

DERBY:

all the latest news, upcoming events and blogs

AUGUST 2026

LATEST NEWS

See a UNESCO World Heritage Site from a narrowboat in Derby

Derby Riverboat *Outram* - [one of the great "insider tips" for anyone visiting the city](#) - has resumed its sailings for 2026. The 45-minute cruises will now depart from the temporary boarding platform next to Causey Bridge and make its way north to, and from, Darley Abbey. Sailings will be available through to October; and further dates will be added. Passengers can learn about a section of this UNESCO World Heritage Site through a pre-recorded commentary narrated by acclaimed acting legend Sir David Suchet, whose dulcet tones describe the wildlife that can be spotted here, while also outlining Derby's place in history and its plans for the future. Hot and cold drinks and light refreshments are available from the onboard café. Prices are Adults £8, Under 16s £6, Family ticket £22, and Under 3 free (but still require a ticket).

Bringing more bustle to Derby – now open!

The team behind the successful Bustler concept is now 'reimagining' a long-unused site as a bustling new social hub for Derby - featuring several independent food and drink businesses. [Bustler Derby](#) moved from its former site - the disused Chocolate Factory in John Street - in December, when it was announced it was to be demolished to make way for the £100m Castleward "urban village" regeneration scheme. St James' Yard, located between Derby's Sadler Gate and St James's Street, was quickly identified as the perfect spot for the new-look complex - bringing together a mix of micro-restaurants, street food, bars, entertainment, cafes, retail and lifestyle that will all be housed in an eye-catching 'building block' collection of more than 20 shipping containers, gallery walkways and seating areas spread across two levels. Jess from Bustler said "St James Yard is an incredible opportunity to use our experience, and bring a neglected space back into use and create yet another reason for people to visit Derby".

Enjoy a new riverside sauna experience in Derby city centre

UNESCO World Heritage Site, Derwent Valley, has always been noted for its history and heritage, and well as for its picturesque Derbyshire countryside. People can come here to discover more about the industrial revolution, or to enjoy the wide-open spaces, and find their own, favourite, quiet corners to aid their wellness and boost their mindfulness. But who would have thought that Derby city could offer a genuine oasis, at Darley Abbey, where a bespoke sauna and three state-of-the-art cold plunge pools are set at 4C and 8C? Facilities also include hot and cold showers, changing rooms, toilets and filtered water for guests. Sessions cost just £13, with discounts for bundles of 10 sessions. For more details about Derby Wild Sauna, visit [here](#).

Ay up, Abbeysup

In watersports, 'SUP' stands for Stand-Up Paddleboard, or Stand-Up Paddleboarding, and involves standing upright on a buoyant, oversized board and using a single-bladed paddle to propel yourself across the water. In Derby, at Darley Abbey on the River Derwent, 'Ay Up' is a friendly, informal greeting that means 'Hello'. Put the two together and what you end up with is a big welcome to a new watersports activity that's on offer to visitors to the city. It's being operated, in Derby, by [Drift Sup](#).

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Ride the mod wave

15 August, 2026

A celebration of mod culture is scheduled to be held in the heart of Derby this summer. Visitors can expect music, vintage fashion, scooter displays, dance, and retro-inspired

entertainment across the city centre - with MOD Wave bringing iconic sounds, stylish showcases to Osnabrick Square at Derby Market Hall.

Retro Gaming Nights at Derby Computer Museum

21 August and 17 October, 2026

The eclectic Derby Computer Museum Play is offering visitors the opportunity to play approximately 60 hands-on machines from the 70s, 80s and 90s on special, over-18 [Retro Gaming Evenings](#) when DJs will be playing house and dance music and guests can bring their own drinks. Entry, between 6pm and 9pm (doors will close at 11pm), costs £7 (pre-booked) or £8 (on the door).

Hidden Derby

19 August, 2026

The historic Old Bell Hotel in Derby is set to host [an evening of local history, fascinating stories and hidden discoveries](#). With a buffet included, visitors can join-in with a Derby-themed quiz, and hear intriguing tales from Derby's past to uncover some of the city's greatest mysteries, unexplained events and lesser-known stories. Tickets £25.

Bustler on the Road

28 & 29 August, 2026

Bustler on the Road cruises into the grounds of Elvaston Castle for a late August Bank Holiday Weekend of feasting with DJ's, kids entertainment, live music, cocktails and craft beer – with everything from Indian Kathi rolls & loaded fries, to wings and Middle Eastern mezze.

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BLOGS & FEATURES

Derby: where to drink, what to see...

The latest in a series of articles, revisiting destinations from Kate Simon and Phil Mellows' book *Beer Breaks In Britain*, offers a handy update to its readers for a day-trip (or more) to this Midlands city. Click [here](#) to read more.

'Based on a true story'

World-renowned stuntman, freerunner, gymnast and filmmaker Damien Walters has brought a touch of Hollywood glamour to Derby. Taking one giant leap of faith he has set about transforming the former Aida Bliss factory on City Road in Derby into [a multi-million-pound training academy for 'Stunt Nuts', and local gymnasts](#). Set to become one of the best stunt venues and a leading stunt academy in the world, even more exciting for Walters, Derby (and Hollywood!) is the news that it has already played a major in the filming of *Stuntnuts: The Movie*. Starring Matt Damon, Chris Hemsworth and Sam Rockwell this movie is also partly based on the true story of the fluctuating fortunes of Derbyshire-born Walters' attempt to buy, renovate and then create what he has called 'The Foundry'. The movie itself is set to hit the big screens at the end of 2026, with a local premiere scheduled to take place in Derby in early 2027.

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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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