



Liverpool School of English

LIVERPOOL SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

SELF GUIDED CITY TOUR

WALKING TOUR

2 HOURS



SOCIAL PROGRAMME

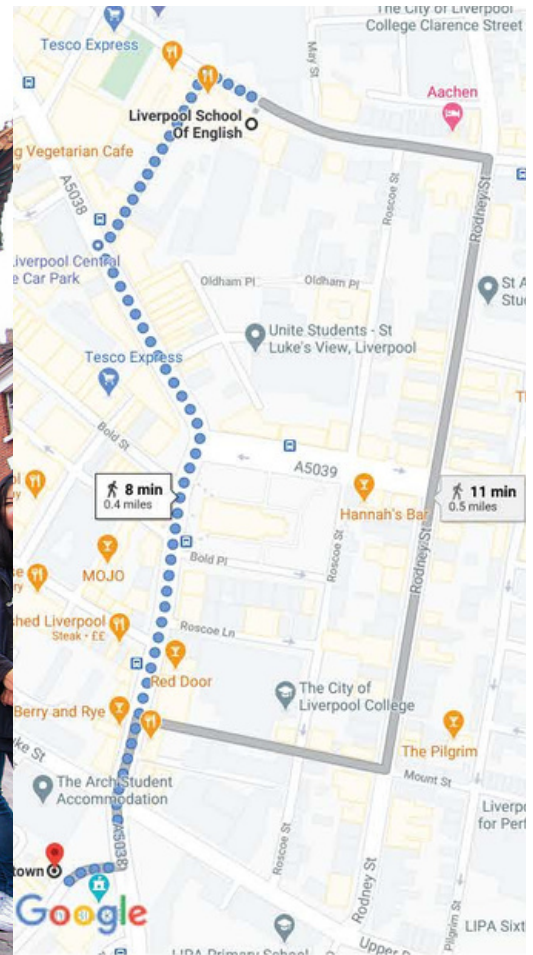
Autumn - 2020

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Chinese Arch

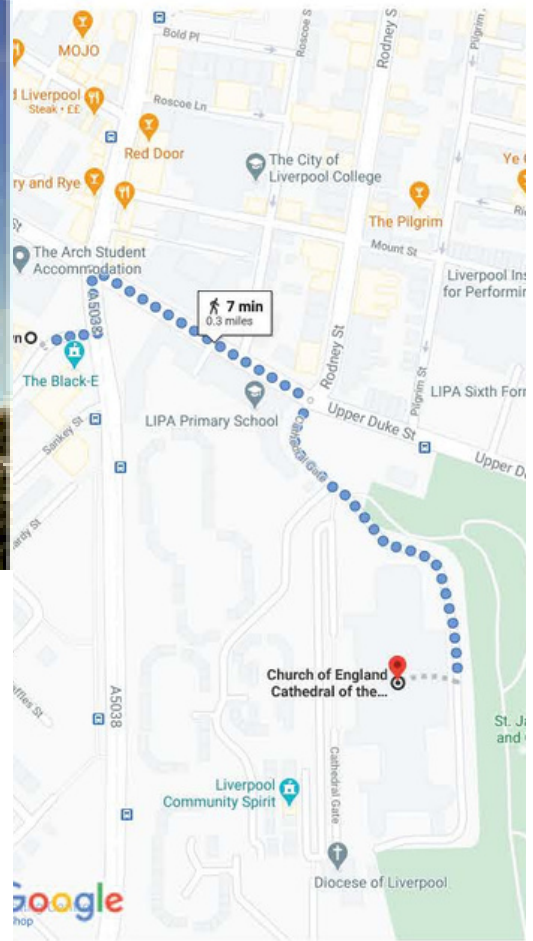
must
see



Like many major cities around the world, Liverpool has its own Chinatown, located at the southern edge of the city centre. Liverpool has had a large Chinese community since the first ships from the Orient began docking in the 1830s, trading silk and wool. Almost 2% of the city's population are of full Chinese descent, whilst high estimates suggest that Liverpool is home to around thirty thousand Chinese people. Initially established in the docklands area, Chinatown was relocated after World War II and continued to expand. In 1992, a regeneration scheme commissioned a ceremonial arch to stand on Nelson Street, marking the entrance to the Chinatown area. The arch was constructed by workers from Liverpool's twin city of Shanghai. Designed with the guidance of the local community, the Chinese Arch was completed in 2000 and opened at the advent of Chinese New Year. Standing 44 feet high, the arch is the tallest in Europe and the second tallest in any Chinatown outside mainland China. The arch boasts 200 hand carved dragons of which 188 are ordinary and 12 are pregnant, the meaning of which is to symbolise good fortune between Liverpool and Shanghai. In 2010 multicoloured, low energy illuminating lights were added to the arch as a way to highlight one of Liverpool's significant structures. Tip: For those who are peckish, this is where you'll find Chinese food until the early morning hours on weekends. Make sure to also check out 'Bon Bon Bakery' on Berry Street for delicious sweets and cakes.

Liverpool Cathedral

must
see



Built on St James' Mount, Liverpool Cathedral is the largest cathedral and religious building in Britain. The total external length of the building, including the Lady Chapel (dedicated to the Blessed Virgin), is 207 yards (189 m) making it the longest cathedral in the world. In terms of overall volume, Liverpool Cathedral ranks as the fifth-largest cathedral in the world and contests with the incomplete Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City for the title of largest Anglican church building. In addition to the sheer size, it has a very striking color, especially during sunset as it was built with red sandstone in the early to mid-twentieth-century. The cathedral's belltower is the largest, and also one of the tallest, in the world, rising to a height of 330 ft. It houses the highest and heaviest ringing peal of bells in the world. One of the cathedral's stained glass windows shows the artisans who designed and built it — Bodley and Scott are both shown, sitting together. The organ, built by Henry Willis & Sons, is the largest pipe organ in the UK and has two five-manual consoles (one sited high up in one of the organ cases and the other, a mobile console, on the floor of the cathedral), 10,268 pipes and a trompette militaire.

Why You Should Visit: Striking from the outside and not like your traditional church inside, where you may find a telephone booth, neon sign, "secret mouse", "whispering arch", plus concerts and interesting exhibits.

Tip: Make sure you take the tour up to the top for the best view in the city, and also spend some time in St. James' Gardens just outside, as some of the gravestones are really interesting. There's also a lovely café upstairs (by lift) where you can look down at the nave whilst enjoying morning coffee or a reasonably-priced light lunch.

Opening Hours: Daily: 8am-6pm Free admission

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

must
see

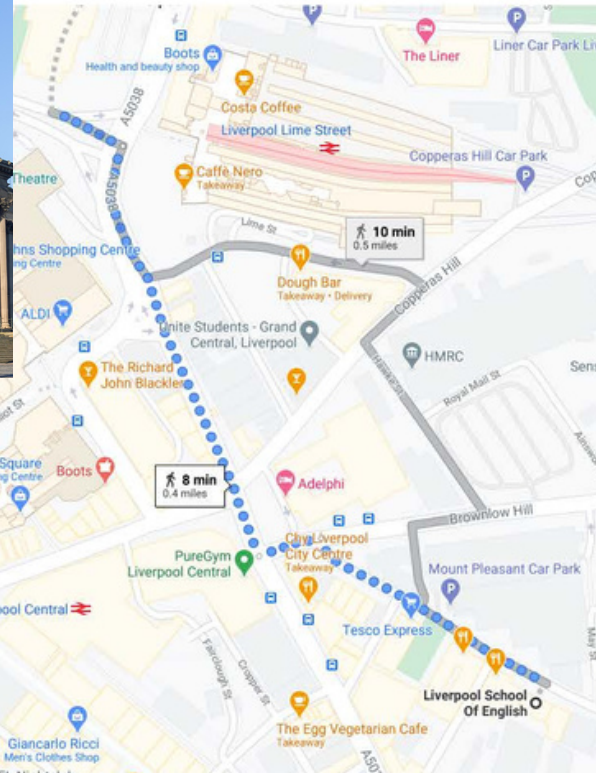


The Metropolitan Cathedral, dedicated to Catholic worship (as the so-called "Liverpool Cathedral" is Anglican), is a recent building, built in the 1960s, which nevertheless inserts harmoniously in the English city environment. Interestingly, this cathedral is not the first, but the fourth in a long series of projects, constructions and failures. It seems that when construction started, they intended it to be a huge building – even bigger than St. Peter's Basilica – but the war and the economic crisis paralyzed the process. Nevertheless, there is something intriguing about the modernity of its architecture, as the word "cathedral" always evokes high towers, statues of saints, and old wooden. Instead, exploring the Cathedral's majestic interior reveals modern works of art and stunning design features, such as its striking Lantern Tower – the world's largest area of coloured glass. Of special note is the magnificent Lutyens Crypt and Treasury. An architectural gem in its own right, the Crypt is one of the most significant works in the UK of the leading British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens. Tip: Make sure to visit before the crypt closes for the day (3:30pm); also, try and go on a sunny day when the sunshine lights up the modern stained glass. With luck maybe come in times of an art exhibition, or in times of organ concerts and/or classical music! Opening Hours: Daily: 7:30am-5:30pm Closing time is provisional and may be subject to change. Admission is free, although a donation is suggested to parish funds.

St. George's Hall

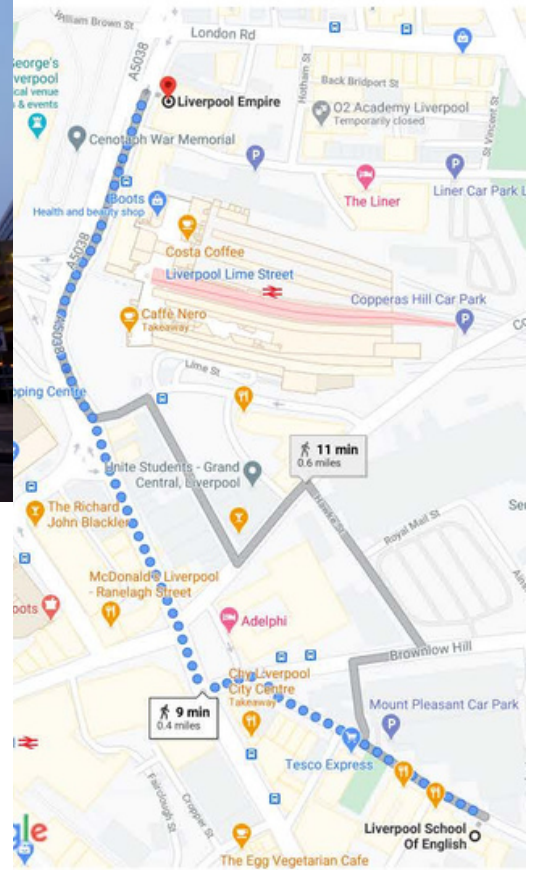


St. George's Hall Liverpool



A fine example of Liverpool's neoclassical architecture, this Grade I listed building's Greek-columned facade is both impressive and imposing. The St. George's Hall hosts social events, including live music, and is open for visitors free of charge. Also, you can also book a guided tour online and be greeted by the friendliest of guides welcoming you to spend well a few hours inside. The main entrance is in the centre of the east façade and is approached by a wide flight of steps. The front has a central portico of 16 Corinthian columns flanked on each side by series of square pillars. Between these pillars are reliefs which were added between 1882 and 1901. The roof is a tunnel vault carried on columns of polished red granite. The walls have niches for statues and the panelled plasterwork of the vault has allegorical figures of Virtues, Science and Arts. The highly decorated floor consists of 30,000 Minton tiles. The doors are bronze and have openwork panels which incorporate the letters SPQL (the Senate and the People of Liverpool) making an association with ancient Rome. The organ is at the north end and at the south end is a round arch supporting an entablature between whose columns is a gate leading directly into the Crown Court. The building also houses the world's first air-conditioning system from Victorian times. Why You Should Visit: Wonderful architecture from a time when bureaucracy knew that, if they were going to keep you waiting half an hour to fill in a form, then it may as well be somewhere nice! Tip: Try and find out when the original tile flooring is on show, as that is a perfect time to go (doesn't happen very often). Don't miss the coffee shop on the ground floor – superb value and quite reasonably priced and atmospheric. Opening Hours: Daily: 10am-5pm

Empire Theatre



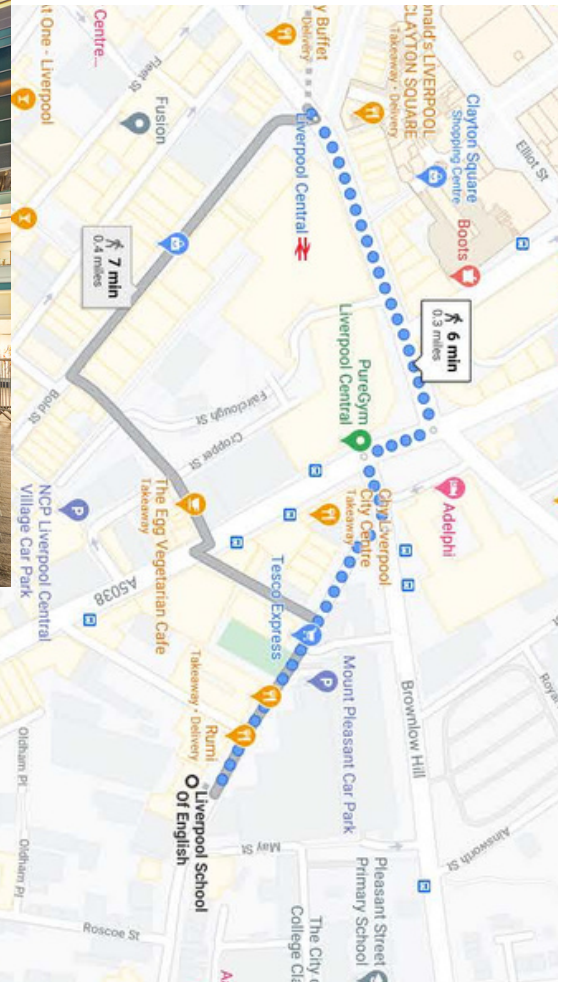
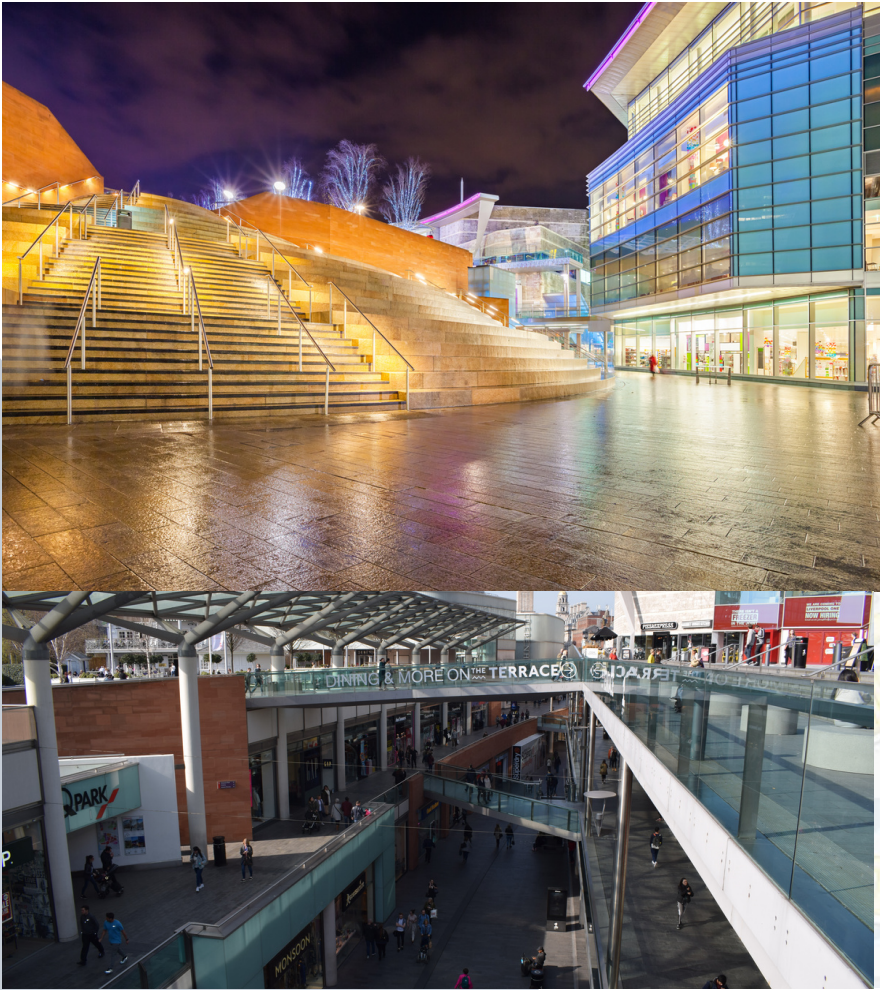
The Empire Theatre is situated on the corner of Lime Street and London Road, a two minute walk from the city's main railway station, Liverpool Lime Street. The theatre is the second to be built at this location, and was opened in 1925. Throughout its 85 year history the Empire Theatre has hosted variety shows, musicals, pop concerts and even opera. Its two tier auditorium is the largest of its kind in the country, with a capacity of 2.350 people. A sell out crowd have witnessed two Royal Command Performances, a Royal Variety Performance in 2007, and even a performance from the city's most famous musical sons, The Beatles. The first theatre to stand on this spot opened in 1866, before being replaced by the current building sixty years later. A Neoclassical building typical of this area of the city, the second Empire Theatre was designed by W. and T.R. Milburn. The theatre is known for its ornate interior, designed in the Louis XVI style and featuring several unusual engravings. A Grade II listed building, the Empire theatre has been renovated and extended several times, and has become one of the region's most successful venues. The theatre still hosts regular plays and touring musical productions.

Radio City Tower



Radio City Tower (also known as St. John's Beacon) is a radio and observation tower in Liverpool, England, built in 1969 and opened by Queen Elizabeth II. It was designed by James A. Roberts Associates in Birmingham. It is 125 metres (410 ft) tall, and is the second tallest free-standing building in Liverpool and the 32nd tallest in the United Kingdom. When considering the height of the building, it has a 10m long antenna on the roof, making it the tallest structure in Liverpool (including antennas). The Tower takes its name from the main radio station that operates from it, Radio City and its sister station Greatest Hits Radio Liverpool & The North West. In 2010, the Radio City Tower's (St John's Beacon) first floor was opened full-time to members of the public on paying an entrance fee. This fee is usually around £5-£6. Visitors can spend as long as they wish in the tower. The gallery gives the opportunity to view Liverpool from a 360° Panoramic view 452 ft (138 m) above Houghton Street. However, visitors cannot walk the full length of the building due to News offices for Radio City and Greatest Hits Radio North West occupying a quarter of the space. Although technically this still gives a 360° view.

Liverpool One



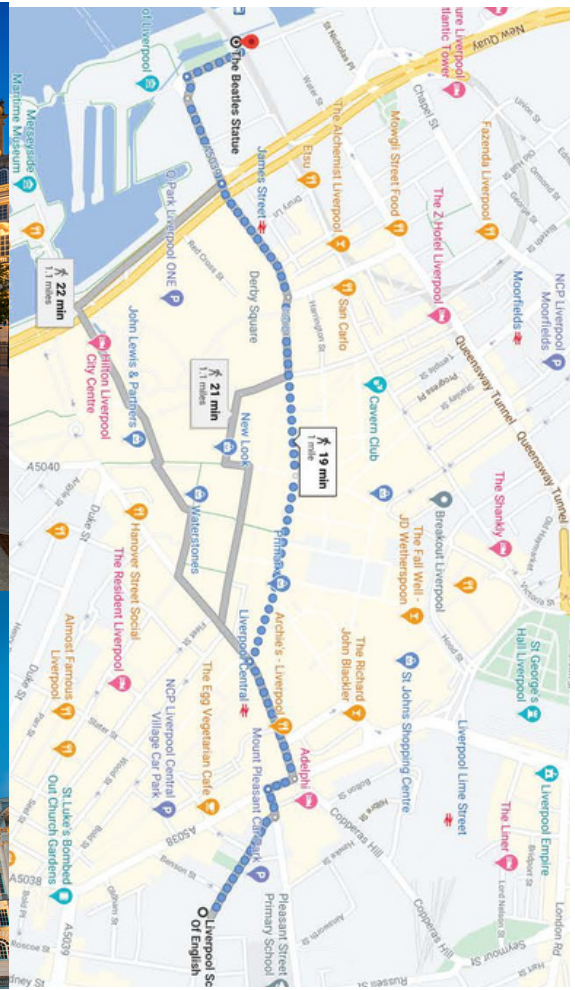
Liverpool ONE is a shopping, residential and leisure complex in Liverpool city center. The shopping center, anchored by department stores Debenhams and John Lewis, offers over 170 stores, bars and restaurants with additional leisure facilities such as a 14-screen Odeon cinema, a 36-hole adventure golf center, and public open space. Liverpool ONE is the largest open-air shopping center in the United Kingdom and the 6th largest overall. Each store was created by a different architect, thereby leading to quite stark differences between some buildings, and this is one way in which Liverpool ONE differentiates itself from other shopping centers. Liverpool ONE is also a great place for fine dining in the city. With over 35 restaurants serving both local and international cuisines, you will have ample dining selections to choose from.

Mathew Street



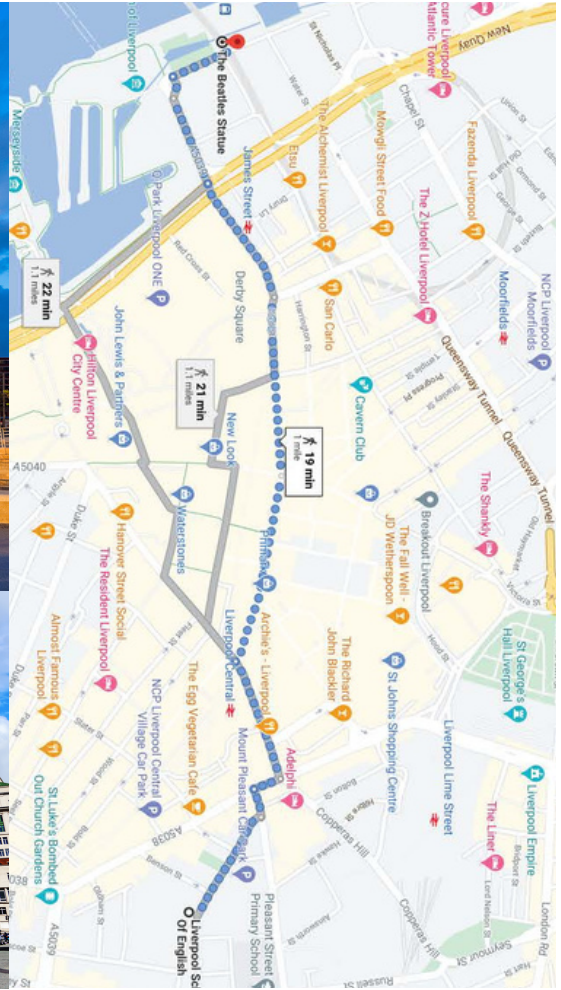
Mathew Street is an unassuming side road in Liverpool city centre that houses a world famous musical attraction – the Cavern Club, the city’s most famous music venue and a place forever associated with the Beatles. The Liverpool four piece, considered by many to be the world’s greatest ever band, played at the venue several times in their early years. As a result, the street is visited by thousands of tourists each year, and is the centre of the Cavern Quarter, a bohemian area of arcades filled with must see attractions for Beatles fans. In addition to the Cavern Club, which is still a hugely popular night-time venue, the street hosts a music festival each August. The largest free festival in Europe, the Mathew Street Festival plays host to dozens of tribute bands – with a Beatles act usually headlining. The street is also notable for the Grapes pub, often frequented by the Fab Four, and an unusual statue by Arthur Dooley, depicting the four band members in a religious pose. The statue, built into the wall on Mathew Street, bears the inscription ‘Four Lads who Shook the World’. The street was also believed to be visited by renowned philosopher Carl Jung; a plaster statue of the great Swiss thinker also stands on the street.

must see



The Pier Head (properly, George's Pier Head) is a riverside location in the city centre of Liverpool. It is part of the Liverpool Maritime Mercantile City UNESCO World Heritage Site, which was inscribed in 2004. As well as a collection of landmark buildings, recreational open space, and a number of memorials, the Pier Head was (and for some traffic still is) the landing site for passenger ships travelling to and from the city. The site encompasses a trio of landmarks, built on the site of the former George's Dock and referred to since at least 1998 as "The Three Graces": Royal Liver Building, Cunard Building, Port of Liverpool Building.

Cunard Building



The Cunard Building is located at the Pier Head and, along with the neighbouring Liver Building and Port of Liverpool Building, is one of Liverpool's Three Graces, which line the city's waterfront. It is also part of Liverpool's UNESCO designated World Heritage Maritime Mercantile City. It was designed by William Edward Willink and Philip Coldwell Thicknesse and was constructed between 1914 and 1917. The building's style is a mix of Italian Renaissance and Greek Revival, and its development has been particularly influenced by Italian palace design. The building is noted for the ornate sculptures that adorn its sides. The building was, from its construction until the 1960s, the headquarters of the Cunard Line, and still retains the name of its original tenants. It was also home to Cunard's passenger facilities for trans-Atlantic journeys that departed from Liverpool. Today, the building is owned by Liverpool City Council and is home to numerous public and private sector organisations, including The British Music Experience. **Why You Should Visit:** While there is no general public access to the building, it can be fully appreciated from all sides via the surrounding public thoroughfares. **Tip:** Consider taking an extra layer of clothing when visiting this attraction, as Liverpool's waterfront can be chilly even on the sunniest days.

Royal Albert Dock & the Waterfront



Albert Dock, a historic complex of docks and warehouses on the banks of the Mersey river, is Liverpool's biggest tourist draw, attracting over 4 million visitors each year. It was built in the 1840s and designed by local architects Jesse Hartley and Philip Hardwick. The new dock was ground-breaking in two ways – one of the first dock complexes to allow direct unloading of cargo into warehouses, it was also the first UK development not to use wood in its construction. The complex was crucial to Liverpool's rapid development as a global trade port, with ivory, sugar, silk and tobacco stored in its five vast warehouses. The dock ceased to function for trade purposes after the outbreak of WWII, instead becoming a base for Royal Navy ships. In the post-war era, Albert Dock fell into disuse, before a redevelopment plan was drawn up in the 1980s. The dock itself was regenerated and hosted the Tall Ships Race in 1983, bringing a million tourists into the city. Gradually, the historic warehouses around the water were renovated and used for a wide range of new attractions. They now host a Maritime Museum, the world's only dedicated Beatles museum, and Liverpool's Tate Gallery. Albert Dock houses the largest collection of Grade I listed buildings in the UK and is the jewel of Liverpool's historic waterfront area. Immediately west of the dock, you will find the Pier Head, a peninsula jutting into the river which houses the Three Graces – three of Liverpool's most famous buildings, including the Royal Liver building. The ornamental birds on the Liver building have become a symbol for the city's university, council, and eponymous football team, Liverpool FC. Why You Should Visit: Industrial heritage, museums (some are free entry), art galleries, countless shops, bars & restaurants – a focal point of Liverpool. The only problem with this place is, it is too big to discover in a single day.