

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
PANNIER MARKET REPORT MARCH/APRIL 2025
DATE OF REPORT 11/04/2025**

PANNIER MARKET

1. General Update

- a) As we move into April, we are now operating the revised opening hours, which were first discussed at a trader meeting in June of last year, and based on the consultation and feedback from trader representatives, the decision was to extend the closing time to 4:30pm from April through to the end of September, please note this was our original opening time pre-Covid, then the closing time will remain at 4pm from October until the end of March. This has been received with varying opinions, to which we have asked trader representatives to monitor and give feedback at the next Town hall & Markets Consultative Group Meeting, however, these opening times are fixed for the duration of April 2025 to March 2026. Butchers Hall have also changed their closing time to 4:30pm to coincide with the Pannier Market.
- b) With Easter approaching, the school holidays have seen a noticeable increase in footfall, marginally helped by the favourable weather conditions. Good Friday will see an array of our regular Charter Market traders on Bedford Square, and on Easter Saturday we will be running our annual Easter Bonnet competition, with the Town Mayor judging his favourite top three. Please note, the Pannier Market will be closed for the Easter Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday.
- c) Discussions have continued in relation to VE Day celebrations on Thursday 08th May, with the event now having been created on Facebook, and the program of the itinerary is currently being drafted. From a Pannier Market perspective, the plan is to open until 7pm, allowing those that will be packing up enough time to clear down and get to the pimple for the lighting of the beacon. We will also be having a red, white and blue theme throughout the Market on the day.
- d) We were recently visited by an individual Councillor from Teignbridge District Council, who expressed interest in various aspects of how Tavistock Town Council manages its commercial properties, as well as the delivery of our market operations. The visitor was welcomed by the Mayor, followed by meetings with the Assistant to the Town Clerk and the Market Reeve. We have also since been approached by St Ives Town Council, who are keen to learn more about the operation of our market activities. Their visit is scheduled for June.

2. Bedford Square/Events

a) Miss Ivy Events Street Food dates for 2025 are as follows;

Saturday April 26th
Saturday May 24th
Saturday June 28th
Saturday July 26th
Saturday August 23rd

b) We are starting to see an increase in Bedford Square activity as we move further into the year, with the recent good weather encouraging some of the more fair-weather traders. And bookings are looking positive for 2025 with an abundance of activity and events planned.

c) Some dates of interest for Bedford Square for the next quarter are;
Saturday April 26th – Miss Ivy Street Food.

Sunday 4th May – Eat Festival (TTC Bedford Square Market)

Thursday 08th May – VE Day Celebrations.

Saturday May 24th – Miss Ivy Street Food.

Sunday & Monday 25th & 26th May – Tavistock Country Garden Show.

Saturday 21st June – Emergency Services Community Day.

Saturday 28th June – Miss Ivy Street Food.

Farmers Market Dates 2025

April – Saturday 19th
May – Saturday 10th & 24th
June – Saturday 14th & 28th
July – Saturday 12th & 26th
August – Saturday 09th & 23rd
September – Saturday 13th & 27th
October – Saturday 11th & 25th
November – Saturday 08th & 22nd
December – Saturday 13th

www.tavistockfarmersmarket.com
info@tavistockfarmersmarket.com

3. TripAdvisor/Google Reviews 2025

Rated 5 Stars 11 hours ago
NEW

Lots of stalls undercover surrounded by cafes and independent shops. Great for unique gifts, food and vintage stores. Lots of choice of places to eat and Tavistock is full of history so a great day out

**Rated 5 Stars a day ago
NEW**

A great day out of your not busy and a great place to buy some interesting things. My daughter bought a new handbag. The leather shop does great quality at a good price.

If you can find the days they run Craft stalls as well as the usual selection on services and products, it will add to your day.

As a family we go the Markets once a month. Normally linked to the Farmers Market outside the Town Hall. Today we nice. Had a few chats with stall holders and talked with some of the Artists selling their work. Another nice visit.

PS - We just visited Tavistock Market today - April 2025. Lots of nice stalls by the town hall. And as always, the market was busy and a fun place to be. It was good to see new stalls with interesting products and stall holders.

**Rated 5 Stars 2 days ago
NEW**

Love the range of goods, the friendly traders, the atmosphere- everything. We live over an hour away, but try and get there every 4-6 weeks.

Advertising/Marketing

We are currently in the process of revamping our promotional advertising, focusing on two key elements: the introduction of new opening times from 1st April, and the promotion of the Market as Britain's Best Large Indoor Market.

In addition, we will be producing new signage in and around the Market Complex that reflects these key messages. We are also exploring options for updating the signage on the various exterior gates to the market. The current signage is somewhat outdated, and we are looking to install new signs that more effectively direct visitors to the Market Complex as a whole. This will include consideration of how to incorporate the perimeter shops into the updated signage. This topic was also discussed at the most recent Consultative Group Meeting.

Tavistock Country Garden Show 2025

2025 marks the 20th anniversary of the Tavistock Country Garden Show, formerly known as the Garden Festival. Over the years, the event has evolved significantly, expanding into more of our commercial areas. This year, the Market Interior will feature numerous nurseries and show gardens, with five already booked, ensuring a great turnout. The Market Perimeter will also showcase an abundance of garden-related stalls, while Bedford Square will host a diverse range of businesses and community-related pitches. The Guildhall car park will accommodate the refreshment

and entertainment area, alongside a few craft related stalls. Once again, Butchers Hall will feature a nature-inspired market.

We have now designed and had printed all of the promotional material for the Country Show, including flyers, posters and banners, so we will now start to push the event, which will include Social Media sites and local forums.

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