

DERBY: all the latest news, upcoming events and blogs

OCTOBER 2024

LATEST NEWS

London, Shanghai, Amsterdam, Derby

[Derby City Lab](#) is another public-private partnership success story in Derby that's based on the concept of 'Urban Rooms' in cities such as London, Amsterdam and Shanghai. The Lab is a hub for engaging the wider community in better understanding the evolution of the city and the investment pipeline. Locals and visitors alike can step inside the Lab, on Level 2 of the Derbion shopping mall and find out more about how the city is changing. The City Living Room showcases Derby's 300-year innovation history and hosts a range of exhibitions and discussion groups focused on ideas to regenerate the city. Partners in the Lab include Marketing Derby, Derby City Council, University of Derby, Lathams, Derbion and Clowes - all of whom recognise it as a valuable tool in terms of engaging the wider public.

Derby bakery goes from 'gram, to Glam

The latest name in Derby's High Street offering is [Glamberry Café](#). A new, boutique-style café on The Strand in the Cathedral Quarter, it will offer a range of artisan cakes, desserts, and a variety of hot and cold drinks. The owner is Anum Zafar who started her baking journey in her parents' kitchen, but who has found fame on social media and boasts around [87.5k followers on Instagram](#). They also offer workshops teaching people how to decorate cakes – and welcome people from all parts of the UK.

Is Derby the UK's worst short break destination?

The quick answer is, "No". And a slightly longer version is, "Of course not". But don't take our word for it. Take the word of *The Guardian* which, with the help of journalist Phoebe Taplin "bussed that myth" during a car-free tour of Derbyshire. It was *Metro* which first alerted the world to the [Which? poll](#) of best and worst cities for a shortbreak in Britain. But it's Phoebe's article in [The Guardian](#) which has helped to put the record straight. Subsequent press visits have been hosted by Visit Derby for journalists from The i, and Metro itself. Watch this space for more myth-busting updates...

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UPCOMING EVENTS

There's room for plenty of Folk in Derby this month

11-13 October

The Old Bell Hotel in Derby is set to be the focal point for a weekend of folk music that will also spill out onto the streets of the city centre. [Derby Folk Weekend](#) offers a line-up of familiar faces as well as plenty of new folk. The festival will also have sessions, singing and dancing at venues across the Cathedral Quarter. Weekend tickets start from £73 per person.

Celebrate Tomb Raider Day in Laura Croft's home town

12 October

Derby, the "birthplace" of Laura Croft, is set to host its fourth annual one-day fan event in the city. 2024 is a big year for Lara Croft with new games, anniversaries and a new anime. With guest interviews, panels, autograph signings and photo opportunities. [#TR28](#) is being held at Derby QUAD with a standard entry ticket priced at £41.

Three cheers for Derby

October and November

There are [three top, upcoming beer festivals](#) planned for Derby this Autumn. Bustler Market is set to host Oktoberfest on 12 October; Derby Beer Con 2024 is scheduled to take place at the Museum and Art Gallery on The Wardwick on 8-9 November; and Derby's brewing heritage will be celebrated at the CAMRA Heritage Beer Festival at the Museum of Making on 13-16 November. All will raise a glass to the thriving beer scene in a city known as a Real Ale Capital of Britain.

Front and centre in radical retelling of British art history? That's Wright.

15 October

Britain has produced some of the world's most famous artists, not least Joseph Wright of Derby. But what made British art 'great'? On 15 October, the art historian Dr Bendor Grosvenor, best known from the BBC series *Britain's Lost Masterpieces* and *Fake or Fortune?*, will give [a talk at Derby Museum & Art Gallery](#) on the subject of his new book, *The Invention of British Art*. Front and centre in his radical retelling of British art history is the role played by Joseph Wright of Derby. Tickets are priced £10 per person.

Let there be light

26 October to 31 December

Commissioned by Surtal Arts with support from Arts Council, eight emerging artists from Derby and Derbyshire will create 11 stunning giant artworks for a [Lantern Sculpture Trail](#) through the city. Inspired by the theme of climate action, the "World of Flowers" trail will see 1-to-3metre high LED-lit lanterns, made of eco-friendly or recycled materials, appear in 11 different locations around Derby. The trail is free to everyone.

Creatures of the night to hit the streets of Derby this Halloween

31 October

In 1924, Dracula stepped foot on stage for the first time at The Grand Theatre, Derby. This Halloween 100 years of Dracula will be marked at Love Sadler Gate's [Creatures of the Night](#) a family friendly evening of Halloween entertainment, featuring live entertainment, window dressing and plenty of spooky surprises. It's also a night to dress to impress as the finest vampire of the night will be named "Derby's best dressed Dracula". Family friendly entertainment will run from 4-8pm; while an adults-only element, taking place from 9pm 'til late, will feature a "March of The Vampires".

This isn't just any market. This is Sadler Gate's 'Christmas Night Market'.

28 November

The popular Sadler Gate [Christmas Night Market](#) returns to the centre of Derby on Thursday 28 November with over 80 artisan stalls adding to the large number of independent retail and hospitality businesses in this part of the city's Cathedral Quarter. The combination of shops, stalls, pubs and restaurants alongside some lively street-theatre and carol singing will help to set the mood and atmosphere for the festive season. The event runs from 5 to 9.30pm, and will provide the perfect night out in the run-up to Christmas.

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BLOGS

Half-Term, Halloween & Bonfire Night

There's a new round-up of all the major half-term, Halloween and Bonfire Night excitement in Derby on Visit Derby's website. It's a [one-stop shop](#) for visitors in search of eerie encounters, dazzling pyrotechnics, or simply quality time with loved ones, and features pumpkins, scarefests and schools of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

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For further details, visit:
<https://www.visitderby.co.uk>.

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