

TRAIL MAP: TWO

FROM:

**RUSSELL SQ
STATION**

TO:

**The Postal Museum
Mail Rail**



Discover some of hidden London using this trail map.
Enjoy your journey!



The Postal Museum
Phoenix Place
London WC1X 0DA



THINGS TO SEE:

1. RUSSELL SQUARE STATION
2. JM BARRIE PLAQUE
3. CORAM'S FIELDS GOATS
4. DOUGHTY STREET SIGN
5. VIEW OF MOUNT PLEASANT

TRAIL MAP TWO:



1 RUSSELL SQUARE STATION:

Turn around as you leave Russell Square station and admire this iconic red-tiled building. Opened as part of the Great Northern, Piccadilly and Brompton Railway in December 1906 it's one of the fifty or so by Leslie Green, who was just 29 when he came up with the designs. Every one of these red station buildings has its own distinctive tiling on the platforms with a unique pattern and colour. Many of them are no longer stations, but still survive. See if you can spot any when you're walking around London.



2

JM BARRIE PLAQUE:

This plaque marks the site of JM Barrie's former home at 8 Grenville Street in Bloomsbury. Sir James Matthew Barrie, the novelist most famous for creating Peter Pan – developed the concept for the boy who never grew up while living here, and imagined Peter flying through Wendy's window on the top floor of the house, which overlooked Brunswick Square Gardens, just over the road.



3 CORAM'S FIELDS GOATS:

Coram's Fields is a unique playground and park for children. Standing on the site of the Foundling Hospital, established in 1739 to look after unwanted children, it boasts a small farm with rabbits, birds, chickens and even three goats! They're often grazing on this side of the park. Can you see them? Oh and beware if you're an adult and want to go exploring. You aren't allowed in without a child!



4

DOUGHTY STREET SIGN:

It might look like any other street sign, but this is the street where Charles Dickens used to live. Moving into 48 Doughty Street just months before Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837, it was here that he wrote *Oliver Twist*, *Pickwick Papers* and *Nicholas Nickleby*. The house is now a museum to the great author, where you can uncover his private world and see, along with many of his possessions, his study, the family bedchambers, and the servants' quarters below stairs.

5 VIEW OF MOUNT PLEASANT:

You're almost at The Postal Museum! The building in front of you is Royal Mail's Mount Pleasant Sorting Office. It used to be one of the largest sorting offices in the world and has been here since 1889. Before that, Mount Pleasant was the site of Coldbath Fields Prison, founded in the early 1600s and reserved for 'felons, misdemeanants and vagrants'. Mount Pleasant sounds, well, pleasant, but its name is actually ironic, coming from Tudor times when the site was used for dumping human waste, reaching almost 30 feet high.

