THE TOWERS *of* BATH

Beckford's Tower & Museum

Open March – October, Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Monday's, 10.30am – 5pm (last admission 4.30pm).

www.beckfordstower.org.uk

For more information or to book a group visit contact us on 01225 460705
tower@bptrust.org.uk

Bath Abbey Tower Tours

Run Monday – Saturday throughout the year.

www.bathabbey.org/towertours

For further information or to book a group tower tour please contact 01225 422462 or towertours@bathabbey.org

Bell Tower Tours at St Michael's Without

Tours of the bell tower at St Michael's Church (no. 4 on this trail) are available by arrangement for a small fee. For more information contact 01225 447103 or email office@stmichaelsbath.org.uk

Beckford's Tower & Museum

Bath Abbey

St Michael's Without

BathAbbey

heritage lottery fund
LOTTERY FUNDED

BECKFORD'S TOWER AND MUSEUM

Bath & North East Somerset Council

THE TOWERS *of* BATH

Bath is a city famed for its Georgian buildings, but many of the towers that punctuate its skyline date from the Victorian period, when the revival of the Gothic architectural style saw the appearance of new spires and smoking chimneys.

New towers were added in the twentieth century, although many more were also destroyed during the bombing of Bath in the Second World War.

Follow this trail to explore some of the tall towers and soaring spires of Bath and discover how they stand as landmarks to ambition, religion, and escape.

Bath ABBEY

Standing 49 metres tall, the tower of Bath Abbey is the tallest tower in Bath.

The building of the present Abbey church began in 1499. It was part of a large monastery that occupied much of central Bath. Forty years later the Abbey was surrendered to the crown following the dissolution of the monasteries by King Henry VIII. It was not until 1573 that Elizabeth I established it as a parish church for the city of Bath, the role it continues to this day.

The pillars supporting the Abbey's tower are built on the foundations of an earlier Norman Cathedral on the site. Visitors can climb the 212 steps to the top of the tower to see fantastic views across the rooftops and buildings of Bath. On their way to the top they can explore the ringing chamber, the bell chamber, and take a look behind the fan-vaulted ceiling and the clock face.

Over the last 500 years, the tower (as well as the rest of the building) has undergone many restorations. Thanks to a grant of £10.7 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Abbey is now carrying out a major project to ensure that future generations can enjoy the beautiful church.

For more information visit www.bathabbey.org/footprint

Beckford's TOWER

At 37 metres tall Beckford's Tower stands as one of the highest points in the landscape surrounding Bath.

Designed by architect Henry Edmund Goodridge and completed in 1827 the Tower was constructed as a study retreat for the writer and collector William Beckford.

Every day Beckford would leave his house at Lansdown Crescent and ride his horse through a mile long landscape garden up to the Tower at the top of Lansdown Hill.

The Tower is now home to a museum collection illustrating William Beckford's life as a writer, collector and patron of the arts.

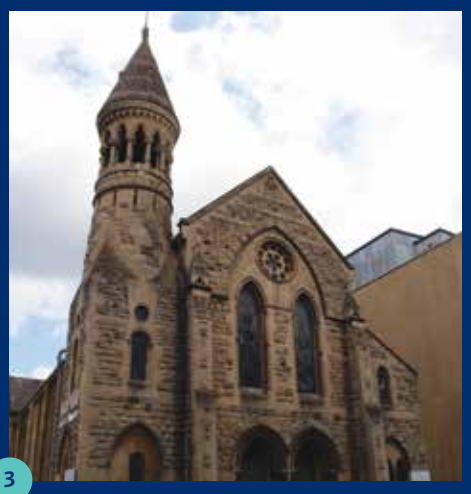
Visitors can follow in Beckford's footsteps and climb the 154 steps of the spiral staircase to experience a spectacular panoramic view of the countryside around Bath.

BATH *Abbey* to *Beckford's* TOWER

Follow this route to discover some of the Towers in Bath (there are more but they would not all fit on this trail!)
See the website for details www.beckfordstower.org.uk

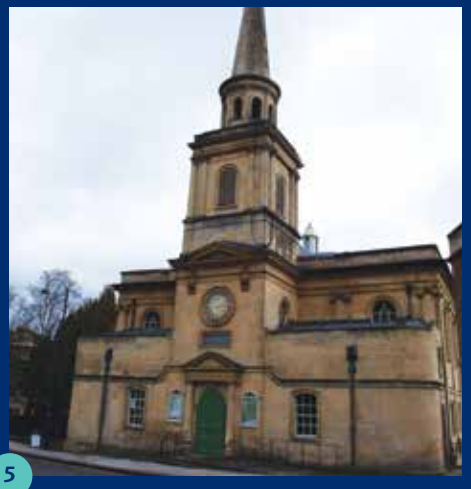
1 Bath Abbey. 1499-
Architects: Robert and William Vertue

2 Bath City Laundry chimney. 1887-8
Architect: Charles Edward Davis

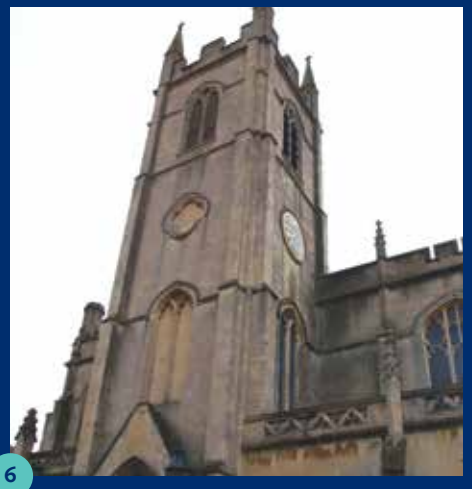


3 Baptist Chapel Manvers Street. 1871-2
Architect: James Wilson

4 Church of St Michael Without. 1834-7
Architect: George Philips Manners



5 St Swithin's Church. 1777, Tower 1790
Architect: John Palmer



6 Christ Church Julian Road. 1798
Architect: John Palmer

7 St Andrew's Church Hall. 1957
Architect: Hugh Roberts

8 St Stephen's Church. 1840-5
Architect: James Wilson

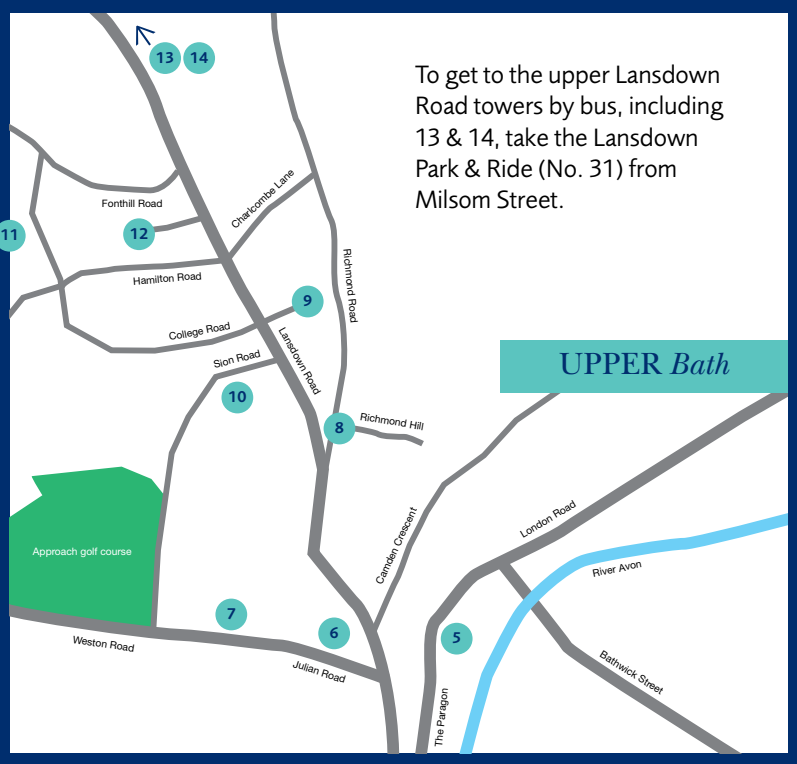
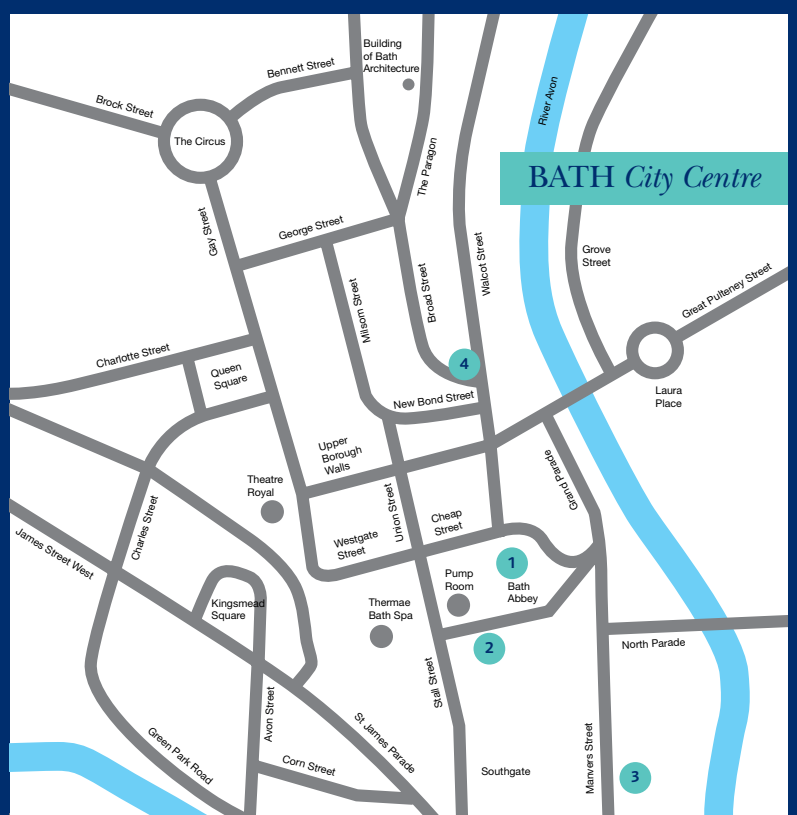
9 Royal High School 1856
Architect: James Wilson*

10 Glen Avon, Sion Hill Road
(private house). 1858-60
Architect: James Wilson*

11 Blaine's Tower, Hamilton Road. c.1870*

12 Kingswood School. 1850-2
Architect: James Wilson*

13 Lansdown Water Tower. 1925
Architect: Haywood & Wooster

14 Beckford's Tower. 1826-7
Architect: H E Goodridge

*Please note these towers are on private land and should only be viewed from public footpaths or roads.