

STAMFORD CHILDREN'S TOWN TRAIL



15 must see places chosen by children for children.

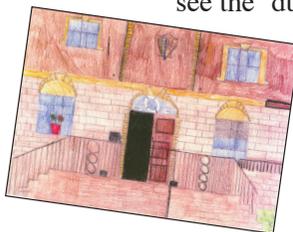
1 The Arts Centre is an old building which was not originally built as an arts centre. You can watch a play or a film, go to the café and take part in lots of activities, some of them in the Georgian ballroom.



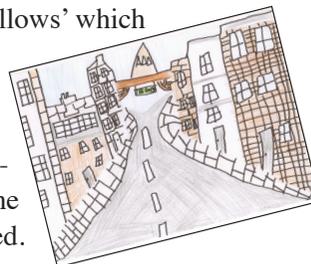
2 St Mary's Church stands up high over the town with its tall spire, surrounded by Georgian buildings, and dates back nearly 900 years.



3 The Town Hall, built in 1778, is used as council offices and was the magistrates' court. You can book a tour around the building and see the 'dungeons'. There is also an exhibition of items belonging to the famous conductor, Sir Malcolm Sargent, who was brought up in Stamford.



4 The George Hotel 'Gallows'. One of the ancient hotel's interesting details is the historic 'gallows' which were built across the road in the 18th century to welcome travellers and as a warning to highwaymen. It is said that the 'gallows' were never used.



5 Daniel Lambert's Grave. Daniel Lambert was born in Leicester on 13 March 1770 and died suddenly during a visit to Stamford to watch the races in 1809. His coffin was built on wheels and needed nearly 20 men to lower it into his grave in the graveyard behind St Martin's Churchyard.



6 The Meadows. Once called the water meadows, this is where the River Welland splits into two separate channels which enclose the town meadows. A short distance upstream you can spot where it was said that Queen Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni tribe, pursued the Roman legions over the River Welland.



7 The Castle Walls. This is all that remains of the Norman castle and is probably part of the Great Hall. The first wooden castle was built around 1068 as a standard motte and bailey fortification.



8 The Queen Eleanor Cross. Queen Eleanor, married to King Edward I, died near Lincoln in 1290 and her body was taken to be buried in London. Edward had crosses built where her body rested overnight on the way to London. One of the resting places was Stamford. The original 'Cross' has gone and this is a modern recreation.



9 Red Lion Square

is one of the oldest market places in Stamford and is in the centre of the town. There is a 600 year old Guildhall at building numbers 6 & 7. A new sundial has been put up on the south wall of All Saints' Church, overlooking the Square.



10 Barn Hill

is a picturesque cobbled street and includes Barn Hill House, Stamford's largest house. Stukeley House, at number 9, is rumoured to stand on the ground where Charles I spent his last night before capture by the Roundheads in 1646.



11 The Recreation Ground

was created in 1871 from what used to be open fields outside the town's walls. There is a play area, bandstand and hopefully there will be a new skatepark soon.



12 Browne's Hospital

was founded as an almshouse for 12 poor people in 1475 by a rich wool merchant, William Browne. It is open some summer weekends when you can see where the people lived, with some of the original furnishings.



13 The Corn Exchange

opened in 1859, was originally where people bought and sold corn, but it has had several different uses. By 1900 it was being used as a cinema. Today it is a theatre - brought back to life and run by volunteers - which attracts many different acts and shows.



14 The Library

- once the site of a market hall - is the home of Discover Stamford, which looks back on the history of the town. There you will find the 6m. long Stamford Tapestry, designed by local people, which took 17 years to make and recreates Stamford's history in wool.



15 Digby House

was built in medieval times and the main part of the house now probably dates back to the early 16th century. There is a large coat of arms of the Digby family on the base of a first floor window. It was rumoured that a Digby ancestor was one of the people involved in the infamous Gunpowder Plot, an attempt on the life of King James I of England in 1605.



Children from Stamford's primary schools have worked with Stamford Civic Society to produce a town trail like no other - 15 must-see places in Stamford chosen by children for children.

Stamford is an ancient town. Its streets are full of historic buildings large and small, all with a story to tell.

The children have chosen locations that they think will interest others of their age. They have researched the information and contributed their own illustrations to accompany their choices.

Karen Neale, a watercolour artist of Stamford and London, has provided a fine map and drawings to help you locate the 15 special places.

We hope you enjoy it.

We would like to thank all who have contributed to the making of Stamford Children's Town Trail:

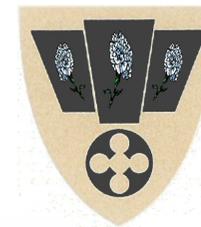
Malcolm Sargent Primary School in partnership with Stamford Civic Society.

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