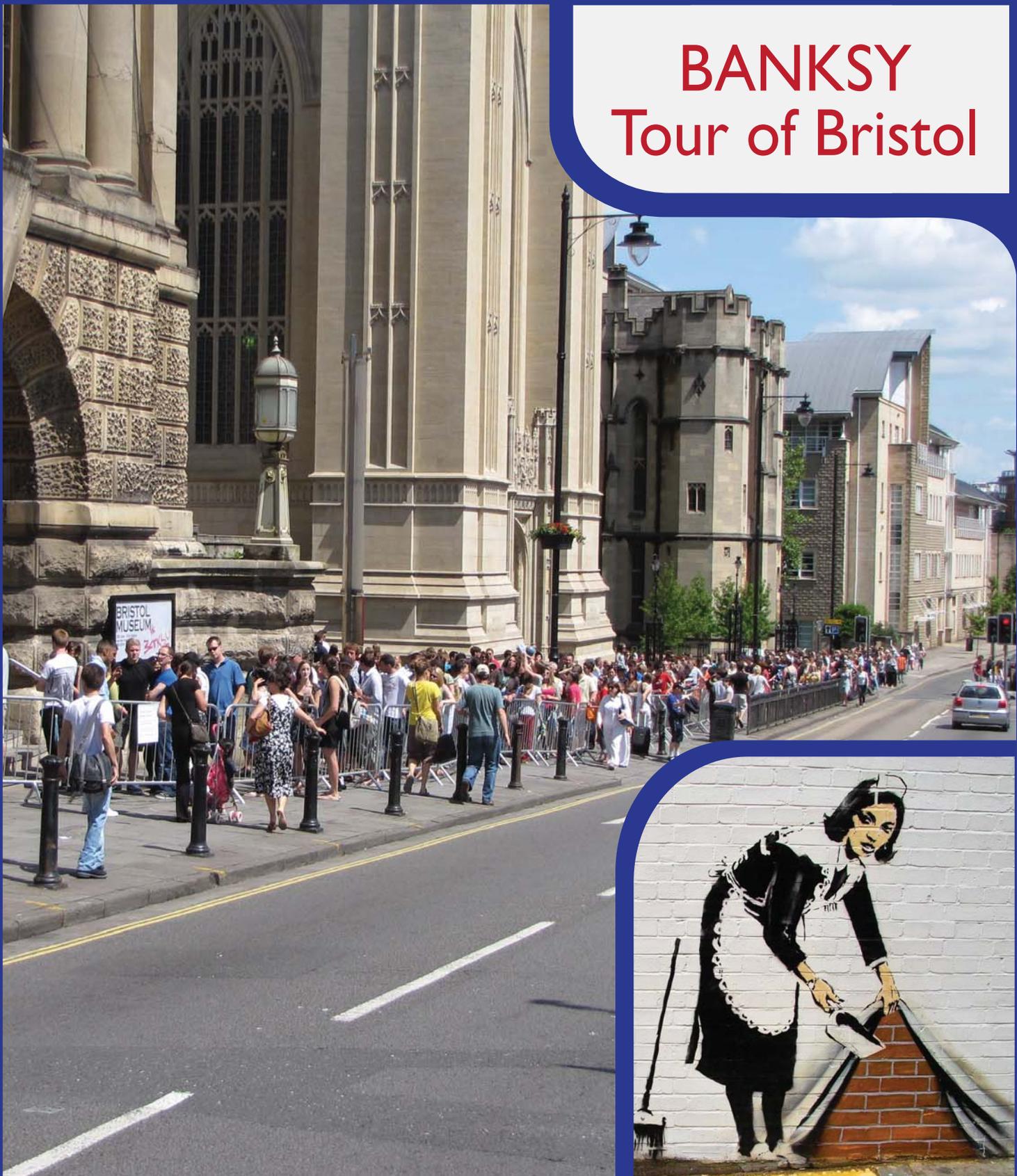


BANKSY Tour of Bristol



This is one of a series of tours provided free of charge by
www.tourinaday.com

Distance: 1.9 Miles (approx 3km) Time: 40 minutes





Introduction

This is one of a series of tours provided free of charge by www.tourinaday.com. It provides a self-guided tour around Bristol to see the work of the celebrated British street artist Banksy who was raised in Bristol. The son of a photocopier technician, Banksy trained as a butcher but became involved in graffiti during the late 1980s where he made his career. His artworks are usually satirical pieces of art on topics such as politics, culture, and ethics.

- 1** The tour starts in the centre of Bristol at the easterly end of Redcliff Street. Gaze across the water front and you can see a boat painted green and cream. This boat is one of the city's oldest and best loved clubs, called the Thekla. Examine it more carefully along the waterline and you will notice one of Banksy's most well known pieces of work, a skeleton painted in white. The image of Death is based on a 19th century etching illustrating the pestilence of The Great Stink (a time in the summer of 1858 during which the smell of untreated sewage was very strong due to lack of proper sewers and cholera was endemic).



- 2** Once you have finished admiring this first work, head to the westerly end of Redcliff Street and cross the road to Prince Street Bridge ferry landing. From here you can pick up a taxi boat to take you to the Bristol City Centre ferry landing. Alternatively you may choose to walk by crossing Prince St Bridge and following the water front. From the landing steps head left and up the hill towards Park Street.

As you walk up Park St you will cross over Frog Lane over a small bridge where you should stop to catch your breath back. As you rest, look at the wall of the building opposite the bridge. At first glance you will notice a window with someone looking out, but look more closely, it is another Banksy work. This work known as the "Naked Man" shows what looks to be a jealous lover staring from the window as his love rival hangs from the window sill. The City Council originally wanted to remove this work but after protest agreed to keep it due to Banksy's increasing popularity.

3 Next take the steps at the side of the bridge down to Frogmore street below. Follow Frogmore until it merges in to Trenchard Street. At the end of Trenchard bare left up the hill until you reach Upper Maudlin Street. Shortly after the roads merge there is a set of traffic lights. Look up to the right and you should see the next Banksy. This image shows an image of a police marksman armed with a sniper rifle with a child holding a paper bag ready to burst behind him. Banksy painted the image with the sniper holding the rifle in to his right shoulder and steadied with his right hand and the left hand on the trigger, according to experts this is not the way a professional would hold the gun if they wanted to hit anything, apparently he would be lucky to hit the hospital wall opposite let alone anything else.



4 The next stop on the tour is a ten minute walk. Follow Upper Maudlin street past the hospital on your left until you reach a set of traffic lights. Head left on to Jamaica street and keep walking along this until you reach the junction with Stokes Croft road. At the junction look across the road at the 1960s building, to the right of this is a smaller house. You will notice a Banksy painted on the second floor of the building on its left side.



This piece is titled the “Mild Mild West” and depicts a teddy bear throwing a Molotov cocktail at riot police.

5 To see the final piece on this Banksy tour, turn your back on the Mild Mild West and head up Stokes Croft road. Just before the traffic lights take a left on to Nine Tree Hill and follow it up until the road ends and you reach Freemantle square. At the square turn left and then first left again. Walk down Thomas Street North and on the left hand side of the road you will notice a picture frame next to a side gate. Look more closely and you will see the frame protects Banksy's piece "The Trapped Rose" depicting a rose in a mousetrap. Local residents placed the frame over the artwork to protect it from other graffiti artists who had been spraying the wall.



That's the end of this tour but other tours are available at www.tourinaday.com for you to download for free. If you are interested in more Banksy, his work has now appeared in many cities around the world and he also has some lesser know pieces around Bristol if you have more time on your hands.

Let us know if you have any comments or would like to see anything added using the feedback form at www.tourinaday.com

Warning: Street art is in a constant state of flux, pieces are appearing and disappearing constantly and we make no guarantees the work featured in this tour will still be in the same state or even exist at all when you visit – good luck!