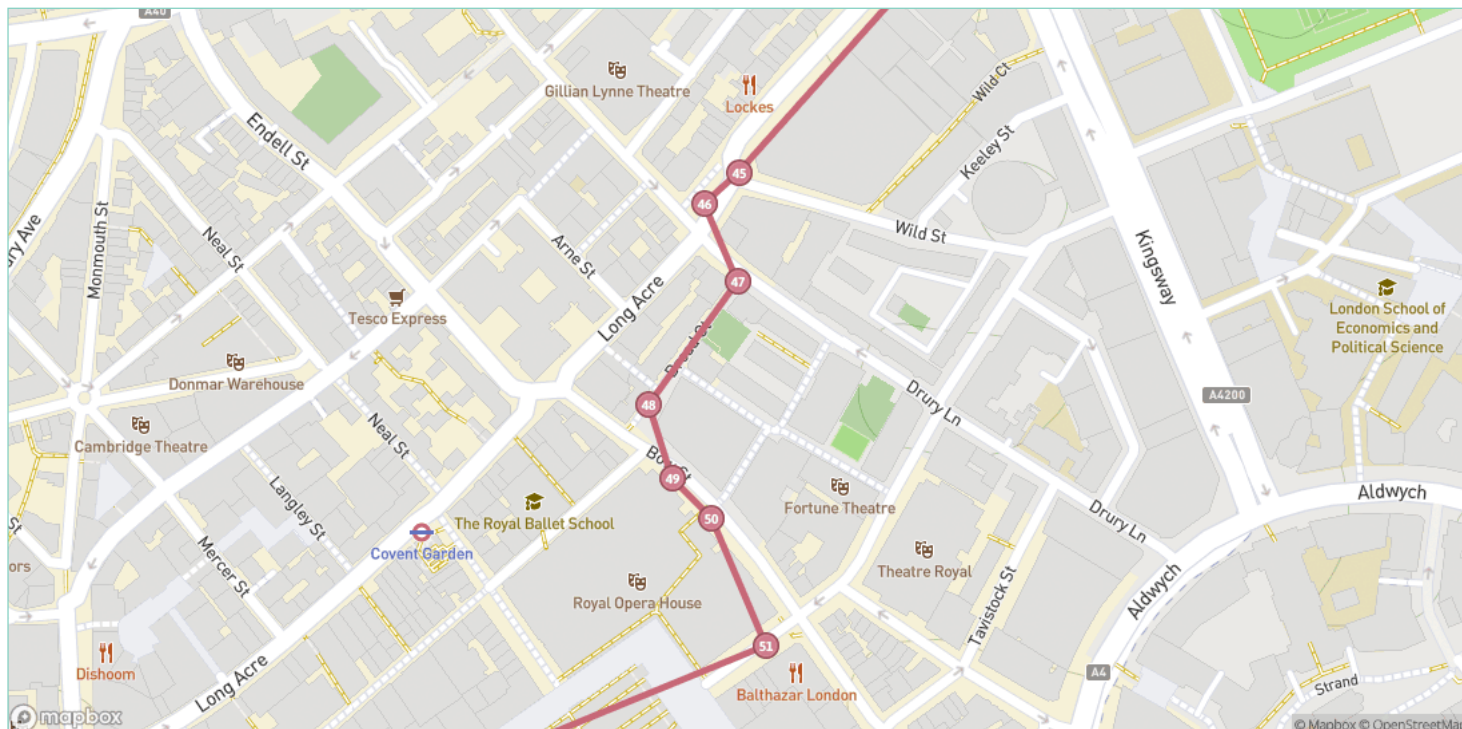
**Step 39:** Take a left onto Carey Street. There's a Jubilee Walkway information panel by this junction.

**Step 42:** Walk through the park under the trees to reach the opposite corner. There is a lovely cafe in the park.

**Step 40:** Take a right on to Serle Street and walk straight until you arrive at a square which is Lincoln's Inn Fields.

**Step 43:** At the northwest corner of Lincoln's Inn Fields, turn left along Remnant Street.

**Step 44:** Cross Kingsway and then ahead into Great Queen Street opposite.



**Step 45:** You will pass the Freemasons Hall on your left - the headquarters of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

**Step 50:** Next to it, walk past the splendid glass and cast iron floral hall - a reminder of the market days of Covent Garden.

**Step 46:** On your left is Drury Lane. Cross over it and then turn left to walk down it for approximately 30 metres.

**Step 51:** Turn right toward Covent Garden along Russell Street. Walk across the cobbled piazza. Keep to your right and find King Street.

**Step 47:** Turn right into Broad Street - a pedestrianised area.

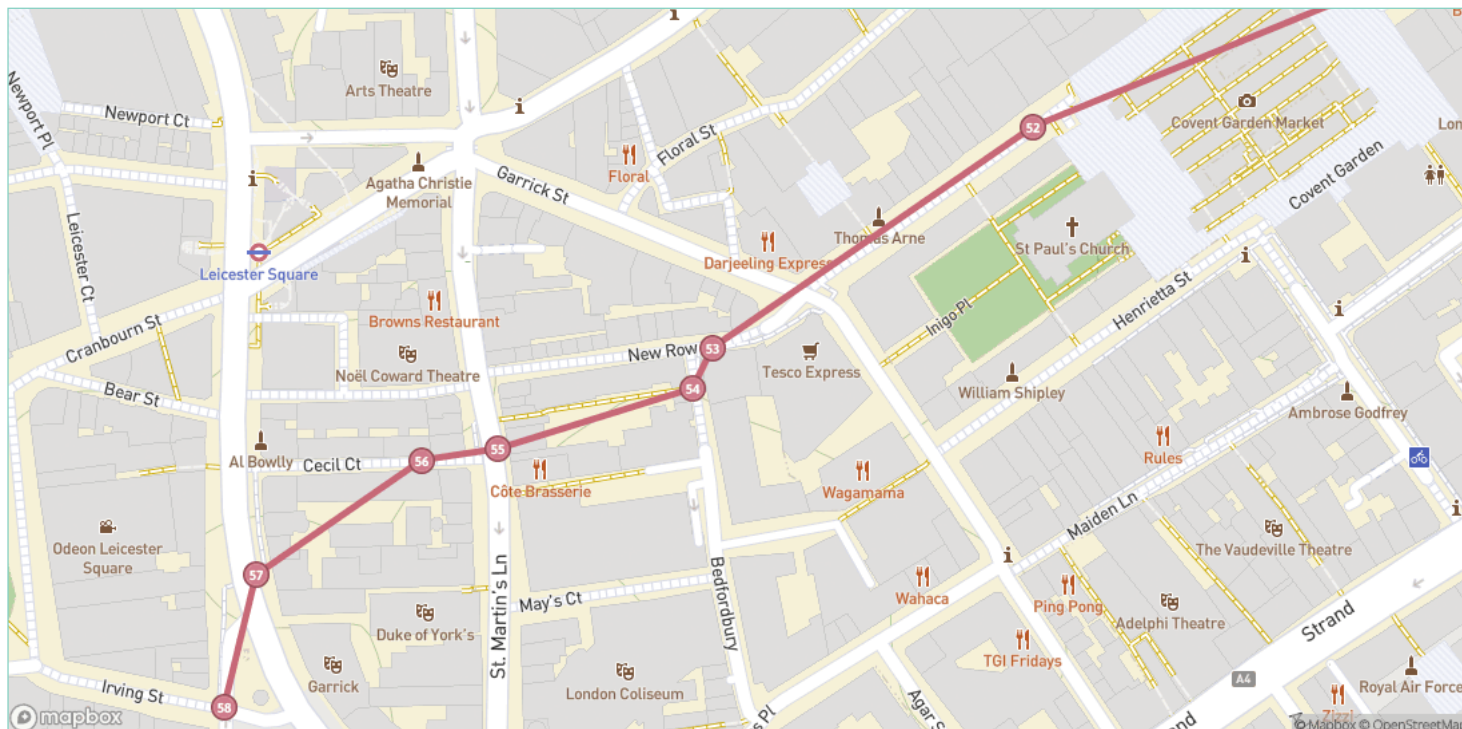
**Step 48:** Pass the row of iconic red phone boxes and turn left on to Bow Street.

**Step 49:** Walk past the grand Royal Opera House.

### Did you know?

The Royal Opera House is one of the foremost opera houses in the world - home of The Royal Opera, The Royal Ballet and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House. This large building is a major performing arts venue in the London district of Covent Garden.





**Step 52:** Walk down King Street, cross over Bedford Street and continue along New Row straight ahead.

**Step 53:** Turn left after approximately 50 metres along Bedfordbury.

**Step 54:** And then almost immediately head right into the alley of Goodwins Court.

**Step 55:** Cross St Martin's Lane and continue slightly left on the pedestrianised Cecil Court.

**Step 56:** Take a look in the second hand book shops which fill this street.

**Step 57:** At the end turn left on Charing Cross Road and cross the zebra crossing. Alternatively turn right to get back to Leicester Square tube.

**Step 58:** Take a right into Irving Street and you will be back at Leicester Square where you started. Congratulations on finishing Section 1 of the Jubilee Walkway! How about moving on to Section 2?