

Musical Routes - Behind the Tracks: Audio Series Transcript

Intro

Hi, I'm Jo Whiley, and I've teamed up with National Rail to help you track down those special places across Great Britain that have inspired musicians over the years. And we're going to reveal how to visit them all using Britain's wide-reaching railways.

Anywhere that has helped define music culture, we want to find it. Anywhere that inspired lyrics, music videos and album covers. We want to take a trip there. Our amazing nation has influenced some of the world's greatest artists and crafted their sounds.

Also, we'll hear from some very special guests on how Britain has shaped their careers in music. Join us for our audio guide, Musical Routes. A Celebration of Britain's most iconic musical locations. Plus, inside knowledge of how to tour them all by train.

And remember, when it comes to music, nothing beats being there.

London and the South East

Welcome to Musical Routes, the audio guide where we take you on a whistle stop tour of those special places across Great Britain that have helped define music culture, both at home and abroad. We're talking famous streets, bars, statues and locations that have inspired lyrics, album covers and legendary music videos. And we'll be doing it all using Britain's wide-reaching railways.

London and the South East are home to almost a third of the British population. This cultural melting pot has inspired countless musical masterpieces and has been home to no end of musical legends. From Ed Sheeran to Amy Winehouse, Adele to Stormzy and the Rolling Stones. We're going to introduce you to some of the region's most iconic places that have influenced music and lyrics throughout the years.

And the best part about it being the nation's busiest corner is that you can visit almost anywhere, by train. And where's a better place to start our journey than at one of the nation's biggest stations? London Waterloo is a gateway for many to visit the city. The Kink's classic *Waterloo Sunset* references the station itself and the view of the sunset from the Thames, which is just a few moments' walk away.

Avid music fans can stroll the neighbourhood to drink in the bustling feel of this iconic area that inspired the track. Time it right, and you can even experience your own Waterloo Sunset.

If you're looking for a broader hotbed of musical inspiration, then Denmark Street is a great place to visit. London's Tin Pan Alley is a 15 minute walk from Euston Station, and is now host to a world-renowned strip of music shops.

Although famed for its selection of guitars and other instruments, the street itself has a rich musical history. It was formerly host to a variety of venues, record labels and recording studios that influenced some of the biggest stars of the last 70 years. The streets constantly inspired the music and lyrics of countless classics. Elton John's *Your Song* was written on a roof here. The line "*I sat on the roof and kicked off the moss*" was a reference to the literal rooftop of number 20.

Although most of the venues have now moved on, the avid blue plaque spotter can find a memorial recognising the contributions of the publishers and songwriters who lived and worked here. This includes legendary artists such as The Rolling Stones, The Sex Pistols and The Beatles, and it would be pretty difficult not to mention The Beatles on our tour of places that have inspired music in London.

Just 20 minutes on foot from Marylebone station is Abbey road, home to the world famous Abbey Road Studios. The Beatles recorded 11 albums at the legendary address, and they loved it so much that they even named their penultimate album after it. The zebra crossing from the iconic cover still exists, meaning that you can even stroll across those stripes with your three best friends and recreate the image for yourself.

Now we have a very special guest on this episode who is going to tell us a little bit about their own musical experiences in the capital. Former All Saint, London's own Melanie Blatt.

[Jo] Hey, Mel. Very happy to have you here with us and we would love to hear a little bit more about how the city has influenced your music career.

[Mel] Hi, Jo. Well, I'd start off by saying London musically is just such a hybrid of so many different cultures, so many different styles, and it's sort of the perfect place to grow up and to be influenced by everything that's going on in the city. Where I started, All Saints was on All Saints Road. It's where I first met the girls. It's where we recorded so much of our music. It's where we first signed our first record deal with ZTT, which was literally down Saint Luke's Mews, which is just off All Saints Road. And being in Ladbroke Grove in the 90s, it was just the place to be. There's so much going on. Obviously, Carnival every summer as well, was a massive influence, and so many songs were written there.

So yeah, it was a big, big deal to be in London at that time.

So, for all these people that have found a new love, for the 90s and this resurgence that it seems to be having, I would definitely recommend going to Camden. We spent quite a bit of time there actually buying our looks back in the day, because it was cheap and that's where we sort of

discovered cargo trousers, which became very much our look. And we'd go into like thrift shops, and they had lots of shops there for some reason that sold army trousers, and we could get them really cheap, they're about £15. So that's a good little pilgrimage to have. Just jump on a train and go and check out Camden, see if they still exist.

I think the influence that Ladbroke Grove and Notting Hill and All Saints Road particularly influenced us, was with just the sound. Shaz would write a lot of the songs in her bedroom, so that was her influence. But where All Saints Road is, just down the road from where our record company was, on the corner was Sarm Studios. Sarm Studios is where they recorded 'Do you know It's Christmas' that, you know, that famous studio there?

And we would record a lot in there, but over the road, the studio had also a basement flat and that's where we would record a lot of our demos. So, to be in that space and to be near and around such an iconic studio where so many amazing songs were crafted, was a massive help and inspiration.

I just loved that how easy it would be and is to just literally jump on a train and spend a day walking around these iconic places and areas where all your favourite artists created your favourite songs, whether it's in pubs, concert venues, studios, you know, just to just to be there and, and lap up and just put yourself in those places, in those times and just feel some of your favourite artists, what they would have experienced, when they were there.

[Jo] Thank you. Mel. So lovely to hear about how London has had such a big effect on your own musical story.

Now, continuing our trip, we're going to go south of the river to Brixton station and explore one of the city's most musical neighbourhoods. From Bowie to Cassetteboy. Brixton has been the birthplace of some of London's most prolific artists and has inspired many a song, one of which, *Electric Avenue* by Eddie Grant, was named after the market street just around the corner from the station, now with its name emblazoned in rainbow neon lights at its entrance, music fans can stroll the bustling markets that's been held there for well over 100 years.

And while we're south of the river, let's take a short trip to Vauxhall. Another artist who has professed her deep connection to the city is Taylor Swift. Her song *London Boy* namechecks a variety of places, from Camden Market to Bond Street's Louis Vuitton store. But today we'll be focusing on her song *The Black Dog*, which is inspired by a real location in the city, the Black Dog Pub.

The pub is just a five minute walk from Vauxhall station and has had fans flocking to grab a drink in the same place that the Pop Idol sings about. The line "*and how you don't miss me in the Black Dog*" sparked rumours that the song was inspired by a breakup with a certain London boy, and the mystery surrounding it has only fuelled more interest in the place itself.

Another pop superstar who has name dropped a London pub is Ariana Grande. In her song *Hampstead* a love letter to the area she once lived in. Her lyric "*I left my heart in a pub in Hampstead*" is a reference to the Hollybush pub. A 15 minute walk from the Hampstead Heath train station is this much-loved local, which has seen fans descend on it after the release of the song.

However, we are not here just to talk about London. The Big Smoke is definitely a musical Mecca not to be missed, but the wider region of the South East has its own abundant musical culture and history to explore using our epic rail network.

Let's head right down to the south coast, where we can visit a spot that has inspired countless artists and songs over the years - The White Cliffs of Dover. At the very end of the Southeastern Mainline is Dover Priory station. A trip down here will put you a stone's throw from the coast that inspired classics by Vera Lynn, Jimmy Cliff and more recently by Bright-Eyes. The enormous bright white cliffs snaking off along the coast really are an epic view to take in, and it's easy to see how so many artists have felt their influence.

A few miles west of here lies a personal favourite of mine, the astonishingly beautiful Camber Sands. Just a 25-minute bus trip from Rye Sussex Train Station, or if you're adventurous, you can walk there in just over an hour, lies one of the most breathtaking beaches the British coast has to offer. The Reverend and The Makers' hit - *Heavyweight Champion of the World* references the glorious strip of sand and the beach has also been the backdrop for numerous music videos from Paul McCartney to Feeder and New Hope Club, to name a few. So, there's never been a better excuse to hit that beach.

For our final stop, we'll be visiting Framlingham Castle in Suffolk, the inspiration behind Ed Sheeran's modern classic, *Castle on the Hill*. Not quite the South East, but it's close enough and epic enough for us to break the rules. For this one, you get to take a train way out into the glorious British countryside.

Stopping at Wickham Market and hopping on a bus for 25 minutes will get you to the breathtaking Norman castle that has stood for over 800 years. The song was inspired by Ed Sheeran's upbringing and teenage years in the town. With lyrics like "*When we watched the sunset over the castle on the hill*", directly referencing experiences he had with his childhood friends. The music video was filmed in Framlingham and around the castle, meaning fans can walk in the very same footsteps as Ed Sheeran when they visit this historic site.

Now, although it feels like we've barely scratched the surface of London and the South East, that's the end of the line for this episode of Musical Routes. There's so much more to share, but don't worry, there are plenty more guides to listen to at nationalrail.co.uk/musicalroutes.

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Manchester, Liverpool and the North West

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In this episode, we'll be visiting the birthplace of countless music masters. The Beatles, The Smiths, The Stone Roses, Camelphat, Elbow, Oasis, Atomic Kitten, The Chemical Brothers, M-People, 10cc, The Verve, The Ting Tings... I could go on.

There are very few regions in Britain that have produced such a prolific flow of amazing artists and spectacular music. We're going to be hopping on a train and heading into the heart of the North West to discover some of those special locations that have inspired some of our favourite artists.

First, let's visit the city that many regard as Britain's music capital. Manchester. Now, with so many music scenes emerging from one city, you might feel spoiled for choice. Madchester, Electronica and Indie Rock they're all very tempting, however, but I can't quite resist taking a trip to visit the kings of the Britpop era, Oasis.

The Gallagher brothers spent a portion of their childhood in the Burnage area of Manchester. A number of their songs mention experiences in the city, but arguably none more famous than in their hit *Shakermaker*. The line "*Mr Sifter sold me songs*" refers to Sifters Records, their local neighbourhood record shop. The shop is still there and has become a must-visit for any hardcore Oasis fan.

If you take a train to Burnage Station, the shop is a mere hop, skip and a jump around the corner. Here you can thumb through the records just like the Gallaghers did and try to find some new sounds that could fuel your own inspiration.

Another northern talent whose upbringing influenced his music is former One Directioner, Zayn Malik. His song *BeFoUr* was inspired by his teenage life in the north. The music video was filmed in an area of northern Manchester called Miles Platting.

Just 30 minutes on foot from Manchester Victoria Station, you can visit each of the locations in the video. Including the pool hall, the boxing gym, barbers and the chippie, which sounds like a very fun-packed afternoon.

And before we travel away from Manchester, this is a great time to introduce our guest for this episode. Fellow broadcaster Yinka Bokinni.

[Jo] Yinka, thank you so much for joining us today and we would love to hear from you on some of the places and the spaces that have inspired the artists that you love, and why you think these places have such a powerful impact on their music.

[Yinka] Thank you so much for having me Jo, I could speak about this forever. One of the reasons that artists, songwriters, musicians draw so much inspiration from their locations and street names and places is because a lot of the time, music is directly inspired by life. People grow up and they know road names. People enjoy themselves on streets. They have certain feelings and thoughts and memories based around these places, so it's no surprise. But also, it makes for the most beautiful and rich kind of content and music, because it's real life. We're getting a glimpse into who they are and what made them.

Ed Sheeran and Stormzy released a song called *Take Me Back to London*, but there's a remix where Jaykae and Aitch, the rappers jumped on it and they turned it into *Take Me Back to Manny* because they are from Manchester and every time I travel to Manny on the train, I always play that song in my earphones, turn it up loud because I feel like I am arriving. I find that song so good but so interesting because *Take me back to London*, I'm from here. I know about it. I'm so excited about my city. But to hear it from a different perspective, a different city, Manchester, and the love that Jaykae and Aitch have for that, is just incredible and it's a banger.

I think the locations that are included in songs hold so much power for music fans and I think that because songs make you feel things, they take you through your darkest of times. They soundtrack your happiest moments. So, what better way to relive that, or to pay homage to that, than go and visit the very places that are inspired by your favourite songs?

I'm guilty of it and every single time my new favourite song drops, I'll be going to that road.

If there's one thing that doesn't surprise me, it's the fact that places in Britain inspire so much in the arts. I mean, so many locations, inspire songs, artworks, albums with everything and it's because Britain is so rich in culture and there is so much to see, and there are so many experiences being had. It's not a coincidence that we've produced some of the best artists and bands for decades

going back and I think it will continue, and I think more and more places will keep popping up as more and more artists do.

[Jo] Thank you so much Yinka. Amazing insights and very much agree with what you've just said.

Taking a trip south, we're going to visit a location in Stockport that inspired the region's latest one to watch, Antony Szmierek. His song *The Great Pyramid of Stockport* references local landmark, The Stockport Pyramid. This glass, former office building loomed large over his childhood, so much so that he was inspired to write about it.

Just 20 minutes on foot from Stockport Railway Station, you can spot the glass pyramid that features in the song and music video and see for yourself what Anthony was so inspired by.

Now, hopping on a train further west, we are going to pay a visit to the town of Wigan. Calvin Harris and Sam Smith filmed the music video here for their EDM banger *Desire*. Only a 25-minute walk from the Wigan North West train station is the Brick Community Stadium, home of the Wigan Warriors. The video featured some high-octane, street racing action in the car park of the stadium. And if you visit here on match day, you could take in a rugby match too!

Ok, now it's time to head into one of the largest cities in Britain, Liverpool. Famous for its sport, art, culture and music, the city has produced and inspired countless iconic musicians and musical masterpieces over the years.

Even the queen of pop, Taylor Swift, hasn't been able to resist its charms. Her music video for *I Can See You*, which felt more like a blockbuster heist movie was filmed here. The Hollywood cast was spotted shooting a variety of action-packed scenes around parts of the city, and lucky Swifties can visit them all by train.

One of the key locations was the front of the Cunard Building, which is just a 15-minute walk from Liverpool Lime Street Station. The front door of the building dramatically explodes in the video, but no need to worry, it was all special effects and the building was unharmed.

Another place worth visiting while you're in the area is the iconic Bascule Bridge in Stanley Dock. A 20-minute stroll from Sandhills Station is the bridge that features in the final shot of the video and sees our heroes escape the police and win the day. Now, if that's not worth a selfie, I don't know what is.

Another legendary music video filmed in Liverpool was from Merseyside boy Miles Kane. His anthem *Don't forget who you are* encourages listeners not to let their worries dictate who they choose to be. The glorious black and white video features a range of locations around the city, but the coolest place has to be the Rampworx Skatepark.

If you take a train to Aintree Railway Station, you can walk here in just 15 minutes.

Then you can either hit the ramps on your board or grab some skater chic gear from the park's shop.

I know, I know. I can hear you asking, how can we even *mention* Liverpool without talking about the Fab Four themselves? Liverpool is the birthplace of John, Paul, George and Ringo and the genesis of what became the world's most famous band.

The Beatles' tracks call out a range of Liverpool influences across their huge catalogue of songs but let's explore a couple of the classics.

Penny Lane is one of the band's greatest hits and was inspired by Paul McCartney's upbringing in the area. His Lyric "*Penny Lane is in my ears and in my eyes*" pays tribute to how big a feature the street was in his childhood. Just 20 minutes on foot from Mossley Train Station, this street has become a pilgrimage site for fans wanting to take in the sights that feature in the lyrics.

As well as a variety of Beatles-inspired statues, murals and walking tours, the street also has many of the original shops mentioned in the lyrics. The barbers, the bank, the fire station all still stand and are well worth a visit for anyone wanting to drink in the Beatlemania that's still alive and kicking to this very day.

Another absolute classic from the band inspired by locations in Liverpool is *Strawberry Fields Forever*. The song and lyrics were influenced by John Lennon's childhood in the area. He used to visit the Salvation Army Children's Home and play in its gardens in his youth. The site is now a museum dedicated to the song and its creator.

Just under a 30-minute walk from West Allerton Train Station, visitors can take in the interactive exhibition at the site as well as snapping a photo of the now world-famous red iron gates at the entrance to the gardens.

Now, we could obviously go on forever, trying to track down all the Beatles references in Liverpool, but I'm afraid to say, that's all there is for this episode of Musical Routes. But don't worry, there is plenty more to discover in our other episodes at nationalrail.co.uk/musicalroutes.

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The Midlands

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In this episode, we're going to take a trip into the heart of the country. The multi-cultural birthplace of heavy metal, two-tone, and British bhangra. The Midlands.

Now, with so many areas to this sprawling region, it's a good job we can rely on the railway to get us around. The first stop we're going to make is in the cathedral city of Coventry.

The legendary ska revival band The Specials was formed in the city in the 70s. Their big hit *Ghost Town* is synonymous with the urban decay of the era. But their song *Rat Race* is the one we'll be revisiting today. While attending Coventry University, the band conceived, recorded and performed the song there. The video was even filmed in the uni's main hall. If you take a 20-minute stroll from Coventry Train Station, you can visit the campus and maybe even hit the union bar to catch some live music from the stars of tomorrow.

Another Coventry-inspired song is from disco superstars Boney M. Their track *Lady Godiva* was inspired by the real-life tale of the folklore hero, Lady Godiva. The lyrics recount the legend that she rode naked on horseback through the streets of Coventry as a form of protest against her husband's treatment of the citizens. If you take a 15-minute walk north from Coventry Train Station, you'll find a large square with a Lady Godiva statue in the centre, commemorating the inspirational lady herself.

Now, when you think of Britpop legends Oasis, I'm guessing you'll think of Manchester, or maybe even London. But we're going to visit the sleepy rural village of Cromford in Derbyshire to discover their train station's link to one of Britain's biggest bands. The image for the cover of the single *Some Might Say* was photographed on the disused southbound platform at the station. Oasis fans have been known to visit Cromford to see the spot where the image was taken. And as it's a train station, you can literally get a train right to it and maybe, maybe even recreate the cover shot for yourself.

Ok, let's leave those green hills behind us. We're going to take a trip to Robin Hood Country, the City of Nottingham. Singer-songwriter Jake Bugg references his working-class upbringing in his song *On My One*. His lyric "*I'm just a poor boy from Nottingham*" is a direct link to his early life in the city, and he's often spoken about his roots and how they have affected his music. Jake has expressed his love for The Bodega, a music venue in the city that has helped showcase plenty of homegrown talent over the years, including the Arctic Monkeys, The XX, Coldplay and Mumford & Sons. The venue is a 10-minute walk from Nottingham Station, and it's a pretty good bet for a great night out.

Now it'll be pretty tough to go to the Midlands and not visit Britain's second-largest city, so let's hop back on the train and head into Birmingham.

The city has spawned a string of successful bands and solo artists over the years and continues to produce them today.

The Lotto Boyzz, the hip-hop and afrobeat duo, have referenced their hometown a number of times across their back catalogue. Their links to the city are so deep that they even named a track after it, called *Birmingham (Anthem)*. Aptly named as the city is name-checked over 30 times in the lyrics, alongside a variety of Birmingham landmarks and nightspots. One of them is the legendary Broad Street. Just a 12-minute walk from New Street station is the popular strip of bars, restaurants and nightclubs, and if you want to see what the Lotto Boyzz were so excited about, why not plan your next evening out there?

Another Birmingham-born artist who is proud of her Midlands roots is British R&B star, Laura Mvulla. Her Midlands upbringing has heavily influenced her music, and her song *Green Garden* is a love letter to her childhood neighbourhood of Kings Heath. When she moved to the area, she was overwhelmed with joy at her garden and the surrounding parks. If you head to Bournville Train Station, you can take a 30-minute walk to Kings Heath Park and enjoy one of the city's best-loved green spaces.

One of Birmingham's biggest exports from the New Romantic era was undoubtedly Duran Duran. The band rose to stratospheric global fame but always stayed true to their roots. In their early years, the band worked and played at the Rum Runner nightclub on Broad Street. Their experiences there influenced their flamboyant and distinctive look and the sound that turned them into global superstars. The music video for *Planet Earth* features footage of the band actually playing there. Although the building has now been demolished, just 13-minutes walk from New Street Station, set back from Broad Street, is a block named Rum Runner Works. The building bears a blue plaque commemorating the nightclub's influence on grassroots music and the band's tenure there.

And yes, I did open this guide with the phrase, birthplace of heavy metal. And I haven't forgotten. You'd be hard pushed not to have heard of the pioneers of the genre - Black Sabbath. Fronted by legendary hellraiser Ozzy Osbourne, the band cut a blazing path into music history and certainly put Birmingham on the map of metal. Just moments away from New Street Station is Birmingham Town Hall, the location of Black Sabbath's famed *Homecoming* gig in 1971. The iconic cover of their album *Black Sabbath Volume 4* features a picture of Ozzy on stage at this very concert. But before they hit the big time, the band played their first gig at The Crown pub in the city centre. Many now cite this building as the literal birthplace of heavy metal. The building has now been listed because of its historical significance. Directly opposite the Station Street entrance to Birmingham New Street Station, you can visit the site that also hosted such legends as The Who, Status Quo, Thin Lizzy and Judas Priest.

And with that bombshell of a name drop, we come to the end of this episode of Musical Routes. There's so much more to share, but don't worry, there are plenty more guides to listen to at nationalrail.co.uk/musicalroutes.

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Sheffield & Yorkshire

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Famed for their steel industry, breathtaking views, and intrinsic links to the history of the British railways, Sheffield & Yorkshire have a beating heart and culture of their very own. So it's no surprise that they've inspired some of our greatest hits.

To begin our tour of the region, we're going to head into Leeds.

The Kaiser Chiefs' legendary anthem, *I Predict a Riot*, was inspired by a number of wild nights out on the town in Leeds City Centre. If you get a train into Leeds station, you are immediately in the mix of bars and clubs that the city has become famous for. The Cockpit nightclub, which provided inspiration for this song, has now closed but you can still walk past the looming arch-shaped doorway, located just beneath the station itself and get a feel for the notorious night spots. Then you're spoilt for choice to enjoy your own night out but just don't let it get too lairy!

While we're in Leeds, let's take a trip up to the suburbs towards the Brudenell Social Club. Homegrown rock band Yard Act have a number of Leeds references in their music. But their song *100% Endurance* which saw them team up with Elton John, has the lyric, "*Nathan's House*", which is a cryptic reference to this much-loved social club and night spot. Less than a 10-minute stroll from Burley Park train station is this unique former working men's club that has hosted gigs from several iconic British groups, including The Kaisers, The Cribbs, Franz Ferdinand and Yard Act themselves.

But let's get out of the city for a bit.

Another artist who has been inspired by Yorkshire is the iconic pop goddess Kate Bush. Her self-proclaimed love for the moors and the written work of Emily Brontë helped her write her smash hit, *Wuthering Heights*, named after Brontë's literary classic. The song is deeply connected to the town of Haworth, the home of the Brontë sisters.

To visit this picturesque northern gem, you can get a train to Keighley station and then take a short trip on a Brontë Bus. The gorgeous Pennine village is packed with historical locations, including the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway.

If you want to really take a trip back in time, you can take a ride on a steam train on the tracks that were so important to Yorkshire and the development of the British rail network we have today.

And another big nostalgic musical moment that features the region is the music video for *Holding Back the Years* by Simply Red. If you take a train to Whitby Station, you can take a tour of this gorgeous seaside town where the legendary video was filmed. Music fans have been known to walk through Whitby to try and spot which streets lead singer Mick Hucknall strode down, singing his heart out. One location in particular, Whitby Abbey, is a favourite.

Just a 10-minute walk from the station, the ruins of this 1300-year-old abbey are a sight to behold and give anyone who walks up to the top of the hill a breathtaking view of the Esk Estuary and the town below. No wonder, no wonder the band was so keen to feature it.

So, we've not just been holding back the years, we've been holding back from revealing what is arguably the region's biggest producer of talent and influencer of music and culture. That's right, we're going to be taking a trip to the Steel City of Sheffield.

More recently, the city has produced incredible talents like Self Esteem, Sheafs and The Rosadocs. But the biggest band to come out of Sheffield in the last 20 years is undoubtedly The Arctic Monkeys.

So many of their hits have been inspired by the industrial underbelly of this city and they've certainly helped establish Sheffield as a music Mecca. Their song *Fake Tales of San Francisco* features the lyric "*He talks of San Francisco, he's from Hunter's Bar*", referencing the Hunters Bar area, named after an ancient former toll gate in the city.

Just a short bus ride from Sheffield Station is the Hunters Bar neighbourhood. This unlikely location has become a hotspot for musical tourism thanks to the lyrics sung by the band's frontman, Alex Turner. The toll gate itself has now been reconditioned and restored after the song became a global hit.

And it's not just The Arctic Monkeys' lyrics that have been influenced by Sheffield either. A number of their music videos have been filmed here too. A raft of locations that can be spotted on film are all just a short walk from Sheffield Station. The Showroom Cinema from *Leave Before the Lights Come On* and The Park Hill Housing Estate from *When the Sun Goes Down* are just a couple of places made famous by the band.

But following hot on the heels of the success of the Arctic Monkeys are indie rock band The Reytons. Again, inspired by the Steel City, the group from the neighbouring town of Rotherham referenced a variety of Sheffield locations in their song *2006*. The lyrics call out some of the city's most legendary night spots that the band frequented in their younger years. One of which is the Leadmill - the city's longest-running live music venue and nightclub, which is just short of a 5-minute walk from Sheffield Station. If you're looking to party like The Reytons, this is definitely one for you.

And how can we visit Sheffield without talking about one of the city's favourite sons, Jarvis Cocker, the lead singer of Pulp. His upbringing in the city has seen him reference locations in Sheffield numerous times in a variety of tracks. His song, *Sheffield: Sex City*, namechecks a whopping 21 different places. However, one of the most famous locations is from the band's hit, *Disco 2000*. The line "*Be there 2 o'clock by the fountain down the road*" is a reference to the Goodwin Fountain. Although the original fountain was demolished, the New Goodwin Fountain is just a 10-minute walk from Sheffield Station at the Peace Gardens outside the Town Hall. On a sunny day, you'll find children running through the water. So rest assured, there's a nice way to cool off should you need it.

And I'm afraid to say that's all we have time for in this episode. Sheffield and Yorkshire, you have been amazing consistently and have certainly played a part in establishing the area as a music mecca.

And that's not all the nation has to offer. There's plenty more to discover in our other episodes at nationalrail.co.uk/musicalroutes.

We've tracked down countless other locations across Britain that have inspired some of music's greatest hits. Travelling by train connects you to the people, places and things you love. And if you feel like making your own trip, then what are you waiting for? Go discover some of the most iconic locations that have inspired some of your favourite songs, music videos and album artwork.

Plan your next music-inspired journey at nationalrail.co.uk. And remember, when it comes to music, nothing beats being there.