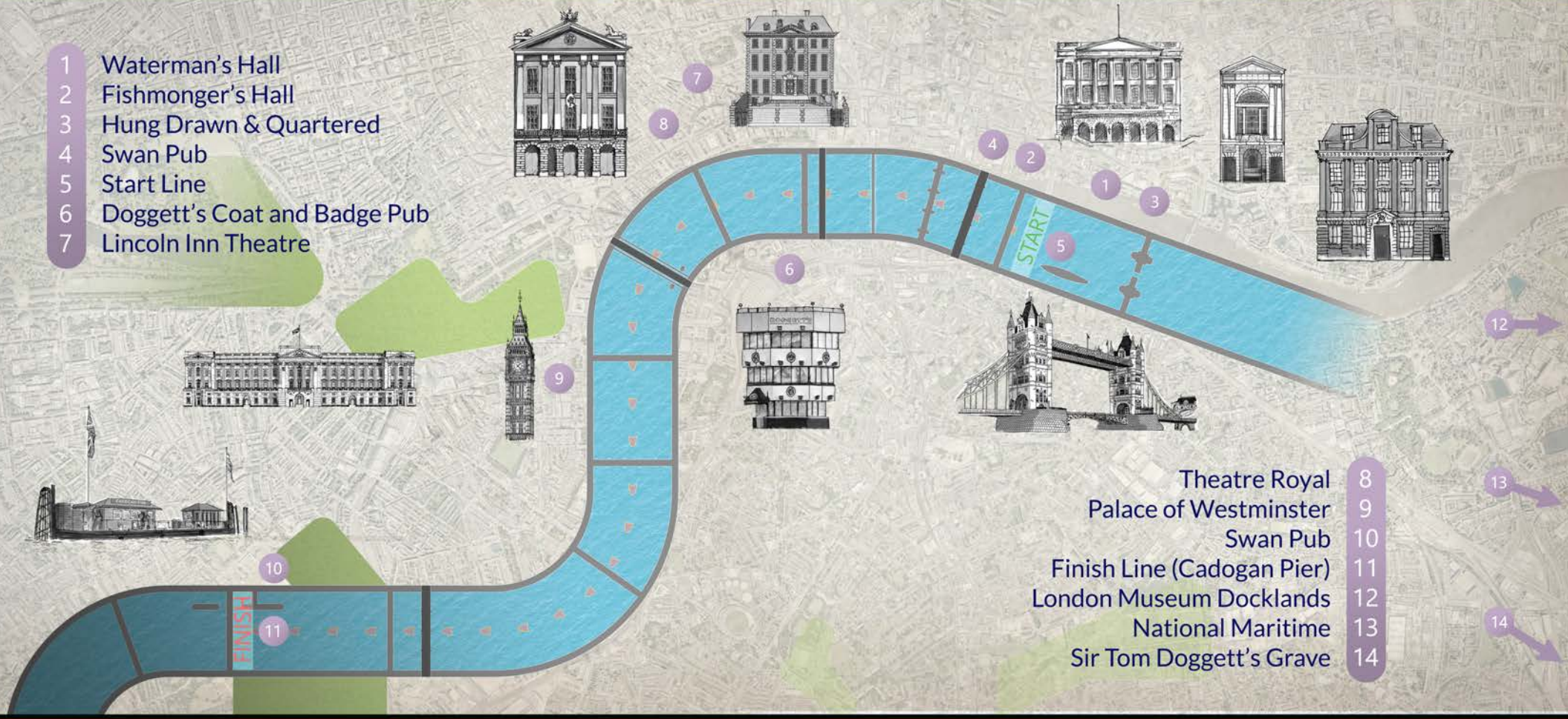




# The Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager

## Since 1715



# Thomas Doggett's London

From London Bridge to Cadogan Pier, Chelsea



# The Doggett's Coat and Badge Wager

## Since 1715



- 1 Watermen's Hall, 16 - 18 St-Mary-at-Hill, London, EC3R 8EF**

This 18th century Georgian Hall is home to the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames. In 1715, Sir Thomas Doggett started the Wager for newly appointed Watermen.
- 2 The Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge, London EC4R 9EL**

Designed by Henry Young, and built in the 1830's, this Hall is a rare example of an English Greek Revival town building.  
In 1721 when Sir Thomas Doggett died, he left instructions and funding in his will to continue the Wager. Mr Edward Burt of the Admiralty Office requested the Fishmongers' Company take on the organisation of the Wager, which they have done ever since.
- 3 Swan Pub, Swan Lane, London Bridge**

This was the original starting point for the race, although sadly it no longer exists.
- 4 London Bridge**

The new start line for the race.
- 5 Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London, WC2B 5JF**

Sir Thomas Doggett was an actor, and from 1710 to 1713 he, with Colley Cibber and Robert Wilks, managed the troupe of actors with the right to perform at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. There have been four theatres on this site since the first opened in 1663. That theatre burned down in January 1672, and it is the second theatre in which Sir Thomas Doggett performed.
- 6 Lincoln Inn Fields Theatre**

The Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre was created by converting Lisle's Tennis Courts in 1695. The theatre opened with William Congreve's *Love for Love* in which Sir Thomas Doggett played 'Ben', a part created for him. The following year, his own play 'The Country Wake' debuted, with Sir Thomas in the role of 'Young Hobb'. The theatre was demolished in 1848.
- 7 Doggett's Coat and Badge Pub, 1 Blackfriars Bridge, London, SE1 9UD**

The Wager has given its name to at least two pubs, including this one. The other is "The Coat and Badge", Lacy Road, Putney.
- 8 Houses of Parliament**

The Palace of Westminster marks the half way point of the 7,400m course. Until 1873, competitors rowed against the tide and there are stories of the race taking over two hours to complete. Since then it has been rowed with the tide and is usually completed in 25 to 30 minutes.
- 9 The Swan Pub, Chelsea, London**

This is the original finish point for the race, and while no longer standing, the building appears in 18th century views of the Chelsea riverside by Canaletto, Tillemans and Maurer. At that time the pub was a large building with a landing place for boats and a riverside garden to the south. There was probably a smaller riverside tavern on the same spot from at least the mid 1600's.
- 10 Cadogan Pier, Chelsea, London, SW3 5RJ**

The current finish line for the wager, Cadogan Pier was built in 1841 to bring potential buyers to Lord Cadogan's new estate of houses in Chelsea. It was rebuilt in 1875 to accommodate Albert Bridge, and remains a landmark structure in Chelsea.
- 11 Hung Drawn and Quartered Pub, 26-27 Great Tower St, Tower, London EC3R 5AQ**

Often used as a meeting point for Watermen and Lightermen after the Wager, the Hung Drawn and Quartered takes its name from the traditional punishment that took place on nearby Tower Hill. 125 people were executed there, and some of their names are now remembered at the Tower Hill Scaffold Site Memorial Garden. A quote from Samuel Pepys, describing how he saw a man subjected to the punishment, is on a plaque on the outside wall of the pub.
- 12 Sir Thomas Doggett's Grave, Saint John the Baptist's Church, Eltham High Street, SE9 1DH**

Sir Thomas Doggett was buried in Saint John the Baptist's Church in Eltham. A plaque marks the spot, and notes he was an actor and author, manager of theatres, and founded the Wager.
- 13 National Maritime Museum, Romney Road, Greenwich, London, SE10 9NF**

The National Maritime Museum houses an iconic collection, including the state barge built for Frederick, Prince of Wales, launched in 1732. After Frederick's death in 1751, she was used by successive monarchs. Her last appearance afloat was in 1849, when Prince Albert and two of his children attended the opening of the Coal Exchange.
- 14 London Museum Docklands, No.1 Warehouse, West India Quay, London E14 4AL**

The London Museum Docklands holds a collection of Doggett's material, much of which is on loan from the Company, including a skiff in which the race was rowed.
- 15 Sherbourne Castle [not included in the above map], New Road, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 5NR**

Originally built in the 12th century, Sherbourne Castle has possibly the only original painting of Sir Thomas Doggett. It is not clear why Sir Thomas' painting is in the castle, only that it was listed in the castle inventory in 1862. The painting in the Company Hall is a copy of the original in Sherbourne Castle, created by artist Ying Yang.

# Thomas Doggett's London

From London Bridge to Cadogan Pier, Chelsea