

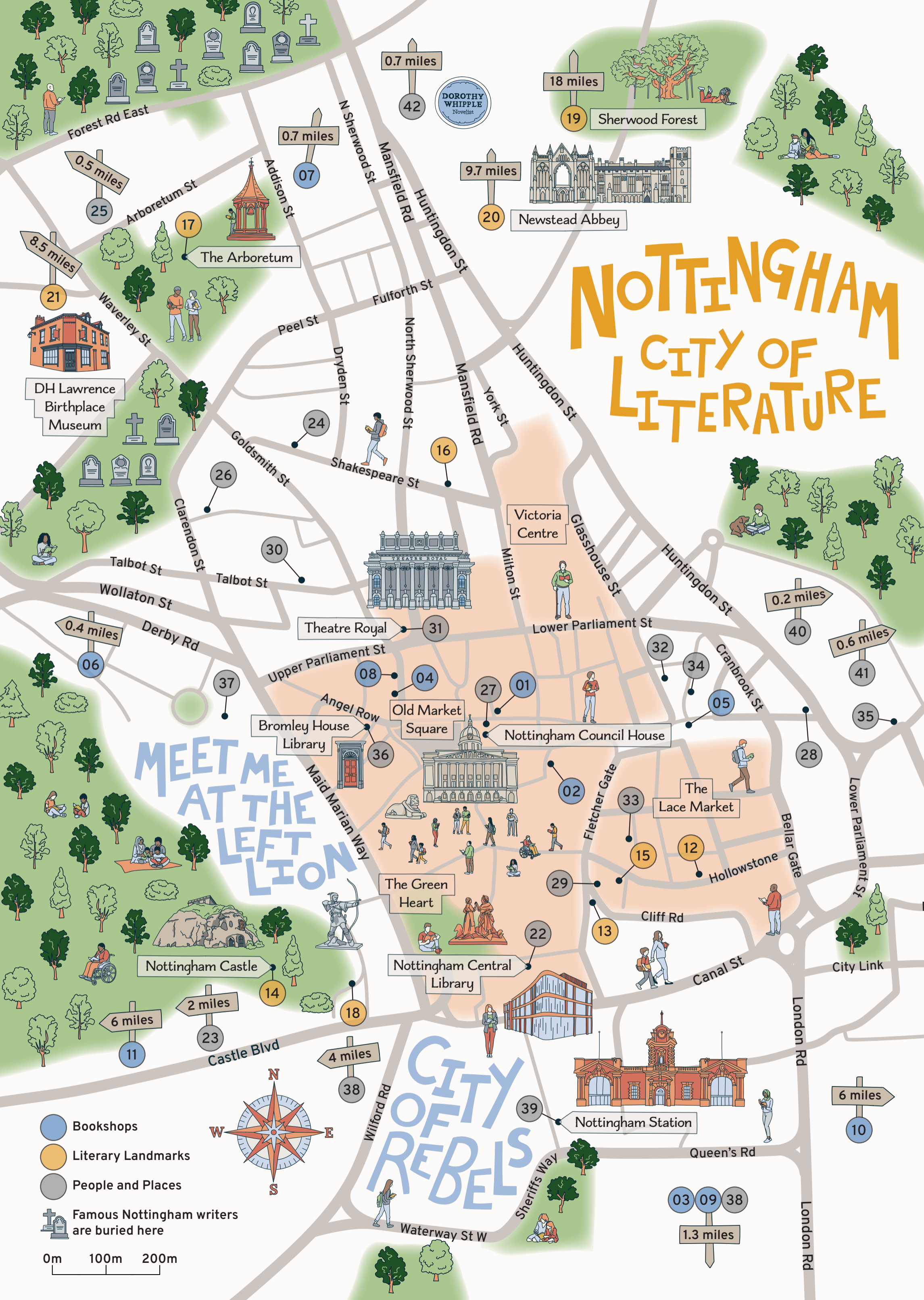
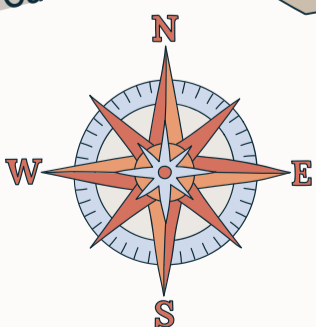
NOTTINGHAM CITY OF LITERATURE

MEET ME AT THE LEFT LION

CITY OF REBELS

-  Bookshops
-  Literary Landmarks
-  People and Places
-  Famous Nottingham writers are buried here

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Bookshops

- 01 - FIVE LEAVES** An independent bookshop and publisher which opened in 2013. They stock creative writing, biographies, social history, and much more. Five Leaves prioritises stocking titles from independent presses as well as larger publishers, and supports the radical literary and political scene across the city.
- 02 - WATERSTONES, BRIDLESMITH GATE** One of Waterstones' flagship stores with four floors of books, games, activities and literary wonders to explore.
- 03 - WATERSTONES, WEST BRIDGFORD**
- 04 - PAGE 45** Page 45 is a graphic novel and comic book shop bringing a wide range of comics and graphic novels to new and avid readers.
- 05 - BOOKWISE** A charity bookshop with a range of pre-loved books, run by volunteers dedicated to giving to the community and raising funds for local charities.
- 06 - BEAM EDITIONS, PRIMARY** A vibrant and social exhibition space hosting national and international artists, such as Daniel Rapley, a Nottingham-based artist. Beam Editions also publishes a range of books and monographs.
- 07 - OXFAM, SHERWOOD**
- 08 - OXFAM, MARKET STREET**
- 09 - OXFAM, WEST BRIDGFORD**
- 10 - ONE MORE CHAPTER** An independent bookstore selling a range of books, cards and stationery. Winner of the National Book Tokens Newcomer of the Year 2026 award.
- 11 - IN COMMON BREATH** In Common Breath opened in 2022, selling Hong Kong-related literature and culture. The store hosts events including children's story sessions and Cantonese-English language exchanges.

- 19 - SHERWOOD FOREST / MAJOR OAK** Sherwood Forest and Robin Hood are synonymous with Nottingham. From the earliest 14th- and 15th-century ballads of Robin Hood to Nottingham screenwriter James Graham's TV series *Sherwood*, the Forest continues to be an inspiration for writers.
- 20 - NEWSTEAD ABBEY** An Augustinian Priory founded in 1170 and converted into a country house after the dissolution of the monasteries but most famous as the home of Lord Byron. Open to the public, you can find Byron memorabilia and creative responses to his work from Nottingham City of Literature's Youth Board.
- 21 - D. H. LAWRENCE BIRTHPLACE** The birthplace of one of Nottingham's infamous 'rebel writers' of the 20th-Century who penned *Sons and Lovers* and *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

People and Places

- 22 - NOTTINGHAM CENTRAL LIBRARY** Nottingham's flagship library opened in 2023 and hosts events including Speak Easy Collective, Women Say Stuff, Nottingham Writers' Studio, Write Queer Nottingham, Notts Queer Archive and Gobs Collective. The library boasts a rich local history section and a wide selection of Nottingham-based writers including books from other Cities of Literature
- 23 - UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM / LAKESIDE ARTS** Lakeside Arts on the University of Nottingham campus hosts exhibitions, performances and events. They work in collaboration with the University's Manuscripts and Special Collections who hold rare archival documents relating to the East Midlands, including a D.H. Lawrence archive and the Cavendish Collection with work from Margaret Cavendish.
- 24 - NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY** Nottingham Trent University WRAP (Writing and Reading And Pleasure) programme promotes a lifelong love of reading and literature. Metronome hosts Nottingham Poetry Festival events and they also have Nottingham Creative Writers Hub, including many others. Author Graham Joyce taught there.
- 34 - JAMCAFÉ** A live event cafe that holds regular open mics for music and poetry. A favourite reading spot!
- 35 - FOX AND GRAPES** An Art Deco-era pub which regularly hosts poetry evenings.
- 36 - BROMLEY HOUSE LIBRARY** Nottingham's oldest subscription library founded in 1816. Bromley holds the Alan Sillitoe personal archive. They host a variety of authors for book tours, workshops and lectures.
- 37 - NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE** Nottingham-born and -based playwright Mufaro Makubika won the Alfred Fagon Award, Best New Play for *Shebeen* in 2017. It premiered at Nottingham Playhouse. The Playhouse also hosts literary groups like Mouthy Poets, and local screenwriters.
- 38 - INSPIRE LIBRARIES** Inspire Libraries is the network of libraries across Nottinghamshire. West Bridgford Library hosts a monthly Reading Group and Reading Café every Wednesday. Beeston Library hosts Paper Cranes, the poetry group.
- 39 - NOTTINGHAM STATION** Can you spot the plaques and panels?
- 40 - NOTTINGHAM BLACK ARCHIVE AT BACKLIT GALLERY** Founded by Dr. Panya Banjoko, Nottingham-based poet and cultural historian. She has received awards such as the Women in the Arts Poetry Award for Outstanding Achievement in 2008, and the Black Achievers Culture, Music and Arts Award for her work as a poet in 2017.
- 41 - HINDU TEMPLE, CARLTON ROAD** Jai Verma, founder of Kavya Rang (Colours of Poetry) in 2003, and involved in the application for the UNESCO City of Literature designation. She was a renowned poet and writer and attended Temple here.
- 42 - DOROTHY WHIPPLE PLAQUE** Nottingham-based writer of fiction and two of her novels were made into feature films in the 1940s. She has had a revival following a re-print by Persephone Books.

Literary Landmarks

- 12 - ST MARY'S CHURCH** Located in the historic Lace Market, St Mary's Church has been standing for over 500 years. The church is intertwined with many of Nottingham's famous writers, Lucy Jones, Jane Jerram and Abigail Gawthern. The 37 stained-glass windows show scenes of Nottingham's history.
- 13 - CITY OF CAVES** 900 caves run underneath the city hand carved from Sherwood Sandstone. Some of the first hand-carved caves date to c.1300. The caves represent the daily work and life of communities living throughout Nottingham's history. Nottingham writer Geoffrey Trease based his novel *A Flight of Angels* on the caves
- 14 - NOTTINGHAM CASTLE** Once a medieval fortress, Nottingham Castle was burned down by rioters in 1831 and rebuilt in 1875. The Castle is one of the city's most iconic landmarks with a rich history of radical and rebel narratives, including writer Lucy Hutchinson, wife of the Governor of the castle in 1643. Lucy is most famous for *Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Hutchinson* about her husband's time as governor during the Civil War.
- 15 - PITCHER AND PIANO** Housed in a former Unitarian chapel, Pitcher & Piano, one of the city's distinctive bars, has hosted many Nottingham writers and poets such as Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lord Byron. Pitcher & Piano also features in D.H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*.
- 16 - BARD HOUSE** Bard House, now student accommodation, was once a medieval building originating from the late 15th century, and historically housed the UK's first Children's Library.
- 17 - THE ARBORETUM** The Arboretum is one of England's first public parks and Samuel Curtis, a botanist and horticultural publicist, opened the park in 1852. Scottish author, J.M. Barrie worked for the Nottingham Daily Journal and it is said he drew inspiration for Neverland in *Peter Pan*, from the Arboretum.
- 18 - YE OLDE TRIP TO JERUSALEM** A historical and popular pub rooted in local folklore and situated in the hand-carved caves.

- 25 - NEW ART EXCHANGE** A contemporary visual arts gallery and cultural centre. They focus on under-represented communities reshaping narratives in contemporary art, exhibitions, workshops and residencies. In 2024 they worked on a residency with Nottingham UNESCO City of Literature and writer Jay Sandhu, listen to the *Belonging* EP.
- 26 - WOMEN'S CENTRE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE** One of the only remaining women's libraries in the UK, the library and archive is home to over 4,000 books, magazines, and articles written exclusively by female-identifying authors. They have an archive of reference materials, preserving records of women's activism in Nottinghamshire and across the country.
- 27 - NOTTINGHAM TOURISM CENTRE**
- 28 - THE CAROUSEL** A community arts building offering facilities for creatives in the city. They host exhibitions, workshops and art projects.
- 29 - NOTTINGHAM CONTEMPORARY** A leading contemporary art gallery with an artistic and educational charity, family programme, coffee shop and bookshop.
- 30 - ROCK CITY** An institution in Nottingham's music and nightlife scene which opened in 1980.
- 31 - THEATRE ROYAL AND CONCERT HALL** Nottingham was considered a 'lucky' city for new plays. Baroness Orczy's play *The Scarlet Pimpernel* was first performed at the Theatre Royal in 1903. Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* was first performed at Nottingham's Theatre Royal, with the detective being played by Richard Attenborough. It is a venue for touring theatre, comedy and music including James Graham's *Dear England* which celebrated the venue.
- 32 - BROADWAY CINEMA** An independent arthouse cinema in Hockley, that shows cult, independent and international film. Quentin Tarantino introduced the screening of his debut film, *Reservoir Dogs* back in 1992. Shane Meadows premiered his debut *Small Time* here in 1996. Tenx9 the storytelling monthly event is held here.
- 33 - LACE MARKET THEATRE** A small independent amateur theatre, located in the city centre featuring an array of productions.

NOTTINGHAM CITY OF LITERATURE



Nottingham was designated a UNESCO City of Literature in 2015