

Jolly Boys to Nottingham Thursday 15th August 2024

Here we are in Nottingham again. This time a trip past the trendy Hockley area and into the historic Lace Market area. Four new pubs on this visit.

Getting to Pub 1 from the station

There are 3 options:

1. Walk. Follow the red lines on the map past the brand new sparkly library and the half knocked down shopping centre. Takes 10 to 15 minutes.
2. Tram. Go up to the tram stop and catch any tram heading towards town and get off at the Old Market Square stop (all shown on map). You will need to buy a ticket from the machine (£1.50 for a City Centre Zone ticket) or if you are feeling brave use your contactless card to tap in and tap out at the machines. Make sure you tap out otherwise I've no idea how much you will be charged. Or you try and get away with not paying (a popular habit if rumours are right) but don't come to me if you are fined lots of money by the TTIs. Takes less than 5 minutes.
3. Bus. Cross the road (Carrington Street) out of the station to the bus stops opposite. Buses 48, 1 and 3 all go to the market square (Beastmarket Hill shown as A in red on the map). This will be free to the old folk and £2 otherwise. Takes 5 minutes. Other buses head up towards town but don't end up much nearer than walking from the station. All three buses run at 20 minute intervals so you shouldn't have to wait long.

The Tour

Note that all the pubs opening at 12.00 do food. Styles are noted below. Visit times from pub 3 onwards are notional depending on who wants to eat and where and whether you want to go to Pub 6. All three pubs have their menus available online on their websites.

Pub 1 The Joseph Else, 11-12 South Parade, Market Square

Standard Weatherspoons for breakfast and earlies. Nothing else to say really.

Leave here at 10.55 and walk up Beastmarket Hill, turn left into St James Street up to:

Pub 2 The Malt Cross, 16 St James Street

Usual first pub as it opens at 11.00 and has a very interesting interior. 5 real ales on tap.

Stay until 11.50 waiting for other pubs to open.

Then a 10 minute (or less) walk to:

Pub 3 Angel Microbrewery, 7 Stoney Street

Opens 12.00. Has brewing kit in one of the rooms. 4 real ales (possibly including some of their own). Food is small bites and sandwiches (Including a Fish Finger one) and burgers and tacos.

Stay until 12.40(?). Then a 5 minute walk past the magnificent Adam's Building to:

Pub 4 Kean's Head, 46 St Mary's Gate

5 or 6 real ales. Used to be famous for being a pub that banned smoking inside before the law was changed. Part of the Castle Rock chain (recently voted Brewery of the Year).

Food is interesting and consists of a choice of Indian style small dishes.

Stay until 13.20 (?). Then a couple of minutes to:

Pub 5. Cock and Hoop, 25 High Pavement

Included at the specific request of Ian Osborne. Situated opposite the Galleries of Justice (the old Crown Court). 5 real ales. Quite a smart place as it is associated with the "Boutique" Hotel next door.

Food is "Brunch", Sandwiches and possibly a pizza offer.

Stay until 14.00 (or whenever).

Then a 5-10 minute walk to the station or Pub 6.

Pub 6. Brew Tavern, Cabman's Shelter, 1a Queens Road

Included as an option if required as it is interesting (see address) and right at the station. Very small bar selling 4 real ales. Hopefully the weather will be OK as there isn't much room inside.

Then walk 0 minutes to the station.

Peter Armstrong 15/7/24

