



## Halifax Estate Agents reveals the UK's Top 50 street names

With the UK's roads ranging from Acorn Street to Zulu Road and stretching from John O'Groats to Lands End, Ardnamurchan Point to Lowestoft, High Street remains the UK's most popular street name, according to Halifax Estate Agents' survey of the UK's top 50 street names.

High Street reflects an older use of the word 'high', meaning chief or principal and 'street' implies a wide and paved highway, rather than a lane or an alley. As the UK's leading street name, High Street is still considered to be the most important thoroughfare in the majority of towns.

### UK'S MOST POPULAR STREET NAMES

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <i>High Street</i>      | 26. <i>West Street</i>      |
| 2. <i>Station Road</i>     | 27. <i>Queen Street</i>     |
| 3. <i>Main Street</i>      | 28. <i>Springfield Road</i> |
| 4. <i>Church Street</i>    | 29. <i>Stanley Road</i>     |
| 5. <i>Victoria Road</i>    | 30. <i>Albert Road</i>      |
| 6. <i>Park Road</i>        | 31. <i>Albert Street</i>    |
| 7. <i>Church Road</i>      | 32. <i>Park Lane</i>        |
| 8. <i>London Road</i>      | 33. <i>Chapel Street</i>    |
| 9. <i>Manor Road</i>       | 34. <i>Highfield Road</i>   |
| 10. <i>New Road</i>        | 35. <i>The Green</i>        |
| 11. <i>Park Avenue</i>     | 36. <i>Mill Lane</i>        |
| 12. <i>Queens Road</i>     | 37. <i>Broadway</i>         |
| 13. <i>Kings Road</i>      | 38. <i>St. Johns Road</i>   |
| 14. <i>Church Lane</i>     | 39. <i>Marlborough Road</i> |
| 15. <i>Green Lane</i>      | 40. <i>Windsor Road</i>     |
| 16. <i>Alexandra Road</i>  | 41. <i>Forest Road</i>      |
| 17. <i>The Crescent</i>    | 42. <i>South Street</i>     |
| 18. <i>George Street</i>   | 43. <i>Warwick Road</i>     |
| 19. <i>Grange Road</i>     | 44. <i>Grove Road</i>       |
| 20. <i>Main Road</i>       | 45. <i>Kingsway</i>         |
| 21. <i>King Street</i>     | 46. <i>York Road</i>        |
| 22. <i>The Avenue</i>      | 47. <i>Woodlands Road</i>   |
| 23. <i>New Street</i>      | 48. <i>Clarence Road</i>    |
| 24. <i>North Street</i>    | 49. <i>School Lane</i>      |
| 25. <i>Victoria Street</i> | 50. <i>Cromwell Road</i>    |

## 1. About the UK's Most Popular Street Names

Across the UK's regions, High Street was the most popular street name in seven different regions and was featured within the top ten street names in two other regions. Northern Ireland, the North West and Greater London were the only regions not to include High Street within their top ten street names. Clough Close was the favourite street name in the North, which does not feature in any other region or within the nation's top 50.

The majority of street names within the UK's top 50 are founded upon a bygone age, when religion, the church and the farm played a central role in community life. The inclusion of Church Street, Church Road and Church Lane, Chapel Street and St. John's Road reflects the importance of worship throughout the centuries. Church related street names feature within all of the region's top ten street names.

Many street names also relate to our Royal Heritage, with references to Victoria, Queen, King, Alexandra, Windsor, George and Albert included within the UK's top 50. However, this theme is not continued within the top ten street names in the North, East Anglia, Northern Ireland and Yorkshire and the Humber.

Whilst our roots and former features of the surrounding area can be traced back through the inclusion of Park Road, Park Avenue, Green Lane, Manor Road, Grange Road, Mill Lane, Highfield Road, Park Lane, The Green, The Grove, School Lane and Grove Road, Station Road coming in at second place bears witness to the great development of the UK's towns and cities.

The prominence of key cities, locations and transport routes is also underlined by the appearance of London Road in the UK's top ten most popular street names and York Road appears within the top 50.

On a regional basis, London Road also features within the top ten names in the South East. In the North, Durham Road hits the top spot, whereas Manchester Road hits the top spot in the North West. Other destinations, such as Leeds Road, Bradford Road, Wigan Road, Rochdale Road, Burnley Road, Leicester Road, Mansfield Road, Birmingham Road, Chester Road, Lichfield Road, Wolverhampton Road, Norwich Road, Gloucester Road, Bath Road, Warwick Road, Belfast Road and Glasgow Road also feature highly on a regional basis.

Some street names remain strictly functional and practical. Within the UK's top 50, these include Main Street, The Crescent, The Avenue, New Road, Main Road, Broadway, West Street, New Street, North Street, South Street, The Drive and North Road. East Anglia and Yorkshire and the Humber are the UK's most practical street name regions with four a piece.

## 2. Unusual Street Names

The street name in twenty ninth place is Stanley Road, the title of Paul Weller's hit album released in 1995. The 'Stanley Road' of the album title is Stanley Road in Woking, Surrey, where Paul Weller grew up and can be found at

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/newmap.srf?x=500831&y=158997&z=1&sv=500750,158750&st=4&ar=Y&mapp=newmap.srf&searchp=newsearch.srf>

However, we should also not forget the village of South Woodham in Essex, which has 25 street names based on Tolkein's Lord of the Rings trilogy. These include Galadriel Spring, Gandalf's Ride, Arwen Grove, Took Drive and Rivendell Vale and can be found at

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/newmap.srf?x=580346&y=196661&z=1&sv=arwen+grove&st=6&tl=Arwen+Grove,+South+Woodham+Ferrers,+Chelmsford,+CM3&searchp=newsearch.srf&mapp=newmap.srf>

### **3. Food themed street names**

#### **Have some food**

Food is also not forgotten when it comes to street names. The 'food' themed street names enable you to stop off on your journey for a bite to eat at Crab Lane, Pie Corner, Pickles Lane, Egg Lane or Bacon Drive and follow that with a desert at Cake Street, Pavlova Close, Strawberry Hill, Creampot Close, Pudding Street or Jammy Lane.

#### **Have a drink**

A drink, such as Gin Lane, Calvados Road or Brandy Way could also be picked up from Rose and Crown Yard, Ship Tavern Passage or Star and Garter Hill, followed by a quick journey via Navigation Road, Old Tramway, Canal Street and Packhorse Lane and a rest in the Countryside at Orchard Close, Woodlands Road, Forest Side, Maple Close, Poplar Grove, Sycamore Road, Forest Road, Woodcroft or Chestnut Avenue.

#### **Do some washing up**

If you've got a spare moment, you could even start the washing up at Washer Lane, Ajax Close, Scrub Lane and Washtub Square.

### **4. Famous people**

Heroes from military history and great Parliamentarians and figures from the world, music, sport, poetry and literature are also all remembered in street names.

Military battles are commemorated through street names, such as Waterloo Street or based on the commanders of those battles, such as Nelson Street, Rodney Street and Wellington Street.

Political references in street names include Sir Winston Churchill Place, Clem Atlee Gardens, Dirsrraeli Gardens, Macmillan Street, Thatchers Drive and Major Lane.

In addition, great achievers and influential people are remembered through Florence Nightingale Close, Sir Isaac Newton Close, George Stephenson Way, Neil Armstrong Way, Chay Blyth Place, Red Rum Close, Paul McCartney Way, Nelson Mandela Road, Sir Matt Busby Way, Spode Street, John Nash Peake, Reginald Mitchell Way and Josiah Wedgwood Street.

Gordon Edwards, Managing director at Halifax, comments:

"The names we give to our streets serve more than just a functional purpose. Regional and national favourites paint a picture of our history, landscape and the famous British 'sense of humour.' Features of our past and surrounding areas, along with ties to religion and the church, key cities and transport routes play a fundamental role in our lives on a day to day basis and that is reflected in our street names."

Ends.

#### **Editors' Notes**

Information on street names was retrieved at the time of standard overnight accounts processing on the Halifax's mortgage accounts.

#### **How New Street Names Are Allocated**

The main way that street names come into being is through new housing developments. Developers submit a list of suitable street names to the council for consideration. The street name should preferably be of local interest or continue an existing theme.

All new street names should end with a terminal word, such as:

- Hill – for hills only
- Square – for a square only
- Close – for a cul-de-sac only
- Crescent – for a crescent shaped road only
- Circus – for a roundabout only
- Terrace – for a terrace of houses

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- Mews – considered acceptable in appropriate circumstances.

The Council involves the Royal Mail and Emergency Services on the allocation of new street names to make sure that there are no confusing clashes with existing addresses in the same postal district.