

DERBY – GREAT PLACE, GREAT BASE

Make Your Escape, in Derby (Challenging new attraction opens in Derby)

Derby's first live escape rooms challenge has arrived.

Make Your Escape, in Derby's city centre, is now one of around 3,000 escape rooms which have recently opened worldwide in a remarkable global trend. Created, initially for gamers who were looking for a different experience to the virtual challenges found online, these live escape rooms have also become a high street hit with a far wider audience.

There are now an estimated 125 escape rooms in the UK, but this is the first to open in Derby, and one of only a handful in the Midlands.

At its simplest, the idea is that you create a team of anything from two to six people, all of whom get locked in a room where they need to work together to solve a series of puzzles and riddles in order to 'escape' within the hour.

It's an hour of clues, keys, codes and concentration. (And, it should be added, tremendous fun!). Some teams will take it very seriously, to try to make it to the top of the leader board. Others will arrive not sure what to expect, but are happy to ask for a few extra clues along the way. Either way, it's a race against time to solve the puzzles and complete a series of tasks before the clock runs down to zero.

Make Your Escape's games have opened with 'The Signal'. Teams are asked before they go in the room not to reveal any spoilers. But as their own promotional material explains: "Following reports of strange lights in the skies over Derbyshire, your crack team of investigators intercept a distress signal, leading them to an abandoned bunker. Once the door close behind you, you quickly realize the signal was not all that it seemed. The bunker was not abandoned, and you are not alone. Work together with your friends, family or work colleagues to solve the puzzles and Make Your Escape."

A second experience, 'Spellbound', will be added to the Make Your Escape stable in time for Halloween. Like movies at the cinema, the challenges on offer in Derby will be changed on a regular basis.

The one thing they will all have in common, however, is that each will follow an original story which unfolds around you through a series of puzzles, hidden objects and mysteries; where only common sense, communication and teamwork will help teams to make their escape.

Make your Escape is open to teams of between two and six people. The standard cost ranges from a six-person team at £84 (or £14 per person), through to a two-person team at £48 (or £24 per person). A special discount rate of £38 (or £19 per person) is also available for two players on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

For full details, visit www.makeyourescapederby.com.

And for further information about Derby, visit www.visitderby.co.uk.

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