

# TOWN STROLL

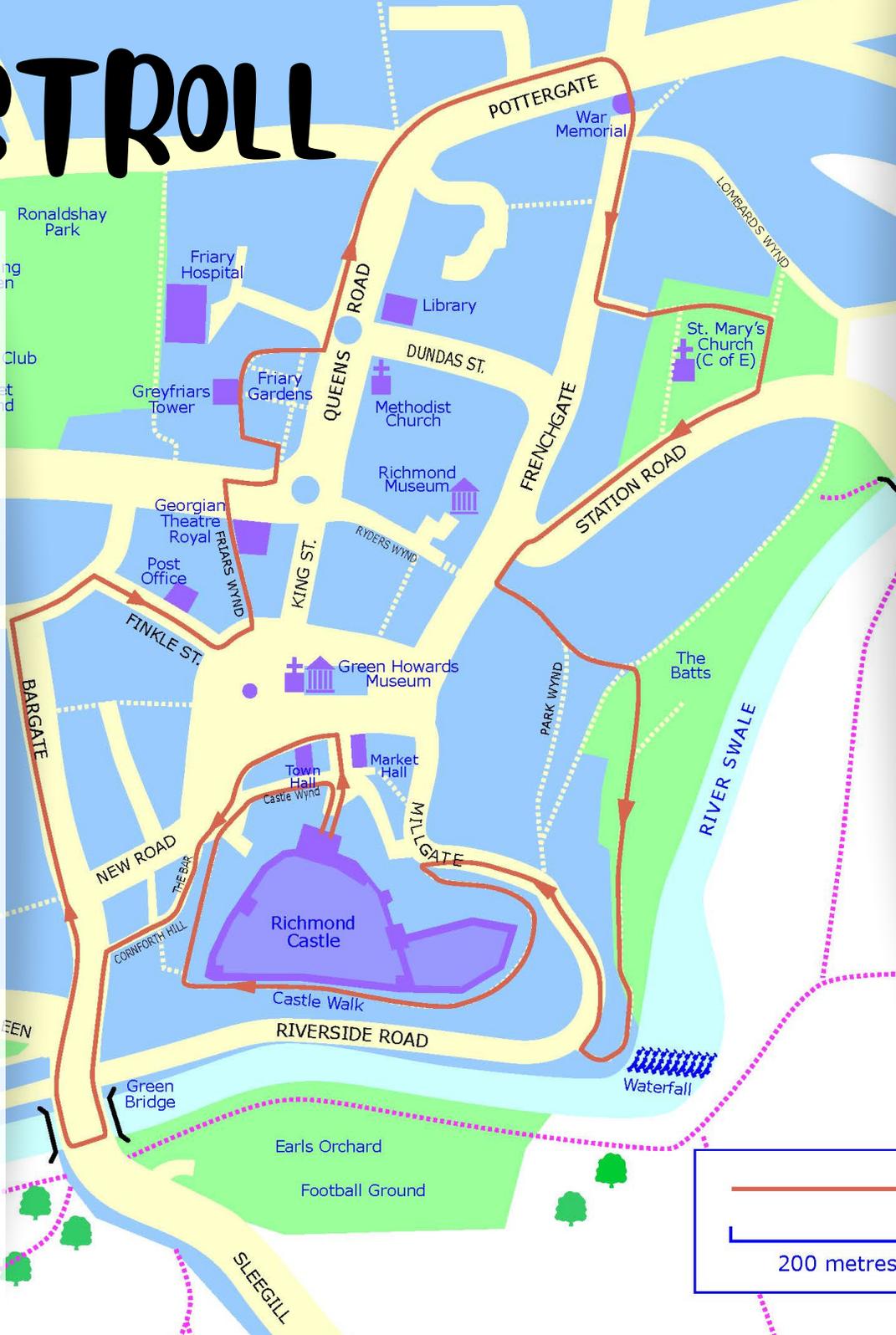
**START** at the castle and walk towards the market-place, turning left at the corner of the Town Hall pub.

From the corner of the market-place walk a short distance down New Road. Then turn left down the narrow lane called The Bar.

Pass through the Bar and go down Cornforth Hill, turn left and go towards the Green Bridge.

Admire the view from the bridge then go back to The Green, walk back up Bridge Street to Bargate and up towards Newbiggin, turning right at the top of the hill then right again into Finkle Street and ahead to the market place.

Turn left into Friars Wynd and walk to the end of the passage.



Turn right, cross Victoria Road and enter Friary Gardens.

Leave Friary Gardens and turn left into Queens Road, follow the road to Pottergate, cross over and continue to The Green Howards War Memorial.

Descend the step into Frenchgate and walk down the cobbles, turning left down Church Wynd to St Mary's Parish Church. Walk downwards through the churchyard, bearing right towards a metal gate.

Turn right out of the churchyard into Station Road and walk up the hill turning left into Frenchgate.

Pass Swale House then turn left down Park Wynd to The Batts and the river. Walk upstream to the Falls then join the road to walk up Millgate, turning back on yourself at the top to join Castle terrace and then on to Castle Walk.

At the end of Castle Walk, go straight ahead into Castle Wynd to finish back at the castle.

Richmond Town Trail

200 metres approx.

# TOWN STROLL

The town stroll is about **1.5 miles (2.5km)** long, with some steep hills.  
**After all, this is Richmond!**

**Richmond Castle.** Started by Alan Rufus in 1071 to help impose the rule of the Norman invaders, the impressive keep was built in the 12th century.

**Market place.** Horseshoe-shaped and originally the outer bailey of the castle, the town's civilian population had taken it over by the early 1300s. Richmond markets drew traders from as far as Lancashire and Cumbria, particularly for corn and leather. Once home to the stocks and pillory, a Shambles and the market cross, replaced in 1771 by the obelisk above a reservoir. In the centre, Trinity Church has had many uses over the years, incorporating shops, warehouses and a school chapel. Around the marketplace, the buildings mainly date from the town's Georgian heyday; spot their impressive doorways, hand made bricks and rectangular windows. The Town Hall was built as an assembly room in 1756.

**The Bar.** This narrow lane was once an important pedestrian route into the Market Place. The small gateway at the lower end is one of the few remaining fragments of the medieval town wall built in 1311.

**The Green Bridge.** Built in 1788–9. Spot the milestone giving the distances to Askrigg and Lancaster, evidence that this was the start of the Richmond-Lancaster Turnpike Road. It was the town's only bridge until the railway station needed access to the town and a second bridge was built downstream in 1846.

**The Green.** Medieval Richmond's industrial area, with tanneries, corn and fulling mills, a brewery and nail-makers. You can see Culloden Tower, built as a folly by MP John Yorke in the grounds of his mansion marking victory against the Scots at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.

Before the Norman Conquest, there were Norse and Danish invasions. Local street names show that influence. 'Wynd' means narrow lane, 'gate' means street, and 'biggin' means settlement. Newbiggin was an area developed soon after the castle was begun, but now boasts some elegant Georgian town houses.

'Finkle' means crooked, and where Finkle Street changes direction there stood a larger Bar (demolished in 1773) allowing wheeled vehicles to enter the medieval walled town.

**Friars Wynd.** The tramlines were created so heavy goods trollies could move between Robert Spence's market place ironmongery and his warehouses in the Wvnd. Pass through Richmond's second surviving postern gate in the town wall, giving medieval inhabitants access to drinking water at the nearby Friary.

**Friary Gardens.** Once home to the Greyfriars, a religious order founded in 1258 just outside the walled medieval town. The belfry tower was added to the church in about 1500.

**St Mary's.** Largely rebuilt in the 19th century, but known to have existed in 1135. The Grammar School, re-founded by Queen Elizabeth I in 1567, stood in the churchyard until it was replaced in 1850 with the building across the road overlooking the river.

**The Batts.** The open green space beside the river is called the Batts. In the past, the river powered waterwheels for grinding corn, fulling cloth, papermaking and sawing wood. The Falls, in dialect called the Foss, may have helped determine the original site of the castle as it provided an excellent site for a mill.

**Castle Walk.** Offering stunning views out over the Swale, the Green bridge and Culloden Tower, but don't forget to look up and marvel at the impressive castle walls.