



Green Link Walk

Section 3 of 4 Regent's Canal to Bankside

Section start:	Islington (Colebrook Row)
Travel to start:	Angel tube station or bus (see page 10)
Section finish:	Bankside by Tate Modern
Travel from finish:	Blackfriars rail/tube stations or bus (see page 10)
Section distance:	2.5 miles plus two short station links

Introduction

The waymarking for this section is continuous and generally clear but there were gaps at the time we did our research. It can take a moment to spot the Green Link Walk signs where there is much street furniture. The City of London has plans to make substantial improvements along its part of this section.

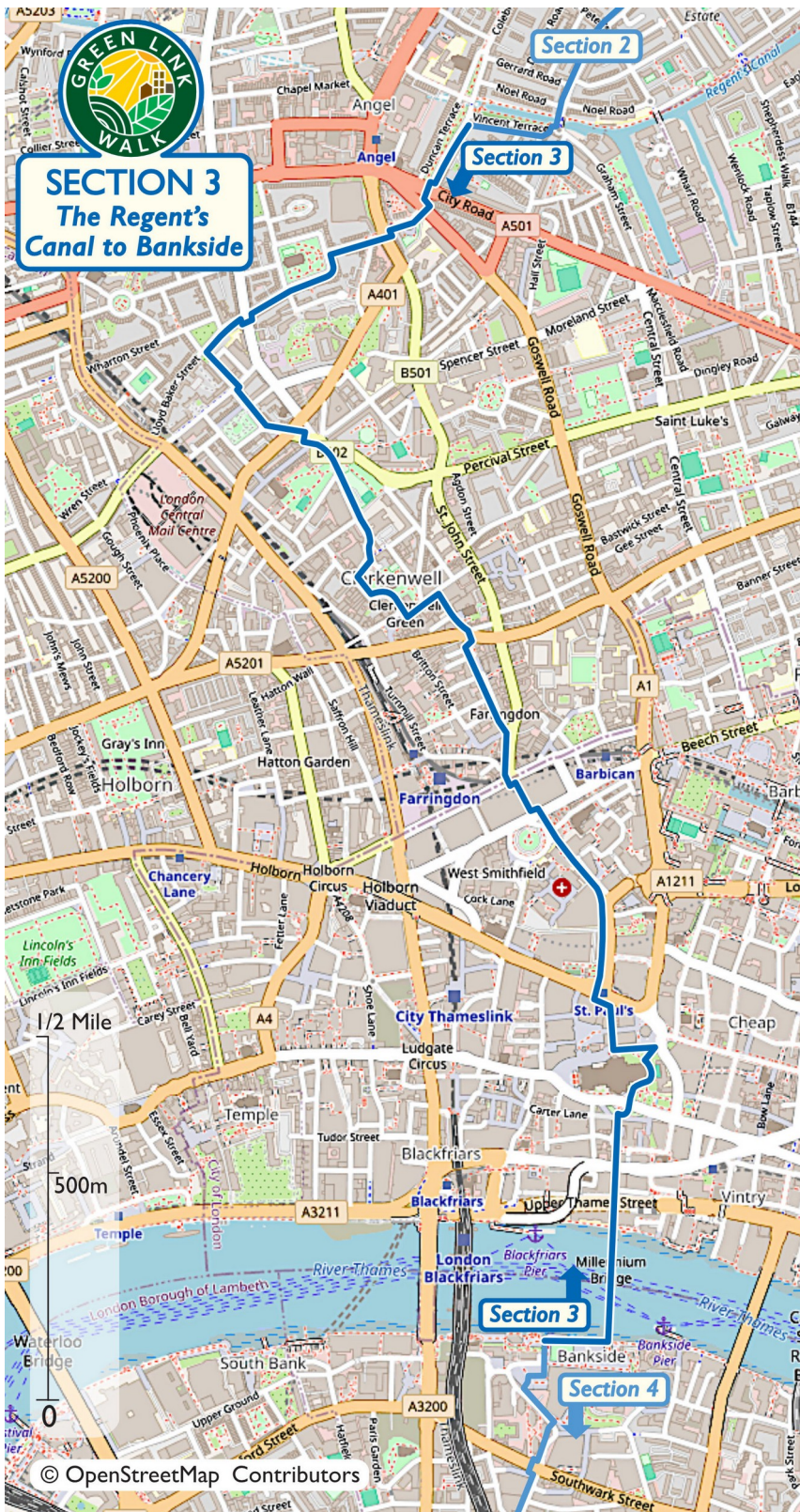
The signed route is step free and surfaced throughout so it is accessible for wheelchairs and pushchairs. (The guidance in the [Go Jauntly app](#) is particularly helpful to anyone following the accessible route.)

The route passes close to many places of interest that are highlighted on our maps and listed with brief details and internet links on pages 3 and 4. Our walk guidance includes some alternative routes and diversions to visit more of the green spaces on the route. These suggestions generally do not meet wheelability standards.

There are numerous opportunities to stop for refreshments. WCs that are open to the public are shown on our maps.

Updates: before setting off on this walk, please check with the Green Link Walk page on the [Inner London Ramblers web-site](#) to make sure that there are no obstacles that might affect your ability to complete the section as described. If you come across a problem on the walk, [please let us know by email](#).

Overview map of section 3



Points of interest

[Duncan Terrace Gardens](#) were once the course of the New River which still supplies 9% of London's water but now ends at Stoke Newington.

[St Mark's Church](#) in Myddelton Square was paid for by the New River Company. The church was bombed in the Second World War. A 'modern' new interior was constructed in the late 1950s. The very fine stained glass dates from the early 1960s.

[The Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration](#) is due to open in 2025. It is housed in an early 19th century former pumping station built by the New River Company.

[Lloyd Square](#) is approached past a corner shop, once a dairy, with an attractive frontage. The square was once part of the Lloyd-Baker estate and is lined with fine houses from the early 1840s. There is a good view from the northern side of the square.

[Charles Rowan House](#) was designed for the Metropolitan Police as married quarters for officers. The architect, [Gilbert Mackenzie Trench](#), is credited with designing the Police Telephone Box of 1929, now largely identified as a 'Tardis'.

[Wilmington Square](#) is lined with Georgian and very early Victorian terraces. The prominent public shelter in the square's garden dates from 1931.

[Exmouth Market](#) has hosted an open street market since 1890 and after some years of decline it was revived in 2006. The Market trades only on weekdays.

[Our Most Holy Redeemer](#) is an Italianate church in Exmouth Market. It was built between 1888 and 1895. It is a traditional Catholic Church.

[The Finsbury Health Centre](#) is a notable example of 20th century architecture. completed in 1938. It was designed by [Berthold Lubetkin](#). It is a Grade I listed building.

[The London Metropolitan Archives](#) specialises in the history of London, providing access to the historical archives of businesses, schools, hospitals, charities and other organisations.

[St James Clerkenwell](#) was built in 1792 and is a particularly fine church. Its magnificent interior is well worth a look when open.

[The Museum of the Order of St John](#) is in the buildings of the Order that stretch from the northern end of St John's Lane. The first, if walking from the north, has gates that lead into a splendid garden, St John's Churchyard.

[Smithfield Market](#) has been London's principal meat market for almost 1,000 years. The current buildings were erected in 1888 to the design of Horace Jones. Beneath is [a labyrinth that was once a railway goods yard](#). The market is expected to move to a new location after 2028.

[The oldest house in the City of London](#) is in Cloth Fair and predates the great fire. Its construction began before 1600 and, thanks to belonging to a series of sympathetic owners, it still appears as first built.

[St Bartholomew the Great](#) was built as part of a priory in the 12th century. Much of the original church was destroyed after the dissolution of the priory in 1539. Restoration work took place in the 19th and 20th centuries.

[St Bartholomew the Less](#) is nearby and, whilst ancient, it is younger than St Bartholomew the Great. It contains an ancient frame from which the bells are hung. The oldest bell was cast in 1380.

[Postman's Park](#) is the common name for the G. F. Watts memorial to heroic self sacrifice. It features plaques with informative inscriptions commemorating those who died in the London area whilst saving others.

[Christchurch Greyfriars Garden](#) is based on the ruins of a church built to Sir Christopher Wren's design in 1687. The interior was lost in the Second World War and half the surviving walls were demolished in 1970 for road widening.

[Temple Bar](#) is the only surviving gate to the City of London. It stood where the Strand meets Fleet Street for 200 years. In 1878 it was dismantled. Then between 1888 and 2001 it was a feature of Theobalds Park in Hertfordshire. It is now an entrance to Paternoster Square.

[St Paul's Cathedral](#) is a place of Christian worship that supports the work of the Bishop of London. Christopher Wren rebuilt the cathedral after the great fire of 1666.

[The National Firefighters Memorial](#) is now the memorial to all who have died whilst serving in fire brigades.

[The Millennium Bridge](#) opened in June 2000 but closed later the same day because it 'wobbled' when loaded with pedestrians. The bridge reopened in 2002 after modifications to the design.

[The Tate Modern](#) was formerly Bankside power station which had operated between 1952 and 1981. The building opened as an art gallery in 2000.

Walking directions

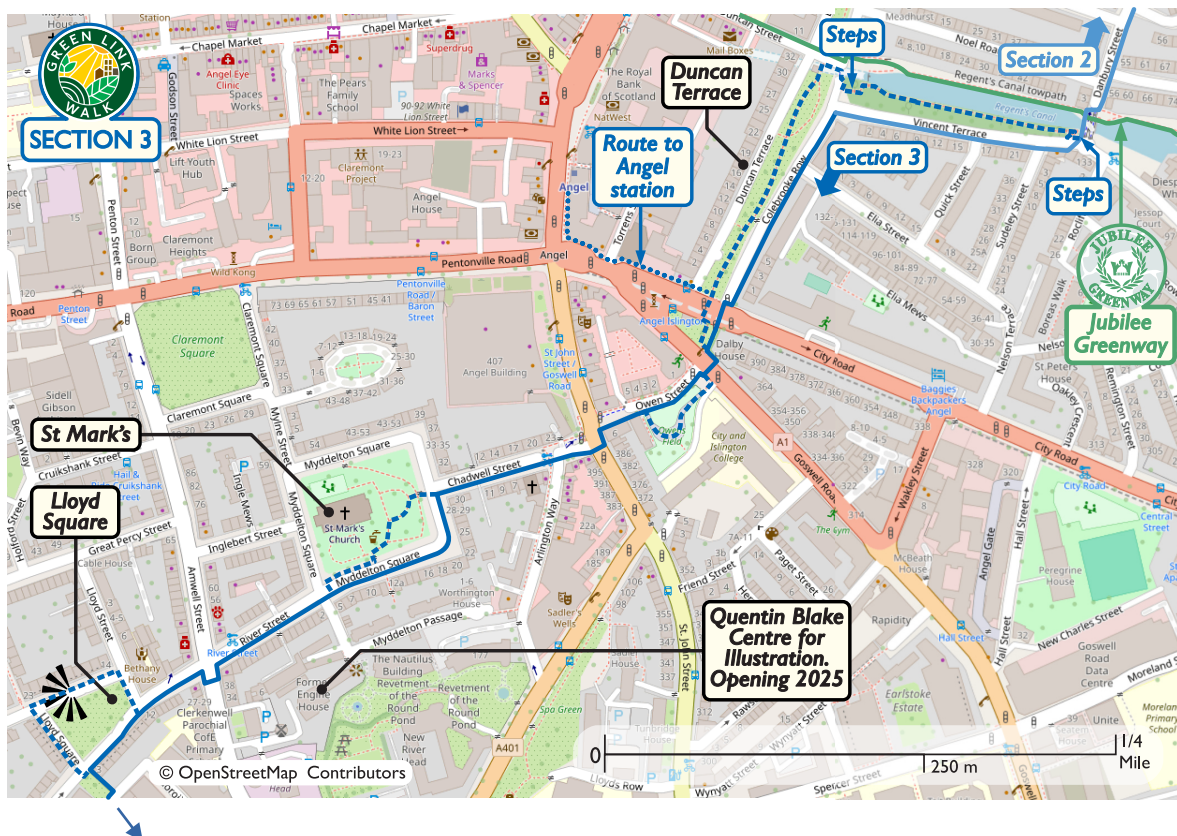
From the end of section 2, turn left at the end of Vincent Terrace to walk to the end of Colebrook Row. Bear right at the end to cross a main road (City Road) at the lights.

Alternative route

From the end of Vincent Terrace, turn right for a very short distance along Colebrook Row, then take the first left into Duncan Street. After a few steps turn left again through a gate into Duncan Terrace Gardens. Walk the length of the gardens to emerge through a gate. Cross the main road at the lights just to the left.

Walk over a paved area ahead, then turn left to a second crossing over Goswell Road. Keep ahead along Owen Street to the right of Owens Field (or follow the curving path through the field bending right through a gate to Owen Street).

Go over the road (St John Street) using the crossing just to the right of the end of Owens Street. Turn left from the crossing, then immediately right along Chadwell Street.



To keep on the waymarked route, turn left when you reach Myddelton Square. Walk along the outside pavement of the square. Turn right at the first corner and then at the next corner keep ahead along River Street.

Alternative route

Arriving at Myddelton Square, keep ahead through a gate into the churchyard. Follow the path to the left of the church. Walk diagonally left to a gate to emerge into Myddelton Square again. Turn right to continue to the corner of the Square. Now keep ahead along River Street.

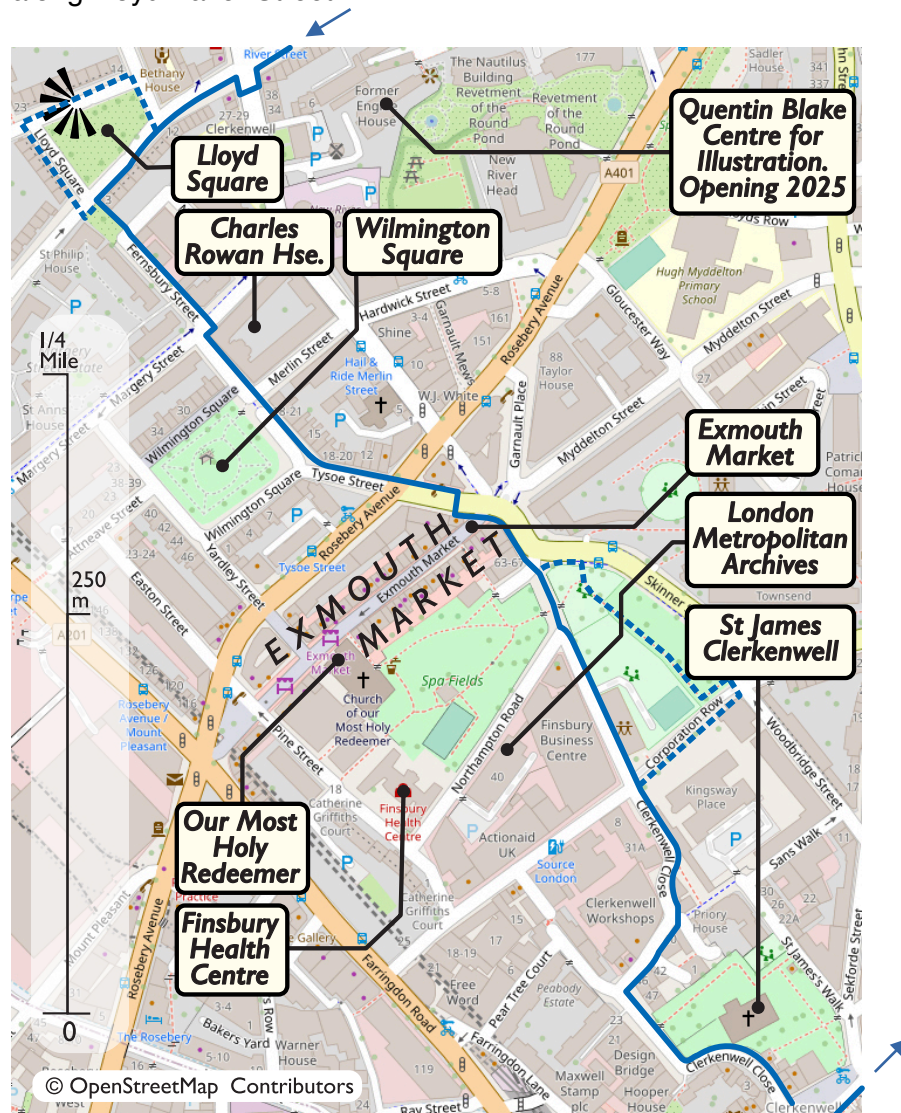
At the next junction cross Amwell Street using the pedestrian crossing just to the left. From the crossing, turn right, then immediately left to continue in the same direction as before along Lloyd Baker Street.

Walk down to the left of Lloyd Square. At the south west corner of the Square, turn left on a footpath between railings.

Alternative route

Take the long way round the square to enjoy a fine view over London towards the BT Tower. When you get to the south west corner keep ahead on the footpath between railings.

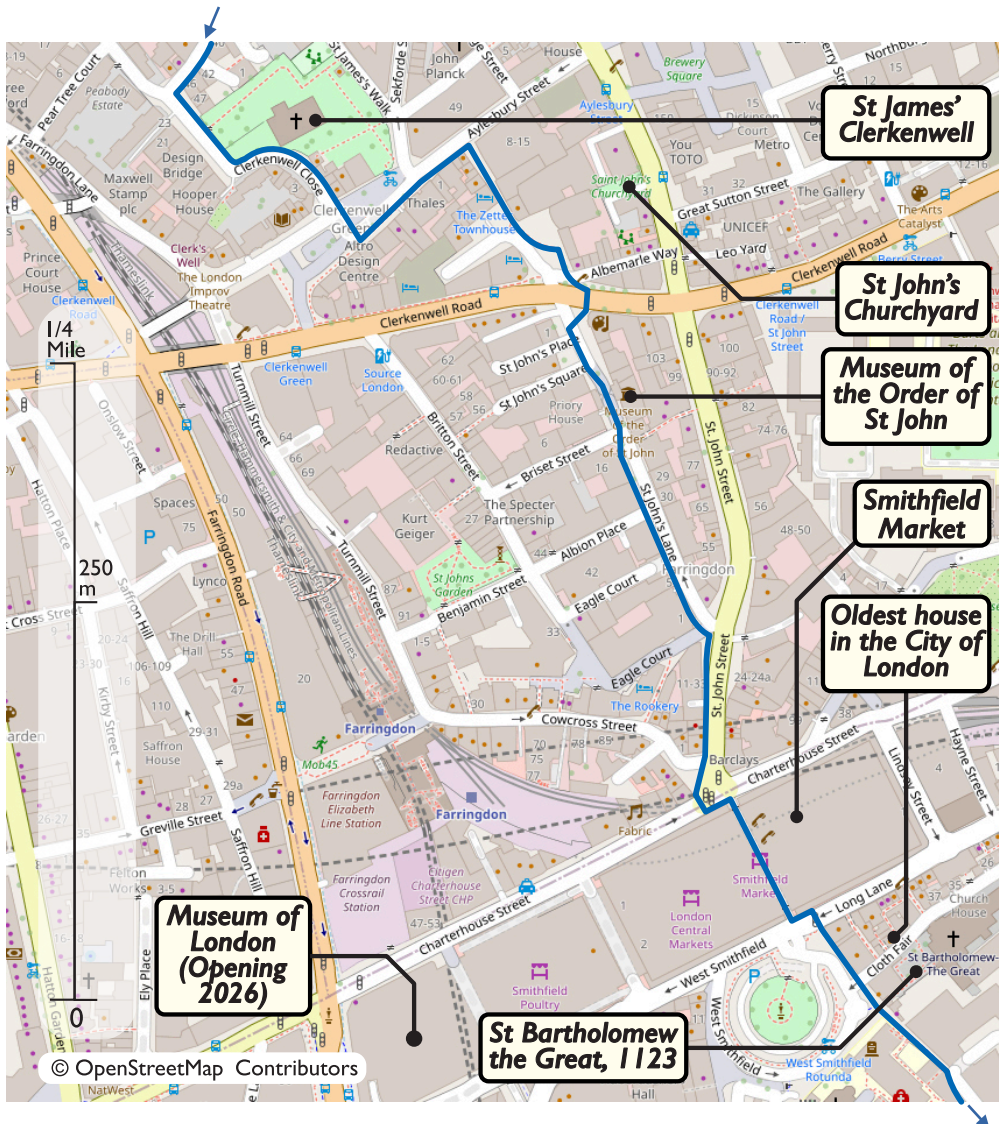
Pass a barrier at the end and keep ahead down Fernsbury Street. Use the crossing at the end of this street (over Margery Street) to keep ahead along Wilmington Street.



Pass Wilmington Square on your right. (You can enter through the gate in the fence to enjoy the gardens.) Beyond the gardens, bear left down Tysoe Street. Cross Rosebery Avenue to continue along Tysoe Street. Cross at the pedestrian crossing, then continue past the end of Exmouth Market. Bear right as the street becomes Rosoman Street. Next keep ahead through bollards where the road bends left (becoming Skinner Street) and Rosoman Street becomes pedestrianised. Walk through Spa Fields.

Alternative route

To make more of the green space, follow the road round into Skinner Street. Almost immediately turn right through a gate down steps into a playground. Follow the surface path ahead to pass an adventure playground on your right. Curve left at the end through a gate. Turn sharp right along Corporation Row. Walk to the end and then turn left back on the waymarked route.



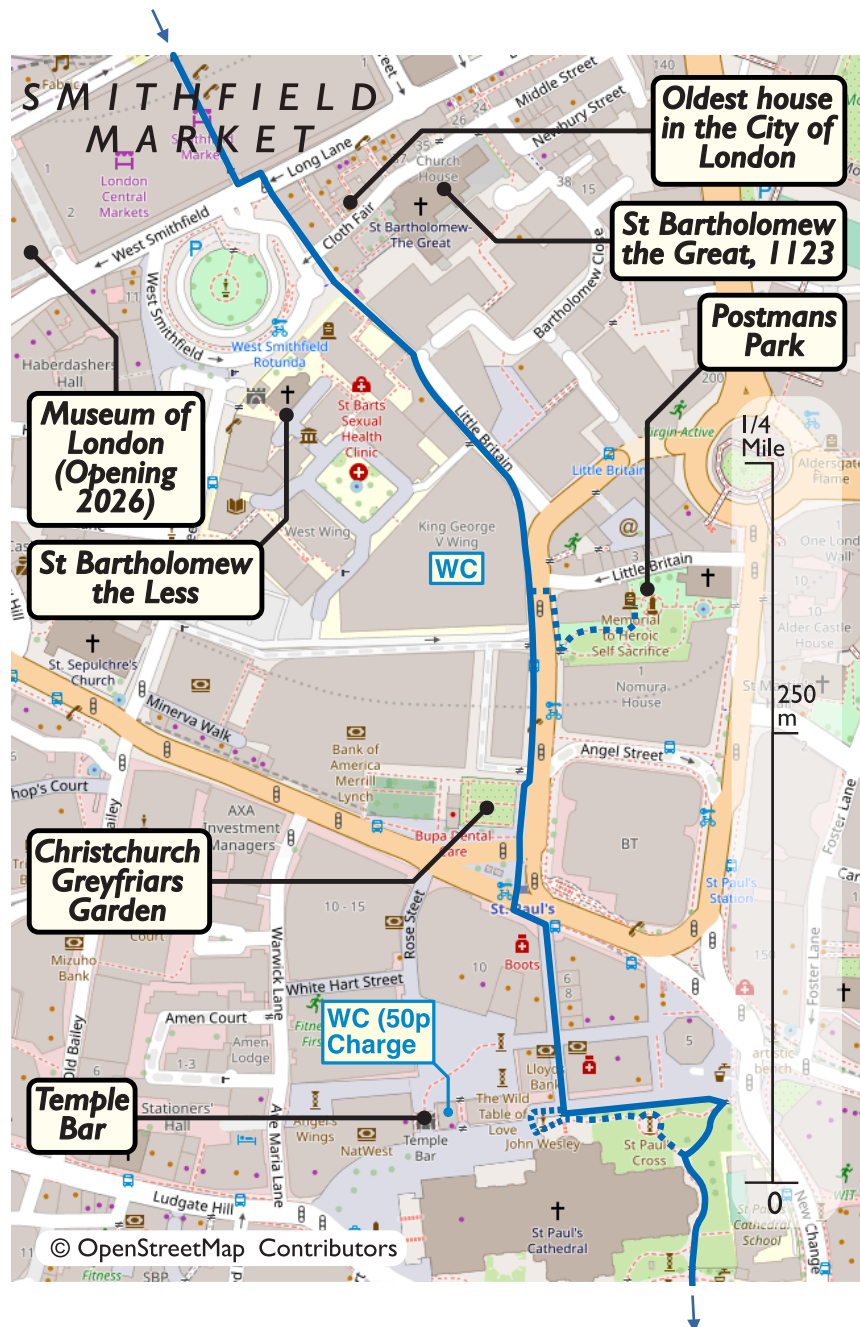
Keep ahead along Northampton Road towards a church spire. Continue as the road becomes Clerkenwell Close which winds its way around the church. Bear right and then left past the Clerkenwell Workshop. Bend right again and then turn more sharply left to pass the church.

Follow Clerkenwell Close as it turns left and then bends right past the steps down from the entrance to St James Clerkenwell church. Turn left along Aylesbury Street at the corner by the Crown Tavern. Keep to the right of 49 Clerkenwell Green. Shortly turn right down Jerusalem Passage.

Bear slightly left to cross the Clerkenwell Road, then continue ahead across St John's Square to walk under the arch past the entrance to the Museum of the Order of St John.

Keep ahead along St John's Lane. At the end, bear right along St John Street towards the old Smithfield Market. Cross Charterhouse Street at the lights to walk through the covered Grand Avenue of the former market.

Emerging from the Avenue, cross at the lights and continue ahead along Little Britain. Follow little Britain as it bears right towards St Paul's Cathedral and continue ahead along King Edward Street.



Worthwhile diversion

Cross King Edward Street at the pedestrian lights just before the entrance to St Bartholomew's Hospital. Keep on in the same direction as before for a very short distance and then turn left into Postman's Park. Walk through the park until you can turn left to see the memorials to heroic self-sacrifice on the wall under the angled roof. Return to the route by the way you came.

Pass the garden of the bombed out Christchurch Greyfriars Church. Cross two roads at the lights (King Edward Street and then Newgate Street).

Turn left after crossing the second road and then immediately right to continue in the same direction as before towards the cathedral along Queens Head Passage. Cross Paternoster Row into Canon Alley.

The gate ahead at the end of the alley is likely to be locked. The waymarked route goes left beside railings of the churchyard. Walk to the end. Just before the main road ahead, turn sharp right through a gate into the churchyard.



Fork left to walk round the east end of the cathedral, then keep ahead to leave through a gate.

Alternative route

When you reach the closed gate of the churchyard at the end of Canon Alley, turn right, then left, following round the railings to go left again through a gate into the churchyard. Bend right past the pillar, continuing round close to the cathedral to leave through a gate.

Keep ahead across the Festival Garden, passing a bust of John Donne on a low pillar, to reach the main road (Cannon Street). Turn right to cross the road at the lights. Now keep ahead down Sermon Lane towards the Millennium Bridge and Tate Britain, passing the memorial to the firefighters who died during the Second World War.

Cross Queen Victoria Street at the lights to keep ahead over the footbridge. On the far side of the Millennium Bridge, take the ramp down to the riverside, then turn left. Walk upriver beside the Thames past the Tate Modern and its garden. Turn left at the west end of Tate Modern to start section 4.

Travel to and from section 3

Travel options to the start of the section

By train: Turn right from the exit out of Angel tube station (Northern line). Walk along the pavement with Upper Street on your left. Take the first right down Duncan Street just after The York public house. Turn right at the end of the street along Colebrook Row to join the waymarked route. Alternatively turn right through the gate into Duncan Terrace Gardens just before the end of the street.

By bus: Many buses stop near to Angel tube station including the 4, 30, 43, 56, 73, 205, 214, 274, 341, 394 and 476.

Travel options from the end of the section

By train: Continue beside the Thames beyond the end of section 3 and the start of section 4. Curve left, then right, around the Founder's Arms. You shortly reach the south bank entrance to Blackfriars rail station.

The entrance to the tube station (Circle and District lines) is on the north bank. There is step-free access via lifts from the south bank by crossing the rail station platform. There is no charge for using the platform to cross so long as you do enter the tube station.

By bus: Several buses stop near to the station including the 40, 63 and 381.