NOTTSNIGHT

Canal Trail

2018 Edition



The Nottingham and Beeston Canal dates back to the 1790s, and during the industrial revolution, it helped put the city firmly on the map. Nottingham's famous products like tobacco and lace were transported from factories and mills - latterly by steam powered barges. Without the canal, the city may not have become the place it is today.

The waterway itself has been well maintained and restored in recent years, and the area around the city centre has also undergone a hugely successful revival. And the pub scene is no exception - traditional tap rooms now rub shoulders with breweries big and small. And its proximity to the station makes it ideal for visitors.

About us

NottsNight is an online blog celebrating the best places to drink in Nottingham and its suburbs. See our no nonsense, straight talking reviews at nottsnight.com, and please follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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Beginning on Sheriff's Way – visible from the railway station – the **Vat and Fiddle** (1) is the first of three pubs on this trail run by Castle Rock. And it doesn't come much fresher than this, because the brewery itself is attached to the pub. Its name is derived from the nearby offices of HM Revenue and Customs.

Make your way back towards the station and cast your gaze to the small hut on the right hand side to find **BeerHeadz (2)**, one of Nottingham's newest micropubs. The hut itself used to be a shelter for taxi drivers, reminiscent of the huts seen dotted around London. The decor may be basic, but the product is good.

Walk across the station, stopping to admire its impressive Victorian facade, and then along Carrington Street to the **Barley Twist (3)**. Also run by Castle Rock, the Twist is a departure from the company's traditional pubs, concentrating heavily on craft beer – some of which can be a bit strong for our liking.



It's time to return to something a bit more traditional. Take a left at the end of Carrington Street, and next to the coffee shop you'll see **Fellows, Morton and Clayton**, bearing the name of a famous transport company which used to run steam narrowboats across England's network of canals. If it's open, it's worth a pint.

But the real slice of history is just next door at the **Canal House (4)**, where you'll cross the water *inside* the bar itself. It can get a little chilly on a winter's evening, but this former warehouse is so sprawling that there's plenty of room to warm up – again, a Castle Rock bar – but distinctly different from the others on this trail.

Still standing? Weave your way around Castle Wharf – bypassing bars we'd rather not show you, and make your way onto Wilford Street to **The Navigation** (5). On a weekend, you may be blown away by the rock or blues live bands. But the assault on your ears is well compensated by the ample selection of ales on the bar.