

FOOD COURT

In this issue, local business people choose their favourite places to eat in Leicestershire

The best eating establishments in Leicestershire



ADAM KING

Director at Incite Video



CRAFTY BURGER craftyburger.co.uk
0116 251 2879 SAINT MARTIN'S SQUARE, LEICESTER LE1 5DG

You may not know about Crafty Burger in Saint Martin's Coffee Shop in St Martin's Square but once you know, you'll be back time and time again. Originally set up as a 'pop up' restaurant, this is now one of the coolest places in Leicester City Centre to eat and is a regular haunt for me and the team. It's only open Thursday to Saturday, but it is well worth the visit.

My burger of choice is the 'Farmhouse Jam' - it consists of a beef patty accompanied by beautiful maple bacon, delicious onion jam, Red Leicester served with their special Crafty Sauce. From burgers to toppings, these Crafty Burgers are

everything you could ask for. Though, that's just scratching the surface, there is a whole load more - the sides. The Spanish fries are beyond delicious - topped with spicy sausage balls, melted cheese and smoked paprika, I just cannot resist them!

The restaurant itself is a hidden gem for Leicester, tucked away in St. Martin's Square. It reminds me of the more unique burger houses that you find in London or Edinburgh. The service is always spectacular and with it being just a short walk from the city centre its location couldn't be better for after work drinks with colleagues or a night out in the city with friends and family.



JENNIE ANDREWS

Residential Property Consultant at Wells McFarlane



THE GREY GOOSE greygoosegilmorton.co.uk
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One of the many great things about living in rural Leicestershire is the variety of village pubs we have on our doorstep, and The Grey Goose at Gilmorton has to be up there as one of the best village pubs within the county.

An incredibly welcoming country pub just a stone's throw from Lutterworth, an open fire roars away as you enter and straight away, the contemporary décor and lavish bar oozes style. A seating area around the bar provides a modern environment to enjoy a drink and has the feel of a contemporary wine bar.

The style continues as you move into the dining area, with floor to ceiling wine cabinets displaying a vast

collection and a conservatory with large skylight and ambient lighting set the scene for a contemporary yet comfortable dining experience.

The lunchtime menu is vast and offers both traditional meals as well as lighter bites, and a set two course menu; I opted for smoked salmon and capers to start, followed by a beautiful seafood risotto for the main course. Both courses were faultless and a real lunchtime treat.

Whether you are looking to entertain clients over lunch, to celebrate a special occasion or you just want a chilled out Sunday lunch with the family - The Grey Goose at Gilmorton will serve as a perfect choice.



ALEENA AHMAD

Managing Director at Affinity HRM



KONAK konakleicester.co.uk
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There's a restaurant on London Road that never fails to deliver consistently amazing food and service and has me returning time, and time again: Konak is a family-oriented Turkish restaurant that my family and I visit regularly.

The staff are very friendly, welcoming and attentive - they always makes us feel special. As we're regulars, we find that the staff make sure there's a table for us, and they pop over for a chat, always remembering previous conversations we've had - it's a really nice touch.

Whenever I've driven past the restaurant, I've seen queues extending out of the door! This was what first piqued my interest in Konak - it made

me really want to try the food and visit.

They have a vast selection of Turkish cuisine which is quite healthy. You get complimentary starters with great dips and delicious bread as well, which the staff also replenish when they're low. There are mixed kebab and meat platters with salad, rice and chips - it's all mouth-watering.

After food, you get complimentary Turkish tea. As we come here very often, the staff will also bring us over Baklava - a stunning traditional Turkish dessert consisting of filo pastry filled with chop nuts and honey.

Konak is definitely my favourite restaurant in Leicester. Make sure you book a table if you intend to visit!



LEANNE BAKER

Operations Director at Cross Productions



THE WATERFRONT waterfrontharborough.co.uk
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My family returned to The Waterfront for the winter igloos. Fully heated, with room for six people, and decorated with twinkly fairy lights and trailing ivy vines, The Waterfront has created a dreamy, cosy setting perfect for families and couples. The outdoor, transparent igloos make for a great date night or family occasion with a difference.

As they were in even higher demand than the restaurant predicted after last year's festive success, the igloos are now available until Easter. Unfortunately, by the time you're reading this they're most likely fully booked. Keep your eye out for when they're set up again in December; it's an experience you don't want to miss.

We love The Waterfront so have

been there several times in the past. It's not just the novelty of eating in an unusual setting that keeps us coming back. The food is wonderful. The non-igloo menu offers a generous choice for all with lots of fish, vegetarian, vegan and grill options. The 10oz rump steak comes with chunky chips, cherry tomatoes and flat field mushrooms - it's my husbands' favourite and The Waterfront never lets him down. The slow cooked feather blade of beef with mustard mash, bourguignon sauce and veg crisps is a very fancy, extra tasty version of my classic go-to carvery (Igloo menu). On top of a comforting atmosphere indoor and out, we're always treated to a friendly welcome and terrific service every time.



SARAH HIGGINS

Director at Sarah Higgins Corporate Coaching Ltd



TURTLE BAY LEICESTER turtlebay.co.uk
0116 262 9993 15 BATH HOUSE LANE, HIGHCROSS, LEICESTER, LE1 4SA

For a family treat, one of the places we love to visit is Turtle Bay. I will admit to feeling a bit dubious before our first visit. Having been to the Caribbean, and loving that style of food, I wondered whether a national chain of restaurants could live up to the authentic experience. But there is real soul with a fresh and vibrant feel, making it feel more like a local, niche, entrepreneurial venture.

The bright and colourful décor always takes us back to our fun holiday times in Jamaica. You are also welcomed by the warm sounds of reggae music and smells of Caribbean cooking.

There are many different options for food, including a children's menu and vegan and vegetarian choices. Inspired

by beach shack and street vendors across the Caribbean islands, the great tasting dishes are perfect for starters or sharing with other small plates, and with mains. We used to need advice on how spicy some dishes were, the serving staff have always been very helpful. Served in rustic enamel bowls, the food is delicious and plentiful, and we find it to be great value.

We also like to come here to enjoy Happy Hour cocktails when we have been 'out-out'. Rum is the tropical Caribbean sunshine, which is celebrated at Turtle Bay with a huge selection, perfect for sipping and cocktails.

Overall, Turtle Bay is a great choice for tasty and value-for-money Caribbean food served with a down to earth atmosphere.