

Antiques, Arts & Specialist Books

Explore the York's historic streets, ginnels and snickelways in your hunt for paintings, antiques and rare books.

You may like first to head slightly outside the encircling walls, turning right out of the Tourist Information Centre and right again into **Gillygate**. Here the **Adze Gallery** stocks contemporary work by both British and international artists - paintings, sculptures, original prints and ceramics with a varied programme of exhibition. Turn right into **Bootham**, where No 8 **Janette Ray Rare Books** (open Fridays and Saturdays or by appointment) specialises in architecture, design and gardens.

Returning to the Tourist Information Centre and on the left past the Theatre Royal (on this site since 1744), the **Red House Antiques Centre** in **Duncombe Place** houses over 60 antique dealers under one roof. Selling everything from furniture and porcelain to silver and jewellery, there is also a good selection of art deco and art nouveau pieces.

Carrying on across the traffic lights into **Blake Street** and the pedestrian area The **Blake Gallery** in has original works in many mediums including watercolours, oils, pastels, ceramics and highly collectable Sally Arnup bronzes.

Continuing into St Helen's Square, two right turns bring you to the **York Antique Centre** in **Lendal**. This is home to around 15 independent dealers on two floors selling smaller antiques, silver and a mix of old and new jewellery. Return To St Helen's Square; straight in front leading up to the Minster is **Stonegate**. This was the Printers and booksellers street back in the 18th C- halfway up on the right look out for the red Printer's Devil, deriving from the

mischievous printers apprentices. **The Antiques Centre** has one of the best collections in the North of England and staff have an encyclopaedic knowledge of the stock. With over 150 dealers specialising in china, glass, porcelain, gold, silver, jewellery, clocks, watches, fine art, ancient antiquities, furniture, toys and books as well as myriad collectables. Just opposite you'll find **Cavendish Antique and Collectors Centre** with over 50 showcases over three floors specialising in jewellery. For collectors of fine period English silver jewellery, a visit to **Barbara Cattle** at 45 Stonegate is a must

Under the shadow of the Minster at the top of Stonegate in **Minster Gates**, the **Minster Gate Book Shop** is a friendly, 'browsable' store with seven rooms housing a vast collection of antiquarian and second hand books including children's, mythology, folklore and a smaller selection of history, English literature and art. The shop offers a book-search service and also an interesting selection of decorative prints, maps and engravings. Turning left into **Low Petergate**, The **Braithwaite Gallery** is the studio of local artist M.J. Braithwaite. A great opportunity to buy original and signed limited edition prints. The artist can often be seen working a little further along the street.

At the end of Petergate turn left into **Goodramgate**; about 250 yards along the street, **Mulberry Bush** at No 36 is a quaint, busy antique shop and gallery selling smaller pieces of furniture, silver and ceramics as well as two floors of modern, contemporary and 20th century painting, many by local artists.

An enjoyable 10 - 15 minutes walk away and on the opposite side of the river,

Ken Spelman has been trading in ***Micklegate*** since 1948 and specialises in rare, antiquarian & fine books. With over 40,000 books, the shop is run and owned by ex-students of the University of York, and offers a free book-search service. Still in Micklegate, **The French House** is a treasure chest of 18th and 19th century French furniture including fabulous beds, gilt mirrors and lighting. If you're looking for country furniture and collectables, try **Ruth Ford Antiques** on ***Fossgate***, which is just a short walk away back across the River. **Philip Martin Music Books** is just next door and attracts customers from miles around to its impressive collection of new and second hand music books.