cityseeker

"Best Literary Sights Around the World"

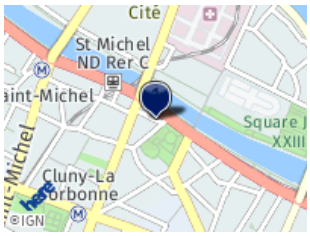
Created by: **Cityseeker**

19 Locations Bookmarked

by Shadowgate

Shakespeare and Company

"Legendary Bookstore in Paris"



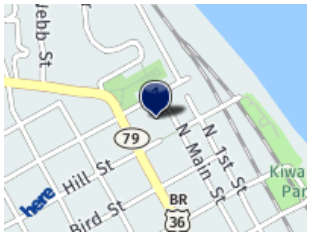
At first glance, Shakespeare and Company is nothing more than another English bookstore. But just a few steps inside the door, you start to see why the storefront is just as much a museum as it is a legendary bookshop. Between the books stacked to the ceiling, there are notes, announcements and fliers left from visitors all over the world. Since 1919, the name Shakespeare and Company has been a refuge to writers. The original bookstore was the stomping grounds of Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Joyce and others. Today, writers from all over the world come to share their work. Unknown writers have a place here, too; Shakespeare and Company lends sleeping space in exchange for a couple of hours of work in the store.

+33 1 4325 4093 | www.shakespeareandcompany.com/ | news@shakespeareandcompany.com | 37 Rue de la Bûcherie, Paris

by Jonathunder

Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum

"Mark Twain's Home"



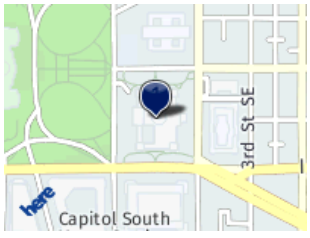
Within the humble two story house made of wood paneling, one of America's most important cultural figures not only came of age, but gained experiences that would contribute to some of the country's most memorable literary moments. The home of the erudite legend evokes a certain kind of literary nostalgia, which lingers over several nooks and crannies of the house, the very corners which served as inspiration for Twain to craft his revered stories. Part of the Mark Twain Historic District, the house doubles as a museum which plays host to myriad manuscripts, the author's original editions, interactive exhibits, treasured mementos and the famed fence featured in Tom Sawyer. An officially designated National Historic Landmark, this storied boyhood home helps keep Mark Twain's literature alive and relevant, even in today's times.

+1 573 221 9010 | www.marktwainmuseum.org/ | 120 North Main Street, Hannibal MO

by Mario A. Pena

Library of Congress

"Magnificent Library in National Capital"



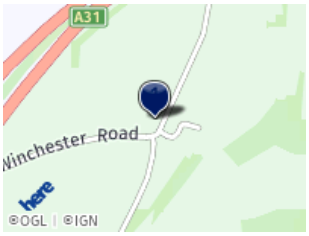
Originally intended as a small reference library, the Library of Congress is now home to the second-largest collection of books and reading materials in the world, second only to the British Library. The collection comprises close to 100 million items, including rare documents such as the Gutenberg Bible, early drafts of the Declaration of Independence, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. The splendor of the magnificent Main Reading Room is just one of the attractions worth a visit at the Library of Congress. Browse through the many excellent exhibits on display in the library's three buildings, participate in a guided tour, or attend any of the concerts, lectures, and other events hosted here. The library's collection is open to all who hold a valid Reader Identification Card; however, materials cannot be taken outside the library premises. Other than the mind-blowing collection on display, the interiors of this centuries-old building are equally mesmerizing. Huge, vaulted ceilings with classic frescoes and

designs, ivory pillars of Greek design, and the irreplaceable heritage surrounding the place make it one of the most iconic locations in the country.

+1 202 707 5000 | www.loc.gov | vso@loc.gov | 101 Independence Avenue Southeast, Washington DC

by Rudi Riet from Washington, DC, United States

Jane Austen's House Museum (Chawton Cottage)



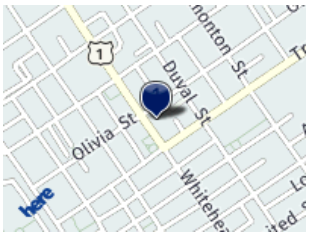
"Jane Austen's Home"

Jane Austen's House Museum is a must-see for literary buffs. Jane Austen moved here from Southampton in 1809 and began writing again, revising Sense and Sensibility, Pride and Prejudice and Mansfield Park. You can see where Jane wrote, sewed, made wine and enjoyed gardening. Her music book, a dress she wore, a quilt she stitched and the work table where she wrote her books are all on display. You can also see her donkey carriage - the door still creaks out a warning, as it did when Jane hastily hid her writing from visitors.

+44 1420 8 3262 | janeaustens.house/ | Winchester Road, Chawton

by Andreas Lamecker

The Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum



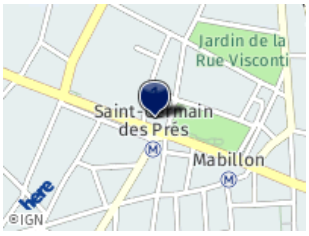
"Creative Space"

The Hemingway Home & Museum was the residence of the renowned author Ernest Hemingway. Hemingway was known both for his grander-than-life personality and his amazing writing, including the books The Sun Also Rises and Farewell to Arms. The rooms and the collections on display give you an insight into the life of this famous writer. Keep a look out for the museum's many polydactyl (six-toed) cats that are rumored to be descendants of Hemingway's pet cat Snow White.

+1 305 294 1136 | www.hemingwayhome.com/ | hemingwy@bellsouth.net | 907 Whitehead Street, Key West FL

by b_d_solis

Les Deux Magots



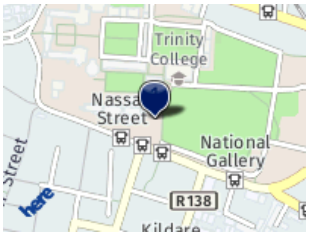
"Rich in History and Flavors"

Les Deux Magots is a legendary brasserie, having hosted many Parisian writers and thinkers. Ernest Hemingway is one of the popular patrons of this bar. The legend of the café lives on, as it welcomes numerous locals and tourists, famished after their shopping spree. The menu here includes platters of salad and cold meats along with a dish of the day. Amidst the spacious seating, replete with the scurry of the uniformed staff, sit back and enjoy a pot of indulgent hot chocolate, for dining here promises to be a memory that you will cherish forever.

+33 1 4548 5525 | www.lesdeuxmagots.fr/ | contact@lesdeuxmagots.fr | 6 Place Saint-Germain-des-Prés, Paris

by Diliff

Trinity College Library



"Breathtaking Ancient Library"

Housing more than 6,000,000 volumes, the Trinity College Library is one of the largest libraries in Ireland. Although occupying several buildings, four of the main ones are located in the Trinity College Campus itself. From the four, the main drawcard is the Old Library that not only houses the 65-meter-long (213 feet) Long Room, but also houses the Book of Kells that contains the four Gospels of the New Testament. Other items in the library that are equally fascinating include the 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic, the Book of Durrow and the Book of Howth. Don't be

surprised if you find yourself mesmerized by the beauty and ancient charm of the magnificent library as well as the amazing collection of ancient texts. After you have toured the library, head to the Trinity College Library Shop and buy some souvenirs for friends and family.

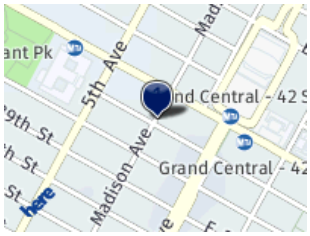
+353 1 896 1657 | www.tcd.ie/Library/ | College Street, Trinity College, Dublin

by Reading Tom

Library Hotel

"Literary Paradise"

This one-of-a-kind, boutique hotel redefines luxury. Dark wood paneling and rows of bookshelves greet guests, who are given every opportunity to engage their literary sides while staying at the Library Hotel. Each of its ten floors celebrates a category of the Dewey Decimal System, which range from Philosophy to Natural Science, and the rooms on every floor are not only decorated according to its theme but also stocked with books on the topic. Book lovers and comfort seekers alike will love breakfast in the Reading Room, respites in the Poetry Garden, and evenings in the Bookmarks Lounge. It's hard to go wrong at the exceptional Library Hotel.



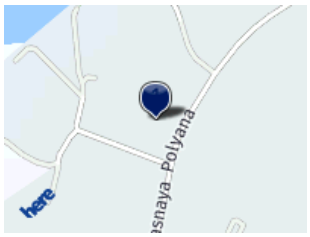
+1 212 983 4500 | www.libraryhotel.com/ | reservations@libraryhotel.com | 299 Madison Avenue, East 41st Street, New York NY

by Celest.ru

Yasnaya Polyana

"Iconic Estate inTula"

Located in Tula, Russia, Yasnaya Polyana is an estate which also contains the home of iconic writer and playwright Leo Tolstoy. Tolstoy has penned Anna Karenina, War and Peace, among other celebrated novels. When Tolstoy resided here, the estate of Yasnaya Polyana was spread across nearly 16 square kilometers (4000 acres) of land area, on a sloped hillside and surrounded by lush green forest and a few ponds. Today, Tolstoy's house in the Yasnaya Polyana estate is preserved the same way as it was when he died in the year 1910. The earliest structure on Yasnaya Polyana estate is Volkonskiy house. Nikolai, Tolstoy's grandfather, lived here.



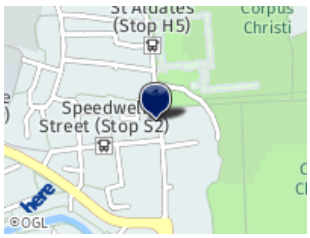
+7 4872 17 6073 (Tourist Information) | yaspolyana@gmail.com | Industrialnaya ulitsa, Tula

by lukask

Alice's Shop Oxford

"Alice's Wonder Shop"

Alice's Shop Oxford is an endearing store selling local souvenirs, located in the St Aldate's neighborhood of the city. The shop is believed to be the place where Alice, daughter of Henry Liddell would come to spend time browsing adorable articles. She used to live at the nearby Christ Church, and is known to have inspired the all-time classic, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. This store, today, sells cute accessories like brooches, pendants, mirrors, bracelets, charms, earrings, etc and attracts numerous little girls. During Christmas, the shop sells an array of ornaments and Alice in Wonderland-themed figurines.



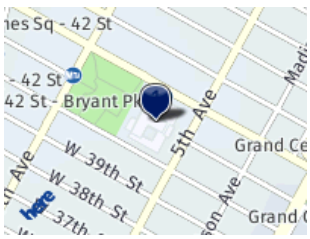
+44 1865 72 3793 | www.aliceinwonderlandshop.co.uk/ | info@aliceinwonderlandshop.co.uk | 83 St Aldate's, Oxford

by melanzane1013

New York Public Library

"Guarded by Lions"

Sitting in all its splendor on Fifth Avenue, the New York Public Library stands guarded by its two famous lions, Patience and Fortitude. For researchers, the library is a treasure. Its many halls contain millions of volumes, tens of thousands of current periodicals and a large staff to help. Conceived in 1897, the library did not open its doors until 1911. It is architecturally one of New York's classics, both inside and out. There are also free art exhibits occasionally on display.



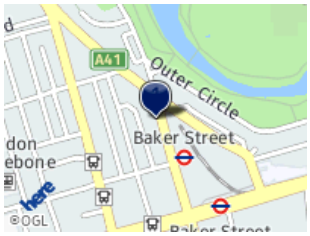
+1 917 275 6975 | www.nypl.org/locations/schwarzman | 5th Avenue at 42nd Street, New York NY

by Photo: Andreas Praefcke

The Sherlock Holmes Museum

"Home of the World's Most Famous Sleuth"

Make a quick stop at one of the most famous addresses in the world, 221B Bakers Street- a fictional home of the popular character– Sherlock Holmes. Interestingly the building's address was not always this famous. It was changed in honor of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's creation. The museum, solely dedicated to the world of Sherlock Holmes, displays are very true to the fiction. You can sit in Holme's armchair, fiddle with his scientific experiments, and examine memorabilia from his adventures. Fans will enjoy their money's worth.



+44 20 7224 3688 | www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk/ | curator@sherlock-holmes.co.uk | 221b Baker Street, London

by Chad and Steph

The Brazen Head

"Pioneered Ireland's Tavern Culture"

Across the river from the Four Courts stands The Brazen Head, reputed to be the oldest pub in Europe. A tavern has stood on this site since Viking times and The Brazen Head celebrated its 800th birthday in 1998. James Joyce was a regular and makes two references to a "Brazen Head" in Ulysses. Today one can enjoy a drink, order some scrumptious food and listen to the impromptu Irish traditional sessions that usually take place at the weekend; all in a historical and literary setting.

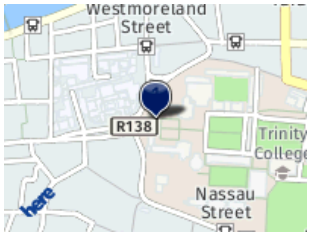
+353 1 677 9549 | www.brazenhead.com | info@brazenhead.com | 20 Bridge Street Lower, Dublin

by jarmoluk

Oscar Wilde Centre

"Oscar Wilde's Home"

Situated inside Dublin's Trinity College, Oscar Wilde Centre was established in the year 1998. It remains a highly regarded teaching and academic research unit offering post-graduate courses. The structure which houses the center is the same where the great writer was born. Noted poets Gerald Dawe and Brendan Kennelly established the center which offers M.Phil in Irish Writing, the first ever such program in Ireland.



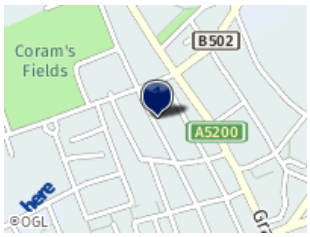
+353 1 89 62 885 | www.tcd.ie/OWC/ | oscar@tcd.ie | 21 Westland Row, Trinity College, Dublin

by Dickens Museum

The Charles Dickens Museum

"Fitting Tribute to Literary Genius"

Charles Dickens' novels famously chronicled the lives and dramas of 19th century London in the throes of the industrial revolution, and his portrayal of slums and workhouses drew on his own family's experiences of poverty and debt. However, The Charles Dickens Museum is anything but bleak, unlike the lives of his characters. The drawing room of the Dickens' House where he held literary salons has been lovingly restored, and elsewhere you can view all manner of Dickens paraphernalia including personal letters and notes as well as manuscripts and first editions of his books.



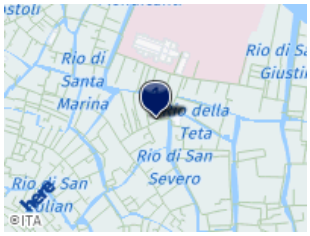
+44 20 7405 2127 | www.dickensmuseum.com/ | info@dickensmuseum.com | 48 Doughty Street, Camden Town, London

by Marit & Toomas Hinnosaar

Libreria Acqua Alta

"Quirky Bookshop"

The bustling neighborhood of Castello is home to one of the most interesting bookshops in the city. One look inside Libreria Acqua Alta, and you'll fall in love with the place. Books appear to have ransacked the entire store, spilling over from the bookshelves to every conceivable space in the sparse area, from the decorative gondola to the out-of-place bathtub. The chaotic set up has a strange charm to it, and has made the bookshop, a well-loved institution in the city. Needless to say, the store's collection is eclectic.



+39 041 296 0841

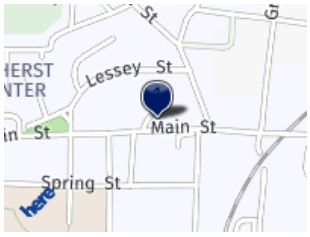
Calle lunga Santa Maria Formosa, Castello 5176, Venice

by Bart Everson

Emily Dickinson Museum: The Homestead & The Evergreens

""Nature is What We See--""

Come visit the birthplace of one of America's best-loved authors, Emily Dickinson, who was born here in December 1830. The famed poet spent most of her life here composing over 1800 poems. The property consists of two different residences that are open to the public: The Evergreens, home to Emily's brother Austin, and The Homestead, where she lived and where her numerous unpublished poems were found after her death. Visitors can see both houses through special guided and audio tours.



+1 413 542 8161

www.emilydickinsonmuseum.org/

info@EmilyDickinsonMuseum.org

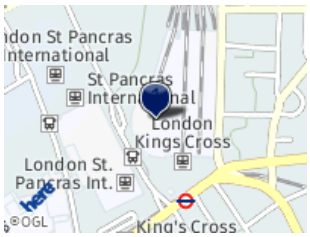
280 Main Street, Amherst MA

by City.and.Color

King's Cross Station/Platform 9 3/4

"Station to Imagination"

Popularized by the famous Harry Potter novel and film franchise, King's Cross Station and its Platform 9 3/4 is every bit as magical as you'd expect it to be. A place where imagination comes to life, although this might be a regular railway station, it does not stop hundreds of visitors each day, from taking pictures at the fabled entrance to Platform 9 3/4. While running into the pillar won't actually get you to the train to Hogwarts, you can in fact hop on to a train that will take you to various destinations around the country.



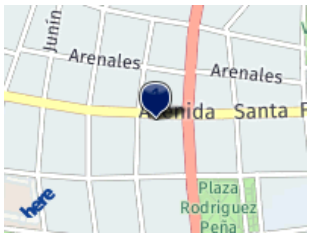
Euston Road, London

by Niels Mickers

El Ateneo Grand Splendid

"Unique & Lovely Bookstore"

After an exhaustive and careful restoration of this beautiful 1919 theater, the biggest bookstore in Latin America opened in what used to be the old Grand Splendid cinema. Without altering the old structure—twinned with the Opera de Paris theatre—it still has its original features and magnificent friezes, like the one on the spectacular dome. There is now a cafeteria in place of the stage, where you can read books taken from the bookshelves. There are also reading places on the corners of the main floor and in the old balconies on the first floor, furnished with tables and comfortable armchairs, computers for searching or online purchasing and an area dedicated to children, 'El Ateneo Junior', with interactive games and storytelling. There is also a small music stage, CDs and DVDs for sale, art exhibitions on the third floor and facilities for watching DVDs.



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1860 Avenida Santa Fe, Buenos Aires

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