

MAYOR OF LONDON

LONDON CURRICULUM

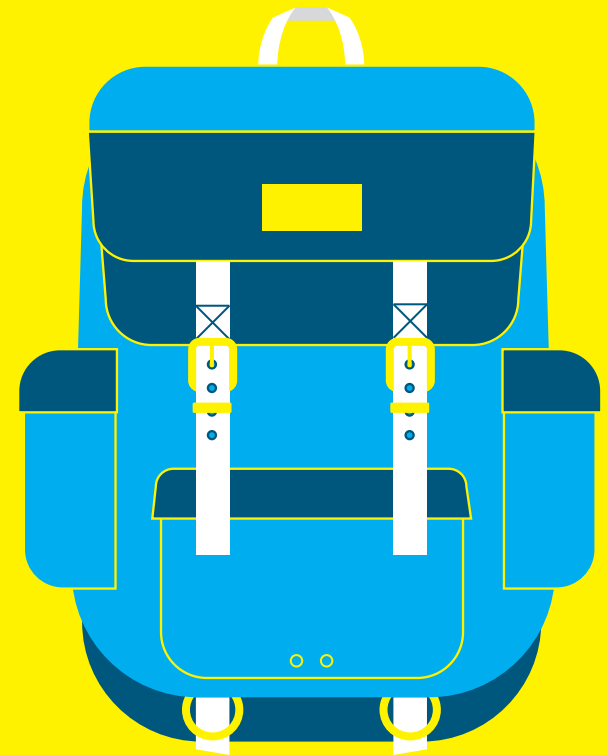
FAMILY EXPLORER TRAIL

THE RIVER



NAME

.....



So what's it all about?

The London Curriculum is a fun new way of teaching young people about the city using London as a classroom. Schools in London are already enjoying our free learning resources, now with these trails parents and carers can also join in. We hope this trail will help you and your family find out more about this brilliant city, and have fun too!

Hello! I'm Fen the Fox from Fenchurch Street. My hobbies are dressing up and investigating London. Join me as I slink up and down the banks of the Thames. Find out how important the river is and has been to Londoners, from soldiers and market porters to pirates and mudlarks. It's going to be a lot of fun, are you ready?



Find out more at: london.gov.uk/familytrails

About this Family Explorer Trail

We suggest starting your trail at Tower Bridge and ending at City Hall. This route is 3.4 km (just over 2 miles) and should take two to three hours to complete but there's no time limit! If you would like a shorter trail, you could go in a straight line. Start at Tower Hill and finish at the Millennium Bridge, or start at the Globe Theatre and finish at City Hall. The choice is yours!

"London is full of culture, science and stories. Our London Curriculum trails are a great way for families to discover their city together. I hope they encourage Londoners of all ages to explore our unique open spaces. There's no place on earth like it."

Sadiq Khan,
Mayor of London

What you will need



copy of this trail



pencil



comfy shoes / weather-appropriate clothing



reusable bottle

Comfort breaks

Why not enjoy a picnic on your trail? There are several benches dotted along the Thames Path on the north bank of the river and grassed areas and seating in the gardens around St. Paul's. On the south bank there's a large grassed area in front of Tate Modern and tiered seating in The Scoop, outside City Hall.

There are free community toilets at The Liberty Bounds (Weatherspoon pub) and The Banker (Fuller's pub) on the north bank, and at Tate Modern and City Hall on the south bank.

Fen likes to stop and look around him on his journeys. Sitting on one of the benches by the river from time to time is a great idea!



Estimated time (hours)



Walking distance (km)

Safety on the way

We want you to have a relaxed enjoyable time together so here are a few important things to remember.

- Please take care when crossing roads and use pedestrian crossings whenever available.
- In hot weather, remember to cover up and drink plenty of water.
- Be alert and watch your personal belongings.

Need the answers?

We hope you'll try and work out the answers to any questions in the trail yourselves but we all need a bit of help from time to time! You'll find the answers on the back of the trail.



1 On Tower Hill

Go up the steps with the silver railings just in front of Tower Hill Underground station.

Look across to the section of very old wall. This was built by the Romans almost 2,000 years ago. When it was complete it surrounded their settlement on the north bank of the river.

Why do you think the Romans built their settlement on the banks of the River Thames?

How tall are you? Using your height as a guide, estimate how high the remaining section of the wall is.

I estimate it is meters and centimetres high.



I spy with my foxy eye, something the Romans called 'Tamesis'. Can you guess what it is? Imagine you are one of the first Roman soldiers to camp on this hill before the settlement was built. What would you see? How do you think you would feel?

Timeline quiz

Look at the giant sundial. Use it to help you work out the answers to these quiz questions. Write the numbers in the boxes.

Need help? You can find out the answers to all questions at the end of the trail. Try not to peek until you've had a go first!

How many years **after** the first London Bridge was built was the Tower of London founded?

What date did Dick Whittington become Lord Mayor of London for the **first** time? Add together all the numbers in the date.

How many years did it take to build the Thames Barrier?

Spot the emblem

Today the City of London covers almost the same area as the Roman walled city did. As you follow this trail, see how many times you can spot the City's emblem.

Keep a tally of every time you see it. Mark a vertical line for each time up to 4 then put a diagonal mark through for 5 and so on.



For example  = 7.

Add up your tally at the end.

2 Outside the Tower of London

Walk across Trinity Square Gardens. Cross the road at the pedestrian lights and walk down the wide paved area towards the Tower of London.

Odd one out

The Tower buildings have been used in many different ways over the years. But what have they **never** been used as? Put a cross beside it.

! Tip: use the information boards to help you.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a royal palace | <input type="checkbox"/> a weapon store |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a jewel store | <input type="checkbox"/> a fortress |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a military hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> a document store |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a prison | <input type="checkbox"/> a zoo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a factory for making coins | <input type="checkbox"/> an army barracks |



The building of the Tower was begun by a king called William the Conqueror who had invaded England. He wanted to show Londoners that he was strong and powerful and here to stay! Do you think the Tower is an impressive building?

3 Old Billingsgate Market

Follow the Thames Path past the large white building with blue railings. Stop on the large paved courtyard in front of the next big building.

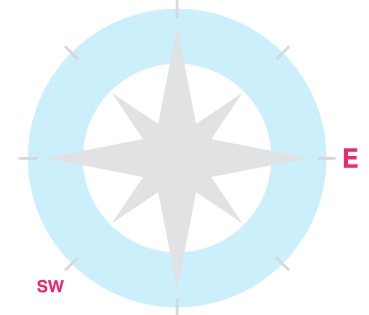
There was a market on this site for over 900 years. What was it famous for selling? Circle the answer:

meat **fish** **fruit** **vegetables** **cakes**

! Clue: look at the design on top of the lamp posts!
Can you spot any more of these on the building itself?

Before this covered market was built the site was filled with stalls and sheds. Imagine how it would smell! Why do you think the market was held by the river?

Look at the weathervanes on top of the building. Which direction is the wind blowing from? Complete the directions on the points of this compass. Then circle where the wind is blowing from today.



i Did you know?





















In the past the Billingsgate market porters carried baskets on their heads. They wore special flat topped hard hats called 'bobbin hats' to protect their heads and help them balance the loads.

4

Queenhithe Mosaic

Keep following the Thames Path following signs for Riverside Walk West. Walk under London Bridge, Cannon Street railway bridge and Southwark Bridge until the path turns right, away from the river.

See if you can spot these animals in the mosaic. When you have found them colour in the outline to show if it is a fish or a bird.

dace			smelt		
tench			gudgeon		
lamprey			coot		
loach			shad		
grebe			cormorant		

Name that fish!

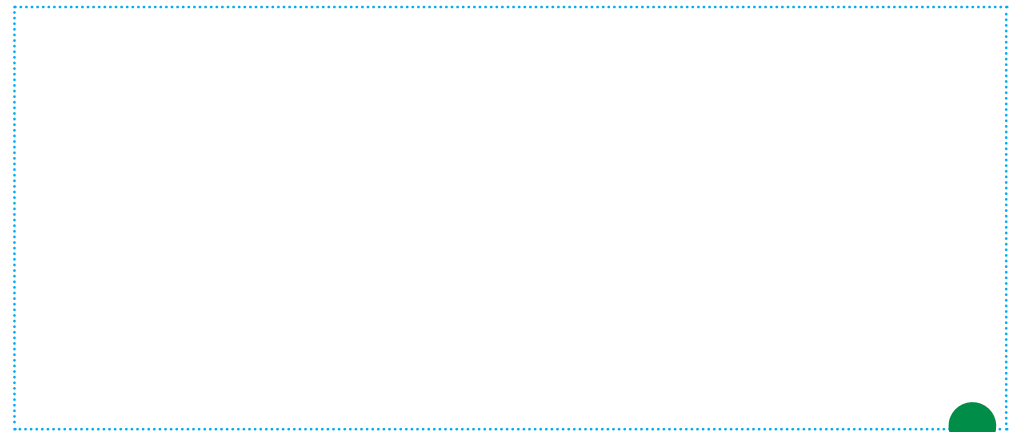
Today the River Thames is the cleanest river flowing through a large city in the world. It is home to 125 species of fish. If you discovered a new fish species, what would you call it?

Look closely at the mosaic. Can you see shells and fragments of pottery? Where do you think these were found?

Mudlarks

Have you read 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty? It's about an orphan, Jim, who runs away from a Victorian workhouse. One thing Jim has to do to survive is work as a mudlark, hunting in the Thames mud for anything he can sell.

Choose something from the mosaic that you really like. Is it a person, animal, building, ship or object? Draw it in the box.



Fen's name challenge

Can you find out the name of the queen this dock is named after? 'Hithe' is an Old English word ending meaning 'landing place'. Can you think of two other place names in London ending in 'hithe'? Clue: one begins with a colour and the second has 'other' hidden in it!



5

On Millennium Bridge

Continue along the Thames Path following signs for Millennium Bridge.

Millennium Bridge is London's newest bridge. When it first opened it was nicknamed the 'Wobbly Bridge'. Do you know why?

In what year did people celebrate the millennium? Fen's great-grandmother, Grace, was born in 1977. How old was she at the millennium?

London landmarks

Stand in the middle of the bridge. Which landmark buildings can you see? Can you name any of the other bridges?



At the start of the film 'Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince' Death Eaters attack Millennium Bridge. They make it buckle so the cables snap and it breaks in half. Don't worry, that couldn't really happen!

Wren's riddle

An architect called Sir Christopher Wren designed the famous cathedral you can see. While it was built, he lived in a house on the other side of the river. There was no bridge here in the past so he travelled to work in a little rowing boat called a wherry.

Imagine that one day Sir Christopher wants to take a fox, a rabbit and a lettuce with him across the river. The wherryman will only let him take one item in the wherry at a time! How can he get all three across safely without the rabbit eating the lettuce or the fox eating the rabbit?

! Clue: he will have to make four trips across the river!

Passenger puzzles

Look at the river boats cruising up and down the Thames today. What do you think the people in them are doing?

Can you solve these puzzles? Write your answers in the boxes.

8 river boats each have 65 passengers.
How many passengers do they have in total?

176 passengers are on board a very large boat.
A smaller boat has half as many. How many passengers are on the smaller boat?

89 passengers are on board one boat. At the Tower of London pier 26 people get off and 13 get on. How many passengers are on the boat now?

6 Outside Shakespeare's Globe

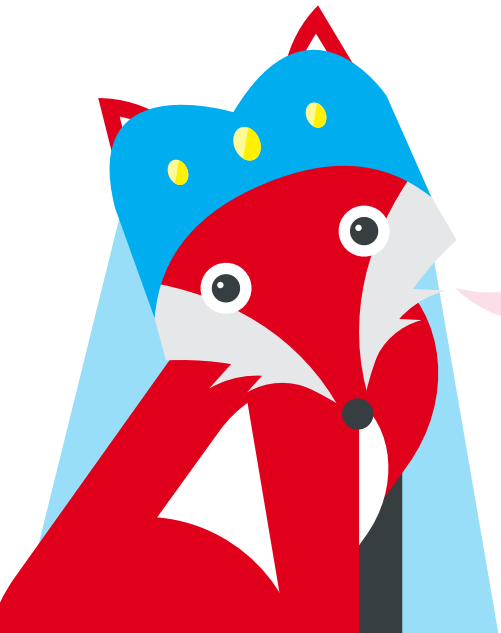
Continue across the bridge to the south bank. Turn left and walk along Bankside until you reach the Globe.

Look at the theatre. What materials is it made out of? Describe its shape. Imagine the base of the theatre as a 2D shape. What is this shape called? Put a ring around the answer.

circle polygon crescent oval

The theatre is a reconstruction of one built in Tudor times. It is named after William Shakespeare, a world famous writer whose plays were performed in the first Globe theatre here on Bankside.

Fen is reciting some lines from a Shakespeare play. Do you know the title of the play? Try to read the lines. They are a bit like a tongue twister! Pretend you're standing on a stage and reciting them.



**O Romeo, Romeo!
Wherefore art thou
Romeo? Deny thy father
and refuse thy name.
Or, if thou wilt not, be
but sworn my love,
and I'll no longer be
a Capulet.**

Find a large set of iron gates. What is decorating them? Each is connected to one of Shakespeare's plays. Feel one of them and spread your hand out over it. Is it bigger or smaller than your hand?

Choose your favourite figure from each of these different categories:

plants creatures objects

Draw them in the boxes below.

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i Did you know?
Shakespeare's Globe theatre has the first and only thatched roof that has been allowed in London since the Great Fire of 1666.

As you continue on the trail see if you can spot this sign.

BEAR GARDENS SE1
LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

In Tudor times there was a bear ring near here. Dogs and bears were made to fight each other as a cruel type of entertainment.

7 The Frost Fair Engravings

Continue along Bankside towards Southwark Bridge. Go into the pedestrian tunnel under the bridge and walk to the far end.

Walk back along the tunnel, looking at the five slate panels. These show a frost fair in the 1600s. What do you think a frost fair is? Where is it taking place?

What are people doing at the fair? Put a tick in the box when you spot people doing these things.

- riding in a carriage
- ice-skating
- selling food from a stall
- roasting meat on a spit
- pulling a boat on wheels
- playing skittles

Write something else you can see people doing in this box:

i Did you know?

The period in history between the mid-1300s and early 1800s is sometimes known as the 'Little Ice Age'. Winters in London, and the rest of Europe, were much colder than they are today.

States of matter

What happens to water when it is very cold? Or when it is heated? Fill in the boxes to complete the chart below.



Water is a liquid. Can you name the other two states of matter?

In the Clink!

As you carry on the trail look out for the Clink prison. No one knows for sure how the prison got its name. Do you have any suggestions?

The last frost fair in London was held in 1814. Its highlight was an elephant that was led across the river near Blackfriars Bridge!



8 Winchester Palace and The Golden Hinde II

Continue along the footpath next to the Thames until it bends to your right, away from the river. Walk under Cannon Street railway bridge and along Clink Street.

Find the ruins of a medieval palace. Use the information board to help you complete the sentences below.

Missing word challenge

The palace used to be home to the of Winchester.
 The ruins are all that is left of the Great Under this room was a where wine was stored in
 A led directly from here to the river

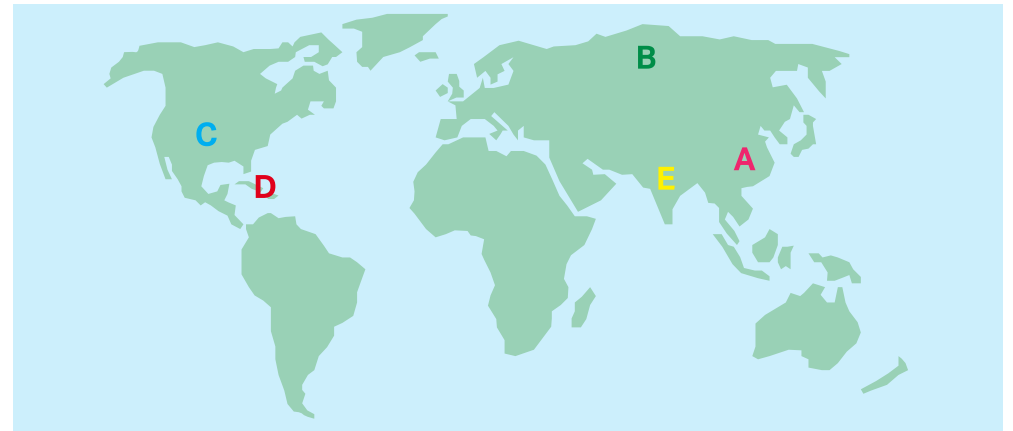
Now go to the end of the street and find a sailing ship in the dock.



This ship is a replica of one that a famous Tudor explorer – and pirate! – sailed in. Use the information board to find out his name and write it in the box below.

Where did it come from?

In Tudor times the voyages of exploration meant that London started trading with countries all around the world.



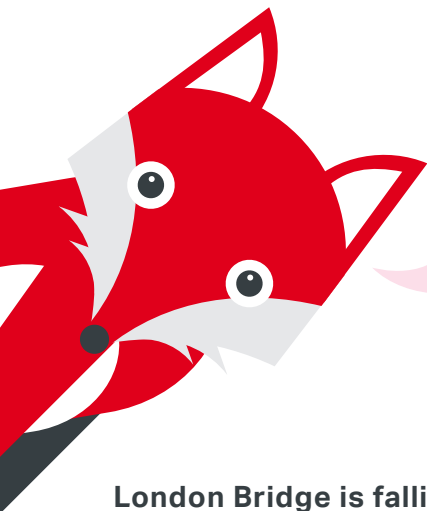
Look at the map above and the countries and regions below. Can you match the names of the countries with the shaded areas? Write the letter of the alphabet in the box next to the name.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> | furs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | China | <input type="checkbox"/> | tobacco |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | North America | <input type="checkbox"/> | sugar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Russia | <input type="checkbox"/> | spices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | India | <input type="checkbox"/> | tea |

Now draw a line to match up the countries or region with goods that you think might have come from there to London.

9 London Bridge

Follow the path past Southwark Cathedral and The Mudlark pub. When you get to London Bridge walk up the steps to the top. Turn right and cross the road over the bridge at the pedestrian lights.



Can you see a tall concrete spike? This sculpture is based on a gory tradition! The heads of people who had been executed were stuck on spikes above Old London Bridge. One was a man who tried to blow up Parliament on 5 November 1605. Do you know his name?

London Bridge is falling down!

There have been several bridges called London Bridge since the Romans built the first one. The most famous was Old London Bridge which stood for over 600 years. Do you know a song about it? See who in your family can sing it the loudest!

Go down the steps on this side of the bridge and look over the wall at the Thames. The river has inspired artists, writers and poets for centuries. If you were going to paint it today, what colours would you use? Write the names of three of them in the spaces below.

10 Outside City Hall

Walk along the riverside path, following signs for Tower Bridge. As you do, look out for the World War II warship HMS Belfast. Find the large glass City Hall building. Can you spot it on the circular bronze map outside? This is where the Mayor of London works. If it is a weekday you can go inside and look around the public areas.

Look across the river. Can you spot the modern buildings nicknamed The Gherkin, The Cheese grater and The Walkie Talkie? City Hall has been compared to an egg, a woodlouse, an onion and a cycling helmet! Would you nominate one of these as its nickname or invent one of your own?

I think City Hall should be nicknamed The.....

Why don't you relax now that you've finished your trail? You can sit on the steps of The Scoop, the amphitheatre outside City Hall. If it's a hot day you could cool off in the fountains nearby! If you're lucky you might even see Tower Bridge opening.

Which activity have you enjoyed the most today?

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Answers 1) Tamesis' was the Roman name for the Thames. Timeline quiz: 1006 / 20 / 7 2) Odd one out: a military hospital 3) fish 4) Fen's name challenge: Matilda / Greenhithe / Rotherhithe 5) Grace was 23 / Wren's riddle: he takes the rabbit across first, then he takes the lettuce and brings back the rabbit; he swaps the rabbit for the fox then takes the fox before lastly taking the rabbit / Passenger puzzles: 520 / 88 / 76 6) polygon/ 'Romeo and Juliet' 7) States of Matter: ice / water vapour / solids and gases 8) Missing word challenge: Bishops, Hall, cellar, passage, wharf / Sir Francis Drake / Where did it come from: The Caribbean (D) sugar / China (A) tea / North America (C) tobacco / Russia (B) furs / India (E) spices 9) Guy Fawkes

What's on

There are lots of interesting places to visit, and things to do, along and near the river if you want to extend your day out. Or why not come back another day!

City Cruises

Take a sightseeing cruise along the river with an all-day hop on, hop off pass. Special Supersaver tickets for travel from Bankside Pier: citycruises.com/london-sightseeing/river-red-rover

Tower of London

Explore London's iconic castle, see history brought to life by costumed actors and be dazzled by the Crown Jewels. Ticket charges apply: hrp.org.uk/tower-of-london

All Hallows by the Tower

Go inside the oldest church in the City of London. See a section of Roman pavement in the small museum in the crypt: allhallowsbythetower.org.uk/

Mudlarking

Go mudlarking on the Thames foreshore. Find out more: thames-explorer.org.uk/foreshore-walks/exploration-events/

St. Magnus the Martyr

Visit the church that stood at the north end of the medieval ('Old') London Bridge. Find a fragment of a Roman timber wharf in the courtyard and marvel at the four meter long model of the old bridge: stmagnusmartyr.org.uk/

Tate Modern

Climb to the top of Tate Modern for 360-degree views of London. Then get sketching at the Bloomberg digital drawing bar. Find more ideas at: tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern/kids-and-families/tips-for-families

Shakespeare's Globe

Come along to a family event at the Globe and experience Shakespeare's plays together. Ticket charge apply: shakespearesglobe.com/education/events/family-events

Golden Hinde II

Experience the life of a Tudor explorer on an interactive tour with costumed interpreters. Ticket charges apply: goldenhinde.com

Borough Market

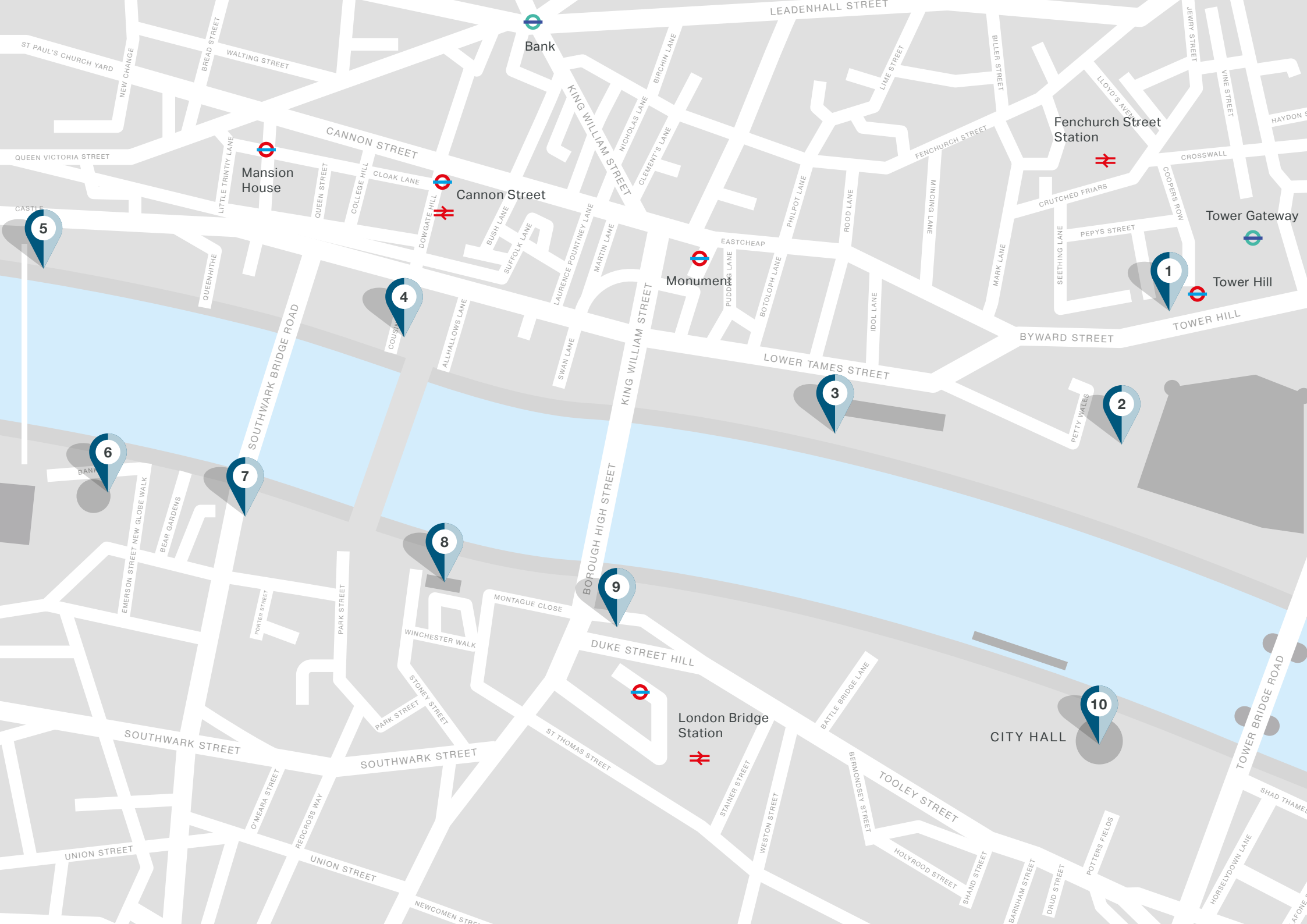
Visit one of London's oldest, and largest, food markets. Browse the fresh produce, cheese and patisserie stalls and perhaps treat yourselves to a snack: boroughmarket.org.uk

HMS Belfast

Step on board the historic warship to discover what life was like on board for the crew during World War II. Ticket charges apply: iwm.org.uk/visits/hms-belfast

The Scoop

Enjoy free live entertainment or a cinema screening in the open-air amphitheatre outside City Hall during the London Bridge City Summer Festival: londonbridgecity.co.uk/events



Bank

Mansion House

Cannon Street

Monument

Fenchurch Street Station

Tower Gateway

Tower Hill

London Bridge Station

CITY HALL

ST PAUL'S CHURCH YARD

QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

CASTLE

BANK

UNION STREET

BREAD STREET

LITTLE TRINITY LANE

QUEENHITHE

SOUTHWARK BRIDGE ROAD

PORTER STREET

SOUTHWARK STREET

O'MEARA STREET

UNION STREET

QUEEN STREET

COLLEGE HILL

PARK STREET

SOUTHWARK STREET

RED CROSS WAY

UNION STREET

CLOAK LANE

DOUGLAS HILL

WINCHESTER WALK

STONEY STREET

PARK STREET

NEWCOMEN STREET

COLLEGE HILL

DOUGLAS HILL

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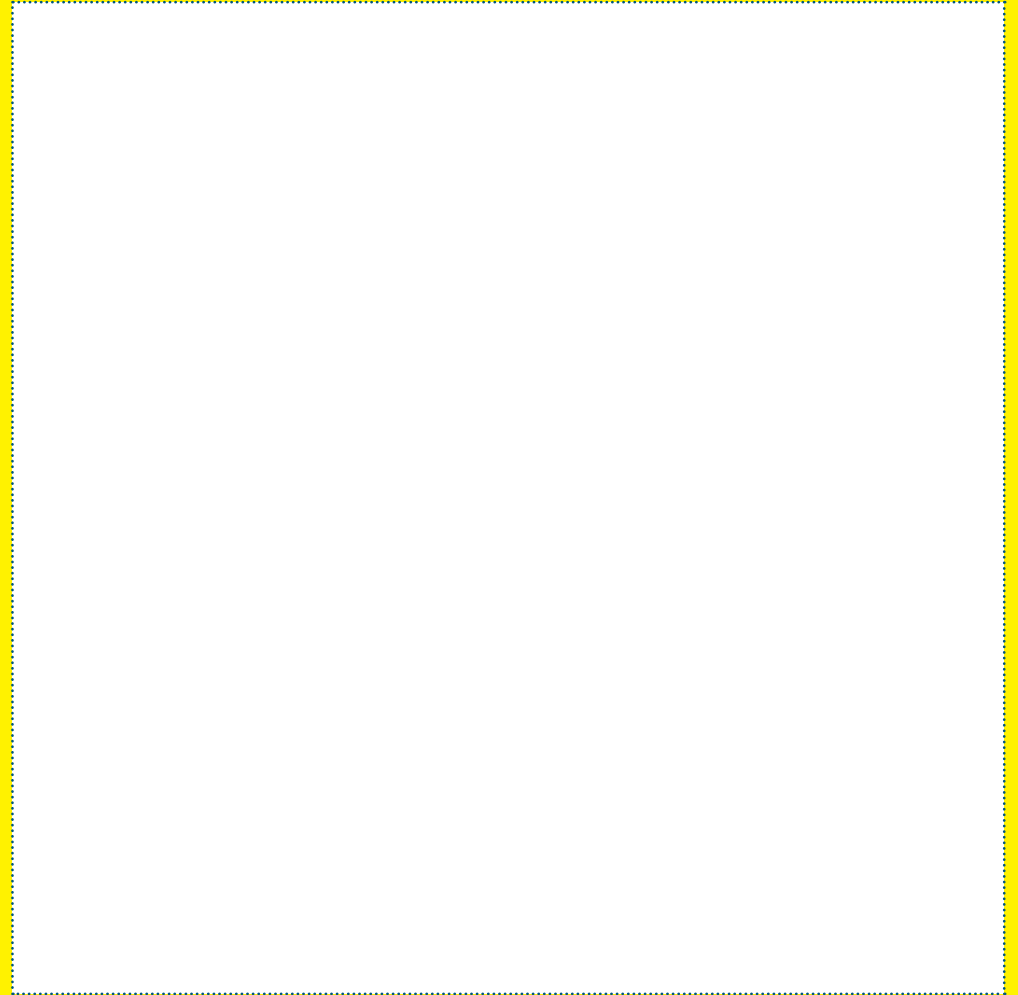
PARK STREET

NEWCOMEN STREET

Trail Key

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- 4 Queenhithe Mosaic
- 5 Millennium Bridge
- 6 Globe Theatre
- 7 Frost Fair engravings
- 8 Winchester Palace and the Golden Hinde II
- 9 London Bridge
- 10 City Hall

Sketch here



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