

A LOCAL'S GUIDE TO SOME OF YORK'S BEST PUBS

York over the last five years has become one of the best pub and beer destination cities of the UK.

When York CAMRA last did a census in 2014 they found 281 real ales on sale in the city at any one time. It is not inconceivable with the further proliferation of excellent independent freehouses in the city that this is now probably over 300.

There is such a wealth of different types of pub as well from the "olde" traditional inns with their timbered buildings that have tales to tell from as far back as the 12th century; upmarket refurbished pubs; through to the modern hipster bars with rows of craft keg fonts, premium spirits and bare brick walls.

In short there's something for everyone and here's just a few recommendations:

Click on the [pub name](#) for a link to websites plus an A-Z map of York pubs here:- [Pub Map Link](#)

Best Pubs Near to the Venue

Here are good pubs near to York Barbican and Novotel.

[Phoenix](#): George Street - 60 yards away - nearest pub to the venue hidden behind the walls opposite the Barbican. Cozy multi-roomed pub.

[The Woolpack](#): Fawcett Street - 150 yards. Second nearest pub halfway between the Barbican and Novotel. Good down to earth pub with 8 Yorkshire real ales on draught. Open until midnight.

[Rook and Gaskill](#): Lawrence St - 0.2 miles away - York CAMRA Pub of the Year; 15 real ales and craft beers. All real ales priced at £2.90 pint. Good hot food served until 9.30pm with Burgers a speciality. Open until 1am Friday / Saturday. Also hosting a Pub Protection event with guest speaker Greg Mulholland MP at 7pm on Saturday 12th.

Best Bars on Fossgate / Walmgate - colloquially known as Restaurant Alley as there are 18 restaurants in all on these interconnecting streets about 0.4 miles walk from The Barbican.

[The Hop](#) - Spacious Leeds Brewery pub with real ales; craft beers and lagers plus wood fired pizza's.

[Sutlers](#) - upmarket real ale and premium spirits / cocktail bar.

[Fossgate Social](#) - nice hipster bar with good craft beers, coffee, spirits and snacks.

[Walmgate Alehouse](#) - good selection of beers downstairs and Bistro upstairs in a quaint building.

[The Blue Bell](#) - unspoilt Edwardian listed pub - small but perfectly formed.

Best City Centre Pubs near to the Barbican

[The Pavement Vaults](#) – at the top of Piccadilly across the road from M&S. A smart new spacious smokehouse BBQ pub that serves 8 real ales as well as premium spirits.

[Pivni](#) – lovely real ale bar in a side street near York Market / Shambles on 3 floors in 12 century building.

[Duke of York](#) – in Kings Square by the Shambles – Leeds Brewery pub. Good beers and spirits and upmarket pub food menu.

[House of Trembling Madness](#) – legendary quirky upstairs small drinking hall on Stonegate that serves late night hot food up to 10.30pm.

The “Bishy Road” area (voted Best High Street in Britain 2015) – about half a mile from The Barbican and actual name Bishopthorpe Rd.

[The Swan](#) – lovely 3 roomed traditional Yorkshire pub on the upmarket “Bishy Rd” part of the city – just voted the best High St in Britain.

[The Slip](#) – sister pub to the Swan and 50 yards down the road.

[The Golden Ball](#) – homely community local owned by local residents in Bishophill. A genuine co-operative with a preserved 1929 front bar serving good real ale.

Best Bars near the Station

[York Tap](#) – on the station platform – 20 real ales on draught plus 10 craft beers.

[The Maltings](#) – near to the station in the shadow of Lendal Bridge. Good range of 6 real ales and hearty pub food from *The Dragons Pantry*.

[Brigantes](#) – a swift 10 minute walk to the station from this popular freehouse serving good pub food on Micklegate.

Here’s that link again for the Alphabetical York pub map – with thanks to York CAMRA.

<http://yorkcamra.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/YorkMapA4-June-2015.pdf>