



# Guidebook

# York Armed Forces

# Day Trail 2025

Celebrating York's rich historic and military heritage





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# Welcome to the York Armed Forces Day Trail 2025

Discover the places in York that are connected to its rich military heritage.

Pick the sites that interest you, enjoy exploring them, and take in the atmosphere and echoes of those who served throughout the centuries.

If you don't manage to visit all the locations today, we hope you'll return to uncover more of York's fascinating military history. There are over 2,000 years of it to explore!

Learn more about the Armed Forces Covenant in York at:  
[www.york.gov.uk/ArmedForcesCovenantAndYou](http://www.york.gov.uk/ArmedForcesCovenantAndYou)

Or for more information, please email:  
[armedforcescovenant@york.gov.uk](mailto:armedforcescovenant@york.gov.uk)



# Stalls at West Offices on 5 July

Explore the displays and activities for you today, 10am - 4pm!



**York Learning** –  
Discover local learning opportunities and take part in skills workshops.



**Fostering York** – Find out how fostering can change a child's life and yours.



**Sea Cadets** – Meet the cadets and climb aboard their display boat.



**Queen's Own Yeomanry** – Learn more about the Queen's Own Yeomanry, a reservist regiment of the British Army.



**Royal British Legion**  
– Learn how they support veterans and their families.

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**Yorkshire University  
Air Squadron** – meet the squadron and find out how you could get involved,

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**Carers Plus Yorkshire**  
– Get advice and support as an unpaid carer.

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**Key Stage 2 Art  
Competition** – View amazing artwork by local schoolchildren.

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**City of York Council  
activities** – Enjoy badge-making and colouring fun for all ages.



# Simpson

## Construction and Fit-Out Specialists

Based on the outskirts of York in North Yorkshire, Simpson have been providing a unique construction and fit-out service for over 30 years.

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in





# Trail Map Guide

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## **West Offices**

Originally the headquarters of the North Eastern Railway (NER), now housing City of York Council. Open 10am-4pm on 5 July for Armed Forces Day.

2

## **North Eastern Railway War Memorial**

Memorial outside York Railway Station honouring over 2,200 railway employees who died in WWI and WWII, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

3

## **Railway Station – Baedeker Raid Plaque**

Commemorates victims of the April 1942 air raid that targeted York's strategic railway connections.

4

## **Leeman Road Memorial Gardens**

These gardens commemorate local residents and railway workers from the area who died in both World Wars and later conflicts.

5

## **Multangular Tower**

This Roman military structure was used for defence and housed a catapult. It was reinforced in Medieval times and saw action during the English Civil War.

# ADULT & DEGREE COURSES

FULL & PART-TIME | DAY & EVENING

Whether you are changing your career, want to learn a new skill, or undertake a course to pursue a hobby; York College & University Centre could be the place to start. With many courses free or fully funded, your next course could be easier to access than you think.



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COURSES



FULL &  
PART-TIME  
ACCESS  
COURSES



Are you a veteran, currently serving, or part of a military family - and either **caring for someone** or **being cared for** yourself?

Carers Plus Yorkshire offers **dedicated support** for the Armed Forces community, delivered by people who truly understand military life. Whether you're after advice, emotional support, or social connection, **we're here to help** you find the right help at the right time.



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Email: [admin@carersplus.net](mailto:admin@carersplus.net)

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### **St Mary's Tower**

Medieval defensive tower near Museum Gardens, damaged by Parliamentary cannon fire during the 1644 siege of York.

7

### **York Minster**

Suffered blast damage during the 1942 Baedeker Raids; housed memorials and services for war-affected soldiers and civilians.

8

### **Emperor Constantine Statue**

Marks where Constantine was proclaimed Roman Emperor in 306 AD, highlighting York's role as a Roman military centre.

9

### **Minerva Bust (Petergate)**

Modern sculpture of the Roman goddess of war, reflecting York's history as the fortress of Eboracum.

10

### **Garden of Remembrance**

Honours Yorkshire soldiers lost in both World Wars and later conflicts, with tributes to local regiments.





# Discover

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and Outdoor Adventure courses

Find out more or book on an open event:

 [askham-bryan.ac.uk](https://askham-bryan.ac.uk)





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### **Bettys (Café)**

A WWII meeting place for RAF personnel, with the 'Bettys Mirror' in the basement still displaying etched signatures of airmen.



12

### **Mansion House**

Official residence of the Lord Mayor of York and central to the city's defence coordination during both World Wars.



13

### **Parish of All Saints' Pavement Church**

Regimental church of the Royal Dragoon Guards, containing memorials to soldiers and serving as a place of commemoration.



14

### **Fishergate Bar**

Medieval gateway damaged during the 1461 Siege of York in the Wars of the Roses, controlling southern access to the city.

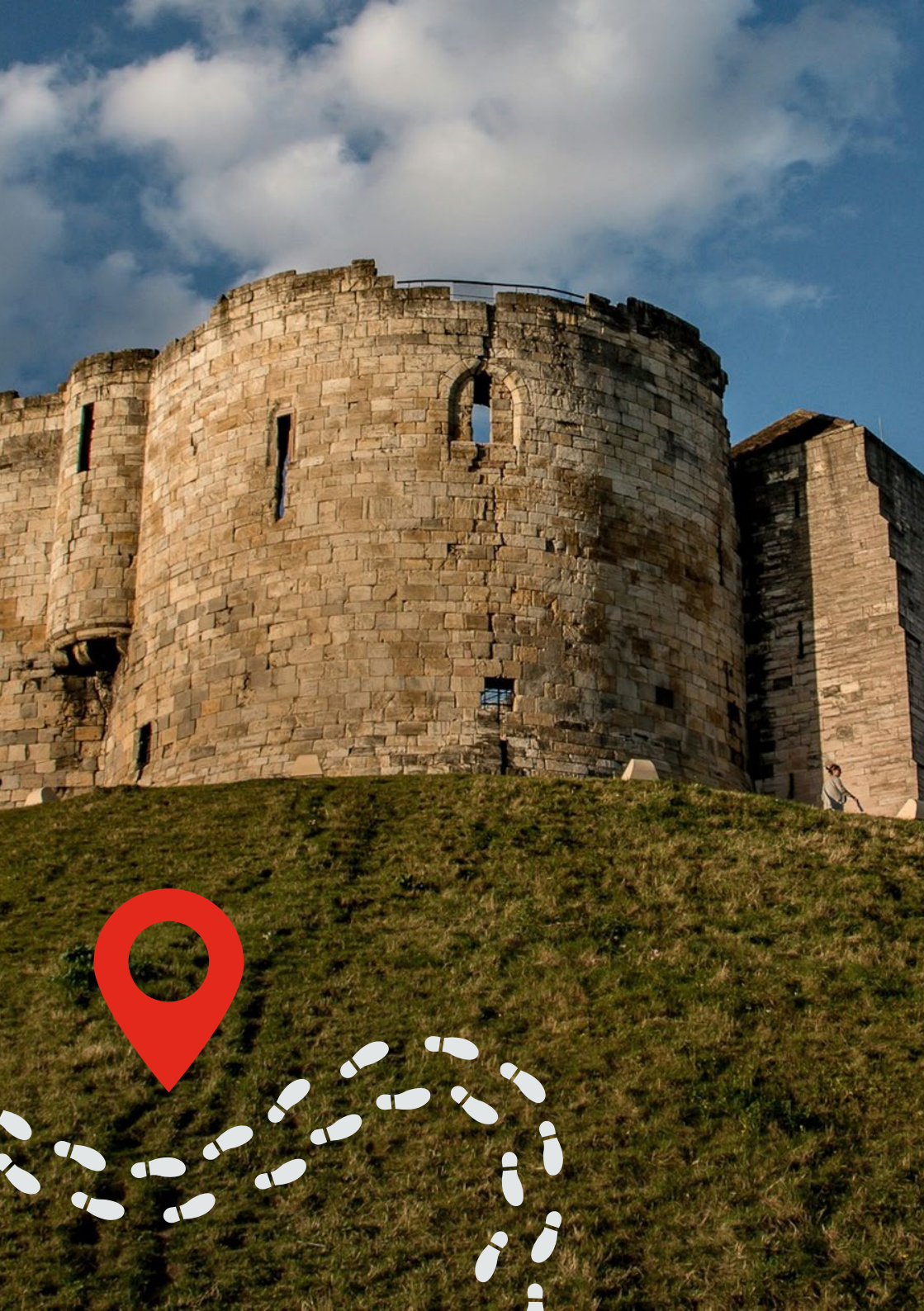


15

### **St George's Field**

Former Medieval military mustering ground and barracks site, later used during the English Civil War.





16

### **Castle Museum**

Located in a former military prison, featuring exhibitions on wartime history, including '1914: When the World Changed Forever'.

17

### **Clifford's Tower**

Surviving keep of York Castle, a Norman stronghold pivotal in medieval wars and the English Civil War.

18

### **York Army Museum**

Home to the collections of the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire and the Royal Dragoon Guards.

19

### **Baile Hill**

Norman motte-and-baile castle (1068), part of York's dual-castle defence system with Clifford's Tower, used for military surveillance.

20

### **West Offices**

The trail starts and ends here. Thank you for taking part.







## Not on the map but worth a look:

### **Lt Col Bertram Best-Dunkley Commemorative Paving Stone, Mount Vale**

Honours the officer awarded the Victoria Cross following the Battle of Passchendaele (1917).

### **Spurriergate Centre, St Michael's Church, Coney Street**

A Medieval church now a centre which hosts the Armed Forces Drop-in sessions on Tuesdays, 10:30am–12:30pm.

### **Pilot Officer Yves Mahé Plaque, Coney Street**

Honours the French pilot who defended York during the 1942 Baedeker Raids against the Luftwaffe, so saving the munitions-filled Rowntree factory.



# Here to Help



## Financial support for York residents

Talking about money helps us to be more financially confident, resilient and face whatever the future throws at us.

Now is the time take control of your money!

Find out more and get support at  
[www.york.gov.uk/BenefitsAndMoney](http://www.york.gov.uk/BenefitsAndMoney)



## **St Martin le Grand Church, Coney Street**

Dating to the 11th century, this city centre church was heavily damaged in the 1942 Baedeker Raids and was restored (1961-68) by architect George Pace.

## **St Lawrence's Church, Lawrence Street**

Displays memorial tablets for York's fallen in World War I and II.





**Raise York**  
Your Family Hub Network



# York's Holiday Activities and Food programme

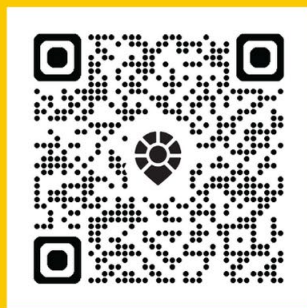
York's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme offers fun activities for keeping active, being creative and trying something new over the Easter, summer, and winter school holidays.

Each session will include a healthy meal and selection of activities ranging from sport and games, drama and creative workshops, and much more.

## Find out more:

Visit our website [raiseyork.co.uk](https://raiseyork.co.uk)  
by scanning the QR code.

Or, email the coordinator:  
[shelby.graham@york.gov.uk](mailto:shelby.graham@york.gov.uk)



# York Garrison Armed Forces Art Competition

As part of this year's York Garrison Armed Forces Day celebrations, local primary school children were invited to take part in a special art competition.

## **Their challenge:**

design a poster reflecting a positive Armed Forces theme.



A big thank you to York College and University Centre and the York Army Museum for sponsoring the competition and supporting creativity in our Armed Forces community.

See the artwork on display at:

West Offices – 5 July

York Army Museum – all summer

Come and enjoy this inspiring display of young talent!

**YORK ARMY  
MUSEUM**

**YORK**  
COLLEGE  
— & —  
**UNIVERSITY  
CENTRE**

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