



Wilberforce Trail

- 1 Wilberforce House and the Humanitarian Wall**

Where the story began, William Wilberforce was born here in 1759. **Humanitarian Wall** Located in the Museums Quarter Gardens - People past and present from across the world who are identified with the cause for human freedom.
- 2 The Market Place**

On his way to school Wilberforce would have crossed Hull main market. In the 18th Century this busy street was at the heart of Hull's trade and commerce, all taking place under the watchful eye of 'King Billy'.
- 3 Hull Minster**

It was here at Holy Trinity Church that Wilberforce was baptised in the font which is still used regularly for christenings today. Trinity Square was the fashionable area of Hull. In later years Wilberforce patronised the Assembly Rooms in Dagger Lane and the Play House in Finkle Street.
- 4 Hands on History Museum**

Wilberforce was a small, sickly and delicate child with poor eyesight. In 1767, he began attending Hull Grammar School in this building with his friend's from the Thornton and Sykes families. The Grammar School at the time was headed by a young, dynamic headmaster, Joseph Milner, who was to become a lifelong friend.
- 5 Trinity House – Zebedee's Yard**

Trinity House lies at the heart of Hull's maritime history. From the 16th century it became the authority in charge of navigation on the Humber, Hull's main artery for trade providing the life blood for wealthy merchant families like the Wilberforce's.
- 6 Whitefriargate**

During Wilberforce's lifetime Hull changed rapidly as a result of increased trade, new industries and migration. By 1775 the town walls had begun to be demolished.
- 7 Maritime Museum – Queens Gardens**

Hull's first dock officially opened in 1778. At the time it was the largest inland dock in the Kingdom. It was simply named The Dock. The dock was in use for 150 years and finally closed in 1930. Over the next four years it was filled in and landscaped and became known as Queen's Gardens.
- 8 Guildhall – Alfred Gelder Street**

Wilberforce began his political career in 1780 as an MP for Hull, eventually becoming an MP for Yorkshire (1784–1812). (Note the original Guildhall was located to the south of Market Place and demolished to make way for Queen Street in 1805.)
- 9 Wilberforce Monument**

Built in 1834 at Monument Bridge close to the present Queen Victoria Square and relocated in the 1930's to celebrate the life of this charismatic social reformer.