

Chelmsford U3A Travel Group Visit to York, November 2019

In November a small party visited York for the Christmas Markets having travelled up in comfort by train from Kings Cross. Our home for three nights was a B&B and pub right next to the Bootham Bar (a city gate), 50 or so yards from the Minster. To make the best of our time we had a Minster visit during the afternoon of our arrival and a fabulous three-hour walking tour the first morning.

York is, in fact, a city of multiple sights and experiences. And so it was that between us we walked virtually all parts of the City Wall, visited the Jorvik Viking Centre, the Railway Museum, the Castle Museum, Clifford Tower, the York Art Gallery and the list goes on. And there would be plenty more to enjoy were we to go there again.

The party ate together for the evening meal too, often in unusual buildings such as the Georgian Assembly Rooms where the rows of pillars either side were the subject of complaint in times past by those of who found the gaps between them were too narrow for their fashionable hooped skirts.



One of the less well-known buildings in York, the Georgian Assembly Rooms in Blake Street, was seemingly somewhat half-hearted in its exterior seasonal decoration. The Italian Restaurant chain had done a stunning job in restoring the interior and it was well worth the visit.

The markets were pretty much as you might expect with glühwein and street food etc. Overall the stalls seem to offer a good variety of items which were rather more tasteful than some might have expected while wandering. The Shambles also offered a very pleasant way of spending time.