

DERBY – GREAT PLACE, GREAT BASE

Make a weekend of it in Derby during The 2016 CAMRA National Winter Ales Festival

Derby will once again be hosting the National Winter Ales Festival in 2016, from February 17th to 20th.

The Festival itself showcases a selection of the very best real ales from around the UK, including real ciders and perries, meads, and a variety of continental beers. And it also gives visitors the chance to take a gentle stroll, or crawl, around the city's 120-plus real ale pubs during a weekend break in the city.

Set to once again be held in The Roundhouse - one of the world's oldest railway roundhouses, and now one of most historically significant buildings in The Midlands having been restored to its former glory following a £48 million renovation - the National Winter Ales Festival is one of CAMRA's flagship events, and the decision to hold it in Derby is the Real Ale equivalent of "raising a glass" to the city which has been dubbed one of the Beer Capitals of Britain.

The Holiday Inn Express on Pride Park (www.expressderby.co.uk) is within easy walking distance of The Roundhouse, and is offering rates from £55 per room per night at the time of the Ales Festival, based on two adults sharing.

Also nearby, Aston Court Hotel, is offering "special advance purchase rates" from £58 per night via its website <http://www.astoncourthotelderby.com/hotel-rooms-derby-city-centre.html>.

A range of live bands will be added to the atmosphere over the four-day festival; and "Tutored Beer Tastings" are also available (<http://nwaf.org.uk/tutored-tastings>).

Admission prices to the Festival vary, depending on days and session times, and range from £2 to £6.

The National Ales Festival is a perfect 'fit' for Derby. While British pubs are currently said to be closing at the rate of around 29 per week, Derby appears to be at the forefront of a real ale revival - and can boast the largest number of real ales per head of population, several micro-breweries, two annual CAMRA Beer Festivals in 2016, Britain's first and only Beer King, and an accolade from *Lonely Planet* magazine, describing the city as the "best place to drink real ale in the world".

For further information, visit <http://www.visitderby.co.uk/whats-on/national-winter-ales-festival/>; and on Twitter @derbybeer.

And, for accommodation in the city, as well as any current special offers, visit <http://www.visitderby.co.uk/stay/>.

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