

A portrait of a woman, Ellenor Godsalve Rawlinson, wearing a light-colored hooded garment. The background is dark.

LANCASTER CITY MUSEUMS STORY TOURS

Programme 2025

Join our expert tour guides and knowledgeable museum team to explore the city of Lancaster, its museums, and the stories of Lancastrians through the centuries - from Roman warriors to lighthouse keepers, transported female convicts to a 70s gay commune which fought for a better world.

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www.lancaster.gov.uk/museums

LANCASTER
CITY COUNCIL

Promoting City, Coast & Countryside



TOM HUDSON

Tom is an Oxford graduate, with over a decade's worth of experience working within heritage. He has guided in Surrey, Kent, Lancashire and Cheshire for over twelve years. Tom's alter ego 'Johnny' Eccleston, coachman of the 'Perseverance' and man of ill repute leads participants on a witty and fascinating tour of the City.



NAOMI PARSONS

Naomi formed Lancastrian Research to further her passion for local and family history research but specialises in working class histories (prisons, asylums, workhouses, hospitals), public health and mapping land use with a focus on the 18th-20th centuries. Additionally, Naomi is a Freewoman of Lancaster and a Trustee of the Lancaster Health & Medical Museum Collection.



ELEANOR LEVIN

Eleanor is a musician and former BBC Radio presenter. She leads tours for Lancaster Maritime Museum and the Lancaster, Morecambe and District Headteacher Cluster on Lancaster and Transatlantic slavery, and the history of Morecambe. She is a member of the Lancaster Black History Group and the Morecambe Bay Curriculum.

EXPERT-LED CITY-WIDE TOURS

- Start from the City Museum, unless otherwise stated.*
- The Expert-led Tours take in the historic city of Lancaster, which has cobbled streets and steep hills. Please dress for any weather and wear comfortable shoes.
- The cost is **£10 for adults and £2.50 for children** (includes museum admission).

MUSEUM GALLERY TOURS

- Start at the museum stated.
- Our Gallery Tours are all inside, but please ask about access if you have any specific access requirements.
- The Cost is **£5 for adults and £2 for children** (includes museum admission).

Please follow the QR code to access the booking system, or visit www.civicaepay.co.uk/LancasterCityEstore

- We can not refund bookings that are cancelled within 24 hours of the date of the tour.
- Look out for this logo. It means that this tour was designed with families in mind.



Scan to book



Or visit our website

www.civicaepay.co.uk/LancasterCityEstore

Lancaster City Museum

Market Street, Lancaster, LA1 1HT

Tel: 01524 64637

Email: lancastercitymuseum@lancaster.gov.uk

Lancaster Maritime Museum

St. George's Quay, Lancaster, LA1 1RB

Tel: 01524 382264

Email: lancastermaritimemuseum@lancaster.gov.uk

EXPERT-LED CITY-WIDE TOURS

£10 Adults and £2.50 Children (including museum admission)

TUESDAY 18 MARCH

11am

City Museum

GOING TO BOTANY BAY- LANCASTER'S TRANSPORTED WOMEN WITH NAOMI PARSONS

Travelling around the city centre to the sites of their crimes, we explore the stories of six of the Lancaster women who were sentenced to transportation to Australia. Did they flourish or fail on the other side of the world?



SATURDAY 5 APRIL

11am

City Museum

HISTORICAL WOMEN OF LANCASTER - LIVES IN WRITING WITH ELEANOR LEVIN

Focusing on women's words and writing about women, including a nurse writing postcards home from WW1 France, an upcycling artist, a loom-breaking luddite, an anti-slavery campaigner, a child – much discussed but little understood, a nun, a duke, and a poet.

FRIDAY 11 APRIL

11am & 2pm

City Museum

GEORGIAN & REGENCY WALKING TOUR WITH TOM HUDSON

Meet 'Johnny' Lancaster coachman of ill dispute as he guides you around the inns, trades and assizes that gave Lancaster its name as the 'Hanging Town'. A fun family guided tour.



TUESDAY 13 MAY

11am

City Museum

HISTORICAL WOMEN OF LANCASTER - DIVERSE LIVES WITH ELEANOR LEVIN

Eleanor introduces participants to a footballer, a sculptor, a refugee from the Spanish Civil War, a hunger striking suffragette, a pioneering trans activist, a mayor, a prisoner, and more. There is also a quiz!

SATURDAY 14 JUNE

11am

City Museum

LGBTQ+ LANCASTER WITH ELEANOR LEVIN

Discover some of the people and places from Lancaster's LGBT History from 1751 to the present day. Including prisoners at Lancaster Castle, Lancaster's gay MPs, a pioneering trans activist, and a 1970s gay commune which fought for a better world.

TUESDAY 1 JULY

11am

City Museum

IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH- LANCASTER'S HISTORIC HOSPITALS WITH NAOMI PARSONS

Covering over 800 years of treating the sick, we explore the locations of Lancaster's earliest hospitals, dispensaries and chemists. Along the way we hear the stories of anaesthesia, amputations and grim discoveries in the name of medical science.

TUESDAY 15 JULY

11am

City Museum

HISTORICAL WOMEN OF LANCASTER - LIVES IN WRITING WITH ELEANOR LEVIN

Focusing on women's words and writing about women, including a nurse writing postcards home from WW1 France, an upcycling artist, a loom-breaking luddite, an anti-slavery campaigner, a child – much discussed but little understood, a nun, a duke, and a poet.

SATURDAY 26 JULY

11am & 2pm

City Museum

GEORGIAN & REGENCY WALKING TOUR WITH TOM HUDSON

Meet 'Johnny' Lancaster coachman of ill dispute as he guides you around the inns, trades and assizes that gave Lancaster its name as the 'Hanging Town'. A fun family guided tour.



TUESDAY 12 AUGUST

11am & 2pm

City Museum

GEORGIAN / REGENCY WALKING TOUR WITH TOM HUDSON

Meet 'Johnny' Lancaster coachman of ill dispute as he guides you around the inns, trades and assizes that gave Lancaster its name as the 'Hanging Town'. A fun family guided tour.



TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

11am

City Museum

GOING TO BOTANY BAY- LANCASTER'S TRANSPORTED WOMEN WITH NAOMI PARSONS

Travelling around the city centre to the sites of their crimes, we explore the stories of six of the Lancaster women who were sentenced to transportation to Australia. Did they flourish or fail on the other side of the world?

TUESDAY 7 OCTOBER

11am

City Museum

YARDS, COURTS & ALLEYS- CONDITIONS IN VICTORIAN LANCASTER WITH NAOMI PARSONS

Using Richard Owen's Health of Town's Report as our guide, we head down Lancaster's lesser used thoroughfares to discover the dreadful conditions that families lived in and the changes that helped to overcome the epidemics that plagued them.

SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER

11am

Maritime Museum

TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE WALKING TOUR WITH ELEANOR LEVIN

This **Black History Month** join Eleanor to explore Lancaster's history as a port in the triangular slave trade and the wider business of slavery -with a focus on the year 1764.

B:M2025
DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

MUSEUM GALLERY TOURS

£5 Adults and £2 Children (including museum admission)

SATURDAY 8 MARCH

1pm, 2pm, 3pm
City Museum

DOMESTICS, DEITIES & WARRIOR WOMEN

This **Women's History Day**, tour the City Museum galleries and discover the rarely told stories of Women from Roman to Medieval times.



TUESDAY 25 MARCH

11:30am, 1pm
City Museum

DOMESTICS, DEITIES & WARRIOR WOMEN

For **Women's History Month** we are repeating our popular women's history tour of the City Museum galleries. Discover the rarely told stories of Women from Roman to Medieval times.



TUESDAY 22 APRIL

11:30am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm
City Museum

THE GREAT WAR: FROM THE HOME FRONT TO THE BATTLEFRONT

Hear stories of those working on the home front to support the allied war effort, including workers in the dangerous shell filling factories of Morecambe. Meet a real Tommy and hear about the extraordinary bravery of ordinary men from the King's Own Regiment and how life changed after the war.

MONDAY 5 MAY

11:30am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm
City Museum

THE GREAT WAR: FROM THE HOME FRONT TO THE BATTLEFRONT

Hear stories of those working on the home front to support the allied war effort, including workers in the dangerous shell filling factories of Morecambe. Meet a real Tommy and hear about the extraordinary bravery of ordinary men from the King's Own Regiment and how life changed after the war.

THURSDAY 5 JUNE

7pm
City Museum

BEHIND THE EXHIBITION: ROMAN LANCASTER

Join our team for a twilight guided tour of our summer exhibition looking at Roman Lancaster. How did they decide what to exhibit and what stories to tell, and what insights do we get from archaeological excavations of Roman Lancaster?

WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE

11am, 11:30am, 1:30pm,
2pm
Maritime Museum

BETWEEN LAND AND SEA - VIP ACCESS

Join our team at the Maritime while the doors are closed to the public and find out about those who lived on the edge between land and sea: the female lighthouse keepers, those who dared to cross the sands, and meet some of Lancaster's wealthiest 18th century merchants.

SATURDAY 6 JULY

11am, 11:30am
Maritime Museum

BETWEEN LAND AND SEA - VIP ACCESS

Join our team at the Maritime while the doors are closed to the public and find out about those who lived on the edge between land and sea: the female lighthouse keepers, those who dared to cross the sands, and meet some of Lancaster's wealthiest 18th century merchants.

SATURDAY 26 JULY

11am, 1pm, 2pm
City Museum

ROMAN LANCASTER

Join our team for a Family-Friendly guided tour of our summer exhibition looking at Roman Lancaster. Hear about how the Romans lived and worked in the city and built the fort. We will answer questions like Why did they use sponges on long sticks? What did they eat? What games would children have played?



SATURDAY 23 AUGUST

11am, 1pm, 2pm
City Museum

ROMAN LANCASTER

Join our team for a Family-Friendly guided tour of our summer exhibition looking at Roman Lancaster. Hear about how the Romans lived and worked in the city and built the fort. We will answer questions like Why did they use sponges on long sticks? What did they eat? What games would children have played?



SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

11am, 11:30am
Maritime Museum

BETWEEN LAND AND SEA - VIP ACCESS

Join our team at the Maritime while the doors are closed to the public and find out about those who lived on the edge between land and sea: the female lighthouse keepers, those who dared to cross the sands, and meet some of Lancaster's wealthiest 18th century merchants.

**WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
29 & 30 OCTOBER**

11:30am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm
City Museum

THE STINKY HISTORY OF LANCASTER TOUR

A special half-term tour designed especially for lovers of all things stinky. This fun and Family-Friendly tour of the City Museum will really test your senses, and your stomach. From the stench of the fish market to the vile Victorian thunder box!

