

# DERBY:

## all the latest news, upcoming events and blogs

FEBRUARY 2025

### LATEST NEWS

#### **The UK's oldest photography business that's developing into a great story**

While [FORMAT25](#) takes place in Derby next month (13-30 March), the city itself is also planning to bring its own photographic heritage to the fore. One of Derby's great claims to fame is its association with pioneering female photographer Constance Mundy, the wife of William Henry Fox Talbot. Another is [Winters of Derby](#), the longest running photography business in Britain - which produces four Newsletters a year. Take a look at the [Autumn 2024 edition](#) to find out why it might be worth keeping this story in sharp focus over the coming months.

#### **English Tourism Week 2025 in Derby**

[English Tourism Week](#), an annual celebration of the English tourism industry, is scheduled to take place between 14 and 23 March in 2025. This event also serves as a significant and timely platform to celebrate Derby's diverse and vibrant offer to its visitors, as well as to highlight the quality and value of English tourism as a whole. Visitors to the city will have the opportunity to "discover Derby" - given a namecheck in *Condé Nast Traveller* magazine's list of some of the "Best Places to Go" in 2025, and featured in the VisitEngland "Hotlist for 2025" - as a "new" destination during English Tourism Week, through a range of special events and activities.

#### **One of Derby's favourite young daughters is on the headlines**

And finally (for now), who knew that Lara Croft was "born" in Derby? It might be a little-known fact at present, but once Phoebe Waller Bridge's long-awaited new TV series hits the screens, the city will be making the most of its reputation as a "Pioneering City". Watch this space as we all hopefully get ready to watch Sophie Turner - best known for appearing in HBO fantasy drama *Game of Thrones* - portray one of the city's best-loved daughters.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Reasons to be fearful**

(14-16 and 21-23 February, 2025)

[The UK Ghost Story Festival](#) returns for the fifth time to one of England's most haunted cities, in the dead centre of England. Featuring spooky and supernatural interviews, talks, writing workshops, panels, books and an incredible line-up of writing and speaking talent, it will take place on 14-16 February online, and at the Museum of Making 21-23 February.

#### **The spirit of Valentine**

(14, 15 and 16 February, 2025)

Looking for a Valentine's date with a difference? Then look no further than this fun and memorable ['Ghost' Pottery Throwing Experience](#) at Denby Pottery, close to Derby. Participants can create their own pot together on a single potters' wheel during a 45-minute experience. Left in the hands of skilled potters, the pot will then be kiln fired and finished in a Denby glaze ready for collection at a later date. The cost is £120 per couple.

#### **Come On Feel The Noize**

(1 March, 2025)

Stage Fever Productions bringing [The Super Duper 70s Show](#) to Derby in March. Featuring iconic 70s hits from Disco, and Glam Rock, to Pop and Classic Rock, this groovy show promises "a talented star cast, captivating costumes, and enthralling

choreography". As well as hits from favourite bands of the 70s, including Earth Wind and Fire, Bee Gees, The Sweet, Slade, Wizzard, ABBA, ELO and Queen. So boogie on back to the sizzling 70s. And prepare to tap those 'Tiger Feet'. Tickets priced £24 to £36.

### **Tickets for the Psychic Dancehall selling fast**

(22 March, 2025)

Psychic Dancehall is a new electronic and experimental music festival in Derby, which will take place across two venues, The Wardwick and Dubrek Studios on 22 March, bringing an unmissable selection of electronic and experimental artists to the Midlands. The festival is the brainchild of Derby-based music journalist, DJ, and promoter James Thornhill. It is supported with funding from the Arts Council's Grassroots Music Fund. Early bird tickets have now sold out. Tier Two tickets, priced £20, are still available.

### **Rum goings-on in Derby**

(14 June, 2025)

A [Rum'n'Reggae Fest](#) is heading to The Chocolate Factory in Derby for a day fuelled with Caribbean culture and the world's best Reggae tribute acts. Tickets are already available for sale, with the 'First Release' priced at £16.75 per person now almost sold out. Prices will rise to £19.50 for the Second Release, and £22.25 for the Third Release. The event is set to run from 14.00 to 22.00.

### **TOASTED, jam-packed, and free**

(29 and 30 March 2025)

Calling all pottery enthusiasts. [TOASTED](#) Ceramic Fair is back for another year. TOASTED boasts 37 potters from Scotland to Brighton and everywhere in-between. With free entry all day long and a jam-packed programme of demonstrations, bookable workshops and free potters talks, this is a must visit event for anyone with an interest in ceramics. A pottery tombola will support Derby Museums and Cromartie, who will be selling a wide range of kilns, clays and glazes and pottery wheels on the day.

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## **BLOGS & FEATURES**

### **Eat your heart out in Derby**

Visit Derby has taken all of the hard work out of deciding where to eat and drink in the city, by providing a recently updated [Top 25 Places to Eat & Drink](#) listicle for 2025. Aimed at satisfying all palates and preferences, places featured range from cosy cafes to elegant restaurants and trendy bars.

### **Unmissable entertainment coming to the heart of the city**

Opening in 2025 in the heart of Derby, [Becketwell Live](#) is a cutting-edge destination for concerts, family events, sports, and conferences. Featuring a state-of-the-art 3,500-capacity auditorium with premium seating and hospitality options, the venue offers unmatched flexibility for events ranging from live performances to conferences and award shows. Part of the ASM Global family, Becketwell Live is set to bring world-class events expertise to Derby, joining a prestigious portfolio that includes AO Arena Manchester and OVO Arena Wembley. Opening events will be added to the calendar soon. Watch [this space](#) for further details.

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**For further details, visit:**

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

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