

DERBY: all the latest news, upcoming events and blogs

AUGUST 2024

LATEST NEWS

“Derby becoming an outstanding symbol of regeneration, famous across Europe”

Sustainability champion and co-founder of Cornwall’s Eden Project, Sir Tim Smit, recently launched a new community garden at the £175m [Nightingale Quarter](#) complex in Derby city centre. The £40,000 pilot project is a collaboration between Wavensmere Homes and Down to Earth Derby - which is also behind the city’s widely-acclaimed [Electric Daisy](#) attraction. Sir Tim Smit, mentor to Down to Earth Derby, explains, “The nature-based regeneration that’s been achieved across Derby in the last 12 months shows the potential, together with the public support for more vibrant urban spaces. Derby is becoming an outstanding symbol of regeneration, famous across Europe”.

Wines that tell a story

[Wine Stories](#) is a new wine bar and tasting rooms, which has just opened on Saddler Gate, in Derby city centre. Owner Chris Barlow says the wines have been carefully curated, and that all will have a story behind them. The wine list itself, he says, will slowly evolve according to customers’ palates. Alongside wine, the shelves will also be stacked with world beers and spirits including gin, rum, and brandy. Sadler Gate itself has established itself as a lively area of the city centre, with a wide range of independent shops and eateries. Details of an upcoming food and drink trail are provided in ‘Upcoming Events’, below.

Museum of Making in running for Family Friendly award

Derby’s Museum of Making has been shortlisted for the [Kids in Museums Family Friendly Museum Award](#). The annual award has been in existence for 16 years, and recognises the most family friendly heritage sites in the UK. A panel of museum experts have now whittled down hundreds of nominations to a shortlist of 16 heritage attractions. Vying with three others in the ‘Best Medium Museum’ category, The Museum of Making offers a world class visitor experience for families; admission is free; and families are encouraged to be curious, learn together and trying their hands at “making”, inspired by the museum’s collection of made objects and stories. The winners will be announced in October.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saddle-up for an all America Adventure

Now, until 1 September

Bluebell’s American Adventure has ridden into town, and is offering a lot of [yee-haw western fun for y’all!](#) The Bluebell Farm attraction on the edge of Derby is making sure the school holidays are celebrated in style with its specially themed days that feature lasso practice, a cactus toss, tin can shooting and Wild West shoot-outs.

Young bookworms in a takeover of Electric Daisy

8 August

Youngsters can head down to Electric Daisy in Derby for [a day of stories and nature discovery](#). A full programme of storytelling from authors, illustration demonstrations and talks on nature will also feature free play in the garden with nature play and craft

activities. Derby Book Festival's stall will have a variety of free activities to help everyone discover its [Derby Children's Picture Book Award](#) 2024 Shortlisted Books, as well as some of our favourite nature books.

Godzilla-a-go-go

17 August

A day of [screenings devoted to classic Godzilla films](#) is to be held at Derby QUAD on Saturday 17 August for a day celebrating Japan's greatest monster. With supporting appearances from Mothra, King Ghidorah, Mechagodzilla, Rodan, Varan, Minilla. Anguirus and one or two humans as well, the day is the brainchild of Peter Munford, QUAD Film & Marketing Officer and programmer of Satori Screen, QUAD's monthly night devoted to East Asian cinema. He explains, "Since starting my Satori Screen events all the way back in 2012 classic Godzilla titles have consistently been amongst the most requested titles for me to show. I am hoping it will become an annual event."

Eat and drink your way down Sadler Gate

7 September

A Sadler Gate Food and Drink Trail is set to be staged in Derby on Saturday 7 September. As the promotional slogan says: "This isn't just any food trail, this is the [Sadler Gate Food and Drink Trail](#)".

The UK Dracula Film Festival

20-22 September

As part of a programme to mark the 100th anniversary of the stage-play premier of Dracula, in Derby, the city is now set to host the [UK Dracula Film Festival](#) in September. This event celebrates Dracula in all his forms, from acclaimed classics to the truly weird and wonderful takes on the world's best-known vampire. There will also be talks from film experts to reflect on the legacy of Dracula on screen. A full festival pass, to access all the screenings and events over the weekend, is available, alongside tickets for individual screenings. Passes are priced at £60, and £50 concessions.

We Love the 90s

21 September

The Chocolate Factory in Derby will be the place to be for a super-stacked [Love The 90s Fest](#) next month. Ultrabeat, N-Trance, Chats & Small, Baby D, K-Klass are just a few of the acts which will take to the stage on a day of stunning production and street food vendors. Tickets are available now.

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BLOGS

The Best Ale Houses in England

Last updated 14 May, 2024

This blog highlights the most [renowned ale houses](#) that serve up a diverse selection of local brews, craft beers, and traditional ales. Visitors can immerse themselves in the cosy ambience of these establishments, where it's possible to enjoy a pint of perfectly poured ale while soaking in the atmosphere. From historic pubs with centuries of brewing heritage to modern taprooms showcasing innovative flavours, Derby's ale houses are a match for any in England.

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For further details, visit:
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