DERBY GUIDE WHAT'S ON



LIGHT UP YOUR WINTER

From crisp autumn adventures to magical winter moments, Derby is your ultimate destination. Kick off the season with thrilling Halloween festivities and dazzling fireworks, then enjoy a vibrant calendar packed with live gigs, theatre, comedy, and festive celebrations.

Lace up your ice skates, cosy up in our festive tipis, and bask in the season's sparkle. Whether you're planning unforgettable nights out or cherished family days, Derby brings your winter to life like nowhere else.

Explore our interactive guide to see what's on in Derby - just click any event for all the details!

The Tourism Team at VisitDerby

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TOURIST INFORMATION

Derby Sales and Information Centre

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@VisitDerby



DON'T MISS A BEAT

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

Derby Season of Light 2025

17 Oct 2025 - 5 Dec 2025

Various Derby locations,

Derby Season of Light 2025 is back! Oct–Dec celebrate Derby's dazzling creativity and diversity.

Assemble: Derby's Making Festival 2025

25 Oct 2025

Museum of Making at Derby Silk Mill (UNESCO World He...

A vibrant festival celebrating creativity, innovation, and the art of making at Derby's Museum of Making.

Derby Book Festival 2025

14 Nov 2025 - 18 Nov 2025

Various Derby venues,

Derby Book Festival returns this autumn with author talks, workshops and stories to inspire.

The Sadler Gate Night Market 2025

27 Nov 2025

Sadler Gate, Derby DE1 3NQ

Ditch the Bah Humbug and come along to our annual Night Market!

Christmas Lights Switch On & Festive Derby Opening

27 Nov 2025

O Derby Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH

Join us in Derby city centre as we switch on the Christmas lights and kick off Festive Derby in style!



EXPERIENCE AUTUMN AT DERBY MARKET HALL

Discover the warmth of the seasons at Derby's beautifully restored **Grade II-listed Victorian Market Hall**. Beneath a magnificent glass roof, a vibrant community of independent traders awaits, offering everything from fresh local produce to vintage fashion and unique gifts.

Food lovers can journey around the world at the diverse street food court and bars, with cuisines from Japanese to Caribbean. For a unique experience, visit **The Spirit Run**, Derby's first citycentre distillery and bar, where you can watch copper stills in action while enjoying handcrafted cocktails and local spirits. The team also hosts gin experiences and brunch events, perfect for a pre-Christmas outing.

This autumn and winter, the Market Hall is alive with free weekly live music, themed markets, and performances. Join us for **Diwali celebrations** in October, or prepare for a frightfully fun time at our special **Halloween live music show** and **alternative and Gothic Markets**. You can also find the perfect gift at our **Autumn Book and Craft Market**.

Whether you're looking for a quick bite, a unique gift, or a full evening of entertainment, a warm welcome awaits you.

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 wisitderby.co.uk/whats-on



Space Safari Drone Show

18 Oct 2025

O Derbyshire County Cricket Club, Central Co-op County ...

Derby's first drone light show! Lumina Drones light up the skies at Central Co-op County Ground this October.



Bluebells School of Witchcraft and Wizardry

18 Oct 2025 - 19 Oct 2025, 25 Oct 2025 - 31 Oct 2025

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

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



Frankenstein Day

1 Nov 2025

O Derby QUAD & Cinema, Market Place, Cathedral Quarter...

Celebrate Mary Shelley's classic and Guillermo del Toro's new adaptation with a full day of screenings!



Cathedral Quarter Ice Rink 2025

29 Nov 2025 - 31 Dec 2025

Derby Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH

Get your skates on and glide onto this year's ice rink in the city centre, with views of the Nordic Bar!



Tracey Meek: A Celebration in Colour

Until 11 Jan 2026

O Derby QUAD & Cinema, Market Pla...

A vibrant retrospective celebrating the life and work of British multimedia artist Tracey Meek.



Torchlight Pumpkin Picking 18 Oct 2025, 24 Oct 2025 - 25 Oct 2025

Bluebells, Brunswood Farm, Locko ...

Join Bluebells for a truly enchanting evening of pumpkin picking under the stars!



Pink by Vicky Jackson 25 Oct 2025

O Bustler Derby, The Chocolate Fact...

Vicky Jackson brings the UK's #1 Pink tribute to Derby's Chocolate Factory. An unmissable night of hits!



Human Natures Exhibition 16 Oct 2025 - 24 Feb 2026

O Derby Museum & Art Gallery, The S...

Explore a world of chickens, cats, loo roll, bin bags, precious stones and fine old coats.



Dead & Breakfast – The Monster Mash – All Night Movie Marathon 25 Oct 2025

O Derby QUAD & Cinema, Market Pla...

Join Derby Quad for an all night Monster Mash as Dead And Breakfast returns for another Dusk til Dawn marathon.



Everybody's Talking About Jamie 28 Oct 2025 - 1 Nov 2025

O Derby Theatre, 15 Theatre Walk, St ...

Join the celebration - because everybody should be talking about Jamie!



ABBA Sensation - Tribute Act 18 Oct 2025

O Derby Conference Centre, London ...

DCC presents ABBA Sensation – a top UK tribute band bringing ABBA's iconic sound back to life with stunning detail.



Sweet and Sour 25 Oct 2025

Derby Arena, Royal Way, Pride Park...

Sweet & Sour: An electrifying Olivia Rodrigo vs Sabrina Carpenter tribute packed with pop anthems & heartbreak hits!



Halloween on Sadler Gate 30 Oct 2025

⊙ Sadler Gate, Derby DE1 3NQ

Dress to impress! The Sadler Gate spooktacular Halloween event is back for another year of fangtastic fun!



Gothic Market

31 Oct 2025

O Derby Market Hall, Market Place, D...

Join us at our Gothic Market at Derby Market Hall this Halloween!



Fireworks & Funfair 8 Nov 2025

Oerbyshire County Cricket Club, C...

Derby's biggest Fireworks Night lights up The County Ground on Sat 8 Nov 2025!



The Snowman[™] at Derbion 22 Nov 2025 - 24 Dec 2025

 \odot Derbion, London Road, Derby DE1 ...

Experience the magic of The SnowmanTM this festive season at Derbion!



A Cloud of Bats Halloween Party 31 Oct 2025

Derby Museum & Art Gallery, The S...

A Cloud of Bats: Halloween Party at Derby Museums. Drinks, music & spooky fun to kick off the Halloween weekender!



Jason Manford

14 Nov 2025

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

Comedy star Jason Manford brings his latest show A Manford All Seasons to Vaillant Live.



Derby Lantern Parade

27 Nov 2025

St Peter's Church Yard, Derby

Light up Derby! Families, schools & communities unite for the dazzling Derby Lantern Parade.



Rebecca Ferguson

31 Oct 2025

O Derby Cathedral, 18-19 Iron Gate, ...

Rebecca Ferguson brings you an intimate acoustic session like never before up close, raw, and personal.



Bustler's Winter Feastival 22 Nov 2025

• Bustler Derby, The Chocolate Fact...

Expect winter warmers, mulled favourites and plenty of cosy vibes – perfect for foodies, families and friends.



Derby's Ethical Christmas Market 29 Nov 2025

O Derby Market Hall, Market Place, D...

Come and shop ethically for Christmas at Derby's Ethical Christmas Market.



Santa's Enchanted Christmas 2025

29 Nov 2025 - 24 Dec 2025

O Bluebells, Brunswood Farm, Locko ...

Meet reindeer, make a bear, visit our Elves, and get a gift from the magical chimney.



Count Arthur Strong is Charles Dickens in 'A Christmas Carol' 6 Dec 2025

O Derby Theatre, 15 Theatre Walk, St ...

Arthur presents Dickens' tale and his own take on the ultimate festive classic, A Christmas Carol.



The Christmas Orchestra 16 Dec 2025

O Derby Cathedral, 18-19 Iron Gate, ...

The Christmas Orchestra returns with a spellbinding concert experience to light up your festive season!



Nordic Bar 2025

29 Nov 2025 - 31 Dec 2025

O Derby Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH

Come in from the cold into the Nordic Bar, hosted in three festive tipis.



Tortoise and the Hare

6 Dec 2025 - 3 Jan 2026

Derby Theatre, 15 Theatre Walk, St ...

Shell-abrate Christmas 2025 with a fun, festive retelling of Tortoise and the Hare at Derby Theatre!



Elf the Musical

16 Dec 2025 - 17 Dec 2025

Vaillant Live, 2 Colyear Street, Derb...

Buddy the Elf joins Vaillant Live to spread festive cheer and holiday magic in Derby!



Dick Whittington

5 Dec 2025 - 31 Dec 2025

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

Join Dick Whittington this Christmas on his quest for fame, fortune ϑ streets paved with gold... or are they?



The Lost Boys and Derby LIVE present Merry Elwin The Adventurous Elf

11 - 23 Dec 2025

Ohapel Street Arts Centre, 19 Chap...

A magical festive show following Merry Elwin the Elf on a globe-trotting Christmas adventure.



Seniors British Open 2025

26 Dec 2025 - 28 Dec 2025

Vaillant Live, 2 Colyear Street, Derb...

The Seniors British Open comes to Vaillant Live, Derby for the first time 26-28 December. Legends. Drama. Snooker.

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

16 Oct 2025 - 26 Oct 2025

Matlock Bath, Derbyshire DE4 3NR

Matlock Bath Illuminations is a dazzling family event with a parade of illuminated boats on the River Derwent.



Fright Fiesta 16 Oct 2025 - 1 Nov 2025

Gulliver's Kingdom, Temple Walk, ...

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



Halloween Fun at Crich Tramway Village

25 Oct 2025 - 31 Oct 2025

Orich Tramway Village, Cromford R...

Enjoy spooky family fun with tram stories, face painting, Halloween crafts, a show, and a trick-or-treat woodland trail!



Chatsworth Bonfire and Fireworks

31 Oct 2025 - 1 Nov 2025

Ohatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire ...

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



Tramlight at Crich Tramway Village

8 Nov 2025 - 9 Nov 2025

Orich Tramway Village, Cromford R...

Experience the magic of Crich Tramway Village after dark with enchanting tram rides by Tramlight!



Christmas at Chatsworth

8 Nov 2025 - 4 Jan 2026

 \odot Chatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire ...

Experience Christmas magic at Chatsworth with a festive house, garden light trail, and seasonal farmyard fun!



Christmas Artisan Markets at Haddon Hall

12 Nov 2025 - 14 Dec 2025

O Haddon Hall, Bakewell, Derbyshire ...

Discover Christmas magic at Haddon Hall's Mercatum - an artisan market you can't miss this festive season!



Lights of Abraham - A Winter Lights Trail

21 Nov 2025 - 30 Dec 2025

• Heights of Abraham, Matlock Bath, ...

This winter, see the Heights of Abraham shine with their dazzling light trail, 21 Nov – 30 Dec!



Festive Fun at Bolsover Castle

29 Nov 2025 - 21 Dec 2025

Bolsover Castle, English Heritage, ...

Bolsover Castle hosts a festive weekend packed with storytelling, music, and holiday cheer!

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.



Artcore

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

Join our events, a calendar crammed with exhibitions, workshops, training programmes, art residencies and celebrations.

Bluebells

Bluebells, Brunswood Farm, Locko Road, Derby DE21 7AR Meet the animals, enjoy indoor and outdoor play and taste delicious artisan ice cream on the fabulous farm park.

Derby Cathedral

O 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

O 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.

Great Northern Classics

⊙ 274 – 278 Osmaston Road, Derby DE24 8AE

Great Northern Classics is a centre of excellence for classic vehicle enthusiasts.

Museum of Making at Derby Silk Mill (UNESCO World Heritage Site)

 \odot Museum of Making at Derby Silk Mill (UNESCO World He...

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

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.

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

O 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.

Hickory's Smokehouse Derby

⊙ 166 Swarkestone Road , Derbyshire DE73 5UE

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

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 Pepperpot

O Nightingale Quarter, London Road, Derby DE1 2UH

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

The Elephant and Peacock

O 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...





EXPERIENCES

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



Letterpress Workshops

 $\odot\,$ 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.

Derby Brewing Co Brewery Tours

Masons Place Business Park, Nottingham Road, Derby D...

Learn about how your favourite Derby Brewing Co ale is made and try plenty of samples.

Spa Treatments at Breadsall Priory

O 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.

Derby After Dark - Ghost Walks & Vigils

Various locations, Derby

Derby has plenty of spooky experiences waiting for you.... if you dare!

Introduction to Track Cycling at Derby Arena Available Sundays

O 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...

Sip n Paint

Mosaic at the Mills, Darley Abbey Mills, Unit 2, The Saw ...
 Guided painting session with drinks − art, mindfulness, and fun for all.

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Mosaic at the Mills, Darley Abbey Mills, Unit 2, The Saw ...
Festive wreath making workshop with all materials provided.





