

Derby's well on-track for Railway200

In 2025, [Railway200](#) will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the modern railway. Events are currently being planned nationwide, including in Derby, home to Europe's largest rail cluster.

Key locations within the city centre that are linked to the railway include the [Museum of Making](#) at Derby Silk Mill, on the UNESCO World Heritage Site, where visitors get to see the much-loved Midland Model Railway, located in the Railway Gallery, along with a vast array of railway memorabilia in the Assemblage.

[The Brunswick Inn](#), meanwhile, is a former railway men's retreat that has been lovingly restored to its Victorian glory, and also boasts the city's oldest micro-brewery.

Elsewhere, [The Alexandra Hotel](#) on Railway Terrace, possesses a rich railway heritage theme and a bar that's adorned with memorabilia; while the historic [Railway Quarter](#), which came to life on 30 May 1839 - when the first railway train steamed into Derby stopping at a temporary wooden platform a little to the south of the present station - now stands at the heart of Derby's Railway Quarter.

The city also possesses the oldest surviving roundhouse in the world, built by Robert Stephenson in 1839 for the North Midland Railway. Inaccessible to the general public these days, it is currently a part of Derby College.

Derby, meanwhile, is *still* building on its railway history and heritage. These days, it's also 'home' to the new [Great British Railways HQ](#), which has already begun its journey towards bringing together track and train for the first time in a generation, and is now acting as "the railway's guiding mind to deliver a simpler, better railway for its customers and funders".

Its role will be to support and enable regional teams across Britain to deliver a single, integrated national network. Already the home to Europe's largest rail cluster as well as global leaders in aerospace and nuclear innovation, Derby provides Great British Railways with "the ideal environment to seize the opportunities of a reformed railway and enhance the industry's contribution to the UK's prosperity".

The GBRTT is already working closely with partners in Derby, and across the country; and since Derby's status as the future headquarters for Great British Railways was announced by the Secretary of State for Transport in March 2023, the new organisation has been welcomed by a community of partners in Derby and across the East Midlands, including Derby City Council, Derby College Group, Derby-based Rail Forum, and Marketing Derby.

For further information about Derby, visit www.visitderby.co.uk.

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<https://www.visitderby.co.uk>.

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