



Liverpool Music & Culture Trail

A linear walk across some of Liverpool's music and cultural sites which inspired Merseybeat, Beatle-mania and musical goodness.

Distance 4.2 kilometers / 2.6 miles

Duration 2 hours



Wheel friendly



Public transport



History



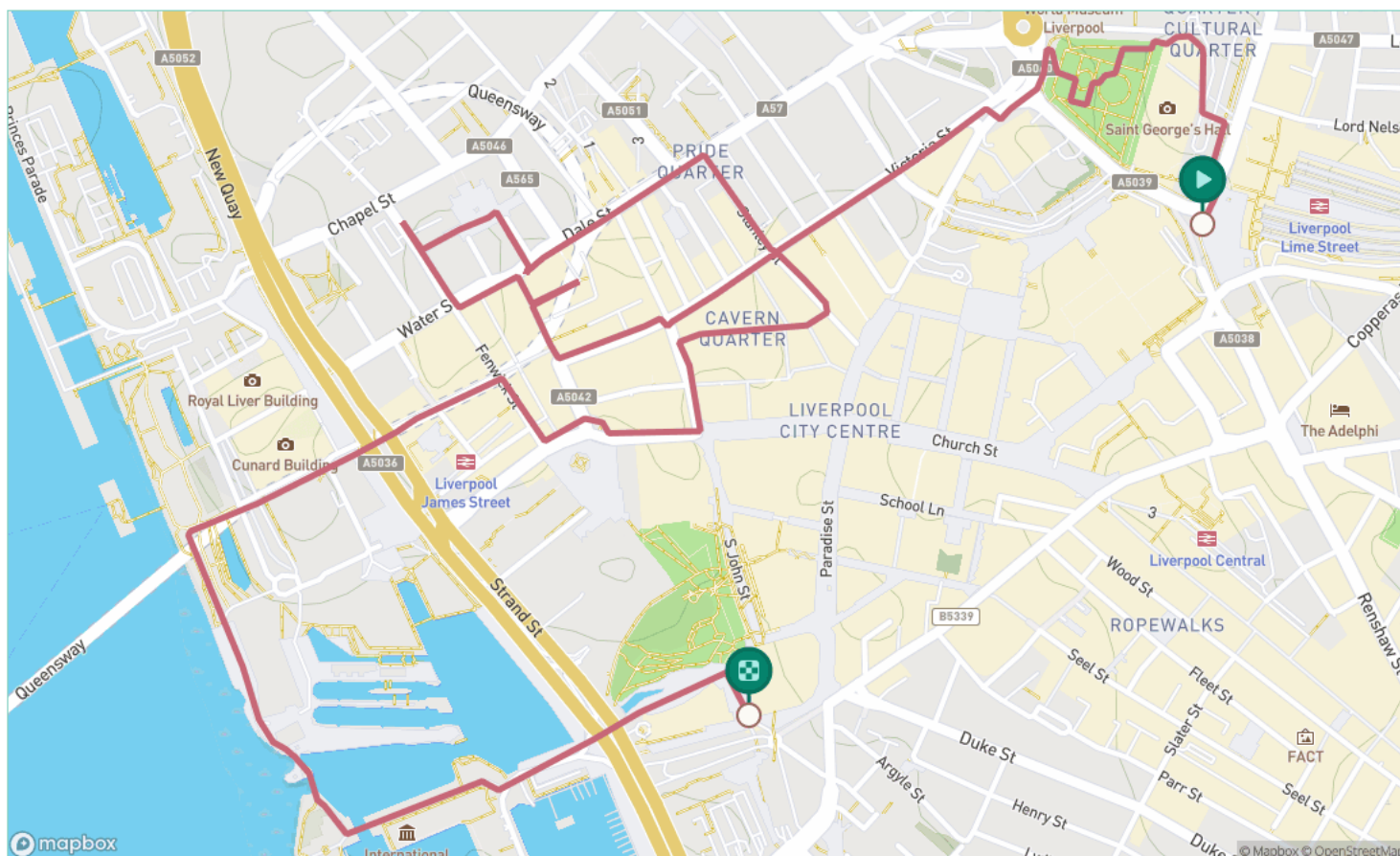
Hilly & steep

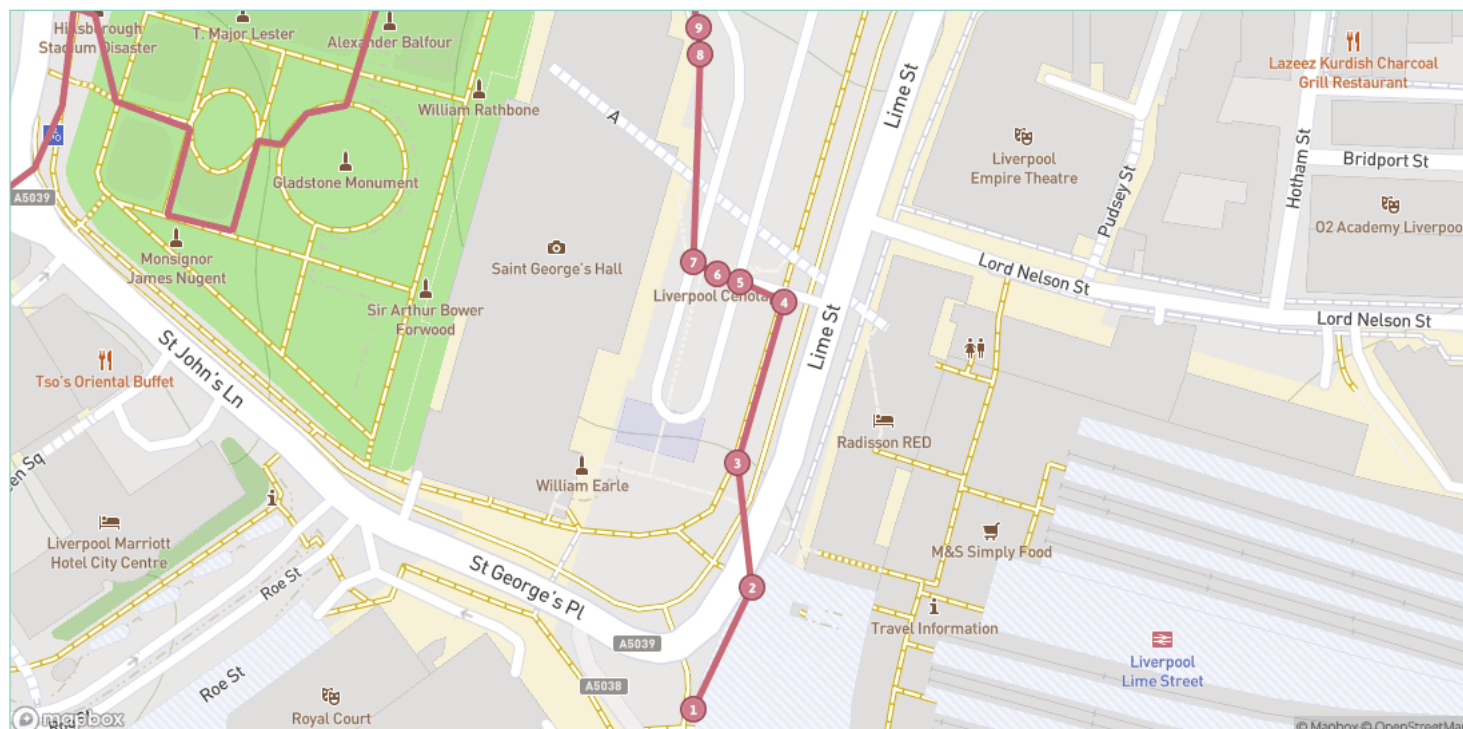


Dog friendly



Child friendly





Step 1: This linear walk starts outside Liverpool Lime Street Station.

Step 2: With your back to the station, cross Lime St at the pedestrian crossing and bear right on the other side.

Step 3: Continue right and make your way towards St George's Hall on your left. This area is known as St George's Plateau.

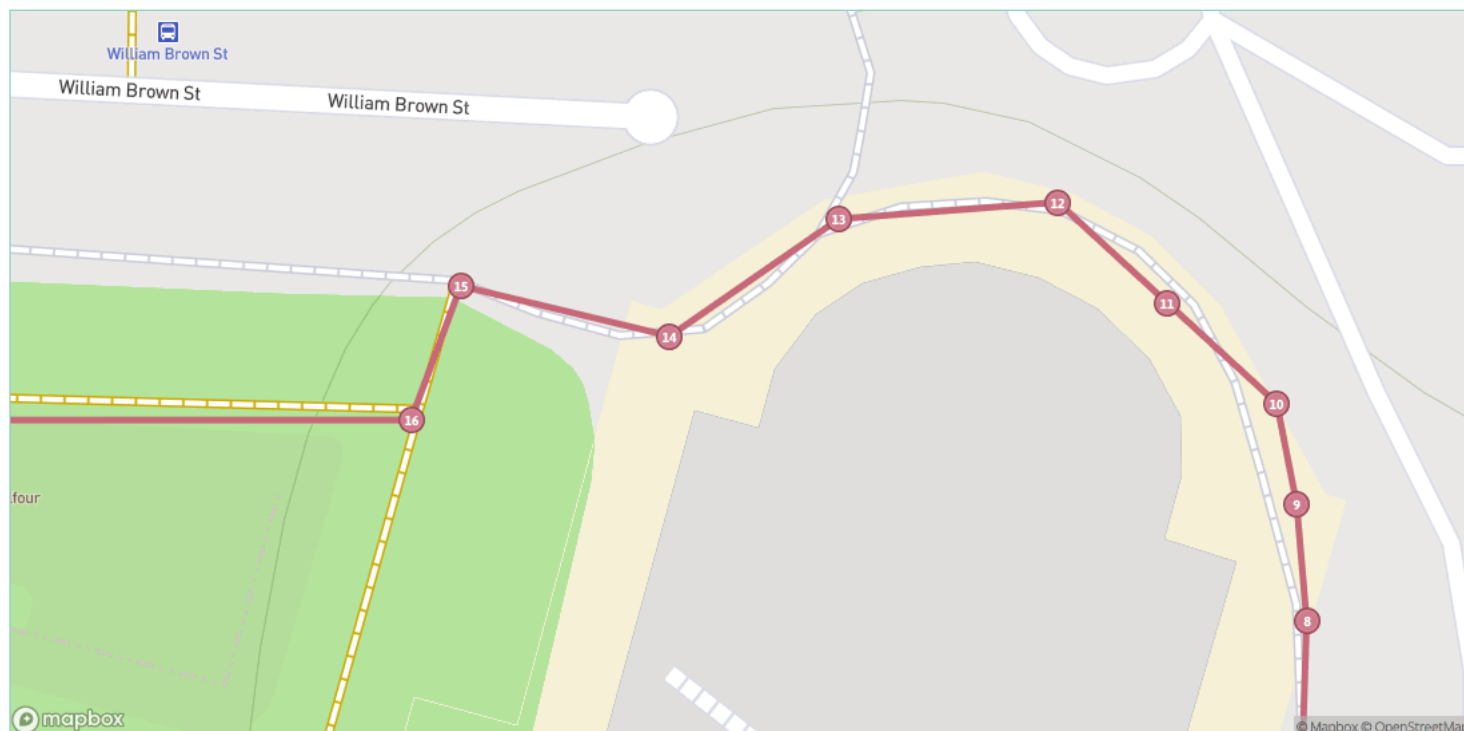
Step 4: The hall is a neoclassical masterpiece hosting concerts and events since 1854; its Great Hall organ is one of the largest in Europe.

Step 5: The hall was originally built to host Liverpool's triennial music festivals. Its concert room organ has 7,737 pipes and was once the largest in Britain.

Step 6: The Plateau also hosted a candlelight vigil and all-day tribute concert for John Lennon on 14 December 1980, drawing over 30,000 people days after his passing.

Step 7: Continue past the statue of The Earl of Beaconsfield, former Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli.

Step 8: Continue along the cobblestone. Up ahead is the Walker Gallery which houses one of Europe's finest art collections. It's free to enter.



Step 9: The gallery also holds Stuart Sutcliffe's paintings. He was the original Beatles bassist who studied art here before joining the band. The gallery also hosted the first major exhibition of Paul McCartney's own paintings in 2002.

Step 10: Bear left and continue on the pavement and mind the bollards. The round building ahead is Central Library.

Step 11: The walkway or 'Literary Pavement' leading in, celebrates famous Liverpool books, films and records, including Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. If you visit, don't miss the Writer's Wall as well.

Step 12: The stunning domed Picton Reading Room sits behind a Victorian facade. It's a hidden architectural gem.

Step 13: Bear left and walk towards St John's Gardens up ahead.

Step 14: Cross over and head through the pillars just up ahead.

Step 15: Make your way into the gardens. The radio tower is up ahead. Feel free to wander as you wish here or follow along with us.

Step 16: Turn right at the entrance. It's a peaceful green space dotted with statues of Liverpool's civic and military figures.



Step 17: Turn left at the next path. St John's Beacon is a 138m observation tower and radio mast. Can you imagine the panoramic city views?

Step 24: Turn left at the next path to exit St John's Gardens via the steps.

Step 18: Ahead is the Gladstone monument by Thomas Brock (1904) and honours Liverpool-born Gladstone, who served four terms as Prime Minister.

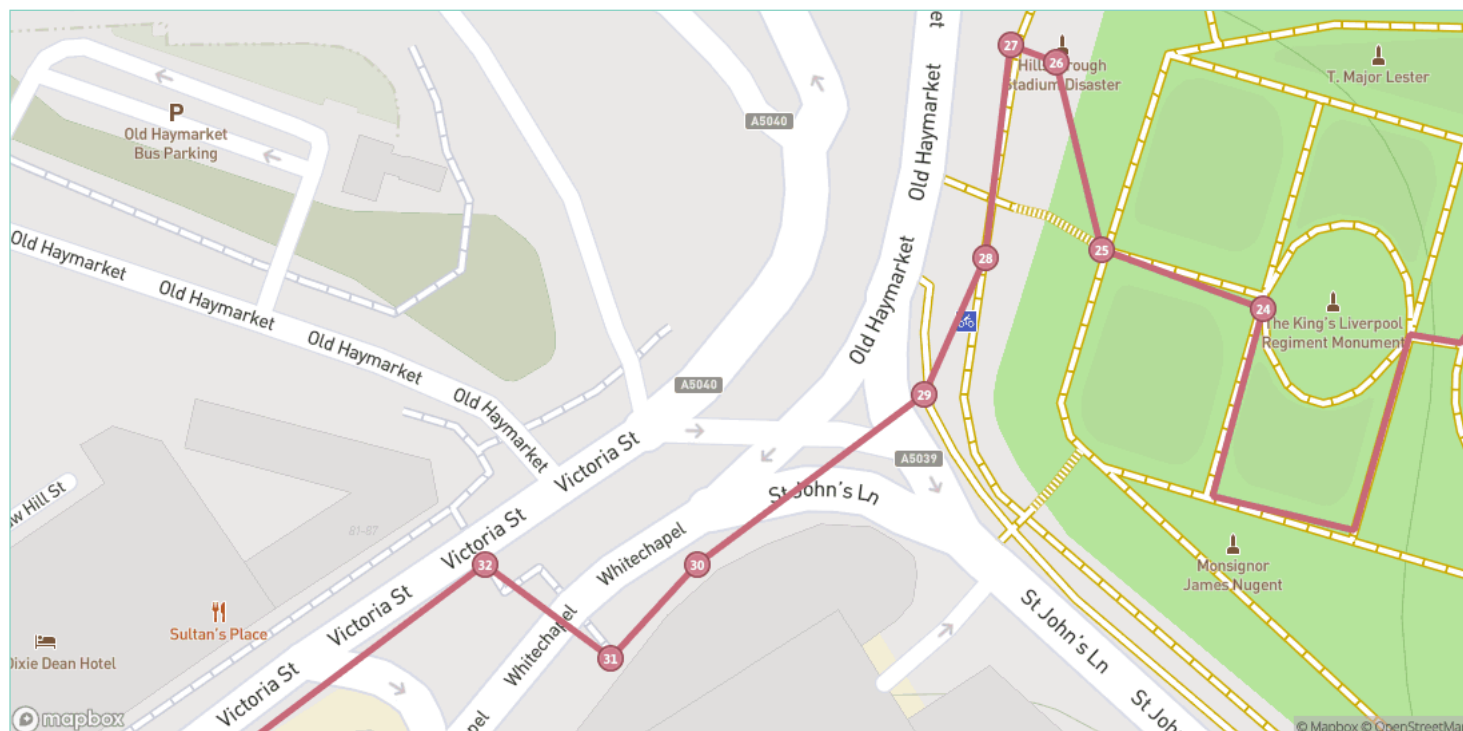
Step 19: Follow the path around.

Step 20: That's the King's Liverpool Regiment Memorial and honours the lives lost in the Afghan, Burma and Boer Wars.

Step 21: Turn left at the next path.

Step 22: Now turn right.

Step 23: Continue right at the next path. Notice the nature around you as you go.



Step 25: Head down the steps and turn right at the end.

Step 26: Just here is the Hillsborough Memorial, Eternal Flame remembering the 97 Liverpool football fans who died in the 1989 disaster.

Step 27: Look around and see if you can spot local legend, Liverpool-born Olympic heptathlon champion, Katrina Johnson-Thompson's vivid mural.

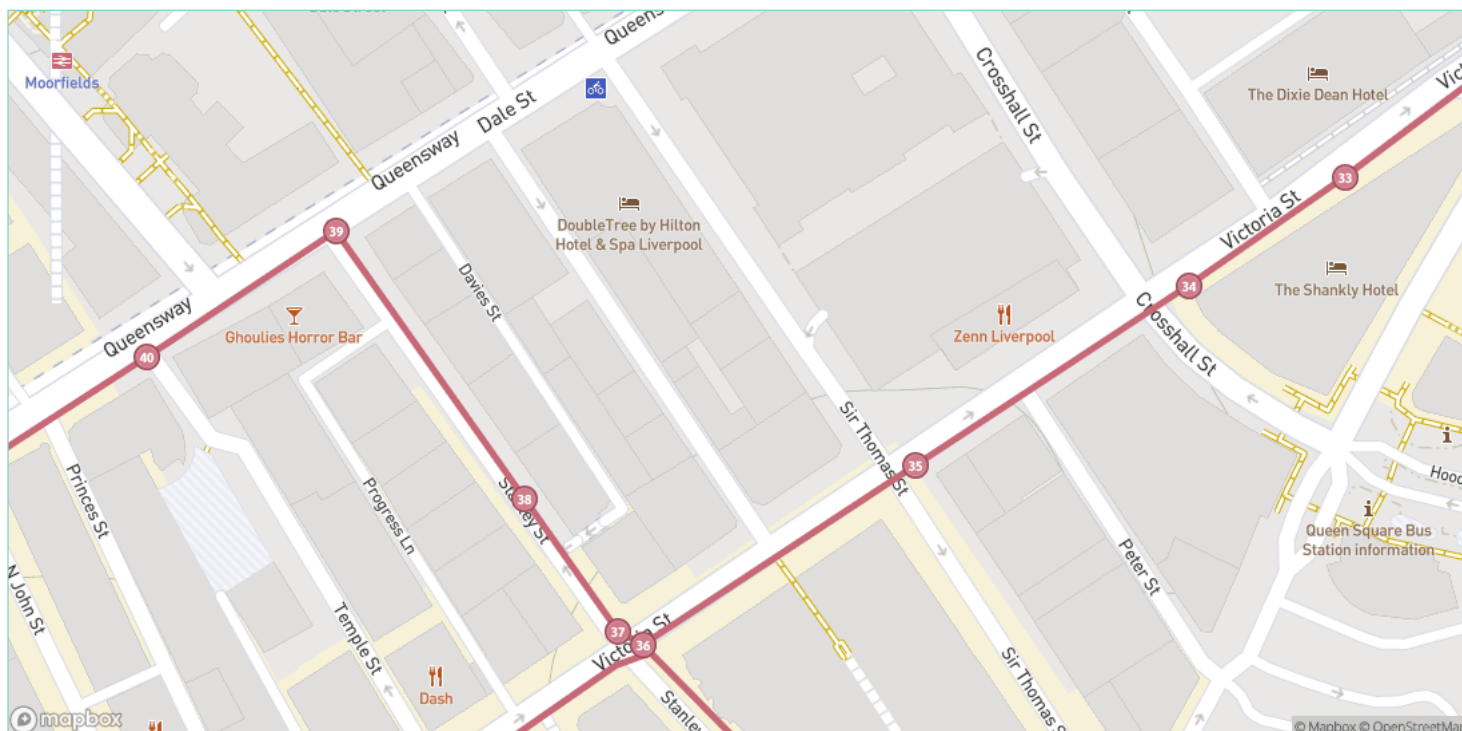
Step 28: With St John's Gardens behind you, turn left and continue to the traffic islands to cross St John's Lane up ahead.

Step 29: Use the traffic island and cross St John's Lane and continue ahead onto Whitechapel.

Step 30: Walk towards the pedestrian crossing on your right.

Step 31: Cross over Whitechapel and turn left on the other side.

Step 32: Keep right to walk up Victoria St.



Step 33: Continue on Victoria St.

Step 34: Cross over Crosshall St. The Railway Offices building is the former headquarters for the London & North Western Railway. Continue straight.

Step 35: Cross all the side roads carefully.

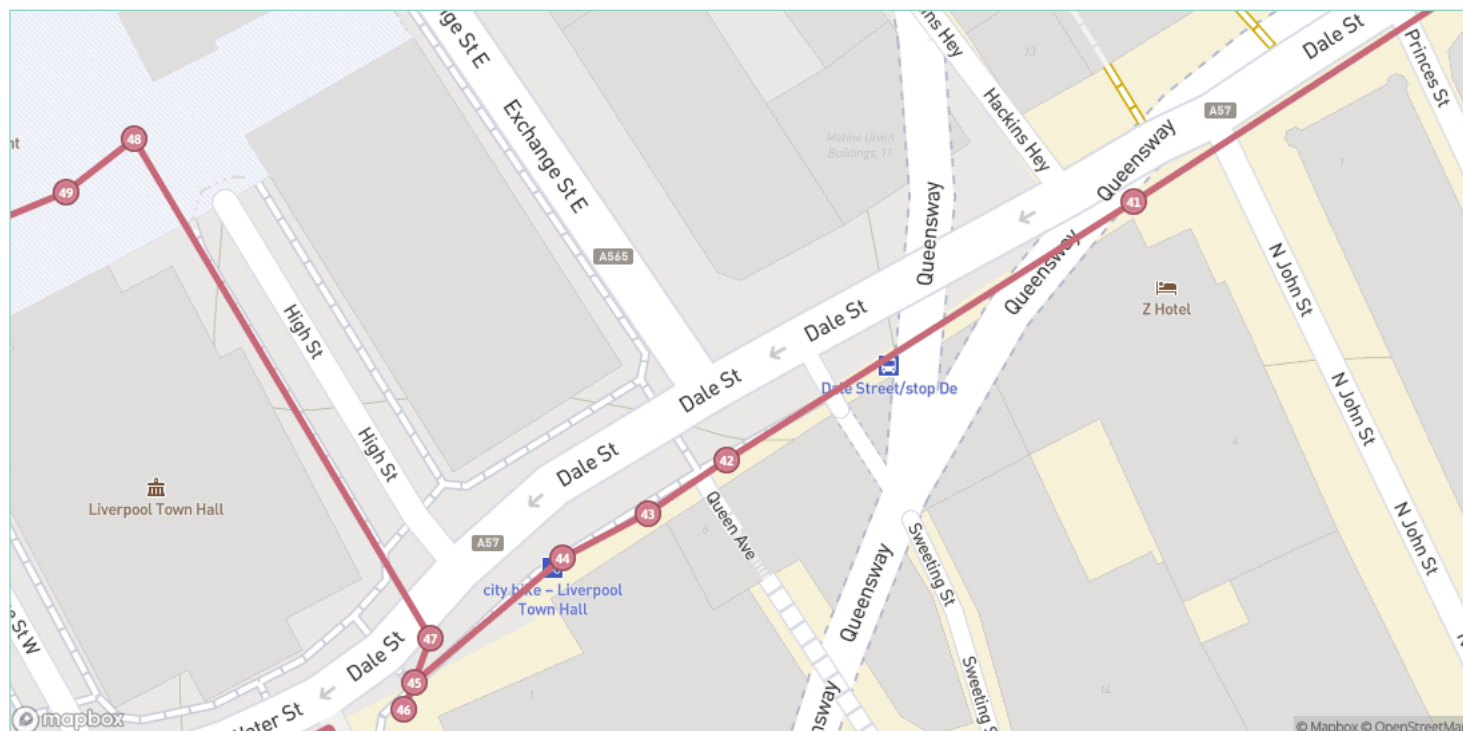
Step 36: Use the pedestrian crossing on the right to cross. Then turn left and then immediately right onto Stanley St.

Step 37: Welcome to the Pride Quarter. It's home to popular queer venues, pubs and clubs like The Lisbon, GBar and Superstar Boudoir.

Step 38: Stanley St and Cumberland St form the heart of Liverpool's vibrant LGBTQ+ scene, one of the UK's oldest!

Step 39: At the end of the road, turn left onto Dale St.

Step 40: Dale St is a grand Victorian and Edwardian commercial thoroughfare, once the city's insurance and banking hub.



Step 41: Continue ahead. Cross side roads carefully and feel free to break up your walk for refreshments.

Step 42: Look left for the Queen Insurance Building. A 1839 Grade II listed landmark built for the Royal Bank in fine neoclassical style.

Step 43: Local legend links this building's name and crest to Freddie Mercury's Queen logo. He sang with Liverpool-based blues-rock band, Ibex in 1969. He briefly lived in a flat on Penny Lane (same Penny Lane as the Beatles song).

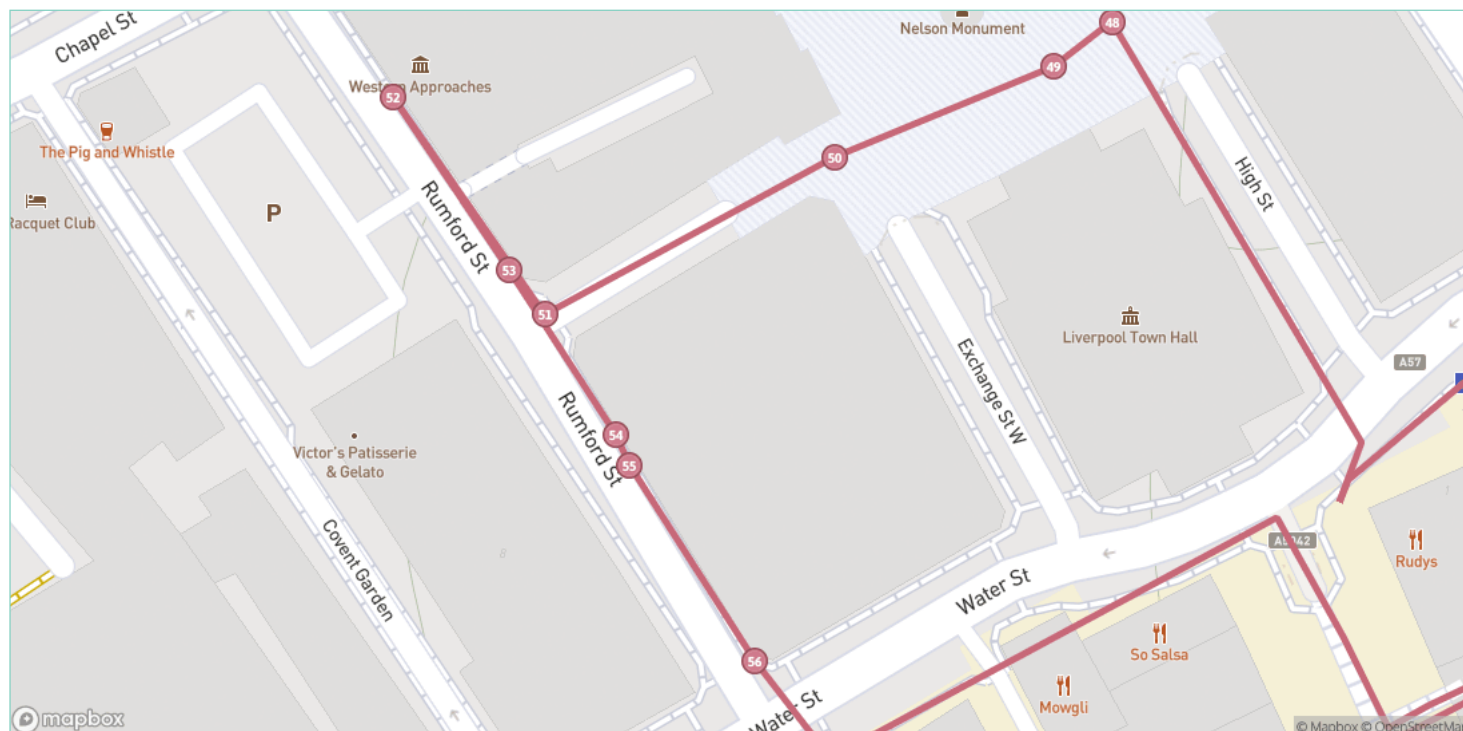
Step 44: Continue past the green seating and look out for the grand Liverpool Town Hall.

Step 45: It is regarded as a Georgian civic masterpiece and its grand rooms have featured in the Peaky Blinders and The Crown.

Step 46: On 10 July 1964, the Beatles stood on the Town Hall balcony to 20,000 fans during their homecoming for the northern premiere of 'A Hard Day's Night'. It's one of the most iconic images in the city's music history.

Step 47: Cross over at the pedestrian crossing on your right and continue up High St, past the Town Hall.

Step 48: To your left is Exchange Flags square. Continue left, past the Nelson monument. For Eurovision 2023 (hosted in Liverpool on Ukraine's...



Step 49: ...behalf), the monument was wrapped in 2,500 sandbags as part of an art installation called “Protect the Beats,” echoing statues shielded in Ukraine during the war.

Step 50: Continue onto Exchange Passage West. Keep to the right and mind the bollards. At the end and to your right, is the Western Approaches.

Step 51: It was a secret underground WWII command bunker that directed the Battle of the Atlantic from beneath the city streets.

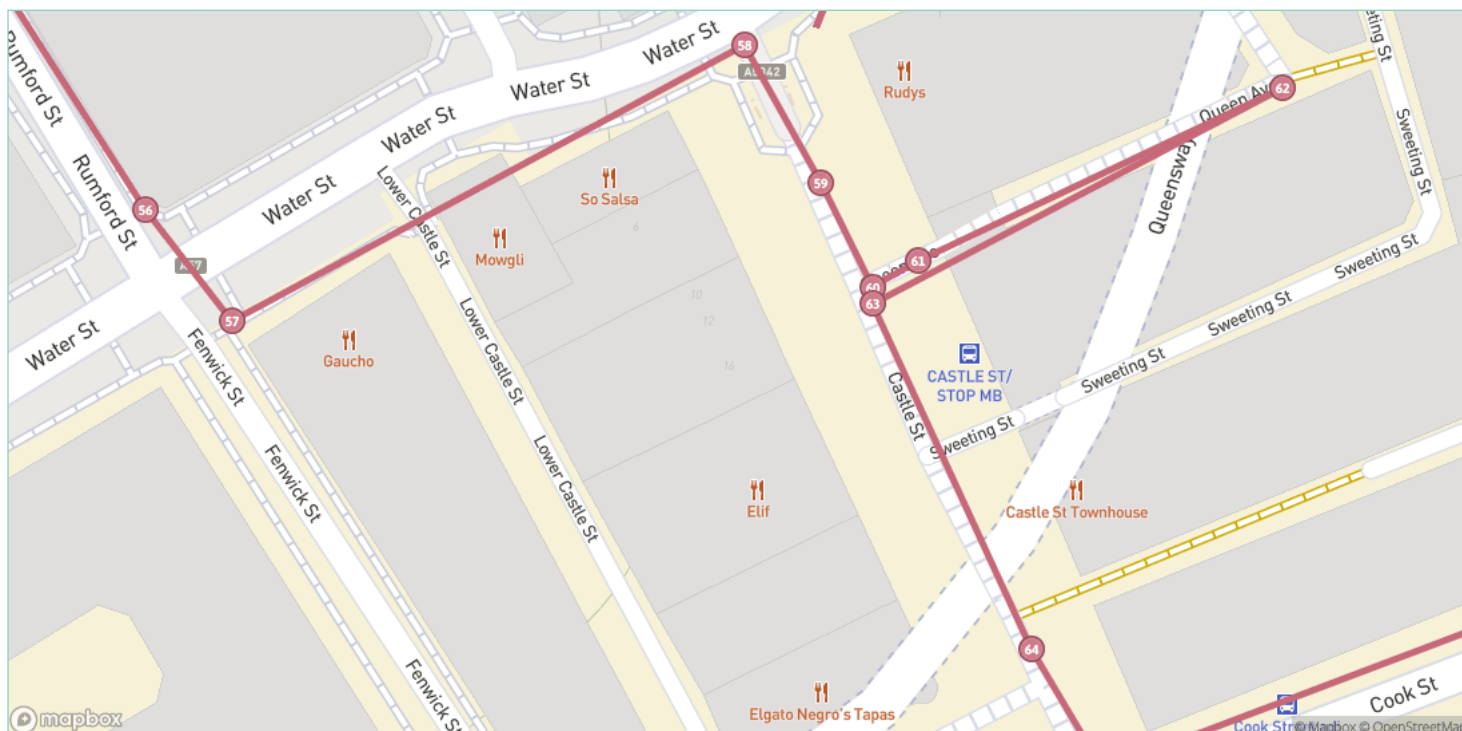
Step 52: It was hidden until the 1990s and is now a museum and venue hosting live music gigs known as ‘Bunker Sessions’.

Step 53: Continue back down Runford St.

Step 54: Notice the ornate detailing adorning many of the buildings around here.

Step 55: Norman House is a striking example 1970s concrete Brutalist architecture. Its a rare and distinctive space-age style in the city centre.

Step 56: Cross over Water St at the pedestrian crossing and turn left on the other side of the road.



Step 57: Continue left and get ready to turn right onto Castle St, directly in front of the Town Hall.

Step 58: Castle St is Liverpool's original medieval high street, now lined with Victorian banking halls. Taylor Swift filmed a music video in one.

Step 59: It is also the location of Liverpool's medieval castle, built c.1237 and demolished by the 1720s; the street traces its old outline.

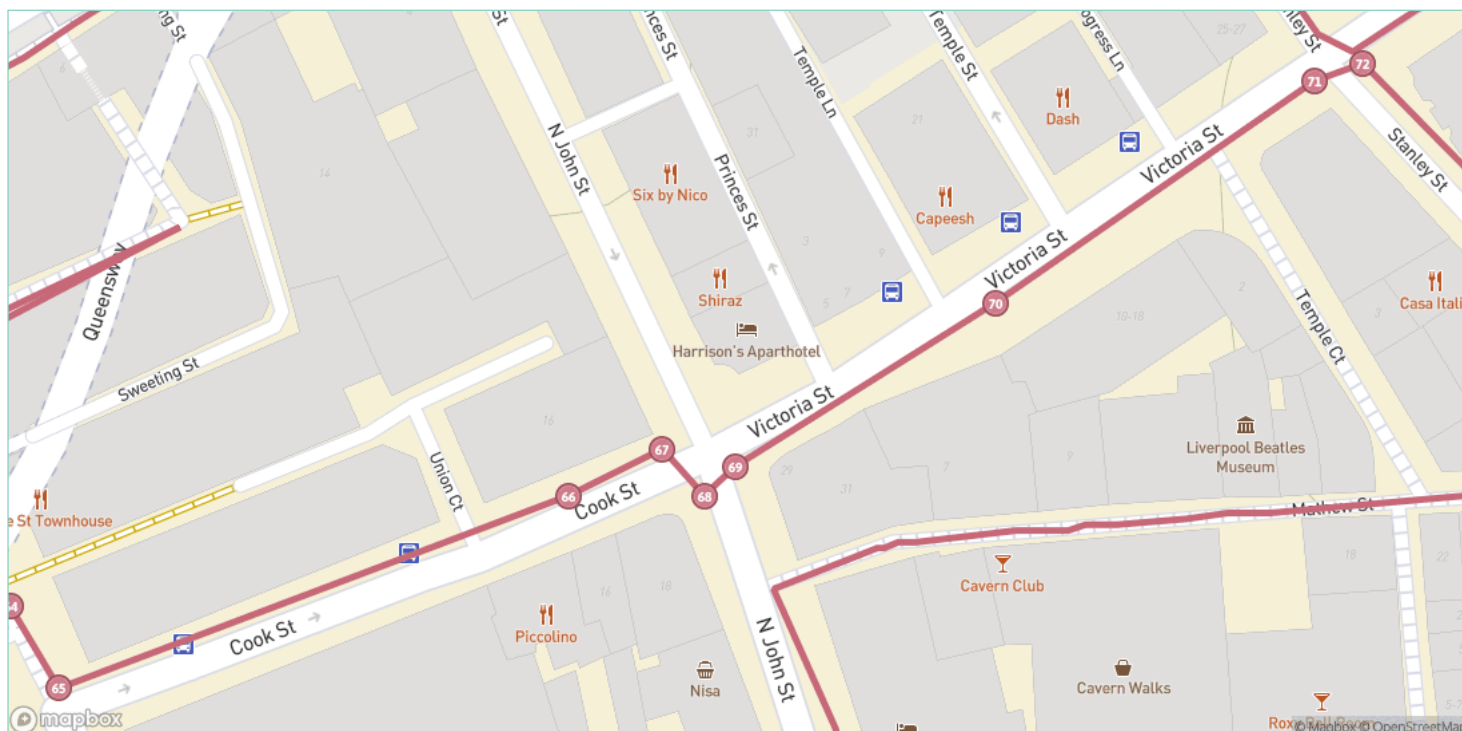
Step 60: Turn left to wander inside Queen's Avenue. It's very pretty!

Step 61: Welcome to Liverpool's last Victorian arcade. It was once part of the city's original Stock Exchange now home to indie shops and bars.

Step 62: At the end, retrace your steps back to the start and turn left onto Castle St.

Step 63: Continue left down Castle Street.

Step 64: This is the former Bank of Liverpool building, its opulent banking hall now houses The Ivy restaurant.



Step 65: At the next left, continue down Cook St. Admire the grand buildings as you go.

Step 66: Peter Ellis's 1866 glass-fronted gem is one of the world's first curtain-wall buildings, hiding a stunning cast-iron spiral staircase.

Step 67: At the pedestrian crossing on your right, cross over, turn left on the other side and then continue ahead to the next crossing.

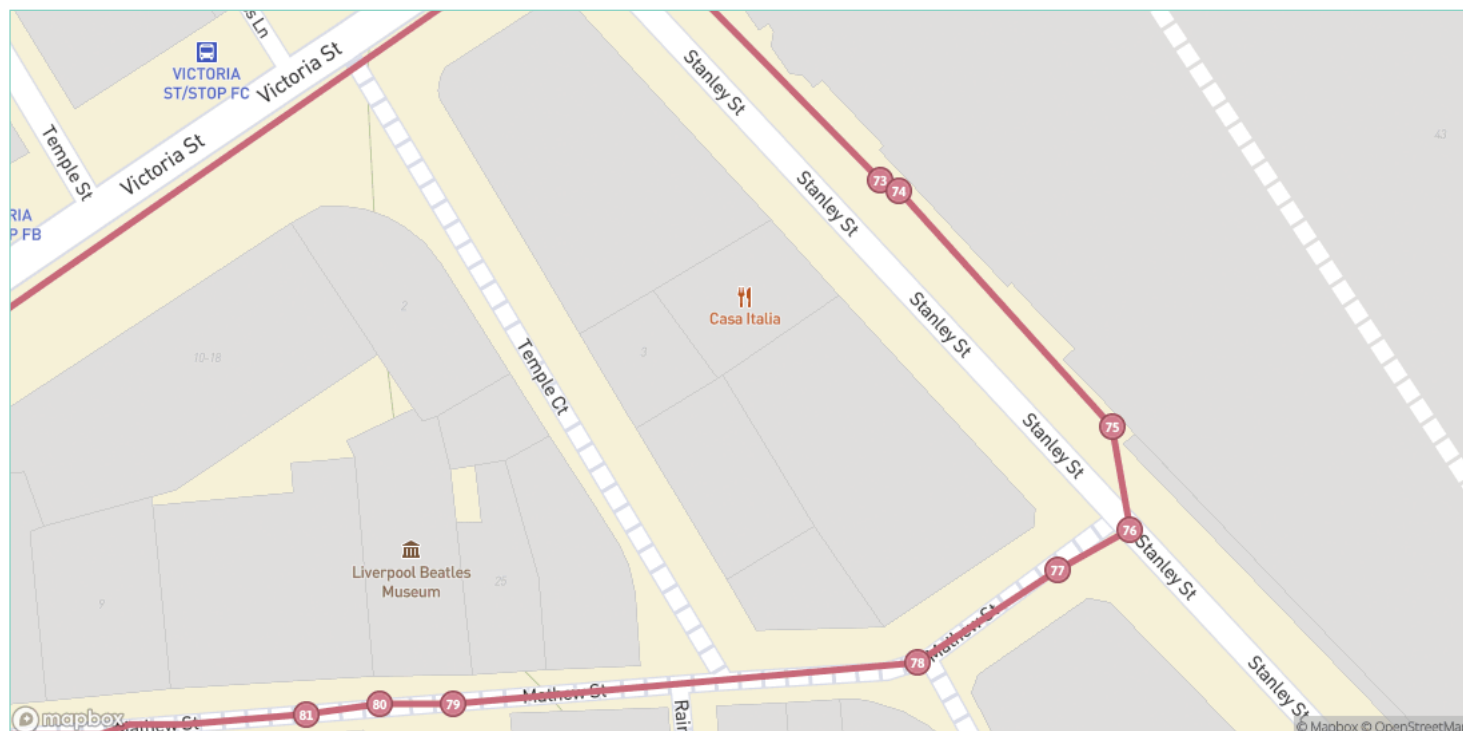
Step 68: Continue across North John St. Notice the Beatles on the red sandstone building on the corner, now restored as apartments and studios.

Step 69: Continue up Victoria St.

Step 70: Mind the concrete seating as you go.

Step 71: Turn right onto Stanley Ave.

Step 72: Continue down Stanley Ave and look out for a sculpture on a bronze bench.



Step 73: Can you see the Eleanor Rigby sculpture by entertainer Tommy Steele? His fee was 3p (a nod to his stage roll in A half a Sixpence).

Step 74: It's also a tribute to the Beatles' 1966 song and is dedicated to "all the lonely people." Eleanor holds a handbag and shopping bag, with a discarded copy of the Liverpool Echo beside her and a sparrow pecking at crumbs.

Step 75: Turn right down Mathew St, once Liverpool's fruit and veg market street, now the heart of the Cavern Quarter and the centre of Merseybeat.

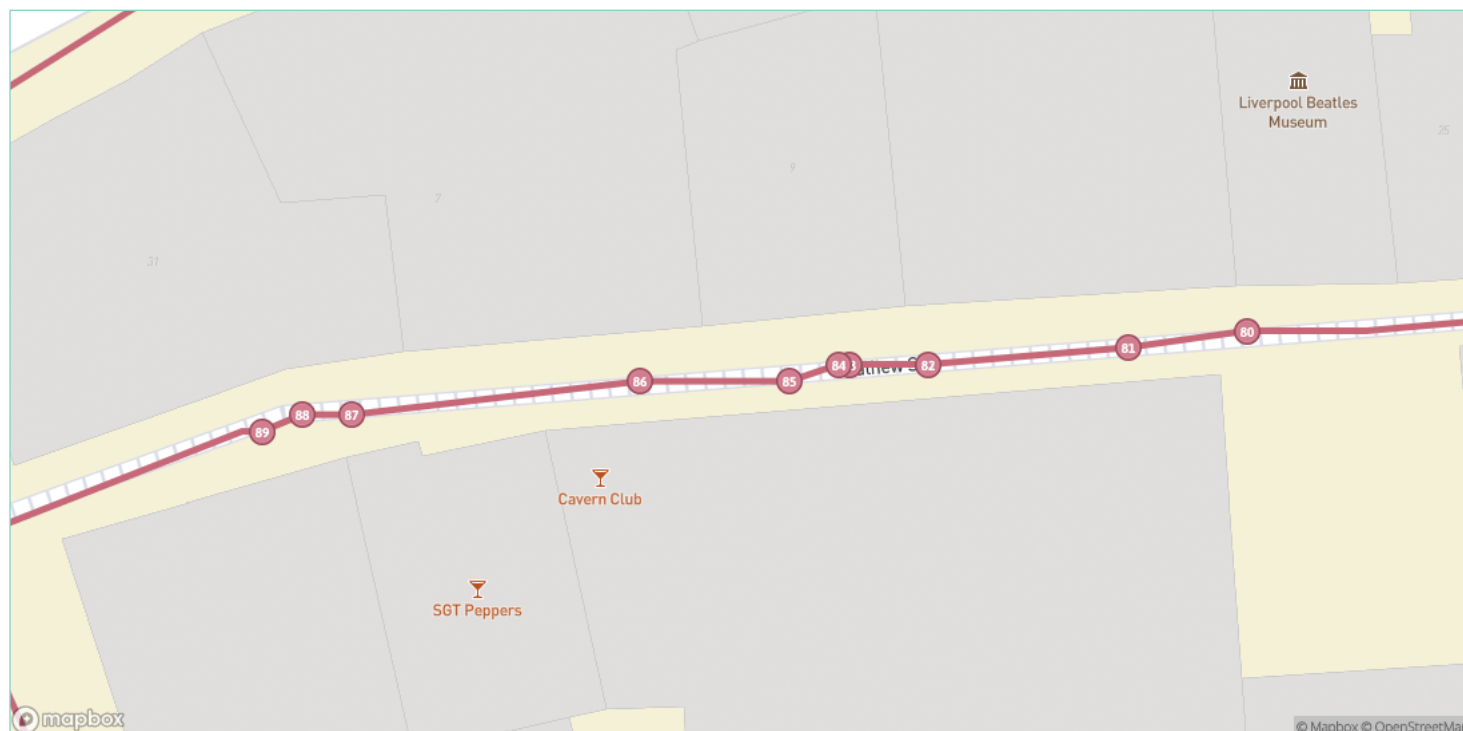
Step 76: Head on down Mathew St. Enjoy the sights and sounds.

Step 77: Every August, International Beatleweek fills the street with tribute bands from over 25 countries.

Step 78: Can you spot the bust marking Jung's "Pool of Life" dream about Liverpool, though he never actually visited the city; erected 1987.

Step 79: Look for this 15 metre mural depicting 100 Liverpool musicians as an audience, from The Beatles to Frankie Goes to Hollywood, unveiled 2025.

Step 80: The independent Beatles museum was founded in 2018 by Roag Best, half-brother of original Beatles drummer Pete Best.



Step 81: There's lots of refreshment options here! Find a pub to suit you.

Step 82: Look out for the painted portrait of the Beatles' producer, Sir George Martin dubbed the "Fifth Beatle" for shaping their sound.

Step 83: Cilla Black's statue is outside the Cavern's original entrance, where she worked as a cloakroom girl before her singing career began.

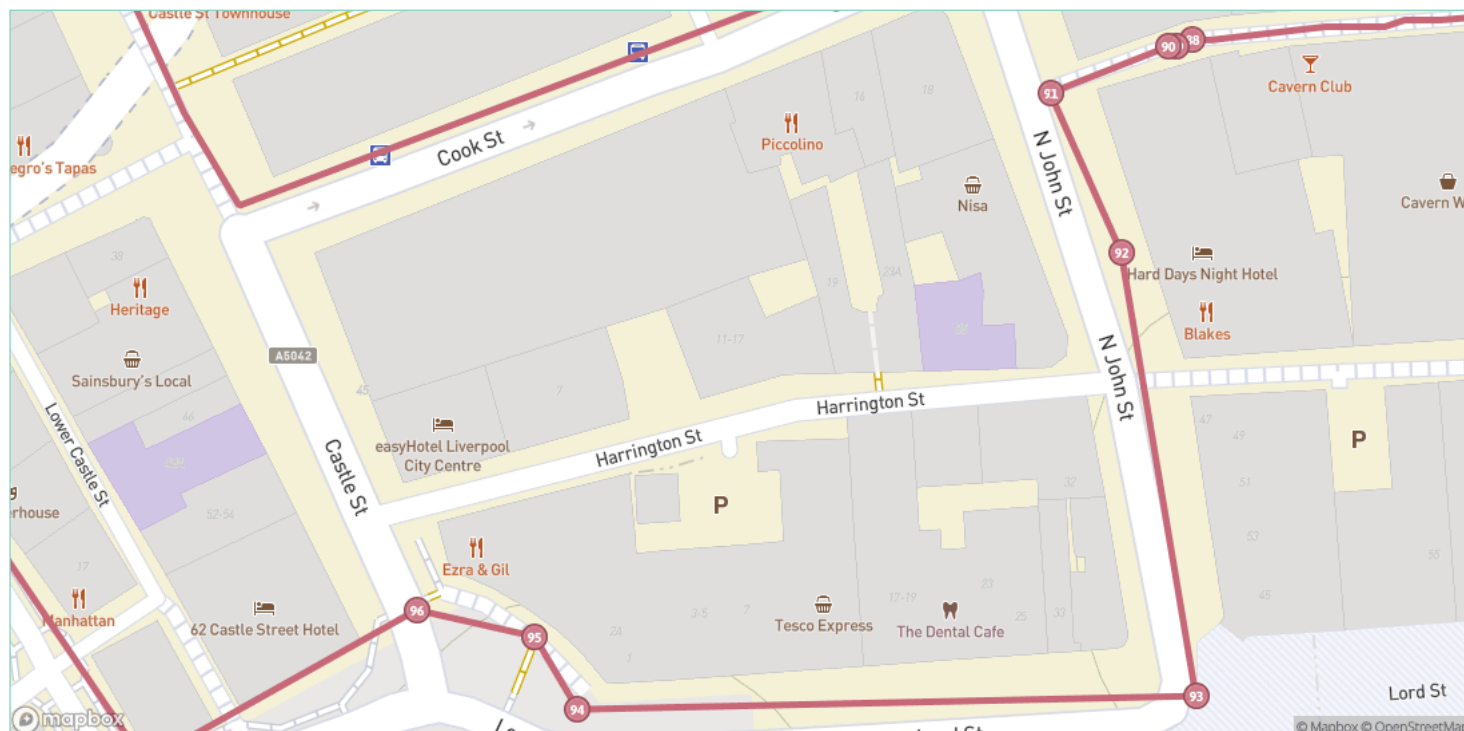
Step 84: The Cavern club opened in 1957 in an old fruit warehouse cellar; the Beatles played here 292 times before fame really hit, it was demolished in 1973 and rebuilt on the same site with salvaged bricks in 1984.

Step 85: Eric's marks the punk club that ran 1976-80 on Mathew St, hosting The Clash, Joy Division and The Specials. The plaque was unveiled 2017.

Step 86: Look up for "Four Lads Who Shook the World" sculpture by Arthur Dooley. It's a wall sculpture of the Beatles as cherubs.

Step 87: Look out for the Mississippi Blues Trail marker outside the Cavern, unveiled 2024, marking Liverpool's deep link to American blues music.

Step 88: The Wall of Stars/Wall of Fame has 1,801 bricks naming every act that played the original Cavern club.



Step 89: It was unveiled in 1997 and sits beside a wall of discs marking Liverpool's No.1 hits. Can you spot your favourite artist or a new one that piques your interest? Why not note them down and listen to them soon.

Step 90: Finally, now look for the bronze statue of a young John Lennon leaning casually against the wall.

Step 91: At the end of the road, turn left and continue down North John St.

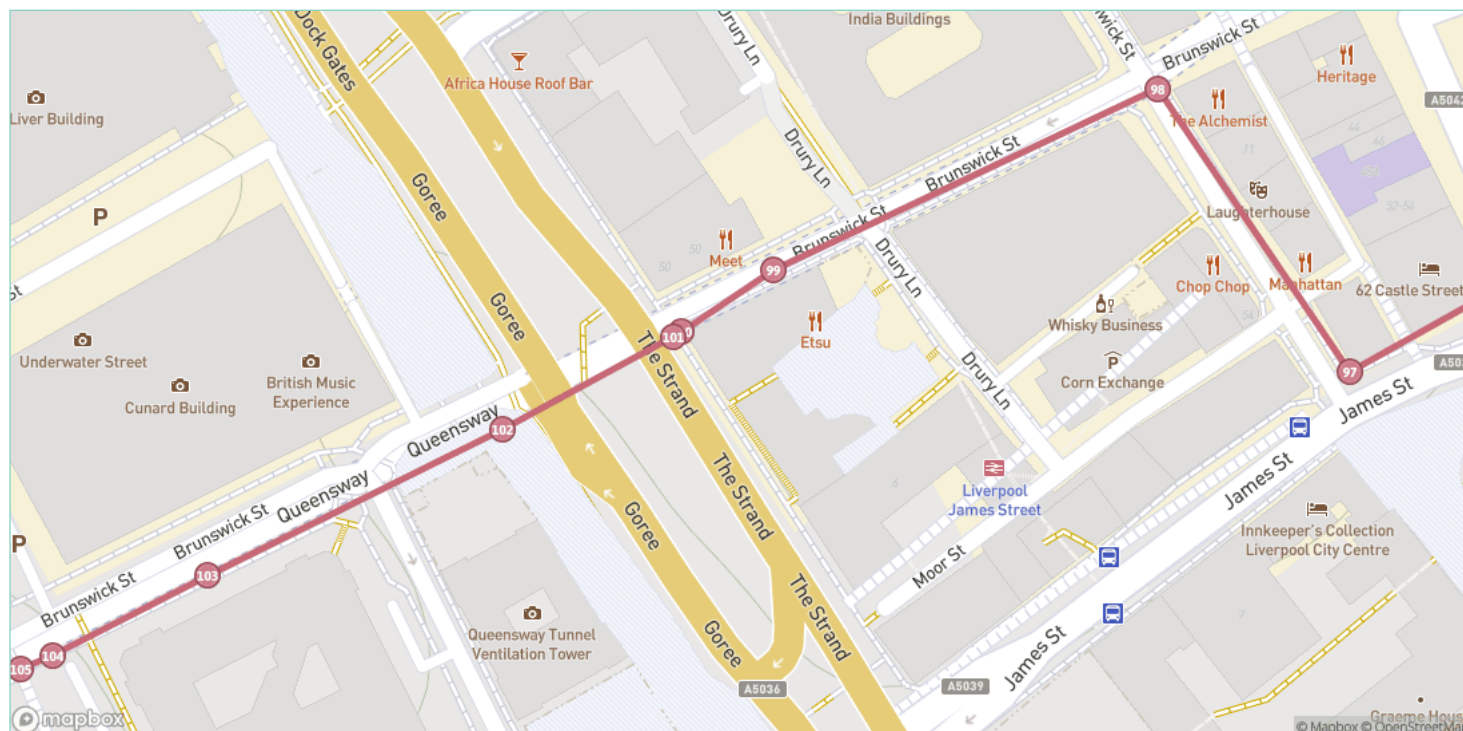
Step 92: You'll walk past a Hard Day's Night Hotel on your left.

Step 93: At the end of North John St and before the main shopping precinct, cross over the road and continue right down Lord St.

Step 94: That's the Queen Victoria Monument over the road. Unveiled in 1906, it survived the Blitz that destroyed the buildings around it.

Step 95: Bear slight right, walk under the evergreen pine trees and then bear left to cross over Castle St.

Step 96: Cross Castle St and continue on James St until Fenwick St.



Step 97: Turn right down Fenwick St.

Step 104: Continue ahead.

Step 98: Turn left down Queensway.

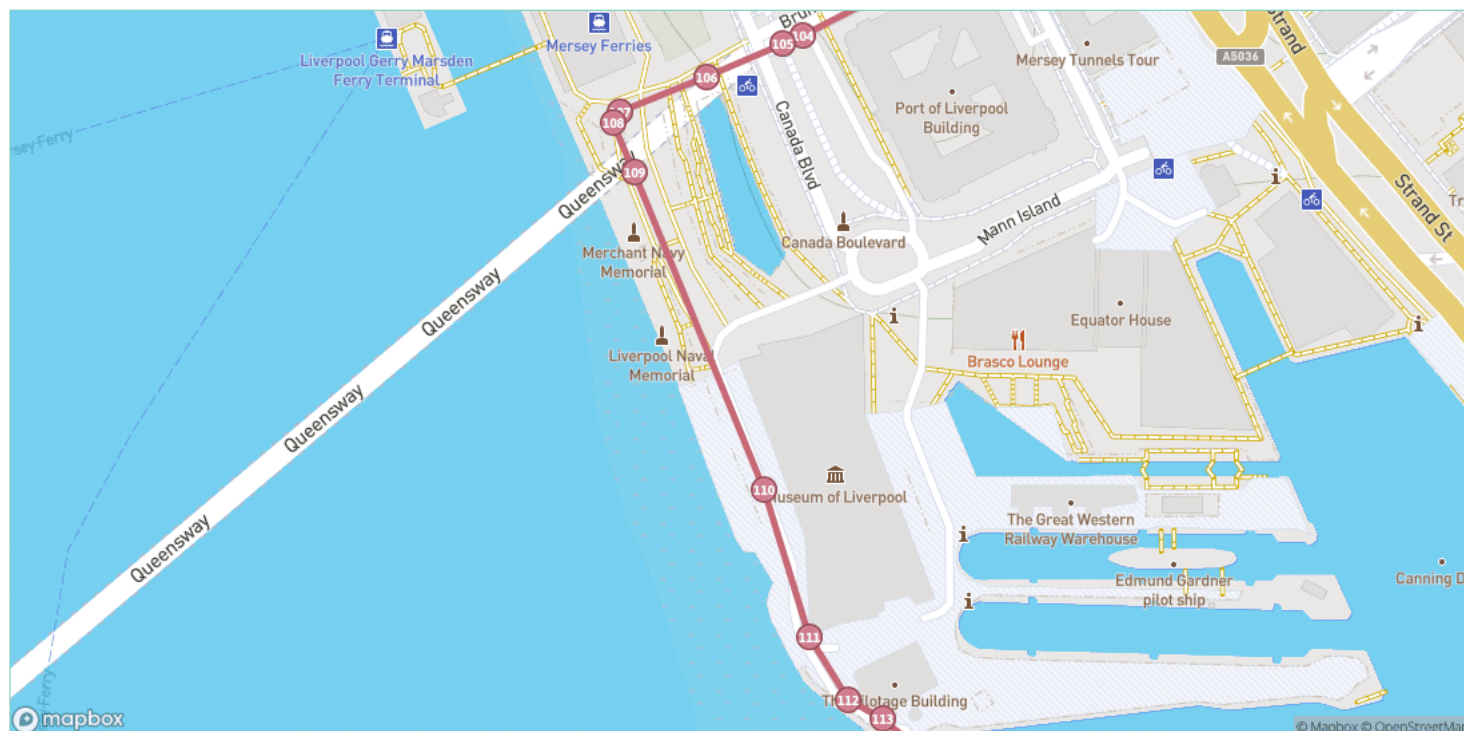
Step 99: Continue ahead to The Strand and get ready to cross.

Step 100: Use the pedestrian crossings to cross the busy main roads to continue straight. That's the Liver building in front of you.

Step 101: Completed in 1911, one of the "Three Graces"; its mythical Liver Bird sculptures, Bella and Bertie, were designed by Carl Bernard Bartels.

Step 102: Continue ahead towards the waterfront and along Brunswick St.

Step 103: On your right is an interactive museum covering British pop music from 1945 to now, since 2015 housed in the historic Cunard Building.



Step 105: There's another great view of the Liver building behind you.

Step 106: You'll soon reach a monument of all four Beatles walking together, unveiled in 2015 on the 50th anniversary of their last Liverpool concert.

Step 107: Welcome to the waterfront. The Mersey Ferry crossing here inspired the song "Ferry Cross the Mersey" by Gerry and the Pacemakers.

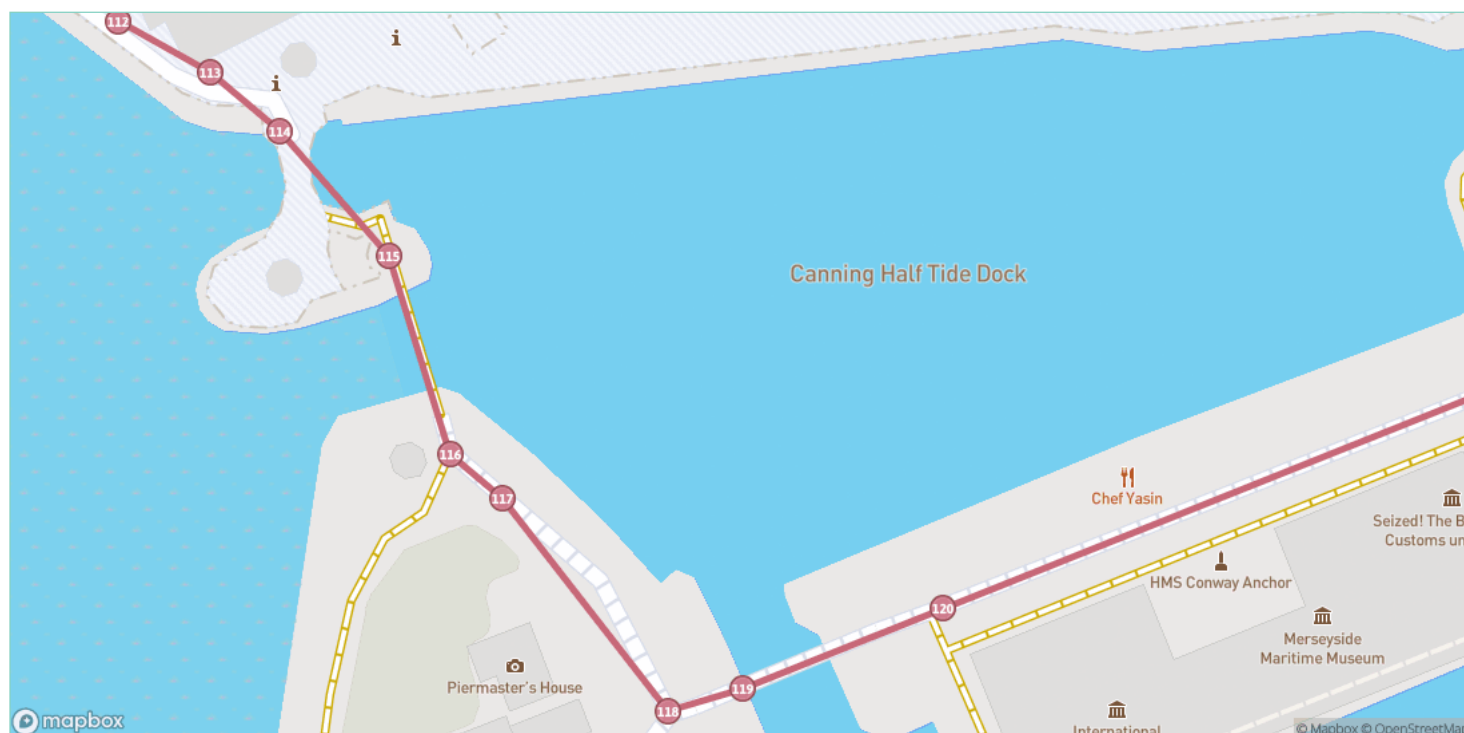
Step 108: It was produced by George Martin. In 1989, Gerry Marsden re-recorded it with Paul McCartney, Holly Johnson (Frankie Goes to Hollywood) and The Christians as a charity single for the Hillsborough disaster fund, reaching UK No.1.

Step 109: At the waterfront turn left. The River Mersey is on your right hand side. Up ahead is the Museum of Liverpool.

Step 110: Opened in 2011 it is the largest newly built national museum in Britain in over a century, telling the city's social history.

Step 111: Continue ahead.

Step 112: Check out the great views of the Wirral.



Step 113: Keep following the path ahead.

Step 114: Cross over the bridge.

Step 115: Admire the views all around as you go.

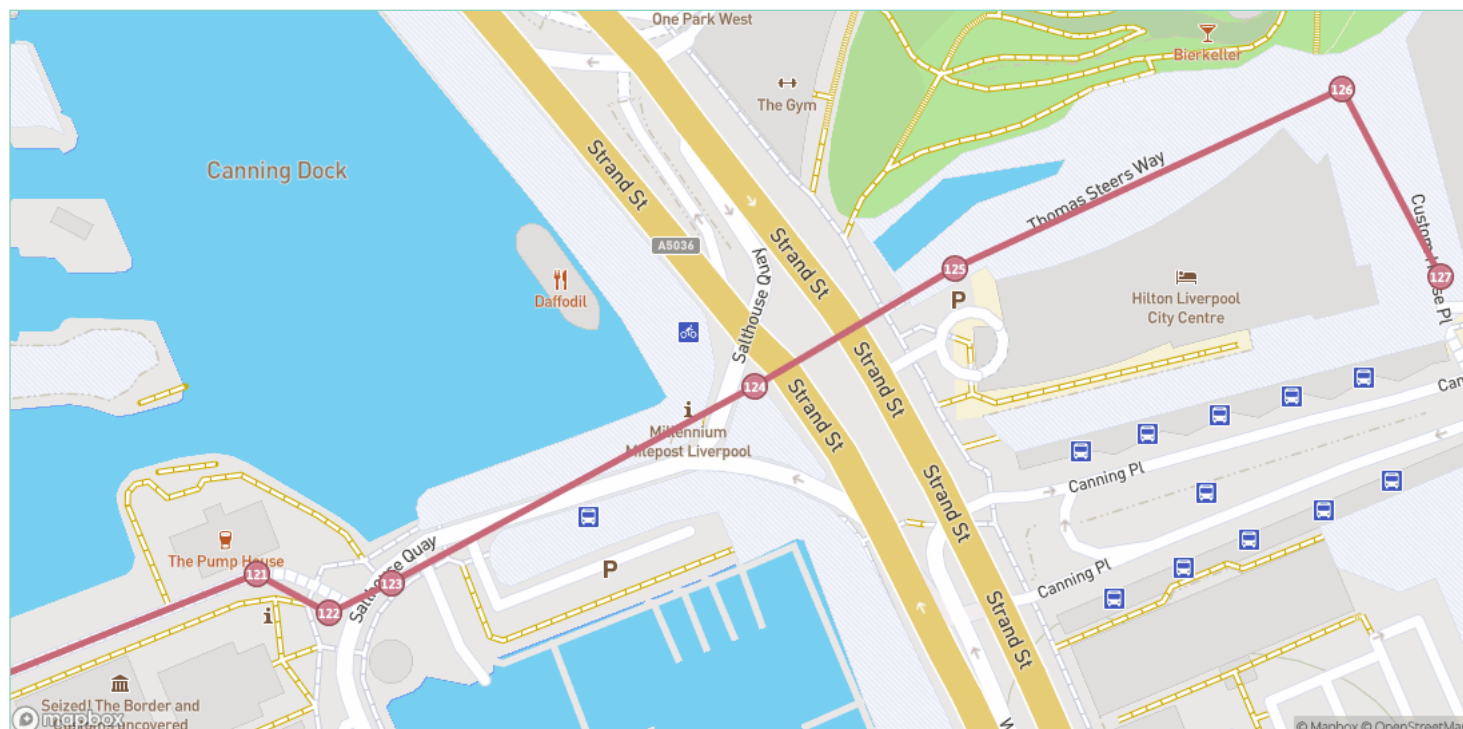
Step 116: Up ahead is the Billy Fury sculpture by Tom Murphy in 2003.

Step 117: It was funded by fans! Fury was a Liverpool dock worker turned rock star who once offered the pre-fame Beatles £20 a week to be his backing band. Apparently John Lennon refused.

Step 118: You'll soon approach Royal Albert Dock, take the bridge on the left. Look right for Liverpool Mountain artwork by artist, Ugo.

Step 119: It opened in 1846 and was designed by Jesse Hartley as the world's first non-combustible warehouse system. It was renamed "Royal" in 2018.

Step 120: Continue ahead toward the big chimney ahead.



Step 121: Continue past the old Pump House.

Step 122: Use the zebra crossing to cross Salthouse Quay.

Step 123: Continue ahead.

Step 124: Use the pedestrian crossings to cross the Strand.

Step 125: We're almost at the end of our walk. Continue on Thomas Steers Way.

Step 126: Turn right here to finish the walk at the local bus station.

Step 127: We hope you enjoyed this walk! Please join us on another walk soon. There's plenty to choose from in-app. ❤️