

DERBY:

all the latest news, upcoming events and blogs

NOVEMBER 2024

LATEST NEWS

Derby's well on-track for Railway200

In 2025, [Railway200](#) will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the modern railway. Events are now 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 an array of railway memorabilia in the Assemblage; [The Brunswick Inn](#), a former railway men's retreat has been lovingly restored to its Victorian glory, and boasting the city's oldest micro-brewery; [The Alexandra Hotel](#) on Railway Terrace, with a rich railway heritage theme and the bar adorned with memorabilia; and an historic [Railway Quarter](#) which came to life on 30 May 1839, when the first railway train steamed into Derby. In 2023, meanwhile, Derby fought off competition from six other locations, to become the new [Great British Railways HQ](#).

Curtain up for theatre projects after £20m funding is secured

Government funding for two major cultural projects in Derby has been secured, paving the way for the restoration of the historic Guildhall Theatre, and Derby Theatre's redevelopment project. Sign-off for £20-million of funding means that partners Derby City Council, the University of Derby and Derby Theatre will now begin work to develop their plans for the two projects.

Derby targets world class cultural experiences

A recently launched [Derby Museums Business Network](#) is now inviting businesses in the city to help make Derby a more vibrant and inspiring place to live, work, and visit. It will reflect the city's past of enlightenment values, industrial innovation and creative spirit. At the launch, His Grace, the Duke of Devonshire shared his personal experience of how Derby's museums promote wellbeing and bring people together, and in so doing instil strong sense of local pride and excellence.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

It's the reel thing

7-10 November

[Derby Film Festival](#) is one of the leading regional film festivals in the UK, and will once again be bringing together film fans, film makers and industry figures in November. Tickets for the majority of screenings are priced at £7.50 (standard) and £6 (concessions). Preview screenings are priced at QUAD's regular cinema ticket prices. Q+A screenings are individually priced.

Derby Beer Con 2024

8 and 9 November

[Derby Beer Con](#) is back for 2024 - bigger and better than ever before. Scheduled to be based at The Wardwick it will be a blend of craft beers with a weekend of fun in one of the best recognise Real Ale Capitals of Britain. Black Iris, Pomona Island, Vault City, Neon Raptor and Pentrich are amongst some of the breweries set to attend the gathering which will feature three sessions over two days.

Read all about it

14-19 November

The [Derby Book Festival](#) takes place twice a year, and the 2024 Autumn Edition is promising a packed programme of events, for all the family. Tickets per talk cost from around £5 upwards; and the full schedule for the Festival can be found [here](#). Anyone unable to join in person can purchase individual Recordings for £4-6; or a Digital Pass priced £35 for 15 events. The Festival features everything from politics to social history, thrillers, crime, fashion, art, literature and a full children's programme.

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.

The Kedleston Country House Tractor Run

30 November

Lighting-up the country lanes with a cavalcade of festive tractors, this year's [Tractor Run at Kedleston Country House](#) will embark on a 20-mile route through towns and villages close to the city centre on 30 November. Staged in aid of charity, the route will pass through Quarndon, Allestree, Duffield, Little Eaton, Holbrook, Milford, and back through Duffield and Quarndon, before returning to the Kedleston Country House.

Santa drops in on Derby this December

30 November-22 December

The Cathedral Quarter [Christmas Grotto](#) is set to open at Derby Museum and Art Gallery on 30 November. It's a chance for family groups, with children up to the age of 12, to meet Santa and his elves, and to receive a Christmas gift - all in the magical surroundings of the Museums' atmospheric, wood-panelled Jacobite Room with its cosy fireplace. Pre-booking is essential, and tickets cost £4.50.

For whom the bells toll...

27 November, 5 December and 19 December

The Old Bell Hotel's programme of [Ghost Tours](#) is already under way, with a further three opportunities for visitors to hear about the horrors that have tormented this coaching inn for centuries - and to see inside some of the spaces where staff dare not go, including the original hotel rooms. Built in 1650 The Old Bell is full of secrets and mysteries from hidden tunnels to conspiracies.

Save the Date

8 July, 2025

Markeaton Park, the city's most-visited outdoor destination, will once again host [TK Maxx presents Derby Summer Sessions in 2025](#). Capable of hosting an audience for around 15,000. Headliners for next year Simple Minds are one of the UK's most successful bands, having achieved five No.1 albums and eight Top 10 singles at home, as well as landing numerous chart-topping positions around the world.

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BLOGS & FEATURES

Derby: 'We will entertain you'

Derby's new £45.8 million entertainment and conference venue, Becketwell Live, is set for completion in the Spring of 2025. The new venue is seen as a key part of the journey to transform Derby into a vibrant city centre with culture at its heart. Boasting a larger and more flexible space than the city centre has had in the past, the venue will also complement the activities and events staged in the Pride Park area of the city, at Derby

Arena. The project forms the second phase of the £230 million [Becketwell](#) regeneration scheme, which is being led by property developer St James Securities who are now delivering on the vision to create a place where people can 'live, work and play'.

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For further details, visit:

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

For all media enquiries, interview opportunities and images, please contact:

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