

DERBY:

all the latest news, upcoming events and blogs

DECEMBER 2024

LATEST NEWS

The 2025 Railway200 train-load of official events will now stop at...Derby

Two Railway200-specific events in next year's anniversary year of the birth of the railway are being hosted in Derby. [The Midland Railway Study Centre](#) will host three weekend-long events in 2025 in the Museum of Making at Derby's Silk Mill: "How the Railway Came to Derby"; "The Victorian and Edwardian Railway Worker"; and "Railways of Derby in the Black & White Years" (dates TBC). Alstom, the UK's leading supplier of new trains and train services, meanwhile, will open its historic Derby factory to the public for the first time to host an unprecedented event in celebration of Railway 200. [The Greatest Gathering](#) on 1, 2 and 3 August will see the largest temporary assembly of rolling stock and railway-related exhibits in a generation, all coming together for three fun-filled days across the vast estate of Derby Litchurch Lane Works.

I left my heart... in San Fran Derbados

A recent survey conducted by *Which?* collected data from 3,967 members, rating UK cities and towns they'd visited for leisure. The results were divided into small, medium, and large cities - with Derby finishing last in their category. After *Metro.co.uk* published the survey findings, the good folk of Derby responded with an equal mix of fire, brimstone, and what turned out to be characteristically delightful humour in defence of their beloved city. At the same time, VisitDerby asked *Metro* if they would like to send a journalist to see if it really is that bad. And the results are now out... Jon Fellowes accepted the challenge and wrote: "What we found not only seemed to damningly confound the opinion of *Which?*'s members but, in fact, completely stole our hearts - so much so that we came dangerously close to staying longer than planned". [Read all about it!](#)

Derby all wrapped-up in one Pioneering City

Derby has a long history of 'firsts' powered by trailblazers. From global engineering technologies to inventing manufacturing processes, and from transformative arts to ground-breaking healthcare, the city has been consistently changing the world for hundreds of years. The people of Derby have never stopped dreaming...or, making! They continue to forge a new path and break new ground so others can follow. Today, a vibrant collective of Derby pioneers is moving the city forward in increasingly sustainable, innovative and creative ways. Coinciding with the fact that there has already been around £4.48bn of investment in the city's infrastructure since 2011 - with a further £2.6bn already earmarked for future development - Derby is now working on a major new "Pioneering City" concept that will showcase the City's unique and authentic place identity.

---o0o---

UPCOMING EVENTS

A Festive FEED

(13 December)

Electric Daisy has become a Derby phenomenon. A community garden, event space and social hub created with the backing of Sir Tim Smit, it's opening its doors for a pre-Christmas bash called [FEED](#) - billed as "a dining experience like no other". Priced £50 per head, it includes a three-course meal, welcome drink and a festive treat, with mulled wine, and live music in a festively dressed setting.

Derby Uncovered - the Christmas edition

(18 to 20 December)

Start your evening guided tour of Derby with mince pies and mulled wine at the Heritage Centre before embarking on an eye-opening tour of the city centre - including a visit to see the remains of an original Victorian Police Cell in the Old County Hall on St. Mary's Gate. There's also a copy of a free Derby-related book for everyone joining the £15 per head, 2½ hour [Derby Uncovered walk](#).

Christmas at the Cathedral

(23 & 24 December)

Derby Cathedral's traditional [Christmas Carol Service](#) is so popular that they now do it twice. Join-in on either date to hear the traditional Christmas readings alongside the world-class Cathedral Choir, and help make the Cathedral resound with the singing of Christmas carols. Doors open at 17:00.

All that glitters

(11 January, 2025)

[An introductory course to jewellery making and fine metalworking](#) using recycled or reclaimed materials and found objects gets the 2025 season of events and activities held at Derby's Museum of Making under way. Multimedia artist and maker Arthur Scott will lead participants through the creation of their own accessories and curios, incorporating small found objects. Ticket prices from £58.50.

Godzilla-A-Go-Go 2.0

(18 January, 2025)

After a hugely successful first event in August 2024, [Godzilla-A-Go-Go](#) returns to Derby QUAD & Cinema in January 2025 for another day of fantastic man-in-suit action, featuring four classics from *Godzilla's* Showa era. Tickets are now on sale. Passes to see all 4 films are priced at £30 (standard), £25 (concessions) and £18 (under 16s).

Bonnie Prince Charlie, and Georgian Derby, guided tours

(Most Saturdays between the end of February and beginning of November, 2025)

Georgian era themed tours of Derby, led by a Derbyshire based historian, tell the story of how the city developed in that era, as well as the people who played a large part in the city's history. Tours last 2 hours. Tickets cost £12. These can be booked by using the [Georgian Derby and Belper Tours](#) Eventbrite link.

Utopia Strong to headline 2025 Psychic Dancehall Festival in Derby

(22 March, 2025)

Now there's a headline you weren't expecting. The first wave of act announcements for [Psychic Dancehall Festival](#) in Derby in 2025 includes headliners [The Utopia Strong](#), the "kosmiche electronic trio" comprised of Steve Davis (*yes, the World Champion snooker player*), Kavus Torabi (Knifeworld, Cardiacs, Gong) and Mike York (Coil) who are riding high of the back of their critically acclaimed 2022 album 'International Treasure'. The festival is the brainchild of Derby-based music journalist, DJ and promoter James Thornhill who says: "This will be a high-profile event for the city and will have the attention of national music media and other media outlets". Early bird tickets are available via Ticket Source for £10. Full price tickets will be £30.

---o0o---

BLOGS & FEATURES

Yule love Derby this Christmas

Visit Derby has created an entire section on its website dedicated to [Festive Derby](#). This year's highlights include the chance to experience the thrill of gliding on the ice at the ice rink, and indulge in all the traditional delights of a pantomime. And alongside a Light Trail across the city centre, there will also be Christmas lights, Nordic bars, festive entertainment, lantern parades.

---o0o---

For further details, visit:

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

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

Michelle Booth, Tourism Officer

Tel: 01332 643414

Email: michelle.booth@derby.gov.uk