This map is designed to help you find your way to Leeds Waterfront and explore the area on foot. Readymaps Leeds Waterfront website also offers interactive directions and other useful travel information.

Walking the walk, you will arrive at Armley Mills, the home to Leeds Industrial Museum. 1.3 miles from Waterfront place, Leeds Industrial Museum contains exhibits from the 18th century to the present day and tells the history of manufacturing in Leeds, including clothing, shoes, glassware, printing and engineering. The Galleries and collections tell the story of the industries that have shaped Leeds City since the mill and the island on which it sits. Learn how its workers lived and worked.

Thwaite Mills is one of the last remaining examples of a water powered mill. Learn how its workers lived and worked. Visit the museum at 11am and 1pm.

Over the footbridge is another gem: Brewery Wharf. At the heart of Leeds Waterfront, the vibrant mixture of housing, amenities and businesses creates a unique community full of stunning architecture, with shops and restaurants along the waterfront. Enjoy a drink from one of the coffee shops whilst walking the wide pedestrianised boulevards and community full of stunning architecture, with shops and restaurants along the waterfront.

Visit Thwaite Mills, a fascinating area full of historic 19th century houses and buildings from its rich industrial past. Workshops and demonstrations explore the history of manufacturing in Leeds, including clothing, shoes, glassware, printing and engineering. The Galleries and collections tell the story of the industries that have shaped Leeds City since the mill and the island on which it sits. Learn how its workers lived and worked.

Thwaite Mills 2m

Walk It

Available Leeds
Leeds is very compact and walkable, particularly if you stick to the banks of the River Aire and Leeds and Liverpool canal, as indicated on the map here and the main railway lines outside.

15 minute walk

Leeds Visitor Centre
Visitable is a friendly visitor information centre and art gallery shop located at the Leeds Art Gallery on The Headrow, open 7 days a week, 10am - 5pm.

@VisitLeeds
www.visitleeds.co.uk
0113 231 6957

Leeds Travel Information
With up-to-the-minute information about car parking spaces, public transport and fatigue stopping points, travelling rail and around Leeds has never been easier.

0113 231 7674
www.leedstravel.info

Leeds Waterfront
Leeds Waterfront is a green haven in the city centre and a great place to visit from the shops, museums and galleries.

1.3m

Thwaite Mills
The Tetley
Leeds Dock
Leeds Museum Discovery Centre

Armenley Mills (off map)

Wellington Place
A thriving cultural and artistic centre full of stunning architecture, with shops, restaurants and bars alongside the historic 19th century houses and buildings. Walk to the heart of Leeds Waterfront.

Holbeck
A thriving creative and cultural hub of the city. An area of former mills and factories on the banks of the River Aire. Enjoy a drink from one of the coffee shops whilst walking the wide pedestrianised boulevards and community full of stunning architecture, with shops and restaurants along the waterfront.

The Tetley
A centre for contemporary art and culture. Located in the former Tetley Brewery. The campus also enjoys Yorkshire food and drink.

Leeds Dock
A home to the world famous Royal Armouries Museum, the national collection of arms and armour. Visit Leeds Dock, the world famous Royal Armouries Museum, the national collection of arms and armour. Visit Leeds Dock, home to the world famous Royal Armouries Museum, the national collection of arms and armour.

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History of Leeds' Waterfront

The earliest settlement at Leeds developed near a crossing point on the River Aire, and without the river it is likely that there would have been no settlement, and no city of Leeds. The river and its associated waterways have been crucial to the growth of the city as a centre of industry and commerce.

The waterfront, where the city and the waterways meet, was for many years one of the most important areas of Leeds. The river was also important in providing water for the textile industry.

During the medieval period the most important part of woolen cloth making, the fulling process, became mechanised with the invention of the water powered fulling mill. The soft water of the River Aire was ideal for this and a fulling mill was built in 1322, on the west side of Leeds Bridge. A second mill was built in 1350 on the west side of the bridge, and by 1600, there were fulling mills all along the northern bank of the river. They were powered by water wheels, like the one at Thosley Mill.

Leeds Bridge

Leeds Bridge, crossing the river at the bottom of Briggate, was built at some time during the 15th century. It is said that it was built with stones from the old Leeds castle. The cloth market was held on the bridge every Tuesday and Saturday morning until 1666, when it was moved to Briggate. The bridge was widen in 1730, 1745, and again in 1796, and was demolished in 1871, when the present bridge was built.

Leeds Bridge, 1888

Louis Aimé Auguste Le Prince was a French artist and the inventor of an early motion picture camera. It is claimed that Le Prince filmed the first ever moving images on Leeds Bridge in 1888. Take a look at the Leeds website to see the moving picture sequence.