Lumina Intelligence

2025

UK Pubs & Bars Market Report

Brochure



Report Introduction

The Lumina Intelligence UK Pub & Bar Market Report 2025 is the definitive, data-led overview of the UK pub and bar market.

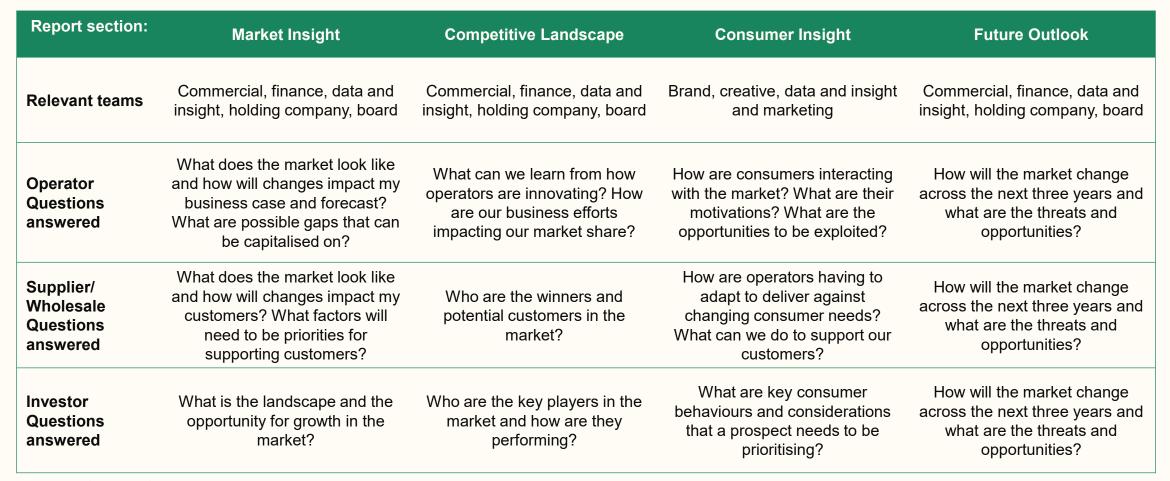
Featuring market sizing with value and outlet forecasts to 2028, up-to-date consumer insight, and in-depth analysis of a shifting competitive landscape, this report pinpoints key trends, performance benchmarks, and emerging opportunities. It is an essential source of intelligence for suppliers, operators, service providers, and investors.

This comprehensive report equips readers to understand the evolving shape of the market, highlighting where growth is occurring and where challenges remain. It supports commercial and category decision-making by focusing on the most influential dynamics across the pub and bar channel.

Key themes in 2025 include accelerated investment into community and premium-led pub formats, the scaling of hybrid and accommodation-led models, and a sector-wide drive for operational efficiency. Amid rising costs, confirmed April 2025 business rates relief reductions, and inflation forecast at 3.4%, loyalty, technology integration, and format innovation stand out as critical levers for sustainable growth.



How to use this report



Source: Lumina Intelligence, August 2025



Sample Slides



PESTEL Analysis: Pubs & Bars Market



Political

Autumn Budget: Increased NICs, NWL & reduced business rates relief

Post-Brexit impact on supply chains & skilled labour

Geopolitical tensions & potential global trade disruptions due to US tariffs

Tightened stance on immigration



Economic

Cost-of-living crisis High inflation (2.8%)

rising operational cost (energy & labour) impact profitability

Increased minimum wage supports consumers but strains operators – job cuts

Market consolidatio and increased M&A activity driven by PE interest



Social

Consumers are increasingly quality-led & health conscious

Rising sober curiosity drives demand for low/no alcohol

Shift away from latenight towards earlier, low tempo occasions

Return-to-office mandates could boost urban footfall and after-work trade



Technological

Advancements in AI and automation driving operational efficiencies

Increased digital integration: kiosks/apps/CRM/table ordering/back of house

Data-driven marketing and personalisation

Social media platforms like TikTok are influencing food trends & brand engagement



Environmental

Growing demand for supply chain transparency and locally sourced produce

Rising energy costs push operators towards greener practices

Food waste reduction strategies reduce costs

EPR fees shift cost of packaging waste management onto producers



Legal

Changes to alcohol duty: draught relief and tax increase on non-draught alcohol

Tourism tax

London's 'After Dark' strategy – may extend pub trading hours in nightlife zones

Potential late-night levy

Source: Lumina Intelligence, June 2025

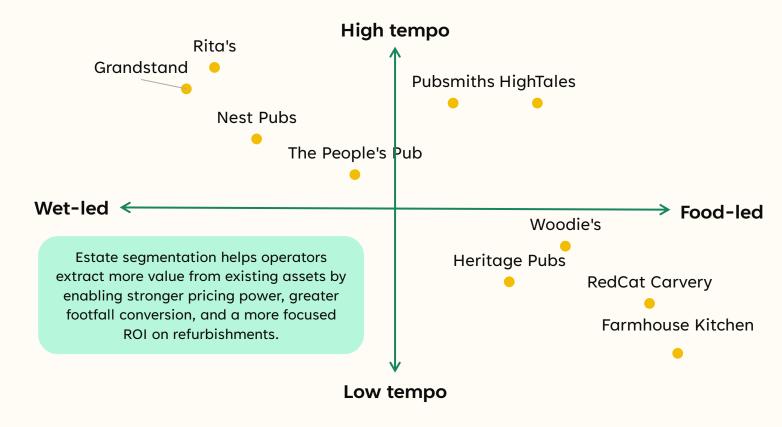


Leading pub groups are diversifying formats and exploring new concepts

Operators including **Stonegate**, **Greene King** and **Marston's** are accelerating investment in new managed pub concepts in response to rising consumer selectivity and cost pressures.

As consumer missions diversify, one-size-fitsall models are being replaced with targeted, format-led strategies. This enables sharper proposition alignment, clearer brand differentiation, and stronger guest loyalty supporting both margin protection and growth in a highly competitive and cautious market.

New pub concept positioning by tempo and proposition focus



Source: Morning Advertiser, Stonegate, Marston's, Greene King, RedCat, Lumina Intelligence, July 2025



Pubcos prioritise loyalty integration

Major UK pub companies are increasingly investing in loyalty schemes. Greene King, Heartwood, Fuller's, Butcombe, and Stonegate are all trialling or expanding app-based programmes offering discounts, gamified rewards, and personalised offers.

Luming Comment:

Loyalty is becoming a key growth lever and marketing tool, with operators aiming to boost customer retention and collect valuable behavioural data. Pubcos developing loyalty schemes

 Developing its first app-based loyalty scheme offering discounts on food, drink, and accommodation.

Greene King



 Invested £2mn in an app featuring gamified rewards like "spin to win" free pints.

Stonegate



 Offers 20% off drinks on Fridays and free pints via beer clubs; loyalty accounted for 22% of Q1 sales.

Butcombe Group



 Rolling out a two-tier loyalty app focusing on personalisation

Heartwood Collection



 Piloting loyalty across 30 pubs with personalised rewards like two-for-one meals or premium wine.

Fuller's



 Investing £180K in its Pub Perks loyalty card scheme for JAT operators. Led to 85% weekly repeat usage & increased spend during bonus hours

Star Pubs & Bars



Source: The Financial Times, MCA, Lumina Intelligence, July 2025



Gen Z's 'sober' stereotype is changing

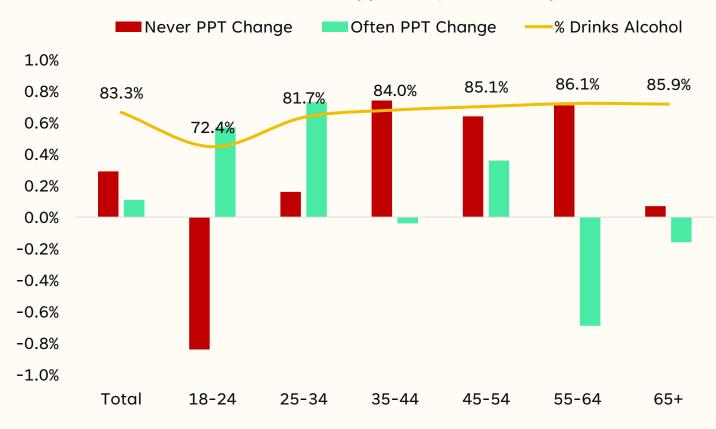
The conventional story is that Gen Z drinks less than older generations, and that alcohol consumption is on the decline.

While 18–24s are still less likely to drink than older groups, the past year has seen a clear shift: more young adults now drink 'often' or 'sometimes', with fewer opting out entirely.

This change is likely fuelled by improving finances and more tailored offerings that speak directly to their tastes.

Gen Z discovers thirst for booze as incomes rise – data Grocer

% Drinks Alcohol and ppt change – Total Population



Source: Lumina Intelligence Eating and Drinking Out Panel, data collected 52WE 09.06.2024 and 52WE 08.06.2025, The Grocer

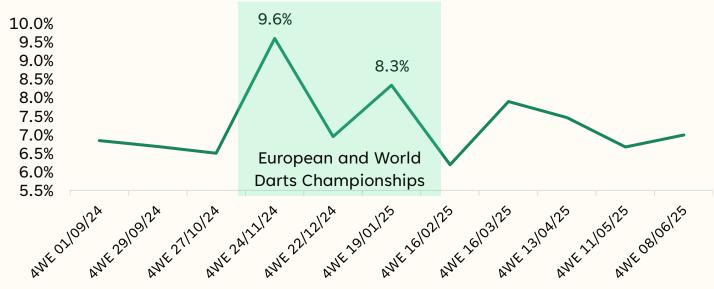


Niche sports create an opportunity for pubs

Pubs should explore sporting opportunities outside traditional men's football due to growing popularity and engagement with women's sport and more niche sport, including darts. Sky sports data highlights the growing engagement in darts, with Luke Littler's victory at the world championships, the second most watched non-football sporting event on sky sports ever. Pubs visits for watching sport peaked during the European and World Darts championships, indicating the opportunities outside football. Martston's capitalised on this and launched the 'Cool Hand Cup' - a nationwide darts competition in over 700 pubs, where customers compete for a chance to face world No. 1 Luke Humphries – and win a grand prize of £5,000.



Share of pub visits for the purpose of watching sports





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Risks related to cost pressures and outlet contraction

Strategic themes shaping the next chapter for pubs



Methodology



Eating & Drinking Out Panel

Lumina Intelligence's UK Eating & Drinking Out Panel tracks the behaviour of 1,500 nationally-representative consumers each week, building up to a sample of 78,000 every year, across all eating out channels and dayparts (including snacking)

2020-2025

Market Sizing & Operator Data Index

Market sizing data tracking the performance of hospitality and grocery operators, based on turnover and outlet numbers

Extracts from Operator Data Index and wider synthesis with total Eating Out market sizing

Lumina Intelligence Operator
Data Index tracks and forecasts
outlet and turnover information
for over 400 brands across the
eating out market

2018-2028F

Secondary external sources

Lumina Intelligence also uses external sources including desk research, ONS, GFK Consumer Confidence Index and EY Item Club economic indicators

Source: Lumina Intelligence, August 2025



Report Details



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£3,250

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Corporate Access

Lumina Intelligence

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