



Explore the West End

Please see trail map overlaid for locations.

- 1. The Gladstone Memorial** commemorates the famous Victorian Prime Minister.
- 2. The Melville Monument** commemorates the British statesman Robert Dundas 2nd Viscount Melville.
- 3. Charlotte Square** designed by the architect Robert Adam in 1791 and regarded as a masterpiece of urban planning.
- 4. St George's West** a grand baroque styled church built between 1866-9, its 56m tall spire is a landmark on the Edinburgh skyline.
- 5. St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral** built 1873 - 9 and designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott, its three gothic spires form a distinctive part of Edinburgh's skyline.
- 6. Horse & Rider** large stylised bronze sculpture by the artist Eoghan Bridge.
- 7. Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art** a must-see venue for modern and contemporary art and home to fantastic sculpture parks.
- 8. Dean Village** a picturesque location on the banks of the Water of Leith, once the centre of the milling industry.
- 9. Caledonian Hotel** opened in 1903 as a luxury hotel for the Caledonian Railway. Many features from the old station clock in Peacock Alley.
- 10. Drumsheugh Baths** built in 1882, and designed with an interesting facade with Moorish detailing.
- 11. Drumsheugh Toll** a quirky building dating from 1891, designed as a studio house for an artist in a Tudor style.
- 12. Dean Bridge** an impressive piece of engineering, designed by Thomas Telford and opened in 1833. It soars 106 feet above the valley below, with four arches each 96 feet in span.
- 13. Rutland Square** tranquil square of Georgian townhouses built in 1819.
- 14. St Johns Church** built between 1816-18 and designed by William Burn in the 'Perpendicular Gothic' style.
- 15. Melville Street** designed in 1814 as the principal street of the West End development.
- 16. St Cutbert's Church** often known as 'the Kirk below the Castle', designed in 1895 but incorporating a Georgian tower and steeple.

West End Heritage

The broad streets and crescents of the West End present a very distinct pattern, designed in 1813 by James Gillespie Graham. Building was slow and involved many different architects, but each followed the intentions of Gillespie Graham's master plan. The result is a variety in character from sumptuous Victorian terraces to intimate Georgian shopping streets.

William Street is a particularly well preserved street of Georgian shopfronts. Built in 1825 to provide cheaper housing and shops, where the wealthier New Town residents could buy a wide variety of groceries. Because of its historic character the

street is regularly used as a location for period films. Look out for the cast iron balconies under the shop windows, a rare surviving feature designed to allow customers to get a closer look at the goods.

The three gothic spires of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral form an important part of Edinburgh's skyline. The cathedral was built 1873-9 and designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott, a prolific architect also responsible for St Pancras Station and the Albert Memorial. Inside are many important pieces of Scottish art, such as the Rood Cross by Sir Robert Lorimer and stained glass by Sir Eduardo Paolozzi.



Edinburgh's West End Today

In recent years the West End has been transformed by the development of the Exchange area, now home to the International Conference Centre and the headquarters for the financial services industry in Scotland - including Standard Life, Scottish Widows, and the Clydesdale Bank. The network of surrounding streets houses the heart of the Edinburgh professional world. And from the leafy quiet of Charlotte Square to the bustling interchange at Haymarket, lawyers, accountants, architects and surveyors ply their trade in fine Georgian townhouses, as they have done in the West End since the 1800's.

There is a strong independent spirit in the West End. In the area around Queensferry Street and Stafford Street there is a unique mix of independent brands and high street names. High Street brands like Starbucks and Sainsbury sit alongside well established Edinburgh retailers such as Paper Tiger, Studio One, Frontiers and Goodwin's Antiques. A thriving service sector offers hairdressing by Charlie Miller, beauty treatments by Claire, and spectacles by Birrell & Rainford. Picturesque William Street

is the charming heart of the West End - original, purpose built artisan shops, many of which are still home to bespoke designers such as Liam Ross Jewellery and Liggy's Cakes. In the evening the area is alive with fantastic bars such as Indigo Yard and Sygn; restaurants such as the Edinburgh Larder Bistro and A Room In The West End.



The West End is Edinburgh in miniature - Georgian splendour next to modern corporate architecture; reflecting the 21st century attitude of this fantastic modern, medieval, Georgian city. Businesses in the area are now developing a Business Improvement District to assist in the development of Edinburgh's West End as a place to live, work and succeed for the next two hundred years.



Discover more about Edinburgh's World Heritage Site at www.ewht.org.uk about the West End at www.westendbid.com

Find out more www.designbysource.com

With thanks to the City of Edinburgh Council for their kind support and find out about the West Enders of the past.

Use this trail to explore its historic streets with a fascinating history stretching back to the Georgian period. The West End is a key part of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site,

Edinburgh World Heritage Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee. Registered in Scotland No. 19507Z. Scottish Charity No. SC037183

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL
EDINBURGH

Meet the WEST ENDERS



Explore the historic streets of Edinburgh's West End and discover the West Enders of the past

— EDINBURGH'S —
WEST END



a Elsie Inglis – 8 Walker Street



Between 1898 and 1914 No.8 Walker Street was the medical practice of Elsie Inglis, a pioneer for women in medicine and a leading suffragette.

Elsie started practice here with another woman Dr. Jessie Macgregor, and gained a reputation for great kindness. She often waived her fees and paid for patients to recuperate at the sea-side.

Elsie worked tirelessly through her career, setting up Edinburgh's first maternity hospital and the Scottish Women's Hospital helping Allied soldiers during the First World War.

j Samuel J Peploe - 39 Manor Place



The artist Samuel J Peploe was born at 39 Manor Place in 1871, and Edinburgh's West End was always a central part in his flourishing career.

Peploe became famous for his still life paintings, a leading light in the group known as the Scottish Colourists inspired by the new post-impressionism style of Matisse and Van Gogh.

Peploe studied art in Edinburgh and Paris, returning to his native city around 1897. He set up a studio in the Albert Institute in Shandwick Place, where a nearby flower seller called Jeanie Blyth became one of his first models.

In 1912 Peploe returned from Paris with new work, which proved to be unpopular with his old art dealer. Not to be put off, he organised his own exhibition at the New Gallery in Shandwick Place.

Today his work is highly respected and valued, and Peploe is regarded as one of the most important Scottish painters.

i Dr Joseph Bell - 2 Melville Crescent



It was whilst studying medicine at the University of Edinburgh that Arthur Conan Doyle met Professor Joseph Bell - the inspiration for the author's famous character Sherlock Holmes.

Bell was an eminent surgeon at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and lecturer

at the Medical School next door. Amongst his many achievements he founded a nursing institute and acted as surgeon to Queen Victoria when she was in Scotland.

However it was his ability to observe minute details about his patients that caught the imagination of Doyle. For a while he acted as Bell's assistant and became fascinated at the way the Professor could deduce a person's occupation and origins from closely analysing their appearance. Years later, when Doyle had become a successful author, he wrote to Bell: "It is most certainly to you that I owe Sherlock Holmes."

b William Fielding – 12 Stafford Street



The distinctive entrance to 12 Stafford Street dates from the 1890s when it was Turkish Baths, owned and managed by William Fielding, fresh from the success of running a similar business in New York.

The business of running the baths seemed to involve all the family, with his wife and many of his children acting as attendants. The baths opened from 6.00 am to 9.00 pm for men, with Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings exclusively for women. Unusually for the time, ladies wishing to bathe after 9pm could make special arrangements with Mrs Fielding.

The Stafford Street baths advertised a special Turkish Wash for men. It is not clear what this involved, but it was said that: 'Many avail themselves of this luxurious form of morning ablution, and testify to its invigorating and refreshing effect.'

c John Byers & Mary Barclay – Easter Coates House



This house is a remarkable survival, built in 1615 for John Byers and his wife Mary Barclay, and their initials can still be seen above one of the upper windows.

Byers was an important figure in Edinburgh at the time, holding many posts in the burgh council. For six years he was city treasurer and Dean of Guild, and for two years he led the council as Provost.

Byers' house is now probably the oldest building in the New Town. The house was repaired in the 1800s using fragments of buildings from the Old Town, including the double window in the west side which is reputed to be from the French Ambassadors Chapel.

In 1887 the cathedral adopted the building as the choir school, and it still has that use today.

d Sandy James – Caledonian Hotel



Sandy James was the Caledonian Hotel's head doorman for over 30 years, taking up his post shortly after the hotel opened in 1903.

Sandy became almost an institution in his own right, with his long career at the hotel only disturbed by his service in the army during the First World War. He prided himself on knowing all the railway timetables by heart, and knew many of the celebrities who came to stay at the hotel.

It was during the Abdication Crisis of 1937 that his fame really spread far and wide. An American journalist asked Sandy what the ordinary British person felt about King Edward VIII's relationship with Wallis Simpson.

His innocent answer was printed in New York and Washington, along with the tip that anyone who wanted a summary of British public opinion should ask the doorman of the Caledonian Hotel, Edinburgh.

e Florence B Jack – Atholl Crescent



The Edinburgh College of Domestic Economy opened at Atholl Crescent in 1891, and Florence B Jack was perhaps its greatest teacher.

The college was prestigious and intended to teach middle-

class students essential skills for running their own household. Florence was the teacher of cookery, laundry work, and housekeeping, and went on to be Principal of the Good Housekeeping Institute, publishing a wide range of cookery books.

In 1911 she published The Woman's Book, including everything from cooking and household management, to nursing, travel and beekeeping.

A chapter is devoted to education and careers, listing all the universities that offered degrees for women and the leading suffragette organisations.

For Florence: "Women, like men, have a desire... to take part in the affairs of the world... and the restraint and force of mere tradition, prejudice, or caste, have become intolerable to them."

f The Lough family – 15 William Street



The Lough family's chimney sweeping business was a presence at 15 William Street for almost 100 years.

The 1841 census shows John Lough, his wife and two young sons William and Thomas, living at 15 William Street along with two employees. Their front room acted as a shop, and an elder son also called John lived just next door. Chimney sweeping was often a family business, but the Lough's were to suffer a crisis only a few years later.

In 1844 William and Thomas were found guilty of stealing a round of Edam cheese, and although only 15 years old William was sentenced to be transported to Australia. Their elder brother John carried on the family business in William Street until the 1890s, eventually passing on the tricks of the trade to his son.

h Mary Dunlop – Rutland Square



Throughout the 1940s, 50s and 60s Mary Dunlop was a well-known West End character, along with her white pony 'Smoky' pulling her barrel organ on a small cart.

She brought music to the doorstep of many residents in the West End streets, and was especially loved by local children who nicknamed her 'Monkey Mary'.

In 1958 a major overhaul of the barrel organ was needed, and a group of West Enders clubbed together to fund its repair.

When Mary died in 1966 Smokey went into retirement in an SSPCA centre in Balerno. Mary's barrel organ can still be seen today in the Museum of Childhood.

g Janet Story – 37 Melville Street



The childhood memoirs of Janet Story give a glimpse into West End high-society in the 1830s, when Melville Street was new.

She describes in detail a lavish dinner party held at her family home of 37 Melville Street. Dinners usually started with two soup and fish dishes, followed by four starters often including a curry, a favourite of her father who had served in India.

There would be two joints of meat, with extra dishes of ducks, a ham or beefsteak pie. A typical dessert was a spun sugar and pastry case filled with fruit, along with a pudding, a vanilla and raspberry cream and a pale wine jelly.

Such a dinner would have been the top of the scale, but shows how grand life could be for some West Enders.

