

NOTTSNIGHT

Canning Circus Trail

2018 Edition

Between the 1960s and the 1980's, Canning Circus was, without question, *the* weekend playground for the tens of thousands of workers employed in this district. Raleigh Bicycles, Players Tobacco and mills weaving textiles lined the streets around Alfreton, Ilkeston and Derby Roads.

As a result, dozens of pubs did a roaring trade. Some became "must do" destinations for some of the biggest music names of the era - and all were down to earth, no nonsense boozers.

Today, many have faded into history, but Canning Circus has revived itself as a multicultural crossroads. Cuisine from all corners of the world can be found in takeaways and restaurants, and a whole new generation of pubs have sprung up to quench the thirst.

About us

NottsNight is an online blog celebrating the best places to drink in Nottingham and its suburbs. You can see our full collection of no nonsense, straight talking reviews at nottsnight.com, where you'll also find public transport details of how to reach the Canning Circus district.

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Beginning on Alfreton Road, the **Organ Grinder** was the first tap bar for the Blue Monkey brewery. As a result, it's heavy on ape-themed beers - all of which are perfectly drinkable and vary in strength and colour. On a sunny day, head to the roof terrace, or warms yourself in winter next to the lovely log fire. Directly across the road, the **Running Horse** is a legendary music venue, these days open mainly at weekends - showcasing blues and Americana acts. It's well worth a diversion if it's open.

The **Overdraught** is next, featuring more of a craft beer rather than cask ale selection, and a mahoosive fridge full of bottles and cans. Its name derives from its former life as a bank - you can still see the safe deposit box outside.

Cross over the busy Canning Circus to the **Falcon**, a cosy, traditional boozer with five or six cask ales on a good night. You may squeeze to find a seat here.



It's a quick hop across the Circus to the *grand fromage* of this area. The **Sir John Borlase Warren** features a sprawling main bar serving anything up to ten cask ales, an ample food menu and a brilliant beer garden. If that's not enough, there's a micro pub in the yard serving craft beer.

This trail bypasses the Raglan Road, though it can be found on the NottsNight Underground (online). Instead, head for the **Hand and Heart** for a truly brilliant experience of fine beers and food served inside its sandstone caves. Finally, walk down Derby Road and cross to **A Room With A Brew**, a sizeable micropub run by Scribblers Ales.