

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2026 / ENGLISH

DERBY GUIDE

WHAT'S ON



Image Credit: AV-IT Media



VISIT
DERBY
THE PIONEERING CITY

EMBRACE AUTUMN AND WINTER IN DERBY

There's a huge amount to look forward to across Derby as we move from autumn into winter, with a packed calendar of unmissable events lighting up the city.

From spine-tingling Halloween and Bonfire Night celebrations to the return of the Christmas ice rink, the city comes alive with atmosphere, live entertainment, exhibitions, and family fun.

This October, Derby Cathedral will be transformed by Helios by Luke Jerram, a breathtaking giant sun installation, while Derby Folk Festival adds even more energy and music to the city's cultural line-up.

Explore what's on across the city and discover your next experience - just click any listing for more details.

The Tourism Team at VisitDerby

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TOURIST INFORMATION

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Image Credit: Kate Lowe Photography



Image Credit: Seamus McKenna Photography



Image Credit: AV-IT Media

DON'T MISS A BEAT

Top things to do and authentic experiences you can't miss in Derby

1

Derby Folk Festival 2026

9 Oct 2026 - 11 Oct 2026

📍 Various Derby locations,

Derby Folk Festival returns autumn 2026, celebrating folk music, dance, workshops and city centre community spirit.

2

Assemble: Derby's Making Festival 2026

24 Oct 2026

📍 Museum of Making at Derby Silk Mill, Silk Mill Lane, Derby...

A celebration of all things making – meet the makers and discover what you can make!

3

Derby Book Festival 2026

13 Nov 2026 - 15 Nov 2026

📍 Various Derby venues,

Derby Book Festival will return in 2026 with Summer and Autumn editions.

4

Sadler Gate Night Market

26 Nov 2026

📍 Sadler Gate, Derby DE1 3NQ

Late-night indie shopping, unique gifts, fashion, festive food, drink & entertainment in one sparkling evening.

5

Christmas Lights Switch On & Festive Derby Opening

28 Nov 2026

📍 Derby Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH

Join Festive Derby as Christmas lights switch on in the city centre with free entertainment & lantern parade!



DISCOVER AUTUMN AT DERBY MARKET HALL

Shop our historic market with changing product lines from our independent traders. Discover warmer tones in hand-crafted gifts and artisan treasures, or pick up supplies and taste Autumn with fresh local produce from our on-site grocer, bakery, fishmonger and deli counter.

Discover delicious food from award-winning independent businesses with an array of sweet and savoury flavours from around the world, including food from Asia, Europe, South America and the UK.

Enjoy expertly brewed speciality coffee, tea and more, paired with freshly baked pastries, artisanal cakes and sweet treats. Later on in the day, grab a drink from our bars with local craft beers, cocktails, wines, and premium soft drinks, or sample craft spirits made on-site at The Spirit Run, our very own distillery bar.

There's plenty happening at Derby Market Hall over the next few months. Enjoy weekly live music and monthly Farmers' Markets, plus Oktoberfest celebrations, family-friendly Halloween activities, Haunted Derby Festival and Vintage Fairs.

Make Derby Market Hall your go-to spot this season. We can't wait to see you!

See what's on and find out more at derbymarkethall.co.uk.



SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Derby is a lively city of events. From October to December, you can enjoy a great mix of festivals, celebrations, exhibitions and cultural events. Find below a small selection of great events, there's lots more, see visitderby.co.uk/whats-on



Wright of Derby: From the Shadows

15 Sep 2026 - 1 Nov 2026

📍 Derby Museum & Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby DE1 1BS

Discover Wright of Derby's 'Candlelight' masterpieces – drama, intrigue, and sublime art in From the Shadows!



Lara Croft: 30 Years On - From Derby to Global Icon

15 Sep 2026 - 28 Nov 2026

📍 Pickford's House, 41 Friar Gate, Derby DE1 1DA

Celebrate 30 years of Tomb Raider - step into Lara Croft's world as Pickford's House transforms into Croft Manor.



Helios by Luke Jerram

20 Oct 2026 - 31 Oct 2026

📍 Derby Cathedral, 18-19 Iron Gate, Derby DE1 3GP

A 7-metre sun model will light up Derby Cathedral this autumn, marking the start of its centenary celebrations.



Cathedral Quarter Ice Rink 2026

28 Nov 2026 - 31 Dec 2026

📍 Derby Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH

Bring the whole family to Cathedral Quarter Ice Rink this Christmas - festive fun on ice for all ages.



Osnabrück Oktoberfest

2 Oct 2026 - 4 Oct 2026

📍 Derby Market Hall, Market Place, D...

Derby Market Hall becomes a lively German festival with music, authentic food and fun for all!



Derby Heritage Beer Festival 2026

14 Oct 2026 - 17 Oct 2026

📍 Derby Market Hall, Market Place, D...

Derby Market Hall hosts the Derby Heritage Beer Festival for the first time this autumn.



Bluebells School of Witchcraft and Wizardry

24 Oct 2026 - 31 Oct 2026

📍 Bluebells, Brunswood Farm, Locko ...

Get ready for a spellbinding Halloween at Bluebells School of Witchcraft and Wizardry!



Shocktober

9 Oct 2026 - 1 Nov 2026

📍 Derby QUAD & Cinema, Market Pla...

Dive into terror at Derby QUAD this October - where shivers rise and nightmares take hold.



Road to Nashville Indoor Rodeo Show

17 Oct 2026

📍 Ultra Warehouse, 9 Downing Road,...

After sold-out UK shows, The Road to Nashville brings its country magic to Ultra Warehouse!



All Hallows Haunts

30 Oct 2026 - 1 Nov 2026

📍 Derby QUAD & Cinema, Market Pla...

This Halloween weekend, enjoy talks and author interviews delving into the darker side of horror and storytelling.



Oktoberfest at Ultra Warehouse

10 Oct 2026

📍 Ultra Warehouse, 9 Downing Road,...

Germany's biggest celebration lands at Ultra Warehouse - beer, live music, epic energy and unforgettable entertainment.



Haunted Derby Festival

17 Oct 2026 - 18 Oct 2026

📍 Derby Market Hall, Market Place, D...

Step into Haunted Derby Festival - ghostly tales, eerie legends and spine-tingling experiences around every corner.



Dracula's Bazaar: Halloween Edition

30 Oct 2026 - 1 Nov 2026

📍 Derby QUAD & Cinema, Market Pla...

Step into the shadows this Halloween for a dark, decadent celebration of all things gothic at Dracula's Bazaar.



Fireworks Weekend 2026

6 Nov 2026 - 7 Nov 2026

📍 Derbyshire County Cricket Club, T...

Derby's biggest fireworks display returns this November at The OurCoop County Ground.



The Peter Rabbit and Santa Experience

26 Nov 2026 - 24 Dec 2026

📍 Derbion, London Road, Derby DE1 ...

Visit Santa at Derbion this Christmas and enjoy a brand-new, heartwarming Peter Rabbit & Friends adventure!



The Railway Children

27 Nov 2026 - 2 Jan 2027

📍 Derby Theatre, 15 Theatre Walk, St ...

All aboard for an enchanting journey through steam trains, adventure, and courage.



Christmas at Bluebells

28 Nov 2026 - 29 Nov 2026, 5 Dec 2026 - 6 Dec 2026, 12 Dec 2026 - 13 Dec 2026, 18 Dec 2026 - 24 Dec 2026

📍 Bluebells, Brunswood Farm, Locko ...

Step into a world of festive wonder this Christmas at Bluebell Dairy, where magical memories await around every corner.



Dracula's Bazaar: Gothmas Edition

4 Dec 2026 - 6 Dec 2026

📍 Derby QUAD & Cinema, Market Pla...

Step into a darker festive season at Dracula's Bazaar: Gothmas Edition - Christmas meets the macabre.



Snow White

4 Dec 2026 - 31 Dec 2026

📍 Derby Arena, Royal Way, Pride Park...

Mirror, mirror... Snow White returns in a dazzling festive panto - full of sparkle, slapstick and wickedly good fun.



The Owl and the Pussycat

5 Dec 2026 - 9 Jan 2027

📍 Derby Theatre, 15 Theatre Walk, St ...

Join Owl & Pussy Cat on a nonsense high-seas adventure with honey, money and a runcible spoon!

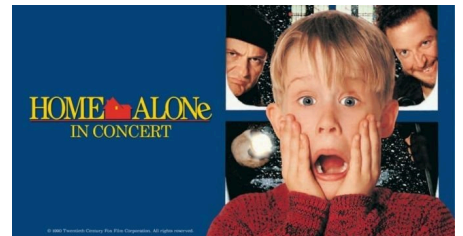


The Lost Boys: A Christmas Carol

3 Dec 2026 - 17 Dec 2026

📍 The Old Bell Hotel, 51 Sadler Gate, ...

Scrooge: A Christmas Dinner returns to The Old Bell Hotel - back by popular demand, a sell-out festive experience.



Home Alone In Concert

10 Dec 2026

📍 Vaillant Live, 2 Colyear Street, Derb...

Experience a festive classic like never before - John Williams' iconic score, performed live by orchestra and choir.

EXPLORE FURTHER AFIELD

On Derby's doorstep is the stunning Peak District and Derbyshire. There is always a great selection of events, whatever time of year you visit.

Find out more at visitderby.co.uk/whats-on



Matlock Bath Illuminations 2026

15 Sep 2026 - 1 Nov 2026

📍 Matlock Bath, Derbyshire DE4 3NR

Matlock Bath Illuminations lights up the River Derwent with a dazzling illuminated boat parade - a true family...



Fright Night 3 - The Mills Have Eyes!

31 Oct 2026

📍 Cromford Mills, Mill Road, Matlock ...

Fright Night returns to Cromford Mills this Halloween - bigger, darker, and more terrifying than ever.



Fright Fiesta at Gulliver's Kingdom

10 Oct 2026 - 1 Nov 2026

📍 Gulliver's Kingdom, Temple Walk, ...

Join Gulliver's Fright Fiesta this Halloween - spooky vibes, costumes, colour & music!



Halloween Fun at Crich Tramway Village

26 Oct 2026 - 30 Oct 2026

📍 National Tramway Museum, Cromf...

It's Eerie-sistable!!! Join us for some spooky half term family fun!



Chatsworth Bonfire and Fireworks

30 Oct 2026 - 31 Oct 2026

📍 Chatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire ...

An evening of family entertainment complete with a bonfire, firework displays, and seasonal food and drink.



Tramlight at National Tramway Museum

7 Nov 2026 - 8 Nov 2026

📍 National Tramway Museum, Cromf...

The National Tramway Village glows with magic as night falls, illuminated beautifully by tramlight.



Christmas at Chatsworth

7 Nov 2026 - 3 Jan 2027

📍 Chatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire ...

Experience Christmas at Chatsworth with a decorated house, garden light trail, and festive farmyard activities.



Lights of Abraham

20 Nov 2026 - 30 Dec 2026

📍 Heights of Abraham, Matlock Bath, ...

Experience the Heights in a new light!



Mercatum Christmas Artisan Market 2026

Wed-Sun between 11th Nov and 20th Dec 2026

📍 Haddon Hall, Bakewell, Derbyshire ...

Experience Christmas magic at Haddon Hall's Mercatum, a truly enchanting artisan market and festive must-visit.

POPULAR PLACES AND ATTRACTIONS

Derby is a vibrant city with lots of events throughout the year. Many events take place within our award winning attractions. There are always lots of things to see and do, particularly around celebrations and holidays. Here are a few of our attractions where there is always something to see and do.



Image Credit: @aechphotography

Artcore

📍 8 Albert Street, Osnabruck Square, Derby DE1 2DS

Artcore is Derby's vibrant international centre for contemporary art and creativity, bringing together a gallery, artist...

Bluebells

📍 Bluebells, Brunswood Farm, Locko Road, Derby DE21 7AR

If you're looking for a fun-filled family day out near Derby, Bluebell Dairy offers hands-on animal experiences,...

Bustler Derby

📍 St James' Yard, St James Street, Derby DE1 3NQ

Bustler Derby is a vibrant street food, drink and social destination located in St James' Yard, bringing together an...

Derby Cathedral

📍 Derby Cathedral, 18-19 Iron Gate, Derby DE1 3GP

A fascinating place to visit and a venue for musical and cultural excellence in the heart of the city.

Derby Market Hall

📍 Derby Market Hall, Market Place, Derby DE1 2DB

A treasure trove of unique finds and delicious treats, perfect for a day of shopping, dining and entertainment.

Derby Museum & Art Gallery

📍 Derby Museum & Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby DE1 1BS

Lots of treasures to explore and lots of activities for families to enjoy together at Derby Museums.

Electric Daisy

📍 1 - 4 Bold Lane, Derby DE1 3NT

A vibrant space where people connect, culture blooms, and nature takes the spotlight with great events happening.

Museum of Making at Derby Silk Mill

📍 Museum of Making at Derby Silk Mill, Silk Mill Lane, Derby...

Explore Derby's 300-year history of making and enjoy events and activities for families to enjoy together.

Pickford's House

📍 Pickford's House, 41 Friar Gate, Derby DE1 1DA

Come and experience our unique museum in the show home of the Enlightenment architect Joseph Pickford.

EATING AND DRINKING

Indulge in a culinary adventure in Derby's vibrant food and drink scene. From cosy cafes and traditional pubs to award-winning restaurants and international cuisines.



The Spice Lounge

📍 10 Friar Gate, Cathedral Quarter, Derby DE1 1BU

The Spice Lounge offers a stimulating range of Bangladeshi and Southern Asian dishes with a creative twist to appeal to...

Houseboat

📍 89 - 91 St Peters Street, Derby DE1 2AB

Authentic Kerala flavours, enjoy South Indian dishes in a cosy houseboat-inspired setting.

Bluebells Ice Cream Parlour

📍 Brunswood Farm, Locko Road, Derby DE21 7AR

Award-winning farm-made ice cream, shakes and sweet treats at Bluebell Dairy near Derby.

Good Thai Derby

📍 34 Victoria Street, Derby DE1 1ES

Authentic Thai cuisine in Derby with classic dishes, street food favourites and vegan options.

Hickory's Smokehouse Derby

📍 166 Swarkestone Road, Derbyshire DE73 5UE

Discover the flavours & hospitality of the Southern States in this family-friendly restaurant.

Cast Iron Bar & Grill

📍 Breadsall Priory Marriott Hotel & Country Club, Moor Ro...

If you find yourself in Derby, make sure to pay a visit to Cast Iron Bar & Grill situated in the recently refurbished...

Bistrot Pierre

📍 18 Friar Gate, Cathedral Quarter, Derby DE1 1BX

Offering the charm and warmth of a Parisian restaurant, unwind and indulge in French-inspired dishes.

BEAR Derbion

📍 Derbion, Level 2, Derby DE1 2PL

BEAR Derbion is a snug little haven that you can use to escape all that retail hustle. Come and make yourself at home.

EATING AND DRINKING



Image Credit: @aechphotography

Lotus Indian Kitchen

📍 Mercia Marina, Findern Lane, Willington, Derby DE65 6DW

Experience dining at the first Indian tapas restaurant in Derby, a restaurant which helped change the face of dining in...

The Engine Room

📍 Riverlights, Morledge, Derby DE1 2BB

The Engine Room is a bold new addition to Derby city centre, serving inventive dishes in a stylish industrial-chic...

The River Kitchen

📍 Museum of Making, Silk Mill Lane, Derby DE1 3AF

The River Kitchen is all about community. Their delicious food is locally sourced, homemade, always within season and...

The Peppercot

📍 Nightingale Quarter, London Road, Derby DE1 2UH

Exceptional dishes using the finest locally sourced produce. Awarded AA Rosette for Culinary Excellence 2024-2025.

BEAR Derby Irongate

📍 7 Iron Gate, Derby, DE1 3FJ

Offering all-day dining from a locally-sourced menu, including an abundance of fresh seasonal treats.

The Elephant and Peacock

📍 Derby Road, Milford, Belper DE56 0QW

Daily Telegraph Top 20 Best Options for a Sunday Lunch in the UK Marketing Derby Food & Drink Awards Best out of Town...

Lorentes Darley Abbey

📍 The Cotton Yard, Darley Abbey Mills, Derby DE22 1DZ

The flavours of Madrid and Barcelona, set in a riverside bistro within the World Heritage site of Darley Abbey Mills.

Café 42

📍 Derby Arena, Royal Way, Pride Park, , Derby DE24 8JB

A range of delicious and nutritious food and hot and cold drinks are available at the Arena. Whether you're calling in...

Bustler Derby

📍 St James' Yard, St James Street, Derby DE1 3NQ

Bustler Derby is a vibrant street food, drink and social destination located in St James' Yard, bringing together an...

MARKETING DERBY FOOD AND DRINK AWARD FINALISTS

The [Derby Food and Drink Awards](#) 2026 finalists have been announced, spotlighting the very best of the city's thriving hospitality scene. From standout restaurants and lively cafés to stylish bars, this year's shortlist celebrates the talent, passion, and creativity that make Derby a true food and drink destination.



BEST CURRY

[Anoki](#)
[Lotus Indian Kitchen](#)
[Hen & Chickens](#)

BEST BAR

[Bouquet Wine Cellar \(Little Eaton\)](#)
[Belong Bar](#)
[Darley Abbey Wines](#)

BEST PUB

[The Exeter Arms](#)
[The Silk Mill](#)
[The Royal Standard](#)

BEST NEWCOMER

[Strutt Bakehouse](#)
[The Spirit Run](#)
[Bentley's](#)

BEST CAFÉ

[Nourish at No.44](#)
[The Book Café](#)
[Café BLANC](#)

BEST COUNTRY PUB/RESTAURANT

[The Palfrey](#)
[The Elephant and Peacock](#)
[The Devonshire](#)

BEST INTERNATIONAL

[OMOMO](#)
[La Burrata](#)
[Lorentes Friar Gate](#)

BEST OVERALL EXPERIENCE

[The Engine Room](#)
[Yassou Greek](#)
[Dovecote Restaurant at Morley Hayes](#)

MARKETING DERBY RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR 2026

[Lorentes Darley Abbey](#)
[The Pepperpot](#)
[Compamigos](#)

MARKETING DERBY INNOVATION AWARD AND OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

To be announced on the night.



HALF TERM HALLOWEEN & BONFIRE NIGHT

EXPLORE WHAT'S ON IN
DERBY THIS HALF TERM

visitderby.co.uk



WINTER IN DERBY

FROM FESTIVE LIGHTS
TO COSY DAYS OUT,
EXPLORE WHAT'S ON
THIS WINTER

[LEARN MORE](#)



EXPERIENCES

Unlock a world of unforgettable experiences, plan your next thrilling adventure in Derby and create memories that will last a lifetime.



Saturday Supper Club

19 Sep 2026, 3 Oct 2026, 24 Oct 2026

📍 Derby Market Hall, Market Place, Derby DE1 2DB

Discover a secret, intimate dining room at Derby Market Hall and enjoy 3 courses of culinary wizardry.

Letterpress Workshops

📍 The Smallprint Co, 2-3 Friary Street, Derby DE1 1JF

Learn the intricacies of letterpress printing, typography, and bookbinding at our heritage print and design studio.

Spa Treatments at Breadsall Priory

📍 Delta Hotels by Marriott Breadsall Priory Country Club, ...

Relax on a spa day and enjoy access to a leisure centre with gym, classes, pool and jacuzzi.

The Escape Room Guys

📍 1-5 Iron Gate, Derby DE1 3FJ

Try a range of immersive escape rooms, perfect for team-building and family outings.

Craftcore - The City's First Public Ceramic Studio

📍 5 Osnabruck Square, Derby DE1 2DS

Craftcore, the city's first fully equipped public ceramic studio, offering an immersive and hands-on experience in the...

Introduction to Track Cycling at Derby Arena

Available Sundays

📍 Derby Arena, Royal Way, Pride Park, Derby DE24 8JB

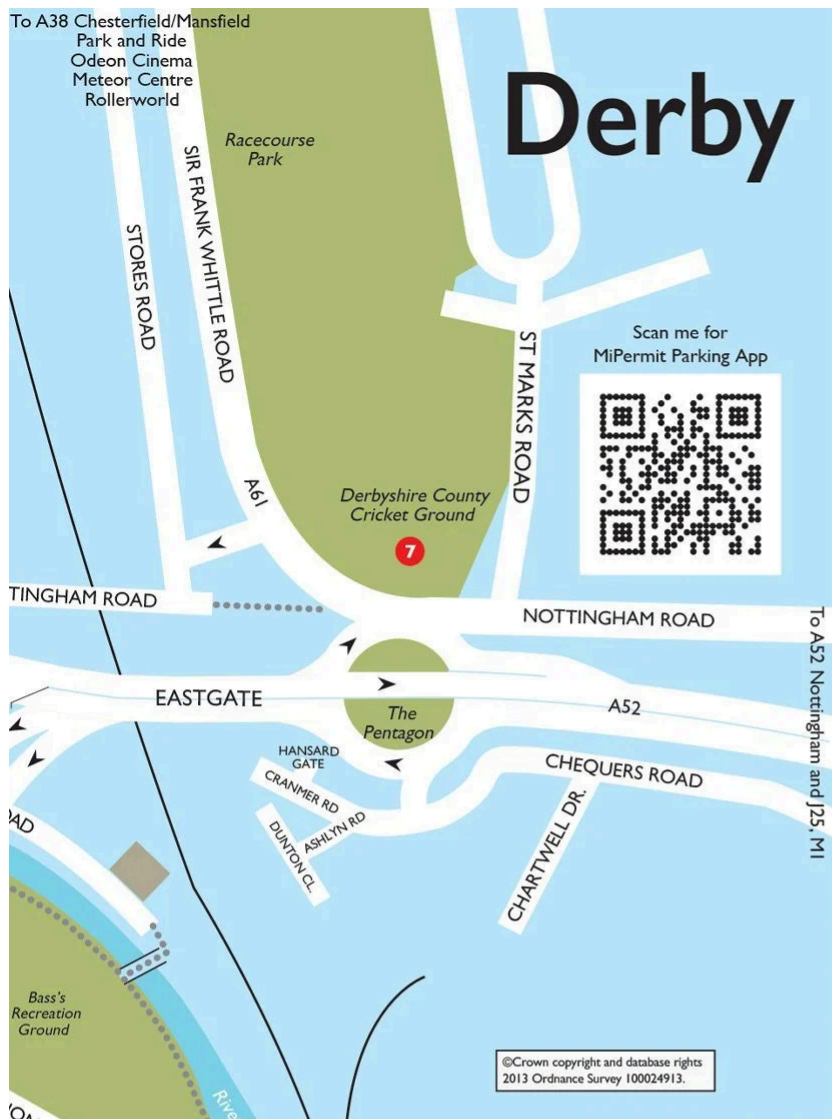
This could be your first go at track cycling and can be a one-off taster session just for fun or to see if it's for you...

Afternoon Tea at Breadsall Priory

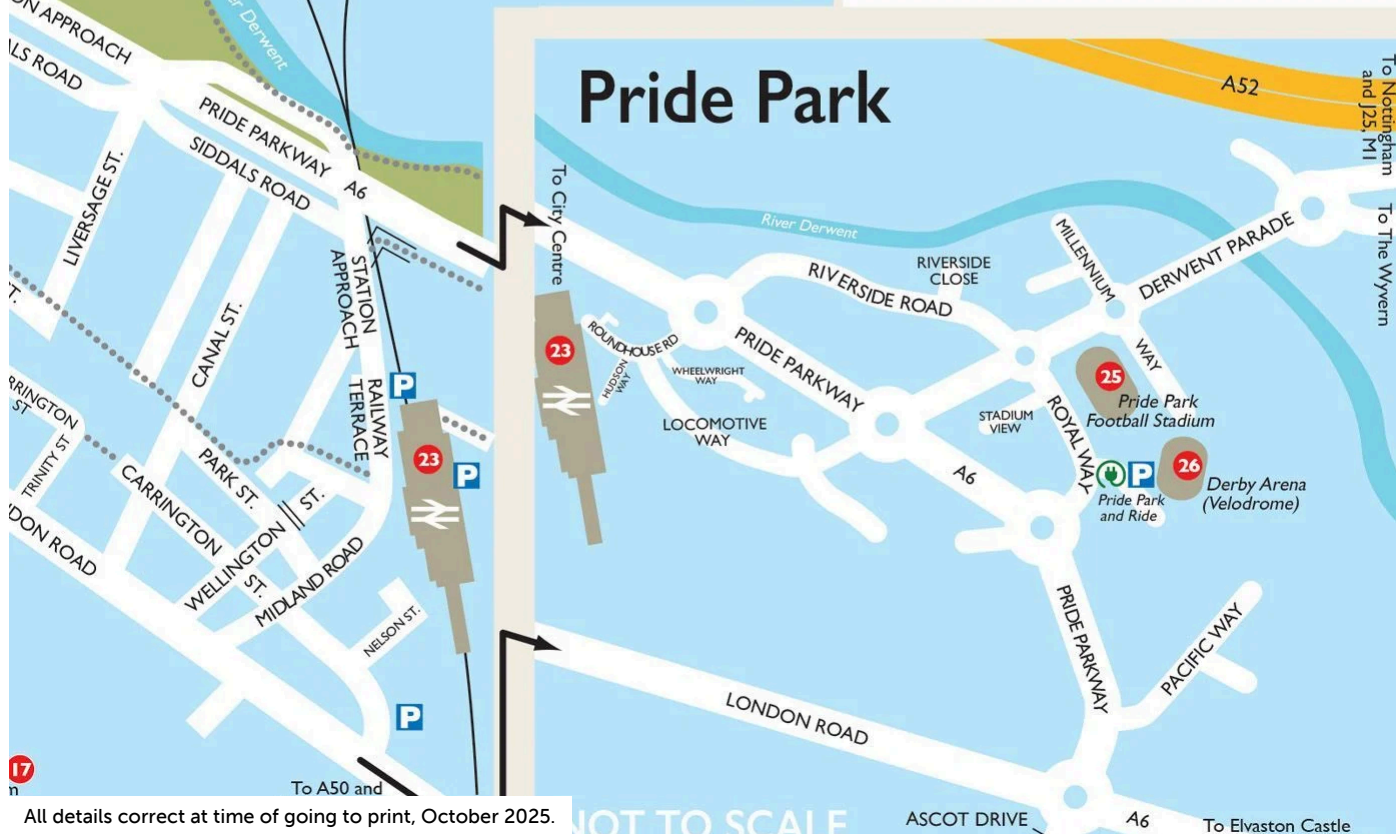
📍 Delta Hotels by Marriott Breadsall Priory Country Club, ...

Spoil someone special with a quintessentially British afternoon tea experience, surrounded by serene and rolling...





- 1 BBC Radio Derby
 - 2 Council House
 - 3 Bonnie Prince Charlie Statue
 - 4 'Made in Derby' Walk of Fame (Albion Street, Exchange Street, Market Place and Iron Gate)
 - 5 Artcore Gallery
 - 6 Bus Station (Coach bookings please call 01332 711554)
 - 7 Derbyshire County Cricket Ground
 - 8 Derby Cathedral
 - 9 Vaillant Live
 - 10 Dubrek Studios
 - 11 Derby Gaol
 - 12 Derby Museum & Art Gallery
 - 13 Derby Theatre
 - 14 The Hairy Dog
 - 15 Guildhall Theatre (currently closed)
 - 16 Joseph Wright Centre (Derby College)
 - 17 Great Northern Classics
 - 18 Derby Market Hall
 - 19 Pickford's House Museum
 - 20 The Venue
 - 21 QUAD
 - 22 The Flowerpot
 - 23 Railway Station
 - 24 Museum of Making
 - 25 Pride Park Stadium
 - 26 Derby Arena (Velodrome)
 - 27 Derby Uncovered Heritage Centre
 - 28 Derby Riverboat
 - 29 Electric Daisy
- EV Charging
 - Coach Parking
 - Car Park / Parking
 - Designated Disabled Parking (No. of spaces)
 - Derby Sales & Information Centre (Chapel Street Arts Centre)
 - Toilets
 - Footpath
 - One Way Streets
 - Restricted Vehicle Access
 - Pedestrianised Streets
 - Cul de sac
 - Library
 - Place of Worship
 - Derbion (shopping centre)
- CATHEDRAL QUARTER** Derby Cathedral Quarter
- Peters QUARTER** Derby St Peters Quarter



All details correct at time of going to print, October 2025.

NOT TO SCALE



Image Credit: AV-IT Media