

# FROM WATERLOO TO THE CITY



Image by Tomas Sereda / Getty Images



## Walk up a thirst. Discover history.

From Waterloo, there are several enjoyable ways of reaching St Paul's Cathedral and the City of London without travelling by tube – by boat, bus, bike, overground or on foot – and they all make your day out special and memorable.

### By Cycle

Take a Santander Bike from one of the six racks outside the station, then head down Exton Street and Roupell Street, before passing the back of Tate Modern on Sumner Street, crossing the river on Southwark Bridge, then leaving the bike at the docking station on Queen Street, located just before Mansion House Underground Station.

### By Boat

Turn left from the platforms, take the bridge over York Road and take the stairs down, turning right into Jubilee Gardens near the London Eye.

From London Eye Pier, hop on to a City Cruise to Tower Pier and begin your exploration of the City at the Tower of London and Tower Bridge.

## By Bus

There are a number of options for catching a bus from Waterloo towards the City, which brings you the benefits of fabulous views of some of London's most famous landmarks.

You will need an Oyster Card or contactless bank card to travel on London buses (cash is not accepted). It costs only £1.50 per journey, or for multiple trips within one hour.

Start at bus stop C on Waterloo Road which is just outside the Jubilee Line entrance of Waterloo Station and take Bus numbers 26 and 76.

The bus route goes over **Waterloo Bridge** where you will have views of **Somerset House**, the **Royal Courts of Justice**, **Fleet Street** (former home of the press), **Old Bailey** and **St Paul's Cathedral**, **Ludgate Hill** and the **City Information Centre**.

Alternatively, take the 521 bus from Tennyson Way (check details). After travelling over Waterloo Bridge with fabulous river views in all directions, it will take you along a longer route, but will offer you the chance to alight and explore Postman's Park and Museum of London and then on to St Paul's and London Bridge. Tower Bridge is about a 15-minute walk from there.

## Cycling information



You can also bring your own bike into the City. Cycle parking is available at the many on-street cycle parking racks throughout the City. The City of London Corporation provides free cycle parking in its off-street public car parks. More cycle parking spaces are available in NCP car parks.



## Walking

If you are feeling a bit more energetic, then walk eastwards from Waterloo Station along the Southbank and take time to enjoy the spectacular views.



The Southbank Centre  
(Image by Alastair James / Getty Images)



The Globe Theatre

Stroll past **Royal Festival Hall** and along to Queen Elizabeth Hall, pausing to watch the skateboarders risking life and limb in pursuit of demonstrating their skills at the spiritual home of British skateboarding.

Follow the walkway as it continues past the **National Theatre** to a corner with fantastic views of St Paul's Cathedral and the Millennium Bridge, with Somerset House and the Victoria Embankment opposite. Maybe take a break at one of the restaurants or buy some unique gifts at some of the boutiques that are found at **Gabriel's Wharf**. A minute further on are **Bernie Spain Gardens**, where you can sit, relax and enjoy the views.

Just before passing under **Blackfriars Bridge** on the right is the **Doggetts Coat and Badge Pub**, named after Thomas Doggett, the organiser of the London Bridge to Chelsea rowing race. The winner would be awarded a coat and badge, hence the name. The first recorded race was in 1715 and it still happens today.

Look out for the strange sight of the stumps of the old Blackfriars Railway Bridge emerging from the river. **The Founders Arms Pub** is on the left just beyond and the view of the enormous **Tate Modern** can shortly be seen ahead restored from its former status as a power station. It sits at the southern end of the Millennium Bridge, and if you turn to look across the river you can see St Paul's Cathedral sitting proudly at the northern end. There can be few more beautiful river crossings in the world, and the views from the bridge are breathtaking. Before crossing the Millennium Bridge you can continue eastwards for a couple of minutes where on the right you will see the magnificent replica of Shakespeare's Globe, brainchild of American actor Sam Wanamaker.

Once off the bridge, on your left is the **City of London School** - alma mater of Daniel Radcliffe and Kingsley Amis amongst many others. Pause for a moment at the **National Firefighters Memorial** - depicting three bronze figures battling the flames of the London Blitz and saving St Paul's Cathedral during World War II.



The City Information Centre (Image by Ben Broomfield)

The **City Information Centre** is just on your left on Carter Lane and is the ideal place to call in for the latest information on what's on in London and to buy tickets for St Paul's and many other London attractions – as well as quality souvenirs and gifts.

The City Information Centre stocks free cycling maps showing a choice of routes for exploring the City and beyond – or you can take a Santander bike back to Waterloo via Southbank.