

section 9 | flint to mold

distance | 10.5 miles

Start: in Flint at Tour Sign 98 where Church Street joins the A548. See street plan page 30.

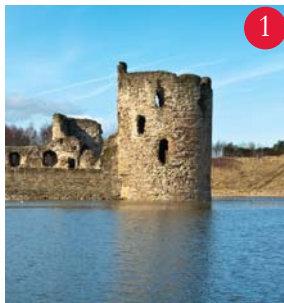
Before you leave: wander the streets of Flint. Even today they follow the grid pattern of the bastide, or fortified town, created by Edward I in the 13th century. It's a busy shopping centre now. With an open-air market every Friday in Market Square off Holywell Road.

En route: “the nearest thing to a National Theatre of Wales”, according to the Sunday Times. It's on a hilltop above Mold.



look out for:

Little egrets and spoonbills. Or at least an oystercatcher. The Dee Estuary is one of Britain's best spots for wading birds.



1

Flint Castle was built by Edward I, painted by Turner and described by Shakespeare. Fish out your camera and immortalise it some more.

Flint is slap bang on National Cycle Route 5. Which means you can ride east to Chester along the banks of the River Dee - or start pedalling west along the North Wales coast. Stop when you get to Holyhead, though, or you'll get very wet. www.sustrans.org.uk



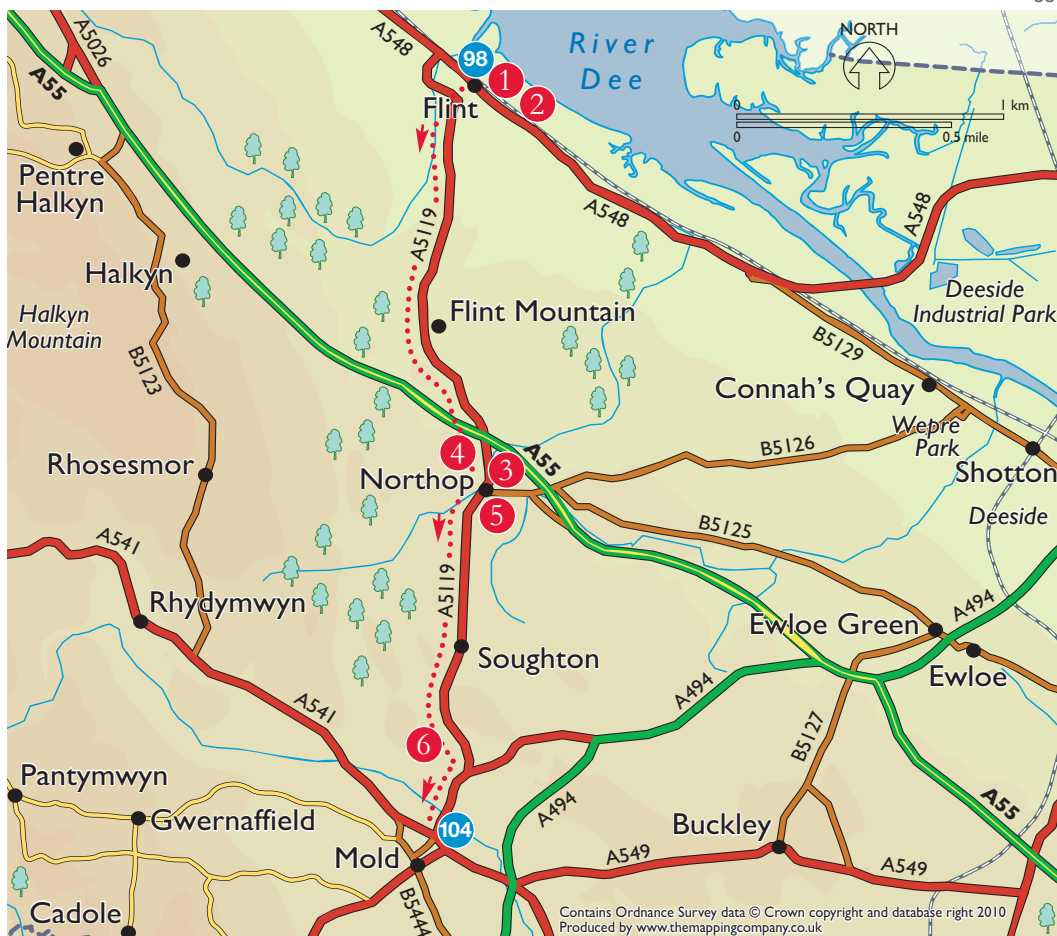
2



3

The battlemented tower of St Eurgain and St Peter's Church in Northop is 98-foot tall. That's about the height of seven double-decker buses. No wonder it's one of Flintshire's landmarks.





4

Northop used to have seven pubs when it was a staging post on the London to Holyhead mail route. Back then Plymouth House was called The Yacht. It's since featured on BBC2's House Detectives. And it's part of a heritage trail around the village. www.northop.org.uk

5



Flintshire Rural Walk 7 from Northop to Soughton offers glimpses of two historic houses – Gwysaney Hall and Soughton Hall. Download it at www.discoverflintshire.co.uk/walks or call 01352 759331 for a copy.

6

Clwyd Theatr Cymru is the leading producing theatre in Wales. It also has a cinema, art gallery, recital room, book shop and restaurant. Not to mention a bar with a view that's a performance in itself. www.clwyd-theatr-cymru.co.uk

