

Derby Tourism

Assembly Rooms, Market Place, Derby DE1 3AH
t: 01332 255766 e: tourism.marketing@derby.gov.uk
www.visitderby.co.uk

Cathedral Green set to bring some colour to World Heritage Site

An area of Derby marking the most southerly point of the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site is set to be unveiled as "Cathedral Green" – complete with a new, iconic swing action bridge across the River Derwent.

The project is the latest development in Derby's ongoing £2.2-billion transformation, and will result in a new public space – as well as a cutting-edge, contemporary bridge for pedestrians and cyclists, designed to integrate with the historical features around the Green.

The landscaping work opens-up new walkways from the city's Cathedral to the historic Silk Mill – the site of Britain's first ever factory, and starting point of the Derwent Valley's renowned World Heritage Site.

Capable of also hosting small events, the Cathedral Green area will not only become the latest feature of the city's 'Cathedral Quarter', but is also the latest in a long line of recent developments which are now helping to make Derby an attractive option for a city break.

A new 112-bedroom Ramada Encore Hotel, for example, recently opened on Pride Park – adding to the city's full range of accommodation which, from May 2008, has featured Derby's first ever boutique hotel. Located in a renaissance style period building following an investment of £3.8 million, The Cathedral Quarter Hotel (www.thefinessecollection.com) provides 38 King bedrooms, a 150 seat fine-dining brasserie, a cocktail bar, a chef's table, two treatment rooms, a cardiovascular room and four conference rooms.

The catalyst for much of the development was the opening, this time last year, of the £340 million Westfield Derby city centre shopping complex.

The Centre also now features Cinema de Lux, with its two intimate "Director's Halls" - featuring Ultra leather loveseats and rocking recliners! Guests in the Director's Halls also have access to the Director's Lounge, where snacks and drinks are available before and after the show, or where food can be ordered to take in to enjoy during the movie. For full details, visit www.westfieldderby.co.uk/cinema.

Another recent addition to the city is QUAD (www.derbyquad.co.uk), a £10m visual arts and media centre, which features a gallery, cinema, café bar and workshops.

Derby already offers its visitors a choice of three short break packages with prices starting from £74.95 per person: 'A Real Ale Break', 'A Rams Football Weekend', and 'A Derby Ghost Break'.

For more details, visit www.visitderby.co.uk, or www.derbycityscape.com. And to order a free copy of the 2009 *Derby Visitor Guide*, telephone 01332 255802.

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For further information, please contact:

Michelle Booth Michelle.Booth@derby.gov.uk

Maggie Tillson Maggie.Tillson@derby.gov.uk

((Telephone: 01332-256201))