

# Walking information and safety



# Bishop Auckland Stan Laurel Circular



For a more detailed map, please see Ordnance Survey Explorer 305 (Bishop Auckland, Spennymoor, Newton Aycliffe, Sedgfield & Crook).

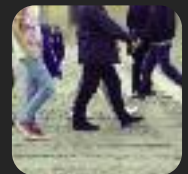
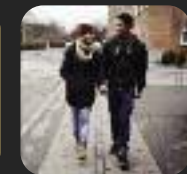
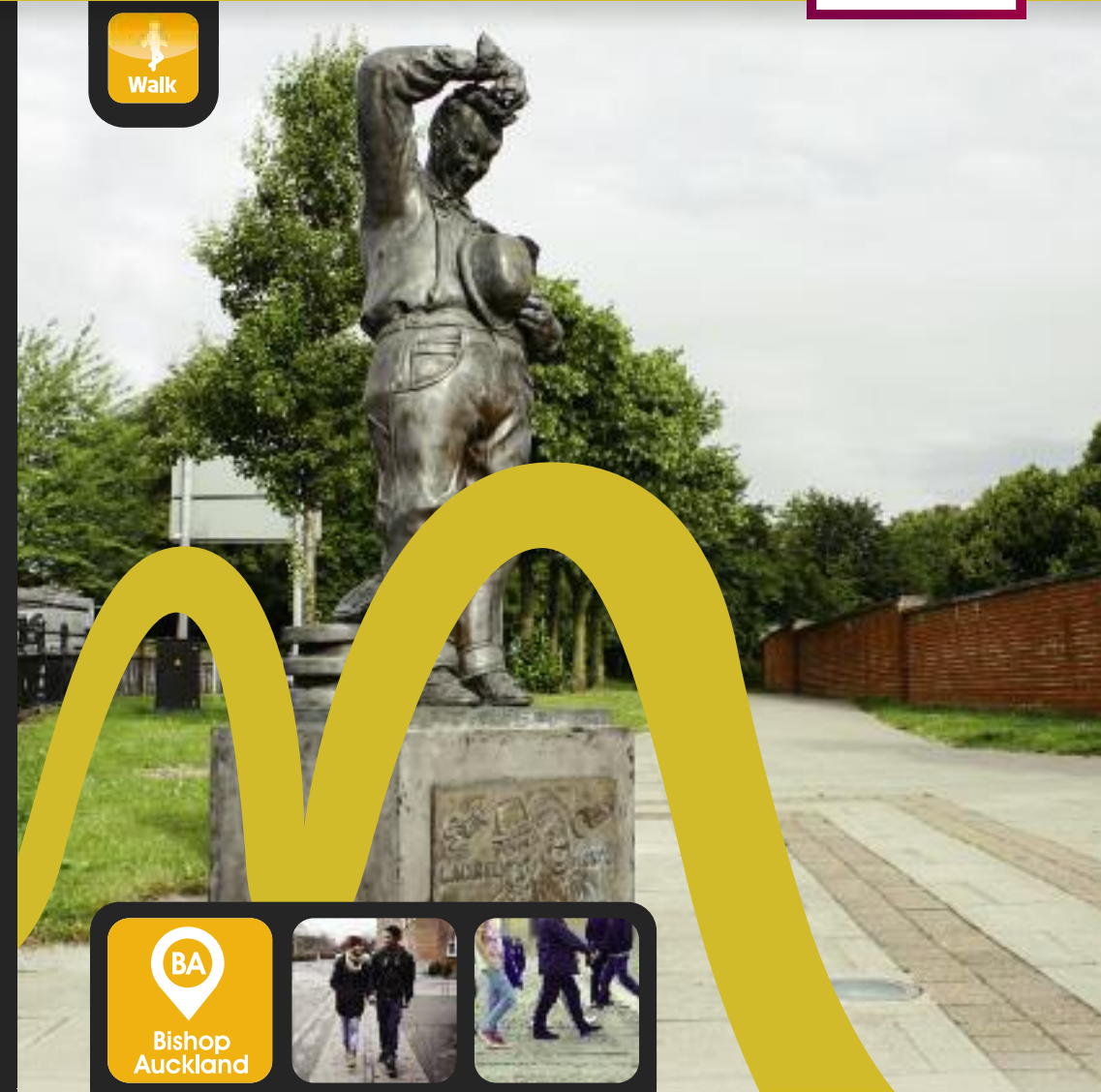
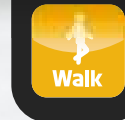
- Where there are no pavements, however, you should always walk on the side of the road on which the traffic is coming towards you.
- At night, or in dark conditions, wear bright or reflective clothing.
- Keep dogs under close control when cyclists or horse riders are nearby.
- If you have a dog with you please clean up after it and take waste to the nearest bin.
- Take care when others are around and be aware of their needs.
- Before crossing roads always stop, look listen and think.
- Use safe crossing places correctly if they are available.
- Always walk on the pavement.
- Keep to the public paths across farmland.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Take extra care in areas with poor visibility.
- Take your litter home.

For more information on walking maps or about the Local Motion project visit:

[www.dothelocalmotion.co.uk](http://www.dothelocalmotion.co.uk)  
 Freephone 0800 45 89 810  
 or email [info@dothelocalmotion.co.uk](mailto:info@dothelocalmotion.co.uk)



Local Motion is funded by the Department for Transport and supported by Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council.



# Stan Laurel Circular

30 minutes/1.4 miles

An insightful and easy walk around Bishop Auckland town centre. This walk takes in Bishop Auckland's connections with Stan Laurel from the famous comedic duo Laurel and Hardy.

**1** Starting at the Town Hall, cross the market place and head up Newgate Street until you reach the first street on your right (Tenters Street).

**2** Turn right and follow Tenters Street to the footbridge. Cross the footbridge and bear left.

**3** Take the second road on the right up the hill (Waldron Street).

The houses on this street were once theatrical boarding houses. At the top, the last house on the right corner, Number 22, is South View. Stan Laurel's (Of Laurel and Hardy Fame) family stayed here. There is a plaque marking the family's stay on the front wall of the house.

**4** From here follow the road and turn left down Surtees Street and then turn right to St. Peters Church which is on the corner.

Stan Laurel was baptised in this church at the age of 14 months, and there is a plaque to mark the occasion (unfortunately the church is not

always open to the public outside of church services).

**5** With the church on your left, head down Princes Street.

On the opposite side of the road is house number 66. This was the home of the Jeffersons (Stan Laurel's original family name) in 1891. A plaque marks the house.

**6** Continue down Princes street to the roundabout (take care of traffic), turning left when you reach the roundabout to cross the road using the pedestrian island. Once over the road continue straight on towards the traffic lights and Theatre Corner.

This was the site of the Theatre Royal, later named Eden Theatre. Stan's father, Arthur, managed the theatre at this site twice, between 1889 to 1896 and again from 1922 to 1925. This was the home of his touring melodrama companies who performed the plays that Arthur wrote and which were thought to be used by Stan as the plots for his early films. The site of the theatre has a statue of Stan by artist Bob

Olley and a plaque on the nearby wall.

**7** Cross over at the traffic lights and continue on to the next traffic lights. Cross over these lights and continue along South Church Road until you reach King James 1 Community Arts College.

Stan was a boarder here in 1903. At that time, the school catered for the sons of middle-class gentlemen. The Jeffersons were living in North Shields.

**8** Head back to the traffic lights, cross over the road and head towards the second set of traffic lights. Once there, turn right to head along Newgate Street back to the Market Place and Town Hall.

*This walk was originally compiled by John Land and published by Wear Valley District Council and Durham County Council.*

Re-published by Local Motion.

## Your Route

### Key



Toilets



Footbridge



Walking route



Bus stops

### Points of interest

Bishop Auckland Town Hall.

Number 22 South View.

Baptismal Church of Stan Laurel, St. Peters.

Statue of Stan Laurel by artist Bob Olley at Theatre Corner.

