Take a mouth-watering wander through time, packed full of chocolate, pioneers & famous confectionery.

1. VISIT YORK INFORMATION CENTRE

Begin at the VIC, with splendid views of York Minster. The Minster was the only free trade area in the city in the 18th Century drawing international confectioners to this area.

2. MANSION HOUSE

Stroll along to St Helen’s Square, where you can still see what was an elegant Terry’s Chocolate Shop; the name is still quite visible. Terry’s original factory lay behind the shop which now houses Impossible Wunder Bar and Tea Room who even do a chocolate orange cocktail. Bettys Café Tea Rooms on the corner, another celebrated name in confectionery, has been handcrafting the finest chocolates for nearly 100 years, using rare Venezuelan criollo beans for their rich flavour.

3. YORK’S CHOCOLATE STORY

Discover York’s chocolate heritage at York’s Chocolate Story on King’s Square. Take a guided tour and follow a mouth-watering journey on which you’ll experience all of York’s chocolate history, as well as tasting some for yourself. From its Central American roots to our present, love affair with all things sweet, hear first-hand the story of how York became the Chocolate City!

4. ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Call in at All Saints Church on Pavement for some quiet reflection and gaze at the stained glass window, commemorating Mary Ann Craven of confectionary fame and paid for by her children. To the right, is the JORVIK Viking Centre, located in Coppergate on the original spot of Mary Ann Craven’s factory.

5. 28 PAVEMENT

Stop at 28 Pavement (Pizzazz Hut). This was the Rowntree’s store established by Joseph Rowntree senior. In 1838, the team of apprentices working in the Rowntree’s grocers included famous names such as Mr George Cadbury, alongside J.S. Rowntree. Don’t miss the Civic Trust Blue Plaque. Head through the Shambles past Monk Bar Chocolatiers, specialising in artisan chocolates.

6. FAIRFAX HOUSE

Experience Fairfax House, which houses the exceptional Noel Terry collection of English furniture and clocks from the family home, Goddards on Tadcaster Road. The collection was given to York Civic Trust in 1980 following his death – Noel was great grandson of Joseph, founder of the Terry confectionary business. Drop into York Cocoa Works on Castlegate. Inside you’ll find unique sweet and savoury chocolate treats; also on the menu are chocolate making workshops and chocolate demonstrations.

7. MERCHANT ADVENTURERS’ HALL

The Merchant Adventurers’ Hall is home to The Company of Merchant Adventurers, which controlled trade and industry in York. As a woman, Mary Tuke could only join the guild as the daughter or widow of a member. Mary was neither and as a result was fined and threatened with court action, but ignoring their opposition she went on to be one of the founding figures of York’s chocolate legacy.

8. WALMGATE & FOSSGATE

Onto Fossgate, where Mary Tuke’s original grocer’s shop once stood and where the Rowntree dynasty had its roots when apprentice and Mary’s fellow Quaker Henry Isaac Rowntree acquired the Cocoa business from her descendants. Today the street is chock full of independent delis and restaurants and is also home to Hotel Indigo, which offers delicious chocolate themed stays in its luxurious bedrooms.

9. CASTLE MUSEUM

Arrive at York’s renowned Castle Museum and check out the city’s sweet past and many of the brand names that made York world famous for confectionery. Step back in time at the Terry’s sweet shop, the Cocoa Temperance Room and the famous cobbled Kirkgate. Crossing Skeldergate Bridge towards Terry Avenue takes you over the River Ouse which brought the raw ingredients into the city for chocolate making.

10. ROWNTREE PARK

Situated on Terry Avenue is Rowntree Park, a gift to the City of York by Rowntree’s in 1921 as a memorial to the cocoa workers who fell during the First World War. Listed gates were added to the park in memory of those who died in the Second World War. Continue your walk out of the centre to Terry’s factory site which closed in 2005.

11. GODDARDS HOUSE & GARDEN

Venture a little further out of town onto Tadcaster Road to find Goddards, which was the home of Noel Terry, of the famous Terry’s of York chocolate firm. The house is open to the public, and you can discover the story of the famous family and life at the chocolate factory. Designed in the Arts and Crafts style, the house is complemented by beautiful gardens.

CHOCOLATE LOVERS CHOICE

Experience the very best in artisan produce at the following locations across the city:

A York Cocoa Works
B Bettys Café Tea Rooms
C Betty’s Stonegate
D York’s Chocolate Story
E Walmgate Ale House
F Monk Bar Chocolatiers
G Hotel Indigo
H Impossible Wunder Bar and Tea Room
I Shambles Market
Explore more ways to experience chocolate in the city...

**YORK CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL**
Come along to York’s Chocolate Festival as part of the York Easter Festival, which takes place every year over the Easter weekend. This four-day celebration of all things chocolate focuses on local artisan chocolatiers, with a chocolate market, workshops and chocolate tastings. Don’t miss out on this yummy highlight of the city’s festival calendar. 14 - 18 April 2022.

**YORK COCOA WORKS**
Central to York’s Chocolate scene, York Cocoa Works brings chocolate production back to the city. You can have a go yourself in the Cocoa Academy at their Chocolate Factory, with classes for all abilities and interest levels.

**ROUNTREE WALKS**
Follow in the footsteps of Joseph Rowntree via a number of informative Rowntree Walks available to purchase at the Visit York Information Centre or online.

**At York’s Chocolate Story you can discover the stories behind the greatest names in chocolate and uncover the secrets of chocolate making. A fully guided tour and three floors of interactive exploration take you on a journey through the city where chocolate made history.**

York’s fame and fortune have rested on chocolate for almost 300 years thanks to the vision and invention of its great entrepreneurial families, not to mention the industry and dedication of its people. At York’s Chocolate Story you’ll uncover the fascinating heritage that helped shape the city. Though much has changed over the centuries, York remains the UK’s home of chocolate.

The Quaker religion was the foundation to a number of thriving chocolate families in the city, the religious group favoured the cocoa industry because it offered workers an alternative to strong drink. Characters such as the pioneering Mary Tuke and Joseph Rowntree, central to York’s chocolate legacy came from such dynasties.

In 1862, the chocolate side of the business was sold to the factory foreman, fellow Quaker Henry Isaac Rowntree. Henry turned to his brother Joseph who hired a professional confectioner. After Henry’s death in 1883, Joseph took control and moved the expanding operation to the chocolate factory on Haxby Road.

Rowntree’s created Kit Kat, Smarties and Aero, while Terry’s came up with the Chocolate Orange. These global brands are inextricably linked with York’s chocolate inspiration...

The company’s early years were spent at the factory on Haxby Road. Some of the world’s most well-known names in chocolate began life in York – Rowntree’s created Kit Kat, Smarties and Aero, while Terry’s came up with the Chocolate Orange.

The City of Taste
City of taste is about more than just chocolate. Mary Craven’s factory on Coppergate had been producing boiled sweets since 1854 – sugared almonds, toffees and mint humbugs remain a treasured treat today. Today, chocolate and all things sweet have enriched York with a lasting legacy of iconic buildings, artisan confectionery producers and independent chocolate shops. The story is celebrated at York’s Chocolate Story in King’s Square which honours the people and industry that make York a centre for all things sweet.

The Quay Bar
City or taste is a focal point of York’s Chocolate Story. With a chocolate bar located on the main floor, the Quay Bar provides an authentic experience of York’s sweet story. Delicious chocolate bars, mugs and treats available to purchase.

Treasures Of York
Experience chocolate making. A fully guided tour and three floors of interactive exploration take you on a journey through the city where chocolate made history. At York’s Chocolate Story you can discover the stories behind the greatest names in chocolate and uncover the secrets of chocolate making. A fully guided tour and three floors of interactive exploration take you on a journey through the city where chocolate made history.

Visit York Information Centre on 01904 550099 or go to visityork.org/chocolate

The Quaker Spirit
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The city recently celebrated 250 years of being home to the UK’s home of chocolate. Though much has changed over the centuries, York remains the UK’s home of chocolate.