Yellow Walk - 1½ hours

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Some old buildings have been transformed into modern venues, or have re-opened under new names. As you wander through the city, this is a good opportunity to see the new mixed-use developments that are changing the face of the city.

25. 10 Gatsby’s (Central)

Gatsby’s is an iconic venue that has been a staple of the Nottingham gay scene for many years. It opened in 1983 as a small boîte de nuit and has since grown into a large venue known for its well-stocked bar and dance floor. It is a popular spot for both locals and visitors.

26. 9 The Lost Weekend

The Lost Weekend was one of the first gay bars to open in the UK and remains a popular destination for those looking for a lively night out. It was originally opened in 1958 as a private club for members of the LGBTQ community and has since become a hub for socialising and meeting up.

27. 8 The New Forests

The New Forests is a popular gay bar that has been in operation since 1973. It is known for its friendly atmosphere and welcoming vibe. It hosts a range of events, from drag shows to DJ nights, and is a favourite for locals and visitors alike.

28. 7 The Old Dog & Partridge

The Old Dog & Partridge is a historic pub that has been around since 1665. It has been transformed into a gay-friendly venue in recent years, and is a popular destination for those looking for a drink and a chat.

29. 6 Newmarket & Palais de Danse (now Pryzm)

Newmarket & Palais de Danse was one of the most popular gay clubs in the city in the 1980s and 1990s. It has since been re-vamped and is now known as Pryzm. It is a large venue that hosts a range of events, from concerts to club nights.

30. 5 The Playhouse

The Playhouse is another historic venue that has become popular with the LGBTQ community. Originally opened as a theatre in 1880, it was later transformed into a gay bar. It is known for its relaxed atmosphere and welcoming vibe.

31. 4 George Hotel

The George Hotel is a popular venue that has been around since 1892. It has been transformed into a gay-friendly venue in recent years, and is a popular destination for those looking for a drink and a chat.

32. 3 Blackamore

Blackamore is a small venue that is popular with the LGBTQ community. It is known for its friendly atmosphere and welcoming vibe. It hosts a range of events, from drag shows to DJ nights.

33. 2 Black Bobby Hotel

The Black Bobby Hotel is another historic venue that has been transformed into a gay-friendly venue. It is known for its welcoming atmosphere and friendly staff.

34. 1 Bankside

Bankside is a small venue that is popular with the LGBTQ community. It is known for its friendly atmosphere and welcoming vibe. It hosts a range of events, from drag shows to DJ nights.
Continue down Huntington Street to the Old petrol station, colloquially known as The Gay Garage, for many years as this was the 24-hour venue for drunken snags after falling out of one of many gay venues in this part of town. Standing on the corner where Beck Street meets Lower Parliament Street, directly opposite another emerging art deco style pub bear a large gay venue known by a variety of names. Initially Jacoby in 1999, under a range of new managers it became up in 2008, it became Prick but closed in December 2010 when its licence was revoked after management tried to cover up a violent incident. In 2012 it transformed into Queen of Clubs though it became another casualty in the loss of gay venues in 2014. On the opposite side of Heathcote Street a short-lived, small, private venue also known as The G Spot opened in 2012. A few steps down from garage was The Admiral Duncan. From 1987 it was tena-

gtively a gay venue run by a well-meaning straight couple. It’s blacked out front windows provided a private dancing-floor space while the back room was more of a club room toward. Towards the end of the 90s it was refurbished and renamed*Q, attracting a lively crowd until the Spring of 2013 when it closed its doors as a pub for good. Next door, in 2000, the first gay club for some time at NG2. This super-club boasted 2 floors, 3 bars and attracted people from far and wide. In 2015, it acknowledged it had become a straight venue; its late license (until 6am) had drawn clientele from other surrounding venues that closed earlier.

12 CS2 / Outhouse LGBT Centre

Continue your walk down Lower Parliament Street to the junction of Lennie Street. The building on the corner known as CS2 was a gay venue originally bought in 1999 to house The Outhouse LGBT Community Centre, though this was never fully realised.

13 The Mill

Further down the Lower Parliament Street, we turn up Hockley, back into the town. Standing on the corner where Beck Street meets Lower Parliament Street, directly opposite another stunning art

14 Propaganda / Faces / F6

Further up to Propaganda to the hilltop junction of Broad Street (and its rain-

15 Lined Lounge

Follow Boulevard around a corner and turn left onto St Mary’s Gate. On the left is a smart entrance to luxury apartments that still bear the name of its former infamous club, The Garage. It was also known as Lined Lounge, and hosted to one of the many monthly gay nights in the late 90s.

16 National Justice Museum / County Tavern / Celos

At the end of St Mary’s Gate, directly opposite is The Galleries of Jus-
tice. This former court house is now the National Justice Museum and as part of the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of homo-

17 The Flying Horse

Continue along High Pavement to Wesley Street. Number 22 Fletcher Gate, diagonally opposite the junction was The Old Vic and held a monthly lesbian night, Celos in 1993. Follow the road (Middle Hill) downhill, cross Canal Street and follow the old railway viaduct to Station Street.

18 La Chic

Turn right onto Station Street, on the right just past Hopkinsons (a former hardware store and now antiques centre) was The Parfide Club. The building was demolished in 2002 after being derelict for some time. In the 1930s it was a straight private members club though in the 1970s it operated a gay night for a few months making it the first gay club in Nottingham.

19 La Licorne

At the end of Station Street, turn right. Follow Carrington Street to junction of Canal Street and turn left. A little way down on the left is Viva Fossa. Strictly speaking this is (and always has been) a straight venue, though it shares its name with a ‘gay counterpart on Manches-

20 Mario’s / Shades / Whispers / Outburst LGBT Youth Group

Continue up Main Gay Street and turn right after St Nicholas’ Church onto Castle Gate. Turn onto Stanfield Street. The building on the right now known as Stanfield House, was once the tatty home of Mario’s, reputedly Nottingham’s first gay club (though never proven to have gay connections) and further up was a popular gay bar in the late 70s in a downstairs room called The People’s Cafe. This enormous straight club was run by the Bradley family that began life as an informal meeting place for gay men, the building is no longer there. Opposite in Cross Maid Marion Way and continuing down St James Street, directly opposite another venue called The Flying Horse.

21 Robin Hood Statue / Nottingham Castle / Pride Last

Retrace your steps back to and crossing over Maid Marion Way. Follow Castle Gate to the Robin Hood Statue. It is here that we pause to reflect on the fact that in the public domain stories out there professing Robin’s gayness. It should be acknowledged that the first written accounts of Nottingham’s infamous legend were recorded by 14th century gay poet, Sir John Gower. He portrayed the character in a church approved compo-

22 Returbute

Continuing, up Standard Hill past a round towing building known as Returbute, this was a well known lesbian monthly night called Infinity.

23 The Heartly Goodfellow

Walk down Mount Street to its corner with Maid Marion Way, a restaurant (4550 miles from Delhi) was formerly known as The Heartly Goodfellows a popular gay bar in the late 70s in a downstairs room (adorned by a “Private Party” sign).

24 Albany Hotel (now The Britannia Hotel)

Walk towards St James’ Street. The Britannia Hotel, formerly the Alby-

25 Nero

In 2008, it became Pink Lace - a gay sauna – in 2010, it became Pink Lace –s Parlour, now known as Stanford House, was once the tatty home of Mario’s, reputedly Nottingham’s first gay club and the building is no longer there.

26 The Dragon / Ameit Now Library

Re-entering Market Square, if you turn immediately left, one of Nottingham’s oldest pubs the Bell Inn reputedly had a gentleman-only bar (though never proven to have gay connections) and further up was Chapel Bar. The Dragon took the mantle of popularity following the demise of the Heartly Goodfellow. Apparently when it opened, it was invaded by an abusive bunch of skinheads. The landlord disappeared upstairs to return with a large Asian that rapidly dispersed the aggressive crowd. Opposite in Cross Maid Marion Way, was The Malt Cross – a straight venue; its late license
disseminated the aggressive crowd. Opposite in Cross Maid Marion Way, was The Malt Cross – a straight venue; its late license
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