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things you didn't know about York



York Minster, where our students graduate, is the largest Gothic cathedral in Northern Europe and took over 250 years to build.

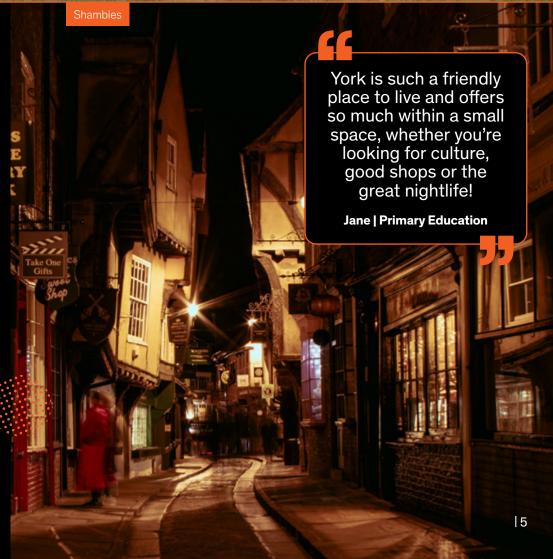
York is often claimed to be the most haunted city in Europe. From strange occurrences in pubs, to sightings of ghostly Roman soldiers, there are said to be over 1000 ghosts! Join one of the many ghost tours to hear some of the spooky stories!

It's not surprising the city has so many stories when it has such a long history. The city was founded and built in 71AD by the Romans. Constantine the Great was declared emperor here, you can see his statue outside York Minster.

Chocolate is an important part of the city's history, with famous brands like Rowntree's and Terry's founded here. York still has a thriving chocolate making trade. If the wind is right, you can smell chocolate across the city.

Shambles is one of the oldest shopping streets in Europe. It's one of York's most popular places to visit and is now home to lots of independent shops and cafés.







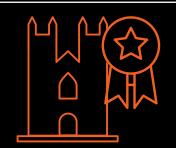
York in numbers

York was founded by the Romans in

71 AD.



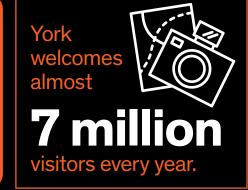
York St John University has been providing education in York for nearly **180** years.



York has been named the most popular city in the UK by YouGov.



York is home to over **25,000** students.



At just over 2 miles long, the beautifully preserved walls are the longest medieval city walls in England.

York is home to **23 festivals** throughout the year.





It's easy to travel around the country from York, and it's only **2 hours** to London by train.

City of festivals

There's always something exciting going on in York, whatever the time of year. Here are some of our top picks from the city's vibrant events calendar.

January

York Residents' Festival offers fantastic free entry and big discounts for all York residents, including students, on some of the city's most popular and famous tourist attractions (see page 24).

February

JORVIK Viking Festival is a chance to see battles reenacted, explore historical walks and hear from leading lecturers as we celebrate York's Viking heritage. Spot the impressive ice sculptures all around the city when the York Ice Trail takes over for a weekend.

March

As a sponsor and host we're at the heart of **York Literature Festival.**Celebrating the city's rich literary and cultural inheritance, it features talks, signings, performances, workshops, poetry and more.

April

York Open Studios is an annual community arts event celebrating the best artists and makers living in York. It is just one of the many ways that creatives working with the university can showcase their work.

May

The first race weekends of the season take place at York Races in May, and students can sometimes get discounted tickets. If you're more of a foodie, Malton Food Festival makes a great day trip.

June

York Pride takes over the city, with loads of activities, a parade and a party to celebrate all things LGBTQ+ at the Knavesmire, next to York Racecourse. York St John University plays a major supporting role in helping to organise the activities.

York Festival of Ideas is an award winning festival of thought featuring world class speakers, exhibitions, theatre, music and films, most of which are free.

August

Yorkshire Day is a day of celebration for those living in 'God's Own Country'. Try a traditional Yorkshire pudding, don your flat cap and enjoy some good old Yorkshire tea.



For 10 days the city centre becomes a destination for foodies at the York Food and Drink Festival. You can also discover your new favourite pint at York Beer and Cider Festival.

October

York Mediale is a biennial international media art festival supported by York St John University. It brings world premiering work from leading artists to the city.

Yorktober fest - Enjoy beer, bratwurst and bumper cars at York Racecourse at this festival inspired by the German Oktoberfest tradition.

November

York St John University's Graduation

St Helens Square

is an unforgettable experience for all our students. This exciting event takes place in York Minster, one of the world's most magnificent cathedrals.

Aesthetica Film Festival brings industry experts from across the world to our city and our campus. This festival showcases some of the world's greatest short films across all genres and gives our students the chance to get inspiration and advice from famous names.

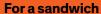
December

York is an amazing place to be at **Christmas** as the cobbled streets and glittering lights come into their own. Soak up the city's medieval charm at fairs, food stalls and activities, or join us for a carol concert at York Minster.

Food

For breakfast

favourite for breakfast in the city. Whether you choose their famous fluffy American pancake stack topped with maple syrup and bacon, or their smashed avacado on sourdough toast, you won't be disappointed. Be sure to get there early though, they soon fill up. Other popular brunch choices with students include Coffee Culture, Rise and Drift In.



Grab yourself a posh fish finger sandwich or a loaded veggie dog from family run Osbornes@68.

Only a few doors down from campus, their menu is well priced for a filling lunch eating in or on the go! Be sure to check out their stunning gardens overlooking the historic City Walls.

For a bargain

Slug & Lettuce has your budget indulgence sorted with 2-for-1 cocktails all day, every day. Their menu offers all of your pub favourites with a couple of surprises thrown in too. They even have 2 city centre locations!



SPARK: York is an urban construction of shipping containers which offer an ever changing array of international cuisines all in one place. The Shambles Food Market also has a vast array of cuisines based right behind the famous shopping street.

For a sweet treat

We couldn't make a guide to York without mentioning Bettys Café Tearooms. It may not be cheap, but the famous tea room has been open since 1936 and serves some of the best sweet treats in York. Their Yorkshire curd tart with clotted cream is something everyone should experience when in Yorkshire.





Licc serves delicious ice cream in a quaint shop filled with bunting, balloons, sweets and gifts. Prefer ice cream with a twist? Ciao is based in the Museum Gardens and is the perfect place to get your ice cream before lounging in the sun. They also have dairy free options.

For a pub lunch

In York there are so many places to choose from when it comes to pub grub, but Eagle & Child is our favourite. Their menu of traditional pub food often incorporates their Leeds Brewery ales in their dishes.

For pizza

The Hop is perfect for pizza lovers. Eat their generously sized, wood fired pizzas under a large glass roofed

glass roofed atrium whilst listening to live music.



Plush Café has some of the most instagrammable food and decor in York. This family run café has 3 beautifully decorated themed rooms: the Garden Room, the Neon Room and the Bohemian Room. They even have a student discount!

For vegan food

Partisan is a rustic-inspired independent coffee shop and restaurant. It had a range of excellent vegan breakfast and lunch options. You can enjoy the food inside or the outdoor dining area. Goji is also close to campus and serves delicious and filling vegan and vegetarian food to eat in or take away.



Drink

For beer lovers

Pivni serves craft beer from all around the world over 3 floors of this quirky, sixteenth century timber building.

The House of the Trembling Madness,

named after the Belgian 'Delerium Tremens' beer, has 2 sites in the city. The smaller original pub is styled as a medieval alehouse, while they describe their newer venture as a 'craft beer mansion'. Both have a great atmosphere and plenty of drinks options.

Brew York is a craft ale brewery with a tap room and beer hall where you can try out a huge range of local brews.

For cocktails

Evil Eye is one of the most famous bars in York and is the perfect place to treat yourself to elaborately prepared and Instagram-worthy cocktails! They also serve the best menu of mocktails, milkshakes, and smoothies available in York on a night time.

The local branch of **The Botanist** also serves weird and wonderful flavour combinations across their cocktail menu.

For ghost hunters

The Golden Fleece claims to be one of the most haunted pubs in Britain, with guests reporting sightings of several different ghostly residents! Look out for their resident skeleton, Saul, propping up the bar.

For non-alcoholic drinks

FortyFive Vinyl Café is a friendly and relaxed café serving tea, coffee and soft drinks and hosts live music at weekends.

For a good selection of soft drinks and a cosy atmosphere try **Fossgate Social** or **Micklegate Social**.

For summer sun

The Fat Badger has one of the biggest and most popular beer gardens in York, set just inside the city walls.

There are plenty of pubs, bars and cafés overlooking the river which are a great place to relax with a drink in summer, including the terrace bar at **City Screen** Cinema.

For live music

The Eagle & Child hosts live music several nights a week covering everything from folk to jazz. They also host their own drinks festivals and serve great food (see page 11).

The Habit is a small but lively pub which hosts regular gigs and open mic nights. There's also a great view of the Minster from their beer garden.

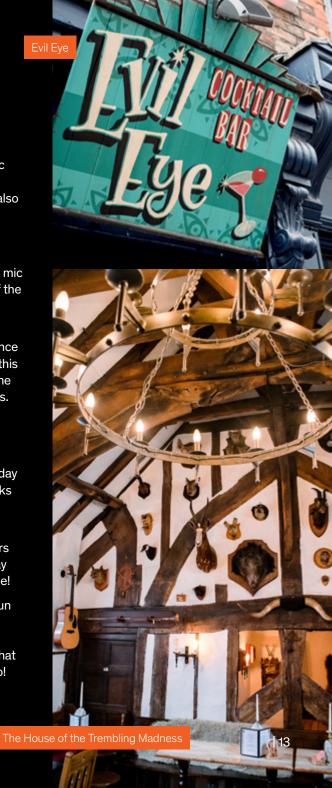
Enjoy a drink or a bite to eat in the majestic halls of **Valhalla**. Experience some great ale, beer and mead in this rustic Viking themed pub. This is the place to visit for some historic tales.

For a quiz night

The Golden Slipper hosts a traditional pub quiz every Wednesday night, complete with free bar snacks for those taking part.

The Three Legged Mare (also known as the Wonky Donkey) offers a fiendishly difficult quiz on Monday nights if you are up to the challenge!

The Golden Ball is a community run pub in Bishophill whose unusual Tuesday night quiz includes bingo, general knowledge and a "guess that song" round performed on a kazoo!





Nightlife

Monday

If you love nothing more than crazy dancing to cheesy pop then look no further than **Popworld**. It's home to York's only revolving dance floor and with their app you can get amazing drinks deals all night. They even have an exclusive night for York St John students on Mondays.



Tuesday

Grab your friends and teamates for a quiz night at the **Students' Union** for the chance to win some great prizes. From free meals, drink vouchers and cash prizes you don't want to miss out on this one!



Your official Manahatta
Wednesday night is where
our sports teams celebrate
their wins or commemorate
their losses. It's a weekly
YSJ favourite!



Head to **Vudu Lounge** where RnB and hip hop music dominates and the bartenders are trained in the art of cocktail making. You will even be encouraged to dance on the furniture as their LED party booths transform into dance platforms.

Friday

Every Friday night thousands of students descend on Salvation (Salvos) for their Koh Samui Full Moon Party. With 2 rooms of music from house to RnB, free UV face painting, free glowsticks and bombs for only £1.00, it's no surprise that this is York's biggest student Friday night.

Saturday

Saturday night as a student isn't complete without a visit to our **Students' Union**. Karaoke and £1 pints have always been a firm favourite with our students and it's something our alumni always remember.







Independent shopping

Bishopthorpe Road (or 'Bishy Road') is a high street just outside the city walls which is full of independent shops and cafés. The business owners on the street have a great community and host street parties, firework displays and food festivals. They have even crowd funded their own Christmas lights.

The Little Apple Bookshop is a friendly little shop which supports local authors, including their own staff member Fiona Mozley, whose novel Elmett was nominated for the Man Booker prize in 2017. Their name is a play on the idea of New York as 'The Big Apple'.

Impress your friends with a home cooked curry with half the effort by getting a ready to use spice mix from Rafi's Spice Box. Their staff mix the spices together in front of you and let you choose how hot you want your dish to be, all you need to do is add some ingredients.

Make your student house more homely with some greenery from **Botanic**, which describes itself as 'York's Urban Jungle' and specialises in exotic and unusual house plants.

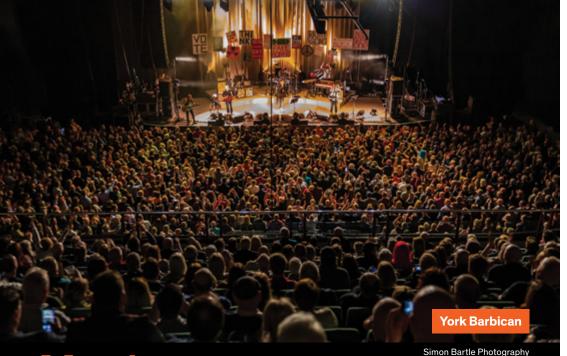
Treat yourself to a luxury brew to help you through your studies. **Hebden Tea** has a massive selection of teas from around the world and friendly staff to help you choose your perfect blend.

Re-cycle are a friendly, helpful business who sell, rescue and repair bikes at student friendly prices.

If you love a quirky home accessory, or are looking for an unusual gift, **The Imaginarium** will surprise you every time. Themed as a Victorian curiosity shop, it's full of weird and wonderful finds.

For lovers of vintage, **Dog & Bone**Vintage stocks men's and women's retro and vintage clothing from the 50s to the 90s, while **Chinese Laundry** has a mix of vintage, small brand labels and a range handmade in Yorkshire. There is also a Vintage Festival held at the racecourse every April, celebrating the style and music of the 30s to 60s.





Music

York Barbican is a major music and comedy venue just outside the city walls. With a capacity of 1,900 the venue welcomes global artists, from Paolo Nutini to Paloma Faith. The Barbican is the perfect place to see your favourite act without having to go too far.

The Basement is a smaller, more intimate events venue situated below City Screen Picturehouse cinema in the centre of York. The venue hosts an eclectic mix of events including live music, poetry, comedy, drama and DJ nights. Its low ceiling and side-on layout means that you are rarely more than a few metres away from your favourite acts.

The Crescent is a unique venue with a long history of community spirit and musical entertainment. A former working men's club, the venue was recently saved from redevelopment and offers a lively programme of music and club events.



York is not as busy as bigger cities but it still has a city atmosphere.

I love the music scene at York – it is quite underground which is what I love.

Jess | Fine Art



Theatre



York Theatre Royal is

famous for its much loved pantomime, community shows and performances by touring productions. Throughout the year you can see everything from Shakespeare to contemporary shows. The theatre also hire out their costumes if you want to really make a statement with your fancy dress.

The York Mystery Plays were originally performed in the 13th century on travelling wagons, bringing Bible stories to life for York's medieval inhabitants. The tradition was revived in the 20th century and they are now a huge community production which takes place every 4 years, celebrating York's long history of theatre. In recent years they have been staged at York Minster and the Museum Gardens.



Joseph Rowntree Theatre is a community theatre which hosts performances by various amateur groups from across the city, including the Students' Union's very own Musical Production Society. Come along and support them for what is always a fun night of entertainment, or get involved yourself – the society are always looking for new members (whatever your experience).



SPARK: York, as well as being a great place to eat and drink (see pages 10-11), is home to our very own community theatre space in the city. The project aims to engage local communities, challenge prejudices and promote social justice.

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Film

City Screen, a Picturehouse cinema in the city centre, is both comfier and cooler than your average cinema. Student membership gets you discounted tickets and money off at the bar and café (which has great views across the river from the terrace).

If you feel like treating yourself to a luxurious cinema trip, **Everyman** is the place to go. With sofa seating, Art Deco interiors and meals brought to your seat, it's one for a special occasion. But if you're on a budget, **Vue** at Clifton Moor has more screens and cheaper tickets.

Cineworld, which includes a laser IMAX screen, is located at the **Vangarde shopping centre.**

York St John University works with the BAFTA-recognised **Aesthetica Short Film Festival** every year. The event celebrates independent film making from around the world and some of the festival winners have gone on to be Oscar nominees. Our campus is a venue for some of the screenings and masterclass sessions and our students have the opportunity to get involved in the events.

Comedy-

The Basement at City Screen

hosts regular comedy nights showcasing a mix of well known faces and up and coming local talent. From stand-up shows and fringe previews to slam poetry nights and the more experimental **Burning Duck Comedy Club**, this venue provides all kinds of laughs and surprises.

The Barbican and Grand Opera

House are stops on the national tours of many of the country's most famous comedians. These are impressive venues and offer a more intimate comedy experience than you would expect in a bigger arena setting.

Several pubs also host amateur open mic comedy nights, including The Duke of York, The Winning Post and Eagle & Child (see page 12).



York Art Gallery reopened after a refurbishment in 2016 and his since won several tourism awards. In 2024 Monet's famous Water Lillies is on loan from the National Gallery in London, and in in the last few years visiting exhibitions have featured works by Turner, Ruskin, Bacon, Rubens Degas and Rembrant, as well as experimental shows like 'All is Quiet', which collaborated with Kaiser Chiefs to explore the links between art and music.

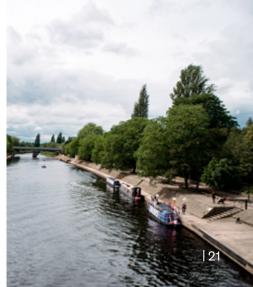
York Open Studios is an annual event which showcases local artists and makers' work and lets you visit studios and exhibitions at sites across the city for free.

The famous Dame Judi Dench walk, which runs alongside the River Ouse and Museum Gardens, is a great place for a walk at any time of year. Over the summer months it is also home to the York River Art Market every Saturday, where a community of artists and craftmakers from across Yorkshire come to exhibit and sell their work.

Art& run a 3 day event at York
Racecourse each autumn which
showcases local artists and includes
interactive areas, installations, live
music, talks and more.

A new hub for artists opened in York city centre in 2022. **StreetLife** is a hub for artists that has a gallery and printing press.







If you like history, York is the place to be! There is an abundance of museums to visit and historical streets to walk through. There are also many festivals and events put on throughout the year to showcase York's distinct culture and heritage.

Charlotte | Tourism

History

One of the most famous attractions in the city, Jorvik Viking Centre takes you back in time to York's Viking past with an interactive ride and exhibitions revealing the archaeological digs which took place on the site. The centre also hosts the York Viking Festival every February, so don't be alarmed when you see fierce looking armed warriors on your walk to uni at this time of year!

There have been **city walls** in York since the Romans lived here. Most of what remains today is from the Medieval period, and walking around them is a fun (and free) way to get some great views of the city.

Explore the history of York's iconic chocolate brands at York's Chocolate Story, which offers a discount for York residents on Sunday's.

A really unusual English Heritage site, York's **Cold War Bunker** was designed to monitor the fallout of a nuclear attack and was in active service right up until 1990. Touring it gives you a rare and chilling insight into this period of history.

The most impressive part of York Castle Museum is its full scale replica of a Victorian street, often with costumed staff bringing it to life. You can spend a whole day exploring this huge attraction, which has everything from collections of toys through the ages to exhibitions about life in the Castle Prison, in the same building where the museum now stands. They also offer a student discount on admission tickets.

York has many ghost walks that explore the spookier side of history. Join one of their trails, discover some terrifying tales and learn another side of the city. The **Deathly Dark Tour, Mad Alice** and **The Original Ghost Walk** are just some of the options.





York is such an interesting and beautiful place. And the street performers make the city even more vibrant.

Jess | Photography



York on a budget

Every year at the end of January, museums and attractions across the city open their doors to local residents (including students) for free in the **York Residents' Festival**. You can also get discounts at lots of shops and restaurants just by showing your student card across this weekend. Some have discounts still throughout the year for residents.

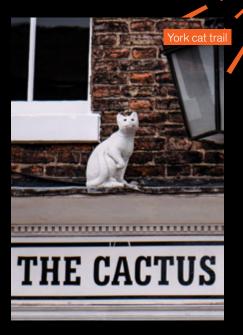
Wander the walls and visit a different kind of bar. York's **city walls** stretch for 2 miles around the city centre, making them the longest medieval walls in Britain. Beautifully preserved, they're open from dawn until dusk for

you to explore. There are also plenty of green spaces in the city to relax on a warm day. Find your perfect picnic spot at **Rowntree Park**, The **Museum Gardens** or in the grounds of York Minster.

Find the lucky feline figurines scattered around the city on the York Cat Trail where 22 cat figures have decorated the city's historic buildings for over 2 centuries. Originally, they were placed on buildings to frighten away plagued rodents but more recently have been said to bring good luck. Pick up your free trail map from York Glass on the Shambles, or The Cat Gallery on Low Petergate.

Each February York hosts the biggest outdoor **ice trail** in the UK. Find over 50 unique sculptures along the cobbled streets of York, all carved from crystal clear ice. This 2 day event makes the cold weather worth it and you can always warm up with a mulled wine or hot chocolate if you get too chilly.

Soak up the sound of our street performers. York is famous for its brilliant buskers, so you will rarely be without a soundtrack to your shopping trip. From the Hyde Family Jam in King's Square (complete with accordion and fiddle) to The Opera Guy belting out hits from musicals outside Bettys, there is nowhere quite like York for a free gig.



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Active York

After giving a huge welcome to Tour de France cyclists in 2014, Yorkshire has really embraced cycling, and holds its very own regional cycling events. Being very flat makes the city easy to cycle around, and many people choose to get about this way. The Orbital Route circles the city, providing offroad routes and a quick way of getting around York by bike.

You can even cycle your way through the solar system! Covering 6.4 miles of the old East Coast mainline railway, this fun cycle track includes scale models of all of the planets along the way.

York is also a great place for running, with a Park Run starting from the Knavesmire every week, scenic routes and several running clubs you can join.

Just down the road from the university is Red Goat Climbing Centre. Bouldering (low level climbing without ropes or harnesses) is both a physical and mental challenge, as well as being great fun! Red Goat welcome beginners and will teach you the basics to get you started.

Getting involved with one of the Students' Union sports teams is a great way to meet new people, learn something new and be part of our sporting community. Many of the teams compete in The British Universities and College Sports (BUCS) league, and some are also part of local leagues. Visit www.ysjsu.com to see the list of sports available.

Experience the joys of mini golf at **Puttstars**. A great place to have some fun and laughter as you compete to be the champion!

YSJ Active is the University's own initiative to help students, staff and the community to stay active and healthy. There is a fitness suite on campus which students can join as members. There are plenty of classes to get involved with and events throughout the year to promote wellbeing and healthy living for all.

Other popular gyms for our students include 24/7 Fitness and Swift Fitness, both of which are nearby and offer discounted student memberships. Yearsley Swimming Pool, a huge 50 yard pool which is close to campus, is also very affordable for students. Yoga studios like Yoga Bomb and The Stables Yoga Centre offer classes for all levels. Many of the gyms offer classes in everything from yoga to dance aerobics to hula hooping!

York Community Stadium Leisure Complex is a hub for sports fans, this site includes a leisure centre with a gym, swimming pool, dance studios and an indoor climbing and high ropes area.

Both within the University and across the city there are inclusive, disability-friendly sports clubs you can get involved in, whatever your needs. York St John University has it's own Goalball Club, and there are opportunities to take part in activities like archery, climbing, football and tennis through community groups around the city. Find out more at: disabilitysportyorkshire.org



Lots of gyms do student discount if you look in the right places!

Hannah | English Language and Linguistics





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Hidden York

On Gillygate, just down the road from campus, you'll find **Thumb Retro Games**, which sells consoles and games for retro video game enthusiasts, including rare and limited edition titles.



Travelling Man on Goodramgate is the best place in town to buy comic books, board games and everything you need for role-playing games. A small, independent business with friendly staff and regular gaming tournaments, they're all about sharing their love of comics and games with as many people as possible and helping them to go mainstream.

Celebrate York's Viking history with a unique day out at **The Hilt**, an indoor axe throwing site! They also have a restaurant on site serving nordic themed food.



If you are a **Harry Potter** fan then you will be glad to know that York is home to wizarding world themed shops and activities, including mini golf and an escape room.

With The **Shambles** said to have been the inspiration for Diagon Alley, it is popular with both tourists and students alike. Find out more about shopping in York on pages 16-17.

Amongst the many societies offered by the Students' Union is the very active and welcoming **Geek Society**. They aim to be an inclusive group and socialise through gaming, cinema and exploring all areas of geek culture and interests.



LGBTQ+ York

York Pride takes place in June and is a fantastic event for all. York St John University always has a lively presence in the parade and is a big supporter of the event. We regularly fly the Pride flag and the Trans flag throughout the year facing Lord Mayor's Walk. Wristbands are available in the run up to the event giving discounts at local businesses around the city, allowing both you and them to show your support for the cause.

February is York LGBT History Month with a series of talks, film screenings and other events across the city and on campus.

The Portal is an LGBTQIA bookshop and Lunar Café offers not just coffee but also hairdressing services for queer folks. Both are on Patrick Pool. There is a local drag scene at Impossible York, with occasional drag brunches.

GeneraTe York offers support and socials for trans and non-binary people and their friends, they are based at Yorkshire Mesmac on Marygate where you can also find YorQueer a youth group for LGBTQ+ people aged 14-25.

There is an active **LGBTQ+ Society** with York St John University's Students' Union. The society offers opportunities to meet other members of the LGBTQ+ community, runs social events both on campus and in the city and supports campaigns raising awareness of LGBTQ+ issues.



Faith in York

York St John is a University with a Church of England Foundation, and we welcome students of all faiths and backgrounds. York St John University **Chaplaincy** provides spaces and opportunities for reflection, listening, confidential support, prayer, worship, meditation, socialising and spiritual exploration. Whatever your faith position, situation, nationality, gender or sexual orientation, they offer hospitality, support and friendship. The Chaplaincy Team includes Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and Baha'i World Faith Advisors who arrange events throughout the year.

The University has a long-standing connection with **York Minster**, where you will celebrate your graduation. It's a beautiful site and you can attend services there throughout the week, including evensong services with the Minster choir.

Other Anglican churches nearby include **St Lawrence Church**, which is very close to campus, and **York City**

Church which is very student friendly.

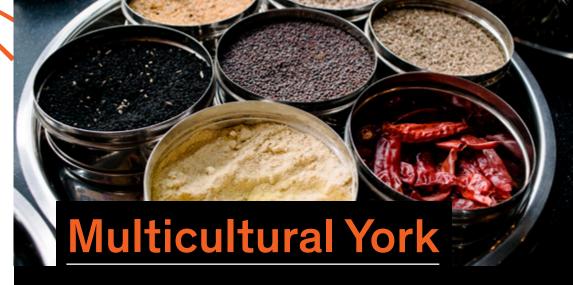
St Martin Coney Street is also popular with students. For other denominations there are also St Wilfrid's Catholic Church, York Baptist Church, Central Methodist Church and others around the city.

York's Mosque and Islamic Centre is the central point for Islamic worship in the city and has a lively programme of community events.

The York Liberal Jewish Community holds Jewish services at the Friends' Meeting House on the third Saturday of the month. They follow a liberal tradition, with men and women participating equally and prayers in English and Hebrew.

The Friends' Meeting House itself is a historic Quaker site which also hosts other groups including Hare Krishna and Buddhist groups. York Buddhist Centre on Walmgate is a part of the Triratna Buddhist Community and offers courses in Buddhism and meditation.





York is a major tourist destination for visitors from across the world, and at York St John University we have students from around 60 countries studying with us.

York's restaurants cater for a huge range of international cuisines: from North African food at **Los Moros** to Italian at **D'Vine**. For authentic Indian dishes as well as all the usual curry options, **The Viceroy** just down the road from campus, is a great choice.

There are several oriental supermarkets in the city, including Regency
Supermarket and Oriental Express.
For other international food shopping Amma's Oven is round the corner from campus and sells whole and ground spices, pulses and other ingredients which can be hard to find in supermarkets. Jojo's Afro-Carribean Shop in Acomb stocks specialist food, while Makkah International Food on Hull Road specialises in providing halal meat.

Identity Salon can provide afro-caribbean haircuts. Mo The Barber is a Turkish barber which also offers afro-caribbean haircuts for men as well as traditional Turkish shaves.

YUMI Intercultural York (York Unifying Multicultural Initiative) is a voluntary intercultural network supporting people with different cultural roots, languages and life expriences to share skills, learn from each other and celebrate tradition. They run projects in York including the YUMI community garden at Fulford Cross Allotments.



On your doorstep

The Yorkshire Coast

Whitby is a scenic seaside town with sandy beaches, a working harbour, dramatic abbey ruins and award winning fish and chips. It's where Dracula's ship arrived in Bram Stoker's novel and you can watch a fun and atmospheric retelling of this story in the abbey grounds on weekends in summer. Every Halloween the town is transformed by the annual Whitby Goth Weekend – a music festival which celebrates all things gothic and attracts some impressive costumes!



Scarborough is the biggest of the resorts in the area, with a castle, a Sea Life Centre, a huge waterpark and traditional seaside amusement arcades. Bridlington and Filey are also popular choices for a day at the seaside.



Robin Hood's Bay is a great place to get outdoors and explore the coastal landscape. It's also one of the best beaches in the country for finding fossils. For aspiring wildlife photographers the nearby Bempton Cliffs RSPB reserve is home to thousands of seabirds, including puffins, auks and gannets over the summer months. The only albatross known to live in Europe has also been spotted in the area.

The North York Moors

Picturesque villages like Helmsley and Pickering are home to cosy pubs and independent shops, as well as being popular bases for walkers and cyclists looking to explore this beautiful countryside.

Pickering is also the starting point for the **North Yorkshire Moors Railway**. This steam train takes you to Goathland – the filming location for Hogsmede Station in the *Harry Potter* series.

Dalby Forest is known for its mountain biking trails. It also has a Go Ape trail, running trails and a summer outdoor cinema. Big acts like Jess Glynne and George Ezra have played at open air Forest Live music events here too.

Brimham Rocks are great for picnics, photographing sunsets across the moors and scrambling around on the strange rock formations. You can even visit these on a day long llama trek from the nearby Nidderdale Llamas farm.

In **Knaresborough** you can hire a rowing boat on the river Nidd, follow a public art trail and meet the ravens who live at the castle above the town.



Castle Howard is an impressive country house not far from York. It's especially fun to visit at Christmas when they go all out with their decorations.

The North York Moors are one of the best locations in the UK for star gazing, with several observatories set up to help you make the most of the low light pollution and a **Skies Festival** celebrated every February.

The Turkish Baths in **Harrogate** have been a place for relaxation and pampering with a backdrop of colourful mosaics since the 19th century. The town is also the original home of Bettys Tea Room.



Map of York

- 1. Campus
- 2. The Minster
- 3. The Shambles/Food Market

Pubs/bars/ Restaurants/cafés

- 4. Osbournes @ 68
- 5. Bettys Café Tearooms
- 6. Brew & Brownie
- 7. Brew York
- 8. Eagle & Child
- 9. Evil Eye
- 10. Fortyfive Vinyl Café
- 11. Fossgate Social
- 12. Golden Fleece
- 13. The Habit
- **14.** The Hop
- **15.** House of the Trembling Madness
- **16.** Ciao
- 17. Partisan
- **18.** Licc
- **19.** Pivni
- 20. Plush Café
- 21. SPARK: York
- **22**. The Viceroy

Nights out

- 23. Popworld
- 24. Revolution
- 25. Salvation
- 26. Vudu Lounge

Active

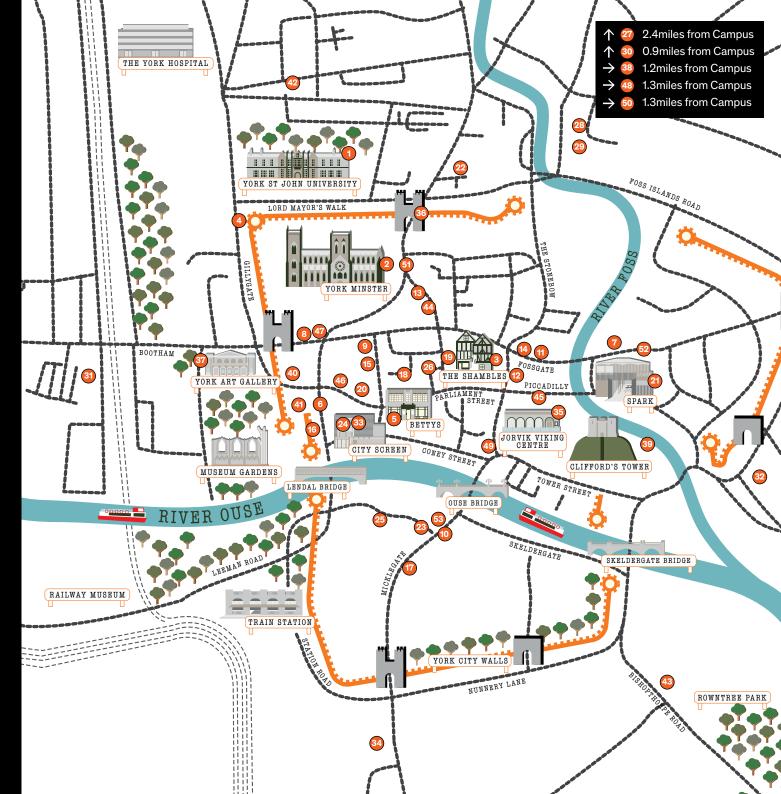
- 27. 24/7 Fitness
- 28. Red Goat Climbing
- 29. Swift Fitness
- **30.** Yearsley Swimming Pool
- 31. Yoga Bomb

Culture

- 32. The Barbican
- 33. City Screen Cinema
- **34.** Everyman Cinema
- 35. Jorvik Viking Centre
- 36. Monk Bar
- 37. York Art Gallery
- 38. York Mosque
- 39. York Castle Museum
- 40. York Theatre Royal
- 41. Yorkshire Museum

Shops

- 42. Amma's Oven
- 43. Bishy Road
- 44. Chinese Laundry
- 45. Dog & Bone Vintage
- 46. The Imaginarium
- 47. Little Apple Bookshop
- **48.** Makkah International Food
- 49. Mo the Barber
- 50. Oriental Express
- 51. Rafi's Spice Box
- 52. Re-cycle
- **53.** Regency Supermarket







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Every effort has been made to ensure this information is correct at the time of going to print. However due to circumstances outside our control some things may change.

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