

York Cat Trail



FIND THE CAT STATUES ON OUR SELF GUIDED TOUR

CAT TRAIL STATS
 🐾 2km
 🐾 1-1.5 hours
 🐾 4000 steps

- 01** Look outside the shop - what can you see? Charlie says: "This cat was commissioned by The Cat Gallery when they moved here in 2010."
- 02** Turn left out of the shop, then take a left down Stonegate. Can't see him? Look just above the doorways! Alfie says: "His name is Gordon, and he's modelled on a real cat who was born without eyelids on one eye and wears an eyepatch to prevent infections."
- 03** Retrace your steps in Stonegate and turn left onto High Petergate. 'Paws' for a moment to enjoy **York Minster** then turn left down Duncombe Place, keeping right. Cross over at the lights onto Museum Street. When you reach the entrance to the **Yorkshire Museum Gardens**, look across Museum Street. Charlie says: "This is my friend called Chambers!"
- 04** Head down Lendal and continue into St Helen's Square, past the **Mansion House** and into Coney Street. Cat 4 is halfway down on the right. Look for the number 25 if you're stuck. Alfie says: "This was one of the first cats placed in the city by Tom Adams - a local architect who liked to place cats on buildings he'd designed in the 1970's and 1980's."
- 05** Carry on to the end of the street and turn right into Low Ousegate. Look at the building on the opposite side of the road. Charlie says: "These are the first two cats, placed here in 1920 by Sir Stephen Aitcheson. Some say he put them there to scare away rats, but he probably thought they would bring good luck."
- 06**
- 07** Continue to the middle of Ouse Bridge, then look right, on the roof of the building opposite Park Inn. Alfie says: "If you can't find him, look near the tallest tree!"
- 08**
- 09** Retrace your steps, then cross the road and head down the steps towards the river, along King's Staith. Sticking to the river's edge, continue to the junction of Friar's Terrace and South Esplanade. Look to the upper floors of the houses facing the river. Charlie says: "Can you see these kitties sunning themselves on the window ledges?"
- 10** Retrace your steps, then take the steps up to Peckitt Street, heading away from the river. Stop to admire **Clifford's Tower** before turning left on Clifford Street. Pass the **Grand Opera House** then cross the road and head down Coppergate. Look to the right. Alfie says: "If you need a clue, how much might an elephant weigh?"
- 11** Go straight across the crossroads, onto Pavement. Look up to the right. There is another animal on the same building. Charlie says: "Some people think this is a ghost cat!"



KIDS,
 Don't forget to fill in the quiz along the way!



TURN OVER FOR MORE CATS...

- 12** Cross over the road and down the cobbled street of **Shambles**. Halfway up on the left you'll find the next cat. Turn around and you'll see another cat, which is a recent addition. **Alfie says: "This is York's most famous street!"**
- 13** Walk back down Shambles and turn left through the stone arch and into the passageway - this will bring you out at Whip-Ma-Whop-Ma-Gate. Head left along Colliergate and keep an eye out for Cat 14 on the right. **Charlie says: "Why is this cat different to all the other cats on the trail?"**
- 14** A very short distance along, look under the clock. **Alfie says: "This was the last cat commissioned by Tom that was placed in the intended position."**
- 15** You are now standing in King's Square. Scan the roof line above the pub. **Charlie says: "The plastic pigeon was put there by a plumber with a sense of humour!"**
- 16** Look out for St Andrewgate and head down there. On the left is an unusual house (No. ½). Look for cat 17 there. **Alfie says: "Due to the house number, it could not have a full size sculpture. So it's a kitten!"** Just next door, at house No.1, you will find another cat.
- 17** Continue along St Andrewgate, turning left onto Bartle Garth. Look at the house immediately on the right. **Charlie says: "It's a Suzie Marsh sculpture called Maxim Fishing."**
- 18** Continue along Bartle Garth, past **Bedern Hall**. Head towards York Minster, following the road left onto Bedern, then turn left onto Goodramgate. Keep to the left, and just after the road forks you'll see cat 20 on the right hand side. **Alfie says: "Here's a clue - it's not a meat eater!"**
- 19** Continue down Goodramgate to find a climbing cat called Hope, commissioned in 2020 by The Cat's Whiskers Cat Café. **Charlie says "It's where to go for tea and cake with real cats. Book in advance if possible."**
- 20** Retrace your steps to take the other fork (Deangate), passing York Glazier's Trust to your left. Opposite the South entrance of York Minster you will find a small road, Minster Gates. Go down there, then turn directly left onto Low Petergate and you'll find yourself back where you started, at The Cat Gallery. **Alfie says: "Have a look in the window of The Cat Gallery. You'll find Cat 22 clearly labelled."**



Fill in the quiz below, then tear it off and hand it in at **The Cat Gallery**. Kids will receive a cat-themed reward and adults providing a name and email address will be emailed a £5 voucher to spend online.

MINI QUIZ

Name:

Email:

What colour is cat 2?

What animal is with cat 11?

What is the name of cat 22?

The Cat Gallery

45 Low Petergate
York YO1 7HT
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thecatgallery.co.uk



CATSINYORK.COM

CatsinYork.com celebrates the multitude of cats on buildings in York, and beyond. Initially set up in 2005 by Jon & Jo who love York and its decorative cats, catsinyork.com is now sponsored and managed by The Cat Gallery. It's the go to website for information about the York cats, their history and even how you can commission your own.

If you have enjoyed the Cat Trail, please leave a review of your experience on catsinyork.com.

NEW CATHEDRAL CAT GERALD OF YORK

Gerald was a Bengal cat who lived near York Minster, loved by visitors and locals alike. Following his passing in 2020, a crowdfunding campaign led to the commission of a sculpture.

Visit Holy Trinity Church in Goodramgate to see Gerald's commemorative sculpture in place (from Summer 22).

NEW JOSEPH ROWNTREE THEATRE CAT

JRT commissioned Jonathan Newdick, sculptor of many of the Tom Adams era cats, to create a suitable cat statue for the front of their building. The theatre is a little far out of town for our city centre trail but, if you have the time, he will be well worth a visit (from Summer 22).

Find him on Haxby Road, YO31 8TA, just over a mile from The Cat Gallery shop.



Come and see the shop on Low Petergate

Want to commission your own cat from Jonathan Newdick?
Contact 07773 234247

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Tour by K. Mulhearn, Complete Yorkshire
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York Cat Trail



JOIN CHARLIE & ALFIE



FOR A FUN, FREE & HISTORIC WALK AROUND YORK



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Quality gifts for cat lovers in York and Worldwide