

START YOUR OWN LANCASTER 'BUCKET LIST'

This tour has covered nine places connected with Lancaster's past, but we've really just scratched the surface. There are plenty of other historic places that you ought to consider visiting before you graduate. Below, we've listed a few of them, in no particular order. We hope you get around to visiting a good many of them during your time at university.

1. Lancaster Canal
2. Grand Theatre
3. Lancaster City Museum, Maritime Museum & Judges Lodgings Museums
4. Williamson Park & Ashton Memorial
5. Storey Institute – Tourist Info Centre
6. Westfield Memorial Village
7. Penny's Almshouses
8. Quaker Meeting House
9. Lancaster Aqueduct Bridge
10. Heysham, St Peter's Church
11. Morecambe Promenade, Winter Gardens & Midlands Hotel
12. Sunderland Point
13. Glasson Dock & Cockersand Abbey
14. Garstang, the world's first fairtrade town!



SCAN
ME FOR A
DIGITAL
COPY

CONTACT US

If you have any further questions or comments relating to the tour or would like to find out how you could get involved with local groups like the Lancaster Black History Group or Lancaster and Morecambe City of Sanctuary, please drop us an email – decolonisinglu@lancaster.ac.uk

THANK YOU

This leaflet was funded by FASS Decolonisation and Lancaster University. Our thanks to Dr Christopher Donaldson and Dr Sunita Abraham for developing the content and providing the images. Thank you to Lancaster Museums for permission to use their images, to Lancaster Black History Group for sharing information from the Lancaster slave trail, and to Lancaster University student Ammara Yasin for designing the leaflet.



Global stories, Local landmarks: The Glocal Lancaster History Tour

Curious to find out more about Lancaster? Fancy discovering how the city's past connects with the histories of people from around the world? Join us for a tour of nine places in Lancaster's historic Castle Quarter and its surroundings. We'll view some of the city's most iconic sites and landmarks, and consider how Lancaster's story links with histories that span from the Roman Empire to the British Empire. Along the way, we'll discuss Lancaster's involvement in the transatlantic slave trade and contributions to the Industrial Revolution. What's more, we'll consider how the look and feel of the local environment has changed over the past 1,000 years.

The tour will take between 60 and 90 minutes, and it will involve climbing stairs and walking on uneven (and potentially slippery) surfaces. Sturdy footwear and weather-appropriate apparel is required.

STOP 1. LANCASTER CASTLE

The name Lancaster refers to important local landmarks. 'Lan' comes from the old name for the river Lune. It's thought to derive from a Celtic word. 'Caster' comes from the Anglo-Saxon equivalent for the Latin word 'castrum', meaning a fortress or castle. The Latin origin of the word reminds us that Lancaster was once part of the Roman Empire. In fact, Lancaster Castle sits where a Roman fortress once stood. By the Middle Ages, the Castle was also a place where justices (or judges) of the King's Bench came twice a year to preside over trials. That's part of the reason why the infamous Lancashire witch trials were held at Lancaster in 1612.



STOP 2. LANCASTER PRIORY

The Priory dates to the Norman period. It was founded as a Benedictine Priory in the mid-1090s. The first Benedictine monks who worshiped here originally came from Sées, in Normandy (in what's now northern France). The records of the Priory shed a lot of light on Lancaster's social history. They reveal that nearly 70 people of African ancestry were baptised at the Priory Church between the 1720s and 1820s. The records also document the lives of families who profited from the transatlantic slave trade, including some who, like the Lindows and Satterthwaites, kept Black slave-servants in town.



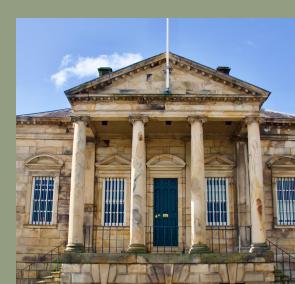
STOP 3. ROMAN BATH HOUSE

Bath houses were an important part of Roman social life. They were places people met to relax and socialise as well as to scrub up. This Bath House was used by soldiers who were stationed in Lancaster. Those soldiers came from different parts of the Empire. There was a civilian settlement in Roman Lancaster, too, and comparative evidence from other Roman cities in northern England suggests that this settlement would have been multicultural. We know that people from North Africa were stationed along Hadrian's Wall and that people from as far away as Syria settled in the North East, near what's now Sunderland. There's reason to think that Lancaster was similar.



STOP 4. CUSTOMS HOUSE

A customs house is a building where customs duty is collected. Historically, they were often found at ports. Lancaster's Customs House was built in the 1760s, and it's now the home of Lancaster's Maritime Museum. During the 1700s, several Lancaster merchants invested in the so-called 'West Indies' (Caribbean) trade and the transatlantic slave trade. The triangular slave trade involved shipping goods (including arms and gunpowder) from Europe to West Africa, trading for enslaved people and then shipping those people to the Americas and West Indies and exchanging them for raw commodities – like sugar, cotton, tobacco, rice and rum. On the other hand, bilateral trade with the Caribbean and the Americas involved transporting goods from Europe and exchanging them for raw commodities, many of which depended on slavery for their production.



STOP 5. MILLENNIUM BRIDGE

It's fitting that Sainsbury's supermarket should stand along this stretch of the river Lune. Goods have been purchased and exchanged here for hundreds of years. (Continued on next page)

By the late 1600s, when shipments of sugar began arriving in Lancaster from the West Indies, a local man named John Lawson established a sugar refinery upriver from this site. The legacy of that refinery lives on today in the name of Lancaster's student nightclub: the Sugarhouse. Another business that sprung up here was shipbuilding. John and George Brockbank set up a shipbuilding yard nearby in the 1730s. Their shipyard stood in what's now Sainsbury's car park. Their family kept the shipbuilding business going for nearly 90 years. During that time they built more than 100 ships, some of which ended up being used in slaving voyages captained by local men.



STOP 6. 'CAPTURED AFRICANS' MEMORIAL

This memorial sculpture is considered to be the first sculpted quayside memorial to victims of the transatlantic slave trade in Britain. It commemorates the captured Africans who suffered as a result of the slave trade. The sculpture was created by the British-Jamaican artist, Kevin Dalton-Johnson. It's a multifaceted, multimedia assemblage, which includes a mosaic of the triangular trade route of the slave trade as well as six Perspex plinths, which both symbolise the decks of the ships on which captured Africans were transported and bear words, images and objects relating to the history of the slave trade.



STOP 7. JUDGES LODGINGS

This grand townhouse is among the oldest buildings in the city. It is where judges stayed when they came to Lancaster between the 1630s and 1970s. Today, the house is home to a museum, and it contains one of the most outstanding collections of Gillow's furniture in the world. Robert Gillow came to Lancaster around 1718 and gradually worked his way up in the town as a merchant trading in sugar, rum and exotic hardwoods like mahogany. He also invested in the slave trade. By the 1730s, the profits and connections Robert had made enabled him to open a furniture-making business at no. 1 Castle Hill. That house still stands today.



STOP 8. MARKET SQUARE

This square is linked with Lancaster's status as a market town. That is a status Lancaster has enjoyed since the Middle Ages. Having the right to hold a market made towns like Lancaster the main economic centre of their region. It was also a mark of royal patronage. Lancaster received its market charter from King John in 1193. Markets are still held here on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The Old Town Hall stands on the square. It was built during the 1780s. It's now home to the King's Own Royal Regiment Museum. This regiment was first known as the Tangier Regiment as it was formed in Morocco in the 1680s to defend England's colonial interests in North Africa.



STOP 9. DALTON SQUARE

Dalton square is the site of Lancaster's new Town Hall, which opened in 1909, but that is not the only noteworthy building you'll discover here. The Palatine Hall, on the north side of the square, has a very interesting history. After Lancaster Catholic Cathedral opened in 1859, the Catholic chapel became a public hall, and one of the first speakers who spoke there was the African American abolitionist, lecturer and political activist Sarah Parker Remond. Other buildings on the square, though, are connected with local families who profited from the slave trade and the businesses that depended on slavery. The Bond family, for example, owned enslaved Africans and benefited in compensation when slavery was abolished in 1833. The name of the manager of their plantation in Guyana is linked to the Booker prize.

