

24 HOURS

SEE THE BEST OF THE CITY IN JUST ONE DAY

Liverpool is defined by the river, so after breakfast in Birkenhead, begin your day with the boat ride immortalised by Gerry and the Pacemakers. The ferry across the Mersey gives unrivalled views of the post-industrial landscape and waterfront architecture that owes much to early 20th-century US trends, although more recent arrivals like the [Museum of Liverpool](#) (see p014) and Broadway Malayan's oft-criticised Mann Island have skewed the appearance of this iconic stretch. To see the whole city laid out before you, the best perspectives to be had are from the [Anglican Cathedral](#) (see p034) and the 91m-high [Panoramic 34](#) restaurant (see p038).

After a glance at [Open Eye](#) (see p027) – just one gallery in a city collection that is arguably the most impressive in the UK outside the capital – it's a 15-minute stroll for lunch at [Camp and Furnace](#) (see p028) in the Baltic Triangle; still rough around the edges, but all the more fascinating for it. [FACT](#) (see p030) is a progressive mix of new media and arthouse; [The Bluecoat](#) (see p032) and the [Philharmonic](#) (see p036) are institutions that have been around rather longer. However, since seamen came ashore clutching US rock'n'roll 45s in the 1950s, popular music has remained the city's cultural preoccupation. Avoid the naff Beatles mecca of Mathew Street and look for promoters like Deep Hedonia, Evol, Harvest Sun and Samizdat; or anything hosted by [The Kazimier](#) (see p052). *For full addresses, see Resources.*



10.00 Home

Mersey Ferries' River Explorer Cruise stops at Seacombe and progresses to Woodside, where you should disembark for breakfast at Home. This light-touch 2009 conversion of the 1864 ferry terminal booking hall has Tom Dixon lighting above the bar, oversized pendants and Konstantin Grcic furniture. Bag a table on the mezzanine, which was constructed from former landing-stage buildings, for some widescreen river views.

You'll be overlooking the scene of much transatlantic emigration, so it's appropriate that breakfast options at this delightful spot range from Welsh rarebit to brioche French toast and US-style pancakes. Home has a sister café in Oxtou (T 653 7552), close to Fraiche (see p056), where you can perch on Eames and Robin Day chairs. *Woodside Ferry Approach, T 330 1475, www.homecoffee.co.uk*