

First Friday Pub Crawl – Piccadilly. Friday 2nd October



Host - Noel Burger 07792 124 164.

As we try to squeeze the last few drops of beer out of the Monopoly board inspired pub crawl we will visit the Piccadilly Circus area. There are not many pubs actually on Piccadilly itself but a few hidden gems just north of the Circus. And being so central all the pubs are very close to each other. If you are a member of CAMRA remember to bring your membership card. Many pubs now offer discounts to members.

1. 6:00pm – 6:45pm. The Queen's Head. 15 Denman Street, Piccadilly Circus, W1D7HN

This historic pub dates back to 1736 and the current owners pride themselves on running an independent establishment that stays true to the historic roots of the venue and the ideals of what a London pub should be. Beers on offer include Fuller's London Pride, Robinsons Trooper and Sambrook's Wandle Ale, plus a couple on rotation. Good menu with mains ranging from £10 to £15.

2. 6:45pm – 7:30pm. St James Tavern. 45 Great Windmill Street, London W1D 7NE

Another compact (they mean small) pub but the only Rugby game on this evening is New Zealand v Georgia at 8pm so not expecting this or any of the smaller pubs to be extra busy because of it. However for the Rugby fans the St James tavern is currently service and pint called Dirty Tackle. Very reasonably priced (under a tenner) menu too.

3. 7:30pm – 8:15pm. The Lyric. 37 Great Windmill Street, London W1D 7LU

Another small bar, popular with local trade. Bay fronted with a tiled panelled interior. As well as real ales the pub has a good range of craft beers and was CAMRA branch third-place Pub of the Year in 2015. Like most pubs around here it serves food.

4. 8:15pm – 9:00pm. The Duke of Argyll. 37 Brewer Street, London W1F 0RY

The first of a couple of Sam Smiths pubs on the crawl but the Duke of Argyll is not as twee or 'olde worlde' as some other SS pubs. Selling their own amazingly good value own brand beer and good value food.

5. 9:00pm – 9:45pm. The Glasshouse Stores. 55 Brewer Street, London

A more typical 'olde worlde' Sam Smiths pub, the Glasshouse Stores is larger than it looks from the outside.

6. 9:45pm – 10:15pm. The Crown. 64 Brewer Street, London W1F 9TP

A spacious dark-wood Nicholson's pub on a site where 9 year-old Mozart once gave a recital. You pretty much know what you're going to get with a Nicholson's pub but it always includes a range of well-kept beers. Food available until 10pm.

7. 10:15pm – 11:00pm. Glassblower. 40-42 Glasshouse Street, London W1B 5JY

The Glassblower is a classic wedge-shaped corner pub. The pub dates from 1868 and stands on the site of a former workhouse and not surprisingly, a work place for glassblowers. As a Taylor Walker pub it is likely to have a few guest ales.

8. 11:00pm – Closing. The Leicester Arms. 44 Glasshouse Street, London W1B 5DP

Another Taylor Walker pub but hopefully different enough from the last. The Leicester Arms has been a licensed premise since 1898 and still retains some of the original features, including the striking Victorian exterior. The site on which the pub sits was previously a children's work house in the Victorian era. It is rumoured that tunnels still remain underground, linking to our previous pub, the Glassblower. Probably the same beers as the last one ☺

9. Extra late night option. Jazz after Dark. 9 Greek Street, London, W1D 4DQ.

I have been informed by Richard, who some of you may have met recently on the Highgate Crawl or at U35s, that his band (The B Flat Team) is playing at a club called **Jazz after Dark**. www.jazzafterdark.co.uk. They will be playing right through to 2:30am if anyone still has the energy. The website says tickets are £15 each.

Call Noel on 07792 124 164 for encouragement or if lost on the night.