

DERBY:

all the latest news, upcoming events and blogs

JUNE 2025

LATEST NEWS

Dracula in Derby - 101 years and COUNTing

An exhibition, [Dracula Returns to Derby - 101 years and Counting](#), has opened at Pickford's House in Derby. On 15 May 1924, the world premiere of Dracula took place at the city's Grand Theatre. Produced by Hamilton Deane, this adaptation of Bram Stoker's Dracula became the blueprint for The Count as we know them today, a character portrayed by Bela Lugosi, Christopher Lee, and a wealth of performers across stage and screen. Regularly included in the most important fictitious characters of all time, the exhibition offers visitors to Derby's a chance to discover its close links with the world's most famous vampire, which include Deane's original adaptation, and Bela Lugosi's performance at Derby Hippodrome. The exhibition includes objects on loan from Dacre Stoker, The Dracula Society and The Hammer Script Archive spanning 100 years of Dracula in Derby, a must see for fans of the macabre and Vampire enthusiasts.

Wright on paper

Derby Museums is set to re-introduce internationally renowned artist Joseph Wright of Derby to audiences through a nationwide 'Year of Wright' celebration lasting 18 months. The programme will lift the lid on an artist who took the 18th century art world by storm yet chose to remain in his hometown. Though he enjoyed national acclaim during his lifetime, Wright never left Derby, a place that deeply shaped his identity and artistic output, so it is fitting that Derby Museum and Art Gallery will kick things off with *Life on Paper* (23 May to 7 September). This exhibition showcases over 70 of Wright's rarely seen personal drawings and sketches, peeling back the curtain on the master of light and shade. A major exhibition, [Wright of Derby: From the Shadows](#) - which will run at the National Gallery from 7 November to 10 May 2026 - will then travel to Derby in 2026.

The city standing on Platform 200...

As the home of Britain's rail industry and the future headquarters of Great British Railways, Derby has been at the forefront of railway innovation for 200 years. And news that the world's first steam locomotive to run on a public railway will appear at 'The Greatest Gathering' from 1 to 3 August has boosted the city's claim to be one of the most important venues in Britain for this year's Railway 200 celebrations. The Greatest Gathering has been a sell-out event almost from the day it was first announced. However, press passes are available for travel media interested in covering this event - and in finding out more about Derby's rich railway history and heritage. For full details of how Derby is celebrating Railway200 click [here](#).

---o0o---

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Bloody Code

The first Wednesday of every month

Visitors to Derby can join a pretty gruesome 90-minute walk, dedicated to the [Crime and Punishment history](#) of the city, to find out just how brutal both the criminals and the authorities could be. Tours run 5.30pm to 7pm every first Wednesday of the month, with tickets priced at £10 per person.

Head to The Bunker this summer

14 June, 2025

[The Bunker](#) is returning for a take-over of Electric Daisy - a stunning venue, perfect for an open-air day parties - once again this summer. Now entering its 10th summer series, it will feature signature underground energy, the best in-house grooves, good vibes, and

delicious food to keep everyone fuelled for the dancefloor. Tickets for this event are expected to move fast.

Midland Railway Study Centre opens its doors to the public

5 and 6 July, 2025

[To celebrate Railway200](#), the Midland Railway Study Centre will open its doors for the first of two themed railway heritage weekends at the Museum of Making. How the Railway Came to Derby will include displays of ephemera, photographs and documents from the Midland Railway Study Centre collections. Midland Railway Society members will be on hand to welcome visitors and to talk about the material on display, the wider theme and railways in general.

TK Maxx presents Derby Summer Sessions 2025

5 July to 13 July, 2025

[Vaillant Live](#) have been named the new host of the TK Maxx presents Derby Summer Sessions 2025. Rag N Bone Man, Simple Minds, Human League, Blossoms, Faithless, Jess Glynne and UB40 will all be taking to the stage at Derby's newest home of live events and entertainment for the city's ultimate summer party. Follow [Derby Summer Sessions](#) for all of the latest updates on TK Maxx presents Derby Summer Sessions!

Say "Kon'nichiwa" to Derby's annual Japan Fest

12 July, 2025

Derby's close association with Japan will be celebrated once again this year as [Japan Fest](#) is takes over QUAD with a range of film screenings, Martial Arts demonstrations, Japanese arts and crafts activities, koto and shamisen performances, reiki healing, enka singing, and authentic handmade food.

50th anniversary for Derby Caribbean Carnival

20 July, 2025

This year marks 50 years of the [Derby Caribbean Carnival](#). It's an event that brings a truly golden atmosphere into the city centre, with international headline artists, Caribbean and European food - as well as a spectacular two hour procession, where troupes from London, Luton, Leeds, Bradford, Preston, Leicester, Birmingham, Nottingham and Derby head out to Osmaston Park for a costume display and afternoon party.

Whooverville 16

30 August, 2025

The Whoovers in association with Derby QUAD will bring the East Midlands' favourite convention for fans of BBC's *Doctor Who* back to Derby for a sixteenth year later this year. A day jam-packed with activities, celebrity guest panels, autograph and photo sessions, displays and dealers, and above all a chance to meet fellow fans, this year's event will feature star guests, including Jo Martin, who plays the mysterious 'Fugitive' incarnation of the Doctor, and Susan Twist, who played the enigmatic Susan Triad, throughout Ncuti Gatwa's first season as the Doctor. Adult tickets for [Whooverville 16](#) start from £41.

Peake achievement

11 October, 2025

With fewer than 650 people having reached Earth's orbit, nobody is more qualified than Tim Peake to celebrate the historic achievements of space exploration. Up until now, Tim has brought his own incredible journey to life through unparalleled storytelling and archive footage. But now in this brand-new show, Tim will share the remarkable stories of some of his fellow astronauts and explore the spectacular evolution of space travel. Tickets for [Astronauts: The Quest to Explore Space](#) at Vaillant Live start from £43.50.

o---

BLOGS & FEATURES

Derby Delve

Click here for a [Derby Delve](#): a 30-minute waking tour in a dozen images taken across of one small section of the city centre. It's a slideshow that captures hundreds of years of history; the site of the world's first factory; contemporary street art; some magnificent architecture; one of the world's most iconic females who was "born" in this city; a couple of its famous pubs; a part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site; and the River Derwent. Derby's skyline is changing rapidly these days. Vaillant Live is a new entertainment venue within a massive new quarter for the city; and the recently transformed Derby Market Hall is the latest feature in the city's new skyline. But, for now, here's a brief glimpse of one of the oldest corners of Derby: The Cathedral Quarter.

Dog friendly Derby

Visitors to Derby can enjoy the ultimate dog-friendly city centre getaway in Derby, where four-legged friends are warmly welcomed. For a full flavour of the tail-wagging adventure available to dogs and their owners, [click here](#).

ENDS

---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