Beer World: Oslo

Beer hunter ADRIAN BELL continues his mission to encourage Darlington drinkers to look beyond the end of their pint glasses with his series on short-break destinations. Here he digs deep in his wallet ...

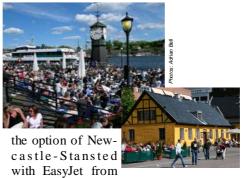
IRST LET me warn you that Oslo is very expensive. However with careful budgeting costs can be kept down. Restaurants are expensive; but at Punjab Tandoori and Tandoori Curry Corner, next door to each other on Grønland, a good curry can be had for £6.

As for beer, the micro-brewery Oslo **Mikrobryggeri** at Bogstadvn 6 is well worth visiting (open 3pm-1am). They brew a range of different styles from pils through to stout and most are priced at around £4.50. In Oslo beers are usually around £5 a pint.

Most of the bars on the main street are Irish bars, however better ones can be found. **Beer Palace** (www.beerpalace.no) in the Akker Brygge area (*photo top*) stocks a large range of Norwegian and international beers. Further out, just behind the palace, is **Lorry**, a bar/restaurant with a range of international beers and a beer garden. More pubs can be found on www.oslopubs.com.

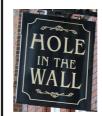
The main draw for visitors is Vigeland Park (www.museumsnett.no/vigelandmuseet) housing a strange collection of sculptures of the human form in impossible positions. Second has got to be Bygdøy Island, which houses several ship museums, and the Norsk Folkmuseum, a large open air collection of buildings from bygone days. Also worth visiting is the Holmenkollen Ski Jump, there is a good view from the top and you can take a ride in a simulator.

If you are quick you can fly Newcastle-Oslo for just over £30, however this route ends on 24th March. After that you have



£45 then Stansted-Oslo Torp with Ryanair from £40. Oslo Torp to Oslo by bus is a 1 hour 45 minute journey (www.torpekspressen.no, £20).

For a c c o m m o d a ti o n try www.msinnvik.no, a boat moored in the harbour (£35 single, £62 double), or www.perminalen.no, a central budget hotel popular with the young (£41 single, £57 double). Both are en-suite and provide a good buffet breakfast.



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