

Geographygeek Explorer Trail 6: ANSWERS Fleetwood, Lancashire (2.5 miles)



Really Important Health and Safety bit:

- Take someone responsible with you and do not talk to strangers.
- Watch for cars and trams when walking alongside the roads.
- Remember that the currents and tides can be very strong in the river and along this stretch of coastline.

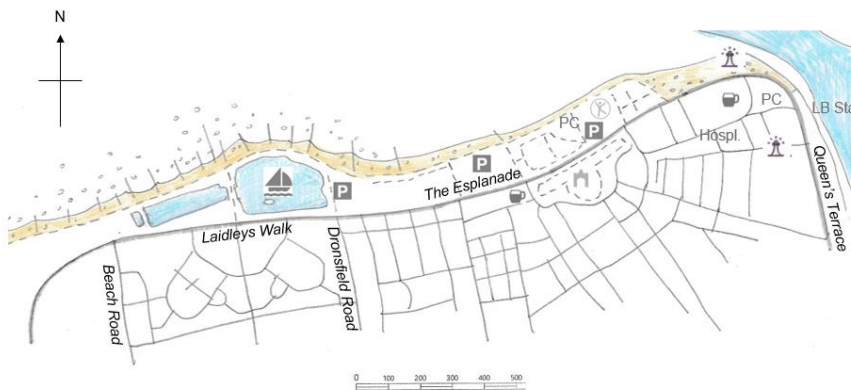


You will also need:

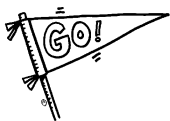
- A compass or a compass app

Park at the Sunken Car Park, which is located to the east of the boating lake on Laidleys Walk (the postcode FY7 7JA will take you close by). This is a free car park and there are usually plenty of spaces.

Fill in the boxes to answer the questions as you go along. For now, ignore all of the small letters that are shown in the bottom of some of the boxes, but try not to write over them as you'll need them later!



KEY	
	Car Park
PC	Toilets
	Beach/tidal flats
	Boating pool
	Pub
	Mount Pavilion
---	Footpath
LB Sta	Lifeboat station
Hospl.	Hospital
	Lighthouse
	Leisure centre/swimming



1. From the car park, walk in an easterly direction towards two black posts and a footpath beyond. Beside the posts there is a sign titled 'Wyre Council Marine Gardens'. Take a look at the sign.

What is the email address for Wyre Council?

M A I L R O O M @ W Y R E . G O V . U K

2. Walk along the footpath in at a bearing of 80° ENE, with higher ground to your left and buildings visible along the main road on your right. When you reach a black litter bin, cross over some steps towards the north.

How many steps UP are there here? (hint: don't count the steps down!)

4

- Once over the steps, the path runs roughly east to west. Walk to the east. The sea wall and the beach should be on your left and you will see a domed building ahead.
- As you get closer to the domed building, the beach opens out on your left and you will see a white single-storey building to your right. There are some noticeboards on the side of this building. Have a look at these notice boards as they give very important information to visitors.

Who is on duty when the red flag is flying?

L	I	F	E	G	U	A	R	D
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- Continue along a bearing of 65° NE. You will pass some beach huts to your right and the sea wall and beach to your left. Notice the low wooden structures that run down the beach towards the sea. These are called 'groynes'. They help to trap sand and build up the beach, which prevents erosion.
- Along the sea wall there are many notices about dogs.

Which type of dogs are allowed on the beach between 1st May and 30th September?

G	U	I	D	E
D	O	G	S	

- You will eventually pass by a second set of beach huts, after which the path will change course to around 120° SE. As the path bends you will see a lighthouse and a large brick building to the east.

What words are written on the brick building to the east?

N	O	R	T	H	
E	U	S	T	O	N
H	O	T	E	L	

- Follow the path around at an approximate bearing of 120° SE. There is a playground to your right, where you may have time to stop off. Continue along this path and cross through a metal barrier to meet the main road. To your left is the site of Fleetwood Pier, which no longer exists. The pier was demolished after a fire in 2008.
- The main road runs from north-east to south-west. Walk to the north-east towards the Lower Lighthouse up ahead. Find the sign on the side of the lighthouse.

What rock was used to build the Lower Lighthouse?

W	H	I	T	E				
S	A	N	D	S	T	O	N	E

When was the Lower Lighthouse opened?

1	8	4	0
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- At the lighthouse, follow the esplanade to the east. You will pass by the Welcome Home sculpture and you should have a good view of the North Euston Hotel to the south-west and the ferries crossing the River Wyre to the east.
- When the road bends towards a southerly direction, you will pass by the lifeboat station and ferry crossing to your left. Just before the lifeboat station there is a road sign low down, which tells you that The Esplanade is a shortened version of what this road used to be called.

What word was removed from the road name The Esplanade?

F	I	E	L	D	E	N
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- Continue past some cafes and shops. When you reach the amusement arcade and a green fence beyond, bear 250° WSW along Pharos Street. Be careful as there are trams passing by here. Walk along past the old cast iron tram shelter and the Pharos Lighthouse.
- Cross over North Albert Street to continue in a westerly direction along Pharos Street. Almost immediately on your right, you will see a large public building.

What is this building?

F	L	E	E	T	W	O	O	D
H	O	S	P	I	T	A	L	

- Follow a bearing of 340° N along N. Church Street and when you reach the Police Station, take a bearing of 250° WSW along a tree-lined street. This is Bold Street.
- Walk to the end of Bold Street and, when the buildings to your right disappear, you will see an area of grass behind a wall to your west. Take a bearing of 330° NNW along Mount Road. You should see a health and fitness centre ahead of you and the sea behind.

What is the name of the leisure centre? (Hint: look to the right of the building, not the left!)

M	A	R	I	N	E
S	P	L	A	S	H

- About halfway along Mount Road there is a gap in the cobble wall on the left. Walk through this gap along a bearing of 240° SW. Continue ahead up the hill to The Mount Pavilion. As you walk up the hill, count the number of benches that you pass.

How many benches did you pass walking up the hill to The Mount Pavilion?

1	2
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- At an elevation of 14m above sea level, The Mount Pavilion is the highest point along this route and you will get a good view from the top. Notice the weather vane on the dome of the pavilion. This should show the same directions as your compass or the compass app on your phone.

18. Pass by The Mount Pavilion and walk down the hill the other side. If the Pavilion is closed off you can either walk behind it to the south (where there is another playpark) or in front of it to the north and you should re-join your original path.
19. You should leave the pavilion grounds where Abbots Walk leads off along a bearing of 255° WSW. At the start of Abbots Walk are some coastguard cottages. Originally the seafront gardens and the row of buildings in-between Abbots Walk and the beach didn't exist and so boats were kept behind these cottages where the coastguards had easy access to the sea.
20. The other houses along Abbots Walk are all quite similar and, if you're walking along the pavement to the northern side of the street you will see that the houses have basements below street level (look for the metal grates in the ground and you will see windows below). Use the descriptions below to identify the housing type here.

<i>Detached</i>	<i>When a house stands on its own and is not joined to any other houses.</i>
<i>Semi-detached</i>	<i>When there are two houses joined together.</i>
<i>Terraced</i>	<i>When more than two houses are joined together.</i>

What type of houses are found along Abbots Walk?

T	E	R	R	A	C	E	D
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21. When you reach the end of Abbots Walk, bear 350° N onto Carr Road. At the end of Carr Road, bear 260° WSW along The Esplanade. After 80 paces, use the crossing to reach the pavement on the northern side of the road. The sea should be on your right. There are red triangle warning signs along this road. Use the images below to identify what drivers are being warned to look out for:



CYCLISTS



LEFT BEND



CHILDREN

What are drivers along The Esplanade being warned to look out for?

C	Y	C	L	I	S	T	S
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22. Cross the entrance to the Sunken Car Park and walk in a westerly direction along the southern side of the boating lake. Once past the first boating lake, bear north between two food kiosks with domed roofs. This will take you up onto a bridge between two boating lakes, one that is rectangular and one that is more rounded.

From the bridge, is the rectangular boating lake to the east or west?

W	E	S	T
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23. Once over the bridge, you will reach a crossing where you must walk to the east or west. Walk to the east. You will have the boating lakes on your right and the sea on your left.

24. Look carefully at the plants growing in the sand on the beach. Use the table below to identify this type of plant:

	Pampas Grass – tall grass with large creamy-white flowers.		Fescue Grass – low-growing grass, often seen on lawns.		Marram Grass – spiky grass with roots that burrow deep into sand.
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Which type of grass is found on the beach here?

M	A	R	R	A	M
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25. Continue along this path until the boating lake ends. When the lake ends, take the path to the south and return to the Sunken Car Park where you began the walk.

NOW USE THE ANSWERS TO CRACK THE CODE AND COMPLETE THE INFORMATION ABOUT FLEETWOOD:



Fleetwood is a town of around 26,000 people. It first came into existence around the time that a railway line was opened from nearby Preston in 1840. It is a planned town, whereby many of the streets radiate out from the high area of land known as The Mount. This makes the map of Fleetwood look a bit like a wheel. Fleetwood became a busy seaside resort and one of the top fishing ports in the country. There are three lighthouses, all built around 1840, that guide ships safely into the Wyre channel. Fleetwood's position on the coast has led to some major flooding incidents over time. The 1927 and 1977 floods were particularly bad. The town is now protected by a £64 million sea wall to the west and groynes that secure the beaches to the north.