

CHRIS TITLEY

111
PLACES
IN YORK
THAT YOU
SHOULDN'T
MISS



Photographs by Richard McDougall

emons:

Meanwhile York is shaking off its “living museum” label and is busy building a future to live up to its past. That can be seen everywhere from the glassy modernist Hiscox HQ to the experimental art and music in the Basement Bar.

Old haunts are being repurposed: a cafe above York’s only remaining barbican, a cinema in a pub, a library created inside a park-keeper’s lodge. Millions of pounds have been invested in buzzy new places to eat and drink.

Amid all this, the essential eccentricity of this overgrown town remains intact. It is the sort of place where people have no qualms in opening the world’s smallest Lego shop, or welding a van to a tugboat to create a

floating ice cream parlour. Who wouldn't want to visit a shop that sells only cheese, or another named after a Bob Dylan lyric?

This guide is not about York's most famous landmarks but its quirky corners, and most important, its people, past and present. It has been a pleasure and an education seeking them out.

– *Chris Titley*



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1_1331 Cinema

The secret attic picturehouse

Next



York has one modern multiplex – and another

in the pipeline. But sometimes you want to see a movie in more convivial surroundings than an out-of-town warehouse, and enjoy refreshments more appetising than a bucket of popcorn. That's where Thirteen Thirty One comes in. Situated on narrow, cobbled Grape Lane, it is primarily a bar and restaurant. With its secret beer garden – a great place to chill on a balmy summer night – and varied eating and drinking spots on different levels, it offers options for both the people-watchers and the tryst-hatchers.

But unlike any other bar in York, it also comes with its own cinema. The man who founded Thirteen Thirty One, Sam Robinson, is a cinephile. He dreamed of making movies since he was a boy – and that dream came

true when he co-produced *Whoops!*, a horror-comedy about a woman who becomes a serial killer by mistake. Named by the head of the Raindance Film Festival as her “favourite British film of the last decade” the York-made movie became a cult hit. And, naturally enough, it has been screened at Thirteen Thirty One.

Info

Address 13 Grape Lane, York YO1 7HU, +44 (0)1904 661130, www.1331-york.co.uk, info13@1331-york.co.uk | Public Transport 7-minute walk from Bootham Row car park; 3-minute walk from York Minster. Closest bus stop: St Leonard's Place | Hours Bar: 8am–1am; Restaurant: Mon–Fri 5pm–10pm, Sat & Sun 11am–10pm | Tip If you want to eat elsewhere and just come for the drinks and screenings, try York's