

# LET'S TAKE IT ON

THE BIRMINGHAM 2022  
QUEEN'S BATON RELAY IS COMING TO  
GRAVESEND

FRIDAY 8 JULY  
BETWEEN 8AM AND 9AM

The Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay will visit Gravesend during its journey through England to the Opening Ceremony of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

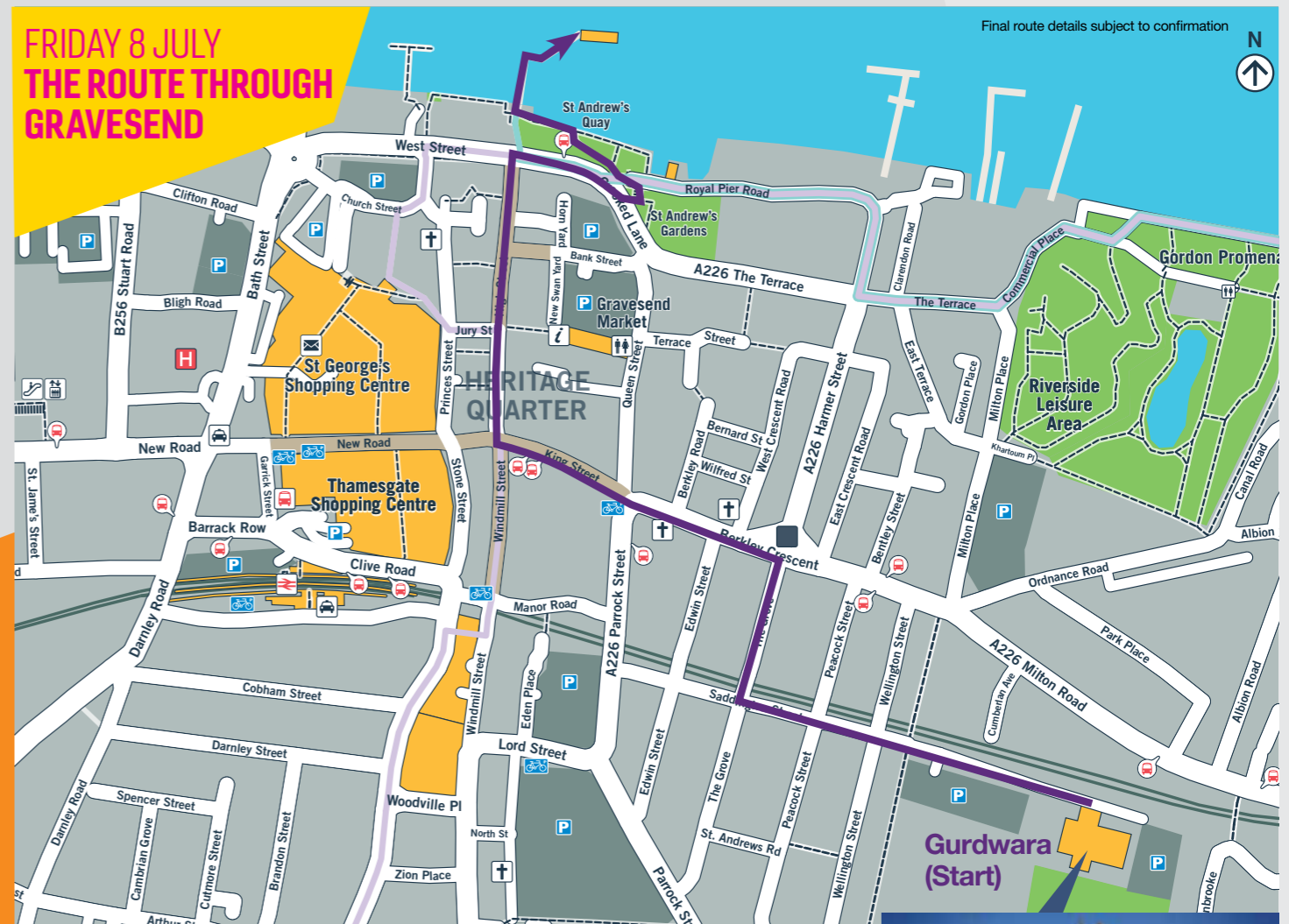
The Queen's Baton Relay brings together and celebrates communities across the Commonwealth during the build up to the Games and will travel the length and breadth of England for 29 days, before culminating at the Opening Ceremony for Birmingham 2022 on 28 July 2022.

On Friday 8 July, Gravesend will officially welcome the Baton between 8am and 9am, with entertainment and celebrations organised by ourselves and our partners Cohesion Plus.

During its time in the town, the Queen's Baton Relay will visit the Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara, before being carried through the streets to Town Pier, where it will be taken on board a boat and ferried across to Tilbury from where it will start its tour of Eastern England.

Council Leader Cllr John Burden, said: "Gravesend and our friends across the water in Tilbury have some of the deepest links with the Commonwealth in the country, so it is especially pleasing to welcome the Queen's Baton Relay to the town.

FRIDAY 8 JULY  
THE ROUTE THROUGH  
GRAVESEND



"By the time the Baton returns to England for the final leg, 71 nations and territories will have already experienced the magic that comes with it.

"We hope that communities across the country join the excitement, attend events near them, line the streets to cheer on our incredible Batonbearers and celebrate the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games."

## THE QUEEN'S BATON

The Queen's Baton for Birmingham 2022 was created in a West Midlands collaboration that fused art, technology and science. Made from copper, aluminium and steel, the Baton also features a platinum strand in homage to The Queen in her Platinum Jubilee year. It is also equipped with cutting-edge technology; 360-degree camera, heart rate monitor, atmospheric sensors and LED lighting.

"In June it will be 74 years since the SS Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks carrying the first Caribbean migrants to the UK, who would go on to help re-build Britain after the Second World War.

"Some of those first arrivals made their way over the water here to Gravesend, where they settled and laid the foundations of a community that still thrives here today, living, working and playing alongside others with their family roots firmly embedded in Commonwealth countries and elsewhere.

"The visit of the Queen's Baton Relay is high profile recognition of how our town and Borough has welcomed our cousins from the Commonwealth and beyond with open arms."

Thousands of Batonbearers will have the honour of carrying the Baton during the journey through England.

Travelling via land, air and sea, Gravesend is one of more than 180 communities in England to experience the Queen's Baton on a route spanning 2,500 miles (4,000 kilometres).

The Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay began at Buckingham Palace on 7 October 2021, when The Queen placed Her Message to the Commonwealth into the Baton and passed it to four-time Paralympic gold medallist Kadeena Cox, who had the honour of being the first of thousands of Batonbearers.

Since then, the Baton has visited Commonwealth nations and territories in Europe, Africa, Oceania, the Caribbean, the Americas, and more countries in Europe

Phil Batty, Director of Ceremonies, Culture & Queen's Baton Relay, said: "Whilst the Baton has been travelling across the Commonwealth, we have worked closely with Local Authorities in England to devise a route that engages with hundreds of communities, passing sport venues, historic sites, local schools and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

"Yet the Queen's Baton Relay is far more than just a journey. It symbolises connecting people from every corner of the Commonwealth and celebrates Batonbearers who take on challenges.



BIRMINGHAM2022.COM/QBR