

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

## This report looks at the following areas:

- How the rising cost of living will impact the pub industry
- · Recent activity and innovation by leading players
- Reasons to visit pubs/bars and ways that operators can encourage consumers to visit more often
- How pub-goers are likely to respond to rising costs and what operators can do to mitigate the risks
- Behaviours and attitudes related to pub visiting

If faced with needing to save money, 55% of consumers say they would visit pubs less often, whereas only 24% would visit cheaper pubs. Consumers are still choosing to prioritise quality over quantity when visiting pubs, despite the rising cost of living.

The lowest earners are set to be disproportionately impacted as the cost-of-living crisis intensifies, as their disposable incomes are increasingly squeezed. 50% of those with a household income of £9,500-15,499 who do not visit pubs often or at all say this is due to them being too expensive, compared to only 34% of those with an income of £50,000-74,999. Pubs need to focus on attracting a wide range of consumers by offering mid-week discounts or drink deals where possible.

Competitive socialising has become progressively more popular, with 14% of consumers who do not visit pubs often or at all preferring other leisure experiences over visiting a pub, rising to 20% of Gen Zs. As a result, pubs will need to diversify their offerings in order to remain attractive – particularly for younger consumers who tend to drink less compared to their elders.

Pubs are increasingly diversifying their offerings in order to remain attractive to a wide variety of consumers. As energy bills soar, numerous pubs have started to advertise space and facilities for remote/hybrid workers, which often include lunch and unlimited hot and cold soft drinks. Additionally, pubs should



"The pub industry is recovering well from the extended implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, and is nearly back to its prepandemic value. The sector faces increased competition from competitive socialising venues, which continue to be popular – particularly amongst Gen Zs."

 Jennie Bryans, Leisure and Travel Analyst, November 2022

| Visit    | store.mintel.com     |
|----------|----------------------|
| EMEA     | +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 |
| Brazil   | 0800 095 9094        |
| Americas | +1 (312) 943 5250    |
| China    | +86 (21) 6032 7300   |
| APAC     | +61 (0) 2 8284 8100  |

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



look at promoting quieter events, such as life drawing classes or film nights, for those who find pubs too noisy.

## What's included

**Executive Summary** 

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

# Did you know?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market.

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

| Visit             | store.mintel.com                        |
|-------------------|---|
| EMEA              | +44 (0) 20 7606 4533                    |
| Brazil            | 0800 095 9094                           |
|                   |   |
| Americas          | +1 (312) 943 5250                       |
| Americas<br>China | +1 (312) 943 5250<br>+86 (21) 6032 7300 |

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



#### **Table of Contents**

### **OVERVIEW**

- Key issues covered in this Report
- Products covered in this Report

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The five-year outlook for the pub industry
 Figure 1: Category outlook, 2022-27

- The market
- Pub industry almost back to its pre-pandemic value
   Figure 2: UK pub industry market size, 2017-22
- Market set to fully recover from the pandemic by 2024
   Figure 3: Market forecast for pub visiting, 2017-27
- Companies and brands
- Pub numbers continue to decline

Figure 4: Selected leading pub operators in the UK, by outlet numbers, 2017-22

- Football World Cup initiatives
- Operators respond to the cost-of-living crisis
- BrewDog opens new flagship pub
- The consumer
- Pub visiting remains an essential pastime
   Figure 5: Pub/bar visiting to eat or drink, by time of day, 2022
- Visiting frequency remains slightly below pre-pandemic levels

Figure 6: Frequency of visiting pubs/bars to eat or drink, 2022

Socialising remains key pull factor

Figure 7: Pageons for going to pulp / he

Figure 7: Reasons for going to pubs/bars, 2022

- Opportunity to promote WFP
- Cost-of-living concerns move to the fore

Figure 8: Reasons for not visiting pubs/bars more often, 2022

- Competitive socialising remains a real threat to the pub industry
- Over half of consumers would visit pubs less to cut costs Figure 9: Strategies to save money at pubs/bars, 2022
- · Alcoholic drinks remain the favoured option...
- ...but non-alcoholic drink choices are rising in popularity
   Figure 10: Drink preferences at pubs/bars, 2022
- Pubs' entertainment services show greatest room for improvement

Figure 11: Satisfaction with key factors for pubs visited most often, 2022

Three quarters are keen for separate dining and bar areas

### What's included

**Executive Summary** 

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

# Did you know?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market.

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

| Visit    | store.mintel.com     |
|----------|----------------------|
| EMEA     | +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 |
| Brazil   | 0800 095 9094        |
| Americas | +1 (312) 943 5250    |
| China    | +86 (21) 6032 7300   |
| APAC     | +61 (0) 2 8284 8100  |

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



Figure 12: Attitudes towards pubs/bars, 2022

Pubs as community hubs

#### **ISSUES AND INSIGHTS**

- Pubs developing into multi-purpose venues
- Consumers still prioritising quality despite the cost-of-living crisis
- 2022 Football World Cup kicks-off

#### MARKET SIZE AND PERFORMANCE

Pub industry almost back to its pre-pandemic value

Figure 13: UK pub industry market size, 2017-22

#### **MARKET FORECAST**

The five-year outlook for the pub industry

Figure 14: Category outlook, 2022-27

Market to return to pre-pandemic levels by 2024

Figure 15: Market forecast for pub visiting, 2017-27

- Learnings from the last income squeeze
- Forecast methodology

#### **MARKET DRIVERS**

- Inflation is the key concern for consumers and brands...
- Rising energy bills of major concern for both consumers and businesses
- Consumers' financial wellbeing has fallen from the highs of 2021

Figure 16: Household financial wellbeing index, 2016-22

- Freeze on alcohol duty reversed
- 2022 Football World Cup kicks-off

#### PERFORMANCE OF SELECTED COMPANIES

Pub numbers continue to decline

Figure 17: Selected leading pub operators in the UK, by outlet numbers, 2017-22

Stonegate

Figure 18: Key financial data for Stonegate, 2018-21

Mitchells & Butlers

Figure 19: Key financial data for Mitchells & Butlers 2018-21

Greene King

Figure 20: Key financial data for Greene King, 2018-22

JD Wetherspoon

Figure 21: Key financial data for JD Wetherspoon, 2018-22

Fuller's

### What's included

**Executive Summary** 

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

# Did you know?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market.

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

| Visit    | store.mintel.com     |
|----------|----------------------|
| EMEA     | +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 |
| Brazil   | 0800 095 9094        |
| Americas | +1 (312) 943 5250    |
| China    | +86 (21) 6032 7300   |
| APAC     | +61 (0) 2 8284 8100  |

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



Figure 22: Key financial data for Fuller's, 2018-22

#### RECENT ACTIVITY AND INNOVATION

- Recent acquisitions
- Low-alcohol beer moves on draught
- Football World Cup initiatives
- · Operators respond to the cost-of-living crisis
- BrewDog opens new flagship pub
- · Pubs brands continue their charity efforts

#### FREQUENCY OF VISITING PUBS AND BARS

Pub visiting remains essential pastime
 Figure 23: Pub/bar visiting to eat or drink, by time of day,
 2022

· Higher earners more likely to visit pubs

Figure 24: Pub/bar visiting to eat or drink, by gender, age and household income, 2022

Visiting frequency remains slightly below pre-pandemic levels

Figure 25: Lunch deal offered at The Gable, Moorgate, October 2022

Figure 26: Frequency of visiting pubs/bars to eat or drink, 2022

#### **REASONS FOR VISITING PUBS/BARS**

- Socialising remains key pull factor
   Figure 27: Reasons for going to pubs/bars, 2022
- Men are more likely to visit pubs to watch sports and play games
- Women prefer to celebrate at the pub
   Figure 28: Reasons for going to pubs/bars, by gender, 2022
- Opportunity to promote WFP
- Pubs should promote weekday live entertainment

#### **REASONS FOR NOT VISITING PUBS/BARS**

· Cost-of-living concerns move to the fore

Figure 29: Life drawing activity offered at The Exhibit, October 2022

Figure 30: Reasons for not visiting pubs/bars more often, 2022

- Mingling events to boost confidence and footfall
- Competitive socialising remains a real threat to the pub industry

### What's included

**Executive Summary** 

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

# Did you know?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market.

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

| Visit    | store.mintel.com     |
|----------|----------------------|
| EMEA     | +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 |
| Brazil   | 0800 095 9094        |
| Americas | +1 (312) 943 5250    |
| China    | +86 (21) 6032 7300   |
| APAC     | +61 (0) 2 8284 8100  |

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



#### **COST-SAVING STRATEGIES AT PUBS/BARS**

- Over half of consumers would visit pubs less to cut costs Figure 31: Strategies to save money at pubs/bars, 2022
- · Pub visiting remains an ingrained part of city life...
- · ...but opportunity to upsell to villagers

Figure 32: Strategies to save money at pubs/bars, by area, 2022

#### **DRINK PREFERENCES AT PUBS/BARS**

- · Alcoholic drinks remain the favoured option...
- ...but non-alcoholic drink choices are rising in popularity
   Figure 33: Drink preferences at pubs/bars, 2022
- · Soft drinks more popular than non-alcoholic alternatives

#### SATISFACTION OF VISITING PUBS/BARS

- Eight in 10 are satisfied with their local pub
   Figure 34: Overall satisfaction with pub visited most often,
   2022
- Pubs' entertainment services show greatest room for improvement
- Price point of food and drink is deemed adequate
- Quality products and service levels are highly valued

Figure 35: Satisfaction with key factors for pubs visited most often, 2022

Figure 36: Key drivers of overall satisfaction with pubs, 2022

Figure 37: Overall satisfaction with pubs – Key driver output, 2022

#### ATTITUDES TOWARDS PUBS/BARS

- Three quarters are keen for separate dining and bar areas
   Figure 38: Attitudes towards pubs/bars, 2022
- Pubs as community hubs
- Localisation is key

# APPENDIX – DATA SOURCES, ABBREVIATIONS AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- Abbreviations
- Consumer research methodology

### APPENDIX: KEY DRIVER ANALYSIS

Methodology

Figure 39: Overall satisfaction with pub visiting – Key driver output, August 2022

Figure 40: Satisfaction with pub visiting, August 2022

### What's included

**Executive Summary** 

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

# Did you know?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market.

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

| Visit    | store.mintel.com     |
|----------|----------------------|
| EMEA     | +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 |
| Brazil   | 0800 095 9094        |
| Americas | +1 (312) 943 5250    |
| China    | +86 (21) 6032 7300   |
| APAC     | +61 (0) 2 8284 8100  |

MINTEL

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

#### APPENDIX: FORECAST METHODOLOGY

- Market forecast and prediction intervals
   Figure 41: Market forecast and prediction intervals for value sales in the pub industry, 2022–27
- Market drivers and assumptions
- Forecast methodology

## What's included

**Executive Summary** 

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

# Did you know?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market.

All Mintel 2020 reports contain specific COVID-19 related research and forecasts. The world's leading brands rely on Mintel reports for the most complete, objective and actionable market intelligence.

| Visit    | store.mintel.com     |
|----------|----------------------|
| EMEA     | +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 |
| Brazil   | 0800 095 9094        |
| Americas | +1 (312) 943 5250    |
| China    | +86 (21) 6032 7300   |
| APAC     | +61 (0) 2 8284 8100  |



# **About Mintel**

Mintel is the **expert in what consumers want and why.** As the world's leading market intelligence agency, our analysis of consumers, markets, product innovation and competitive landscapes provides a unique perspective on global and local economies. Since 1972, our predictive analytics and expert recommendations have enabled our clients to make better business decisions faster

Our purpose is to help businesses and people grow. To find out how we do that, visit mintel.com.