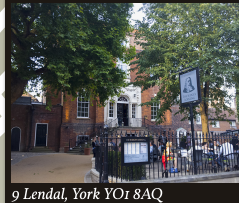


THE HAUNTED YORK PUB TOUR

2. The Judge's Lodgings



9 Lendal, York YO1 8AQ

1. Ye Olde Starre Inne



40 Stonegate, York YO1 8AS

6. The Snickleway Inn



47 Goodramgate, York YO1 7LS

5. Black Swan Inn



23 Peasholme Green, York YO1 7DE

8. Punch Bowl



7 Stonegate, York YO1 8AN

7. Old White Swan



80 Goodramgate, York YO1 7LF

4. Golden Fleece



16 Pavement, York YO1 9UP

3. Cock & Bottle



61 Skeldergate, York YO1 6DS



SOME NOTABLE HAUNTINGS OF YORK PUBS

1) The Screaming Cavaliers, The Lady on the Stairs & The Two Ghost Cats at Ye Olde Starre Inne

Ye Olde Starre Inne is another of York's oldest Pubs holding a continuous license since 1644. During the English Civil War the basement was used as a makeshift hospital for the defending Cavaliers after the siege of York. Treatment was brutal with no anesthetics and many men would have to have limbs amputated, their phantom screams are still heard to this day. A more benign spirits is that of the elderly lady who is seen slowly walking up the stairs, she is only usually seen by young children. The most bizarre phantoms of the pub are the two ghostly black cats that run and play around on the ground floor, many visitor has mistook them for living pets but when they go to stroke them all they feel is cold air.

2) The Judge's Victim at the Judge's Lodgings

Before Judge's was a Hotel & Bar it was residence to Legal Professionals visiting the City, in the 19th Century it was renowned for its hauntings with those visitors. One such report was of heavy footsteps outside the bedroom doors, abruptly stopping with a cry of "Henry". When the noise continued it was as if they had been injured or crippled in some way. The footsteps came up the stairs and straight through the closed door into the room followed by the noise of a struggle, a gurgling, choking cry and then a heavy thud. These continuing disturbances were generally put down to a young man who had apparently committed suicide, but rumour has it that he was actually murdered by his Uncle, a rich and influential judge, which was then covered up. The truth is still not known to this day.

3) The Dirty Duke, George Villiers 2nd Duke of Buckingham at the Cock & Bottle

One of the most haunted Pubs in York, the Cock & Bottle has played host to spectral footsteps, sounds of a door being broken down, sudden drops in temperature and a sense of great impending evil, but the most famous haunting is that of George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham from the late 17th Century. A landlady in the 1970s got a good look at the spectral figure and was able to identify him from a portrait as the local press looking into the history of the building identified that he had owned a workshop on the site of the pub. A close friend of Charles II he was notorious for his debauchery and philandering ways, he retired to York to work on all sorts of alchemy at his workshop and was even accused of witchcraft. He got the name of the Dirty Duke from his haunting, where he likes to watch women in the toilets or peep at the Landlady in the shower, so best to watch out for his wandering ghostly hands if you're a lady entering the Cock & Bottle.

4) The Seven Ghosts of the Golden Fleece

World renowned as the most haunted pub in Britain the Golden Fleece dates back to 1503. The most modern ghost is that of Monroe, a WWII Canadian Airforce man who while stationed locally during the War fell out of the first-floor window after larking about on a drunken night off and broke his neck. He stands in the bedroom dressed in full uniform gazing sadly out of the window from whence he fell. In the Bar downstairs there is the spectre of a young Victorian boy that was trampled to death by a horse, who also tries to pick the pockets of customers. He's joined by a 16th Century highwayman called 'One-Eyed Jack' who has been seen throughout the pub. Upstairs in the Minster Suite children crying can be heard. In the Shambles bedroom strange lights have been observed along with a dark figure sitting on the end of the bed. Objects are moved and dark shapes are seen throughout, especially in Catherine's Room where the Most Haunted TV show recorded ghostly laughs and a dark figure. Lady Peckett's room is haunted by the lady herself and she is often seen on the stairs too, the once owner of the building and wife of Sir John Peckett the Lord Mayor of York in 1702. In the downstairs Function Room a lady has also been seen running through a wall screaming as if being chased. These seven are just some of the most active though with up to 14 other spectres being reported over the years, including a ghostly dog who's remain were found buried in the floor, a grumpy man at the bar who disappears and Roman soldiers in the basement!

5) The Victorian Workman, The Pretty Girl by the Fire & The Spectral Legs on the Stairs at the Black Swan Inn

There are several ghosts at this impressive 15th Century timber framed pub, the most active being a rather short and plump Victorian workman sporting a bowler hat who sits impatiently in a corner of the main bar. The other being a young woman dressed in a long gown who stands by the fireplace gazing at the mantelpiece, with long blonde hair worn loose over her shoulders she has been remarked to be very pretty and seems to emit a white glow from her body. The most peculiar though is the spectral legs on the stairs, all that can be seen are trousers and boots clumping silently down to the ground floor.

6) The Happy Ghost Girl of the Snickleway Inn

Previously known for many centuries as The Anglers Arms the Snickleway Inn is host to one of York's most active ghosts. This takes the form of a girl aged about eight or nine, who trots up and down the staircase. Those that have encountered her say that she seems quite happy and cheerful.

7) The Jovial Gentlemen by the Fire at the Old White Swan

It is said that on a winters night when the old fireplace is lit that a group of four gentlemen in colourful waistcoats and riding breeches materialise grouped around the flames as if warming themselves after a long ride. Everyone who has seen them say that they are very jovial, laughing and joking and seem to be having a great time.

8) The Burnt Landlord & The Strangled Woman at The Punch Bowl

Parts of The Punch Bowl were built in 1675 but the mock tudor frontage is actually from the 1930s as it was rebuilt after a fire in which the Landlord was burnt alive, his spirit still wanders the building disappearing into the floor where the old cellar stairs used to be. Another ghost that frequents the pub is an 18th Century woman who allegedly was stangled by a drunk when she refused his advances, she runs from room to room trying to avoid him, reliving her last moments before she was caught.

Some stories edited & adapted from: Haunted York by Rupert Matthews

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