

Monuments

(in less than a...)

Mile!



While following this self-guided mini-tour, please take time to ensure your safety at all stops!

<i>Alluvia</i>	Start your tour on the bridge with the Westgate Tower to your left and the Westgate Gardens to your right. The sculpture is in the river!
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I hope it hasn't rained much recently!
The two female figures that make up *Alluvia* can be hard to see if the river is high, but if you can spot them the surreal beauty is breath-taking.

Installed in 2008, *Alluvia* was created by Jason de Caires Taylor who cast the figures in cement and recycled glass resin. The title relates to the alluvial deposits of sand left by the river's changing water levels. Algae on the surface of the sculptures acts as an indicator of pollution.

Alluvia references Sir John Everett Millais's celebrated painting *Ophelia* (1851-1852).



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**'Kitty', The Lyric
Muse of Poetry**

Walk past the Westgate Tower and cross the road onto St Peter's Street.
Turn left onto The Friars. The statue will be on your left.

Total Walk Time: 3 Mins



Sculptor Onslow Ford was commissioned to design this statue which represents the Lyric Muse of Poetry, nicknamed 'Kitty' by locals in reference to Christopher Marlowe's own nickname, 'Kit'.

Originally located in the Butter Market, *Kitty* was unveiled in 1891, but moved to the Dane John Gardens in 1921 because of her scandalous state of undress! During an air raid in 1942, *Kitty* was blown off her pedestal but was replaced in 1948 facing the wrong way, which was not corrected until 1964.

In 1993, Sir Ian McKellen rededicated the memorial here, outside the Marlowe Theatre.

***Bulkhead* and
Dave Lee**

Continue along The Friars and past the Marlowe Theatre.
The statues are on your left on the river bank.

Total Walk Time: 1 Min

Bulkhead by sculptor Rick Kirby has stood outside the Marlowe Theatre since 2003.

Initially part of the sculpture festival 'Blok', it was so popular that Canterbury Council bought the giant mask.

Reminiscent of the comedy and tragedy masks of theatre, *Bulkhead* also evokes a line from Christopher Marlowe's play *Dr Faustus*: 'Was this the face that launch'd a thousand ships,' as it was created using metal pieces from ships along the Kentish coast!



Born in Broadstairs in 1947, Dave Lee worked as a warm-up man for TV stars such as Michael Parkinson, but is most known locally for portraying the pantomime dame!

In 1994, the Dave Lee Happy Holidays Charity was founded to help disabled and under-privileged children to enjoy holidays with their families. In 2003, Lee was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE), for services to the community in Kent.

Lee died in 2012, aged 64, with his funeral held in Canterbury Cathedral. This bronze statue by Dominic Grant was unveiled outside the Marlowe Theatre in 2014.



Statue of Geoffrey Chaucer

Cross the bridge and take the first right turn onto Best Lane.
Continue until the lane meets the High Street.

Total Walk Time: 2 Mins



Geoffrey Chaucer is widely acknowledged to be the father of English literature, and his best known work continues to be the *Canterbury Tales*.

Unveiled in 2016 by Simon Armitage, who became Poet Laureate in 2019, this is thought to be the only statue in England of Chaucer. Sculpted in two parts, the figure was created by Kent-based Samantha Holland, whilst the plinth was created by Yorkshire-based Lynn O'Dowd.

The cost of the statue was met through fundraising, donations and sponsorship. Each of the 30 characters depicted on the plinth resemble a local person who donated, including Canterbury born Orlando Bloom!

Grotesques: Imps of Demons?

Walk along the High Street past the Beane House of Art and Knowledge (which will be on the left). Take the second Left onto Mercery Lane. The grotesques are immediately on your right.

Total Walk Time: 3 Mins

These grotesques, not gargoyles due to the lack of a water spout, are beautiful architectural details not to be missed. Grotesques are decoration, but are also believed to keep away bad luck and evil spirits.

These finely carved brackets are listed as depictions of imps, which in European mythology are more mischievous than demons, who are deemed more threatening!

Whether you feel they are imps or demons, they remain nameless and we would love to hear what you would name them!



WWI War Memorial

Continue along Mercery Lane until you reach the open area known as the Butter Market.

Total Walk Time: 1 Min



This memorial commemorates the men of Canterbury who fell in the Great War and was unveiled on 10 October 1921 by Field Marshal the Earl Haig.

To determine who was a 'Man of Canterbury' and therefore allowed a place on the memorial, it was decided that a serviceman had to have been resident in Canterbury when he joined the Armed Forces. Those who did not, even if they were born in the city, were not included.

An exception was Major Edward Mannock, who started in the Royal Army Medical Corps but by 1918 was part of the newly formed Royal Air Force. He won the Military Cross twice, Distinguished Service Order three times and a posthumous Victoria Cross.

<p>St Thomas of Canterbury, Catholic Church</p>	<p>Facing the Christchurch Gate into the Cathedral, turn right and walk along Burgate. The church is on your right.</p> <p>Total Walk Time: 3 Mins</p>
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St Thomas' opened in 1875 and was the first Roman Catholic church to operate within the city since the reformation. Designed by Canterbury architect John Green Hall, a figure of St Thomas Becket can be seen halfway up the central tower. This large stone relief to the right of this tower, on the Brutalist style extension of 1962, depicts Pope Gregory I and an Anglian slave. Gregory, before he was Pope, noticing the fair complexion of Anglian slaves remarked that they were 'Angels not Anglians', get it?!

Gregory later sent St Augustine of Canterbury on his mission to reintroduce Christianity to England in 597 AD, which led to Canterbury becoming the spiritual centre it is today.



<p>St George's Tower</p>	<p>Continue along Burgate and take the first right onto Canterbury Lane. Continue until the end and the tower will be on your left.</p> <p>Total Walk Time: 2 Mins</p>
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The original St George's church is Norman in origin, but the present tower is 15th century. Christopher Marlowe was baptised in this church in 1564, he and his family lived in a house opposite, under present day Fenwick.

On the night of 1st June 1942, Canterbury suffered its worst bombing raid of World War II. The 'Baedeker Blitz', named after a guide book by Karl Baedeker, initially targeted the Cathedral. A 'divine wind' blew the flares that indicated the target to the eastern side of the city, which was subsequently heavily damaged. Ultimately, all but the tower of the church was demolished, leaving a poignant reminder of the past in modern day Canterbury.