

Westcountry Blues Away Days

Details of favourite WCB drinking joints and travel/parking information for away trips!!

Arsenal



The usual WCB watering hole Arsenal is the Drayton Park pub (N5 1NG), situated an 8 minute walk from Arsenal tube station and just opposite the walkway to the Emirates. The pub welcomes away fans and there is usually a good and lively atmosphere inside. The pub does not offer food but there are a number of on street vendors selling chips, burgers, bacon rolls plus a couple of more exotic offerings (jerk chicken, BBQ and the like)

between the tube and the pub. In terms of getting to the pub/ground, we mostly use public transport (train, National Express) and then get the tube to Arsenal station. If driving, we generally aim to park at Cockfosters Station EN4 0DZ (£2 all day on a Saturday, £1.50 on a Sunday) and get the Piccadilly Line tube direct to Arsenal (approx. 25 minutes). Please be aware that the Arsenal tube station is very busy after the match and a queuing system is usually in place – make sure you allow enough time if catching public transport home.

Bournemouth



The Sir Percy Florence Shelley is generally the preferred Bournemouth venue (BH7 6AA). It's a Wetherspoons so offers a full range of drinks and the usual pub grub. It is situated in Boscombe centre so there are also plenty of other options for food (Thai, Mexican, burgers etc) nearby. Public transport isn't altogether easy for Bournemouth away so we

usually car share and park at the Hawkwood Road car park (BH5 1BY) - £5 for 24 hours. The car park is just a short walk (3 mins) from the pub and the ground is a 15 minute walk from the pub.

Burnley



Burnley Cricket Club (BB10 4BN) is a convenient and cheap option for Turf Moor. Public transport isn't really an option for this fixture and the Cricket Club has onsite parking, reasonably priced drink and grub (basics such as chips, bacon baps etc) and usually shows sports on a number of TVs. The Cricket Club is a short walk from the stadium.

Chelsea

To be confirmed.

Crystal Palace



The Flora Sandes Wetherspoons (CR7 7JG) is where we usually gather for Crystal Palace away. It is situated directly opposite Thornton Heath Station (24 minutes on the Southern train from Victoria Station). It has the usual Wetherspoons offerings although food may be on a reduced menu close to kick off. The ground is a 15 minute walk from the pub.

Hull



Options near the KC Stadium are limited. The New Walton Club (HU3 6JR) which is opposite the large car park at the stadium is a large social club – it charges a small admission (£1) but drinks are cheap and a range of basic food is served. The postcode for the car park is HU3 6HU. It is large and cheap but it can be very slow leaving after the game. Alternatively there are some good pubs in the city centre with Ye Olde White Harte being a favourite (HU1 1JG) – this is a 30 minute walk from the ground though so you will need to

allow time or catch a bus.

Leicester



The Counting House is the usual haunt for Leicester away (LE2 7LH). It has a good selection of drinks, serves food and is a 10 minute walk from the ground. Parking is available at nearby Leicester Rugby Club for £10 per car (LE2 7TR). The rugby club is a 5 minute walk from the Counting House and a 10 minute walk from the ground.

Man City



There are very few options near to the Etihad for away fans and the 'fan zone' bar at the ground does not admit away fans (drinks are available on the concourse though). Probably the best option is to park up near the ground and then take the tram in to the centre for a beer. The Bulls Head (M1 2PN) is a decent traditional pub situated opposite the Piccadilly tram line exit. Trams run from the Etihad to Piccadilly (and vice versa) every 6

minutes, take about 15 minutes and cost £3 return. There is plenty of match day parking near to the ground usually at about £10 a car (close to Bonnie's Café – M11 3EZ). Be careful of on street parking – signs can be hard to spot but fines are dished out!

Man Utd



For this fixture we usually park at the Lowry Outlet Shopping Mall. The cost is reasonable and it's not usually too much trouble getting away after the match. The car park is about a 15 minute walk from the ground. There are plenty of eating options at the mall but not too many decent drinking options near to Old Trafford that allow away fans. The Matchstick Man (M50 3WL) is a Hungry Horse which allows away fans and is about a 10 minute walk from Lowry Outlet and about 17

minutes from the ground. There is also a Beefeater attached to the Premier Inn at Salford Quays that serves away fans (M50 3SQ).

Middlesbrough



Doc Browns (TS1 2RR) is the usual watering hole of choice for WCB in Boro. A large bar, with a lively atmosphere before and after the game. There is parking nearby in France Street which is a 5 minute walk from the pub. The Riverside Stadium is a 13 minute walk from Doc Browns.

Southampton



dependant on length of stay – over 7 hours £8)

The Chapel Arms (SO14 5GB) is the preferred option for Southampton and is just an 8 minute walk from St Mary's. It's a traditional old pub which does not offer food on match days but there are numerous mobile outlets situated outside (bacon rolls, burgers, chips etc). Convenient parking can be found at College Street (SO14 3EJ) which is just a 10 minute walk to the Chapel Arms (chargeable Mon-Sat, price

Stoke



Harvester Trentham Lakes (ST4 8AD) is most convenient for Stoke away. There are few options close to the ground so we usually book a table to be assured space and good bar service! There is parking at the Harvester if you arrive early enough and cost can be refunded if you have a booking. The walk to the ground is less than 10 minutes but it can take some time to get away from the Harvester after the game due to the closures operated by police.

Sunderland



WCB tend to use the William Jameson Wetherspoons (SR1 1RH) for Sunderland away. It's about a 20 minute walk from the Stadium of Light. There isn't much parking near the stadium so best to find something in the centre – Sunnyside Multi Storey (SR1 1UL – accessed via William Street, off High Street West) is one option at £1.10 per hour. It's a 4 minute walk from the Wetherspoons.

Swansea



The Liberty Stadium has a Harvester (Morfa Parc) and a Frankie and Benny's directly opposite. Both often operate outside bars too in decent weather. On street free parking can be found if you arrive in good time on the Cwm Level Road, adjacent to the playing fields. Another option is the Landore Social Club (SA1 2LE) which is a 10 minute walk from the stadium, allows away fans and has parking on site (£4).

Tottenham



The usual plan for Spurs is to head to the Seven Sisters tube station and to gather in one of the nearby pubs. The Elbow Room on the High Road (N17 6QA) is one option that sits between the Seven Sisters and the ground and the Ship is another on the same stretch. The Elmhurst on Lordship Lane is another popular choice. For transport, trains and National Express are often convenient or if driving, we usually park at

Cockfosters tube and make our way to Seven Sisters from there (take the Piccadilly Line to Finsbury Park and then the Victoria Line to Seven Sisters – about 25 mins). Seven Sisters is about a 20 minute walk from White Hart Lane but is the closest underground option.

Watford



Another ground, another Wetherspoons! This time it's the Moon Under Water on Watford High Street (WD17 2BS). Standard Wetherspoons – a good range of booze and some pub grub available. Vicarage Road is a 12 minute walk away. In terms of transport, the pub is within easy distance of Watford Junction station (10 minute walk) or there is reasonable parking nearby (Gade Multi Storey on Rosslyn Road WD17 1NA is a good option at £1 per hour and a 5 minute

walk to the Moon Under Water)

West Bromwich Albion



The recent favourite for West Brom has been the Royal Oak on the A41 (171 Holyhead Road, B21 0BD). It's a traditional pub with a twist – it serves some great Indian match day grub. If you are there early enough then you can find free on street parking on Green Lane which is the first right turn after you pass the pub. The Hawthorns is a 10 minute walk from the pub.

West Ham

To be confirmed.