

Here we go again the same old story but worse:-

After a search of the pubs in Northampton I decided that like others recently the drinking wasn't up to the required standard and checked up on the situation in nearby Rugby: the only trouble was I did the trip on a Tuesday and the Seven Stars wasn't open but will be on Thursdays from 12:00. There are just enough pubs open at 11:00 - two; although one wasn't sparkling.

The walking, leaving out the walk from the station which is not compulsory, is less. So the Spoons start is the same; as it is the only one. The longest walk excluding up from the station is 300m.

Bus 4, runs every 20 mins at 18,38,58 from from the end of Abbey St and comes through under the railway. There are others 1,2,D1 and 96 at irregular intervals which run from same stop varying intermediate times and go through the centre in the opposite direction and stop across from the clock tower. Check on Google maps for times. (No timetable on bus stop). Check with driver that it goes to clock tower.

Walk from station turn right out of station and follow Railway Terrace up into town approx 1.1 km.

For Spoons get off when the bus has turned right after. 1/2 mile. To get to JDW walk further along towards the town centre and cross into Gas St. Follow it round into Castle St. For the others stay on to next stop; just after clocktower. Walk back up North St and continue into pedestrian zone. Follow instruction as though from JDW below.

1: Rupert Brooke. Castle St. Spoons Leave 11:00

Leave by front door, turn left along Castle St and continue along Church St until the clock tower. and go past Cafe Nero into Market Place where the street divides into two; take the right hand fork Sheep St. The Bull is a little way down on the right and the Prince of Wales is 20 m behind it in Drury Lane.

2: Prince of Wales Drury Lane. 11:10- 11:30 Doombar and Landlord

Back to Sheep St. for

3: Bull. Sheep St. 11:30-12:00. Three changing beers

From whichever location Out and turn left up Sheep St. and retrace steps back to clocktower; continue straight on on left in 50m is

4: Merchants Inn 12:00-12:55 Good selection of ales. Food Pizzas and pork pies

5: Windmill Inn a 13:00-14:00 Black Country Ales pub with the usual 9 handpumps, they do food pies and cobs and Jerk chicken see photos on website barmaid wasn't very sure.

Out and to right follow pavement round to church and down passage and into Little Church St. to

At this stage I would suggest a discussion between those present as to final destination.

Possibilities are the Squirrel (opens at 13:00) near Spoons or for a better choice then the Seven Stars (opens at 12:00) a further 300 m beyond the Spoons back down towards the station.

Best bus stop for return journey to station is J outside Peacocks across from clock tower.

Photos on website show pumps at all pubs visited on recce.