

Adventures Close to Home: CITY'S HISTORIC PUBS



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Walk up a thirst. Discover history.

The City of London contains hundreds of licensed premises, catering for all tastes. Among these are the English public houses (pubs), which have been at the heart of London's life, culture and literature for many centuries.

They have been places of inspiration for London's famous figures, including authors like Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens. The pubs have survived fires, wars and modernisation. This route takes you to some of the oldest and most atmospheric pubs that can be found in and around the City of London.



A. Jamaica Wine House

The Jamaica Wine House is almost impossible to find, unless you already know where it is! It was built on the site of London's first coffee house in the churchyard of a Dickensian church. This is an atmospheric "must-see", with the famous Todd's Wine Bar being nested downstairs.

St. Michaels Alley, Cornhill, EC3V 9DS

Nearest station: Bank, Monument

B. The Globe

The Globe is conveniently located a short stroll from Moorgate and Liverpool Street Underground Stations and the Barbican Centre. With its elegant rococo exterior, the pub runs along the line of a Roman Wall. It's situated close to the original site of notorious Bedlam (Bethlem) and the famous poet, John Keats, was also born in a stable next door.

83 Moorgate, EC2M 6SA

Nearest station: St Paul's Station and City Thameslink

C. Cittie of Yorke

In the heart of London's legal quarter, the historic Cittie of Yorke is a curious place of interest. With its inspiring, medieval-style interiors, built in Victorian times as a reconstruction of the pub's original 1430 design, the space ought to impose and intimidate. The Welsh poet Dylan Thomas penned an impromptu ode to the pub when it was called Henneky's Long Bar.

22 High Holborn, Holborn, London WC1V 6BN

Nearest station: Chancery Lane

D. Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese

This rambling, twisting 17th century hulk has played host to nearly every literary figure in London, including Charles Dickens, G.K. Chesterton and Mark Twain, not all at the same time, though. Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese is a London institution.

145 Fleet Street, EC4A 2BU

Nearest station: Blackfriars

E. Ye Old Watling

Basking in the shade of St Paul's Cathedral, Ye Olde Watling was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren in 1668 to house his workers and, most importantly, provide somewhere for them to drink. The plans for St Paul's Cathedral were drawn up in what is now the dining room.

29 Watling St, London EC4M 9BR

Nearest station: St Paul's

DID YOU KNOW...?

Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese was the first new building to be built following the Great Fire of London, which destroyed most of the City in 1666. In the years since, the pub acquired a strong literary legacy, attracting Oscar Wilde, W.B. Yeats, Dr Johnson, Charles Dickens and Mark Twain. The pub was home to Polly the Parrot, who was often heard swearing at the customers. Following her death in 1926, obituaries were written about the famous Polly in around 200 newspapers across the world!

Cycling information



Cycle parking is available at the many on-street cycle parking racks throughout the City. The City of London Corporation also provides free cycle parking in its off-street public car parks. Explore this interactive map to find cycle parking.

Other places of interest

The **Royal Exchange** was formally established in 1566 by an English financier and merchant, Thomas Gresham. This building was a place for business trade and the arrangement of credits and loans, between merchants. Today, this grand building is a hub for high-end shopping and dining.

St Paul's Cathedral is one of the nation's most loved cathedrals and an icon of the City.