

BLACK HISTORY MAP

This map has been created to help shed light on Black British culture within Gloucestershire.

These routes vary in length, difficulty, and terrain, and some may have uneven surfaces or steep sections. We recommend reviewing the route descriptions and advise you to be prepared for the weather conditions and terrain. Be aware of potential hazards such as steep drops, narrow paths, or uneven surfaces. We encourage all visitors to follow the countryside code, respect nature, and leave no trace. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries.

KEY



- Railway
- National Cycle Path
- Cotswold Way
- Road



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 insight and work.
 acknowledge by giving thanks for his
 historian Stuart Butler, whom we
 produced in collaboration with the
 British culture. This project was
 shedding light on the best of Black
 We bring communities together by
 contemporary art, poetry, and music.
 documentaries, literature, black
 voice to the best independent films,
 cultural events organisation giving
 Black Ark Media is a Stroud-based



A guide by train to black history and culture throughout Gloucestershire

BLACK HISTORY MAP



Gloucestershire

1 GLOUCESTER STATION

1a George Whitfield at St Mary's de Crypt Church

Situated on a bustling city centre street, this centuries-old Church is where, George Whitfield, an Anglican cleric, evangelist cofounder of Methodism and the evangelical movement, preached his first sermon. As a plantation owner and slaveholder, Whitefield's 1748-1750 campaign for the reintroduction of slavery in Georgia saw the enslavement of over 452,198 people during the following 100 years.

 850m from station  11 min walk  3 min cycle

1b Bakers Quay

These 3 Victorian warehouses featured in the biographical film, 'Amazing Grace,' and are now a residential quarter within Gloucester's Historic Docks. The original 1838 development played a significant role in the prosperity of Gloucester and was funded by trading merchants Samuel Baker and Thomas Phillpotts. Baker had owned 410 enslaved people in Jamaica and was paid £7,990 'compensation' for abolition in 1833. Phillpotts, whose son's warehouse is 450m North of this Quay, owned 700 enslaved people, some as shared investments with Baker.

 1.5km from station  19 min walk  7 min cycle

1c Barton Street and Tredworth

Visit 3 significant sites linked to the history of black culture in this multicultural corner of Gloucester. Begin at Tredworth Junior School, the oldest school for black children in the country, opened in the 1800s when racial discrimination in the school system was a serious issue. Head East to the All Nations Community Centre, one of the first Blackowned clubs in the country, established by Jamaican people from the Windrush generation. Finish at The Friendship Café, a place from where local minority communities run projects and activities. The charity also runs St James City Farm, 600m away, providing a taste of the countryside in the heart of the city.

 1.8km from station  22 min walk  7 min cycle

2 CHELTENHAM STATION

2a Lansdown Crescent

36 Cheltenham slave owners received 'compensation' following the 1834 Slavery Abolition Act. This short walk through the Regency streets passes by 4 of those residencies. Starting at Lansdown Terrace where an Eleanor Jopp, owner of 14 slaves in Jamaica received £283, onto Lansdown Crescent where William Attwick Hamer, 456 slaves in British Guiana and Edward Kendall, 59 slaves in Dominica were paid £22,846 and £1,303 respectively. Continue to Montpellier Terrace where Henry Bromfield received £6,843 for 128 slaves in British Guiana. No enslaved person has ever been compensated.

 1.3km from station  17 min walk  4 min cycle

2b Assembly Rooms




In the 1800s the Assembly Rooms was a hub for the Cheltenham elite, housing art, theatre, and politics (inc debates on the abolition of slavery). Now known as Cheltenham Town Hall, the building was made possible by wealthy local investors like William Hinds Prescod, of Alstone Lawn (Chelts). Prior to abolition he was the largest slave owner in Barbados and claimed £37,000 in 'compensation'. Prescod is said to have freed over 20 slaves while in Barbados and fathered 4 children with a formerly enslaved woman. His son Samuel Jackman Prescod became the first black politician in Barbados.

 2.1km from station  26 min walk  8 min cycle

3 CAM & DURSLEY STATION

3a Frocester Manor and Estate

Opposite the old Coaching Inn is the entrance to the Frocester Estate, bought by returning slave-factor Leonard Parkinson in 1806 with money made from selling whole 'human cargoes' of slave-ships to estate-owners in Jamaica. The Estate was inherited by his son in law John Altham Graham Clarke, who was awarded £8,934 in 1834 for 482 slaves in Jamaica.

 4.7km from station  57 min walk  15 min cycle

4 ASHCURCH FOR TEWKESBURY STATION

4a Tewkesbury Town Hall

A portrait of Sir William Codrington hangs in the Council Chamber at Tewkesbury Town Hall as a tribute to the £1200 he donated for its construction in 1788. The Codrington family made a great fortune from large plantations worked by enslaved people in the West Indies. The son, William Codrington returned to England in 1721 and took up residence at Dodington Park. Seeking a seat in the House of Commons, Codrington failed election attempts in Banbury and Minehead before securing the position of MP for Tewkesbury in 1761.

 3.7km from station  46 min walk  14 min cycle

4b Tewkesbury Abbey

Former Benedictine monastery, now a parish church, the abbey houses memorials to the local aristocracy; among them 2 key memorial plaques. The 1st reads 'In a vault near this spot are deposited the remains of John Reid Esq of Jamaica... distinguished for the goodness of his heart.' Reid was awarded over £62,000 'compensation' for his 3000+ slaves across the west indies and British Virgin Islands. The 2nd plaque is for the 'remarkably pious and charitable' Lady Ann Clarke, wife of slave-owner Sir Simon Clarke.

 4km from station  49 min walk  13 min cycle

5 STONEHOUSE STATION

5a Ebley Chapel

This church is part of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, an evangelical branch founded by Selina Hastings, a slave owner who inherited George Whitfield's estates in Georgia and South Carolina. The Countess was also a patron of Phillis Wheatley the first African American and enslaved person to publish a book of poetry. In 1826 Ebley Minister Benjamin Parsons was known for his speeches and writings supporting progressive causes including the abolition of slavery.

 2.6km from station  34 min walk  12 min cycle

6 STROUD STATION

6a Abolition Arch

This Grade II* Arch is Britain's oldest antislavery memorial. Originally built as the entrance to Farmhill Park for Henry Wyatt, a clothier who bought the Stroud property the same year as the Abolition Act (having been a tenant since 1817). A supporter of the Stroud Anti-Slavery Society he pressurised MP, W. H. Hyett, to vote for abolition in Parliament. The Arch is a source of pride and for some a reminder of the £20m (equivalent) injection into the Stroud District economy from seven local 'compensated' slave owners.

 2km from station  25 min walk  8 min cycle

6b Black Boy Clock

At the junction of Castle, Nelson and Middle Streets a 1774 'Jack clock' sits within a specially designed niche on an old Girls School Building. This depiction of a small Black boy with a club may have been inspired by tobacco advertisements of the time. It was made by Stroud watchmaker, John Miles 270+ years into the transatlantic slave trade. Some of the Stroud elite were connected to and profited from this trade. In April 2022 the Council recommended that the clock be removed.

 650m from station  9 min walk  7 min cycle

7 LYDNEY STATION

7a Lydney Park Estate

Here, Black African Tudor Porter, Edward Swarthy, joined Sir Edward Wynter's household at White Cross Manor (former house on this site) and is recorded as having whipped fellow servant John Guye under Wynter's orders in 1596. Guye went on to become Mayor of Bristol. In 1719 Lydney Park Estate was acquired by Benjamin Bathurst, MP for Gloucestershire. Bathurst was a supporter of the slave trade and his father was a slave trader in the late 1600s.

 2.9km from station  20 min walk  6 min cycle

8 KEMBLE STATION

8a Ewen

The quaint village of Ewen, birth place of Allen Davenport (1775 – 1846) a shoe maker, poet, socialist and advocate of women's rights. As a Chartist and Spencean, Davenport supported the working-class movement for political reform and advocated the common ownership of all land alongside his close confidant Robert Wedderburn, a British-African-Caribbean revolutionary and son of a Scottish slave master and plantation owner, he provoked sympathy in his 1824 publication 'The Horrors of Slavery,' influencing the Abolitionist movement.

 3.4km from station  33 min walk  10 min cycle

9 MORETON IN MARSH STATION

Accessed via Worcestershire Parkway and Worcester Shrub Hill Stations

9a Sezincote House & Estate

Colonel John Cockerell bought this estate in 1795 on his return from his service for the East India Company (EIC) in Bengal. Debrett's Baronetage 1835, states J Cockerell (1714-1767) died in Antigua yet records of his interests in the West Indies are elusive. His youngest brother, Sir Charles Cockerell, an EIC official, was responsible for the 'Indian manner' of the house. In 1837 he was awarded £1450 for 52 Enslaved people in Mauritius.

 4.7km from station  1hr min walk  19 min cycle



Scan here for access maps for train stations and explore this project further.



Active Gloucestershire

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