City Walking Tour

The City of London has as much history in its single square mile as the rest of London put together. From churches and finance houses to markets and museums, this walk picks out just a few of its many highlights.

**Start** Farringdon  
**Distance** 1.5 miles  
**Duration** Three hours

1. **Explore the wonderful 12th-century St Bartholomew-the-Great**, one of London’s oldest churches.

2. **Head through the Tudor gatehouse toward the colourful Victorian arches of Smithfield Market** (☎ 020-7248 3151; www.smithfieldmarket.com; ☎ 2-10am Mon-Fri), London’s last surviving meat market.

3. **Follow the roundabout and nip up the stairs to explore the excellent galleries of the Museum of London**.

4. **Head to Aldermanbury and the impressive 15th-century Guildhall** (☎ 020-7332 1313; www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/guildhallgalleries; ☎ 10am-4:30pm daily May-Sep, Mon-Sat Oct-Apr). In its courtyard note the black outline of the Roman amphitheatre.

5. **At the imposing, colonnaded Royal Exchange** (☎ 020-7283 8935; www.theroyalexchange.co.uk), head inside to to explore the very smart retail environment of Fortnum & Mason.

6. **Next, it’s into wonderful Leadenhall Market**, trying to spot Harry Potter similarities — it appears in one film as Diagon Alley.

7. **Leaving the market by the far end, marvel at the external vents, ducting and stairs of the insurance brokers Lloyd’s** (www.lloyds.com/lloyds/about-us/the-lloyds-building) of London.

8. **Once on Lime St, 30 St Mary Axe** (www.thegherkinlondon.com), aka ‘the Gherkin’, looms up – tangible testimony to the city’s ability to constantly reinvent itself.

**Take a Break** Stop for a bite to eat in the restaurant at **Fortnum & Mason** in the impressive courtyard of the Royal Exchange.

**Classic Photo** The sweeping, bullet-shaped lines of 30 St Mary Axe make a great pic.