

## 7. Water Gate

This gate was added to the city wall circuit for commercial rather than defensive reasons. During the 16th and 17th centuries this area was involved in the woollen cloth industry, be it finishing the cloth on Exe Island or exporting the cloth from the Quay.



Exeter Custom House, now a visitor centre, adjacent to where Water Gate once stood.

Continue on the footpath up the hill to Western Way. From here either cross Western Way via the Yaroslavl Bridge, or to your right over the pedestrian

crossing. The next board is located on the other side of South Street. Here you will find out about the...

## 8. South Gate

This was the most impressive of all the city gates. This stretch of wall was very vulnerable from attack, so a number of smaller towers were built.

Follow the footpath alongside the city wall to Cathedral Close, turn right on to Southernhay. At Southernhay turn left then continue behind Broadwalk House to discover more about...



South Gate

## 9. East Gate

Being the principal entry point to the city, this gate played a vital defensive role during the many sieges of Exeter, especially during the Perkin Warbeck rebellion.

**You have now completed the City Wall Trail.**

I now know so much more about the fascinating history of Exeter.



East Gate

## Other heritage attractions in Exeter

Please check websites for opening times



### Exeter Cathedral

One of the finest examples of the Decorated Gothic architecture in England. **Admission charge.**  
t. 01392 255573 [www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk](http://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk)



### Exeter Red Coat Guided Tours

Guided walking tours departing from outside Abode Exeter (Royal Clarence Hotel) or the Custom House Visitor Centre, Exeter Quayside. No need to book. **FREE**  
t. 01392 265203 [www.exeter.gov.uk/guidedtours](http://www.exeter.gov.uk/guidedtours)



### Exeter's Underground Passages

Guided tours of medieval vaulted passageways. Exhibition packed full of interactive exhibits. **Admission charge.**  
t. 01392 665887 [www.exeter.gov.uk/passages](http://www.exeter.gov.uk/passages)



### Custom House Visitor Centre

Discover Exeter's 2,000-year history with a fascinating film show. **FREE** t. 01392 271611 [www.exeter.gov.uk/customhouse](http://www.exeter.gov.uk/customhouse)



### Ramm Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery

Home to a million thoughts

16 galleries of displays take visitors on a voyage of discovery from pre-history to the present day, and from Exeter all around the world. (Closed Mondays) **FREE** t. 01392 265858 [www.rammuseum.org.uk](http://www.rammuseum.org.uk)



### St. Nicholas Priory – A Tudor Home

Experience Tudor life in the heart of Exeter. Former medieval priory now presented as an Elizabethan town house. (Currently closed for restoration) **Admission charge.**  
t. 01392 265858 [www.exeter.gov.uk/priory](http://www.exeter.gov.uk/priory)



### Topsham Museum

Overlooking the Exe Estuary, visitors can enjoy displays of local history and maritime interest. **FREE**  
t. 01392 873244 [www.devonmuseums.net/topsham](http://www.devonmuseums.net/topsham)



### Tuckers Hall

Medieval guildhall of the Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen, built in 1471. **FREE** t. 01392 412348 [www.tuckershall.org.uk](http://www.tuckershall.org.uk)



### Exeter Guildhall

One of England's oldest municipal buildings. **FREE**  
t. 01392 665500 [www.exeter.gov.uk/guildhall](http://www.exeter.gov.uk/guildhall)

## Enjoyed this trail?

Why not weave your way through Exeter's industrial past on the 'Woollen Trail', or explore Exeter's colourful history on the 'Medieval Trail'. Trail leaflets are free and available from Exeter Visitor Information & Tickets and the Custom House Visitor Centre.



## Find out more about Exeter's City Wall

## Circled With Stone

Exeter's City Walls 1485 – 1660

A richly detailed portrait of the ancient system of walls, towers and gates which ringed the city of Exeter during the Tudor and early Stuart periods.



**Time Trail**  
EXPLORING EXETER THROUGH THE AGES

Visit the Exeter Time Trail at [www.rammtimetrail.org.uk](http://www.rammtimetrail.org.uk) and discover more about Exeter's past.

For more information about Exeter, visit Exeter Visitor Information & Tickets, Dix's Field, Exeter EX1 1GF

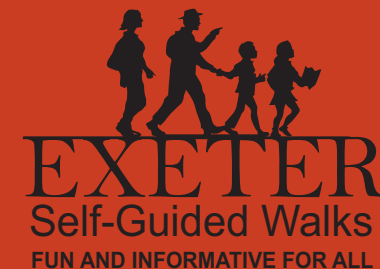
t. 01392 665700 e. [evit@exeter.gov.uk](mailto:evit@exeter.gov.uk) [www.visitexeter.com](http://www.visitexeter.com)



Whilst every care has been taken to ensure that the information in this leaflet is correct, Exeter City Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors or inaccuracies.



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# CITY WALL TRAIL

Step back 2,000 years to Roman Exeter



Approx 2 miles

Some slight inclines

9 information panels



**Exeter**  
City Council



## CIRCLED WITH STONE

Exeter's city wall (of which almost 70% still remains) is inextricably linked with the history of the city. Being almost 2,000 years old, it has repelled rebellions and has been the scene for many civic ceremonies and celebrations.

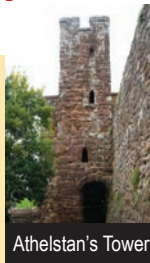
This leaflet will guide you to 9 information panels. At each site discover the key events that have affected the wall and the people of Exeter. **For children there are quizzes and puzzles to solve along the way so bring paper and a pencil with you.**

**Start your walk in Castle Street just off the High Street**

### 1. Castle Street

The City of Exeter has almost 2,000 years of history and during this time its wall has saved the city on more than one occasion. As well as being a defensive structure the wall has been the backdrop to ceremonies and punishments.

From here turn right onto Bailey Street, turn left into Northernhay Place then up the hill into Northernhay Gardens. Follow the higher path by the wall until you arrive just below Athelstan's Tower (opposite the bandstand) and discover why the wall was built...



Athelstan's Tower

### 2. Northernhay Gardens

The first major settlement of Exeter was by the Roman 2nd Augustan Legion in 55AD. A stonewall protected this strategically important position. After the departure of the Romans the city was virtually abandoned but life was re-established in Saxon times. Here you can clearly see the various types of stone that were used at different times.

Follow the path up the steps and continue through Athelstan's Tower. Take the first path to your right, after 100 metres you will be at...

### 3. Norman Gatehouse

Although not strictly part of the wall, the castle was an important part of the city's defences. Built in 1068 following the Norman siege of Exeter, it established a foothold of control for the Normans over the previously rebellious citizens of Exeter. This gatehouse is the oldest standing castle building in Britain.



On leaving the Norman Gatehouse walk back through Rougemont Gardens into Northernhay Gardens (stop to notice the herringbone structure of the wall). Turn left, then cross Queen Street onto Northernhay Street, after 50 metres turn into Maddocks Row. At the end of Maddocks Row turn right into Paul Street and proceed to the traffic lights at the south end of the Iron Bridge. You are now at the site of...

### 4. North Gate

This was the site of one of the smallest of the city's four main gates. It was burnt down during the Perkin Warbeck Rebellion of 1497 and also damaged during the Prayer Book Rebellion of 1549.

Cross the traffic lights and go straight ahead into Bartholomew Street East. Keeping the railings on your right, walk straight down the path to Bartholomew Terrace. At the end you will find more about...

Can you spot the wyvern at North Gate pointing to the four gateways of Exeter?

### 5. Snayle Tower

On the corner of Bartholomew Terrace in front of you once stood a large semi-circular tower that dominated the defences to the west of the city. It offered an excellent observation point for the many sieges of the city particularly during the English Civil War.

Continue to the end of Bartholomew Street West. Cross Fore Street, walking down the hill to the end of West Street. You are now at the site of...

### 6. West Gate

This gate was the main entrance to the city from Plymouth and Cornwall and was a particularly busy place at the height of the woollen cloth trade.

Cross Western Way at the pedestrian crossing. Turn left and walk uphill to the first turning on your right (Lower Coombe Street) and proceed onto cobbled Quay Hill, at the bottom you will be at...

Take a stroll to the next page...



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