

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
PANNIER MARKET REPORT JANUARY 2025
DATE OF REPORT 22/01/25**

PANNIER MARKET

1. General Update

- a) Following a highly successful promotional campaign, the Pannier Market is proud to announce that it has been selected for the top ten shortlist for the NABMA (National Association of British Market Authorities) Award for Britain's Best Loved Market. This recognition was based on a public voting system, and reaching the top ten is already a significant achievement.

The winner will be announced at the NABMA Conference on Thursday, 30th January. The Market Reeve and General Manager will be attending the event on behalf of the market.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who took the time to vote for the Market and to all the Traders and customers who make it such a special place to shop and visit. We are hopeful for a positive result and look forward to the announcement.

- b) With the New Year now upon us, the market is experiencing several changes concerning the relocation of certain pitches. A number of adjustments will see some five-day pitches transitioning to day trader positions, reflecting the ongoing adjustments to market demand. Concurrently, some traders are seeking to secure more permanent positions, transitioning from day traders to five-day traders. Such changes are not unusual at this time of year, as the market typically experiences a natural reduction in footfall following the festive period.

However, this decline in traffic is somewhat mitigated by the Winter reduction rate currently in effect, which offers a £1 discount per allocated table space.

These changes are part of the market's seasonal adjustments, aimed at accommodating the varying needs of traders while maintaining optimal use of space and resources.

- c) Following early discussions with the relevant stakeholders, it was agreed that the Pannier Market would happily support the activities for VE Day celebrations on Thursday 08th May, early ideas are to have a red, white and blue theme as well as decorating the market in some of the official merchandise. It was also discussed that the Market would stay open later to coincide with the celebrations, more detail will follow once we know more logistics of the planned activities.
- d) Discussions have taken place with the Market Reeve and the BID Manager, with a key focus on how we continue the operation/delivery of the Friday Charter Market for 2025. In early talks, we discussed the idea of delivering seasonal extended markets with the addition of, extra stalls, music/ entertainment. We will still be running the Charter on a weekly basis throughout the year, however January and February will be a much reduced offer due to the reduction in footfall and also the weather.

2. Bedford Square/Events

- a) With the return next year of the ever-popular Street Food events, the 2025 dates are now confirmed as;

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

- b) After a busy festive period on Bedford Square, January tends to be fairly quiet, with many of the regulars taking the opportunity to have a short break, however some have continued to trade even in this historical quieter period. 2025 is already looking positive in relation to bookings, with many enquiries coming in for an array of different activities including, an emergency services open day, West Devon Crafters day to name a few, as well planning a relevant themed Bedford Square market during this year's Eat Festival, who have decided not to utilise the Square this year and instead focus on the main Highstreet, the main Pannier Market will also be open, this event is planned for Sunday 04th May.

Farmers Market Dates 2025

Recent communications have taken place with the elected chair of the Farmers Market, and it was agreed that TTC would continue to deliver all operational aspects of the bi-weekly market. They have also indicated that they plan to increase their footprint this year, so further

discussions will take place regarding tangible capacity levels and layout.

January – Saturday 11th & 25th
February – Saturday 08th & 22nd
March – Saturday 08th & 22nd
April – Saturday 12th & 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 2024

Rated 5 Stars a week ago NEW

Absolutely brilliant place, full of stalls with character and plenty of variety. Lovely atmosphere and friendly people all around. There's a cafe at one end if you need refreshments too. Great to wander round.

Rated 5 Stars 3 days ago NEW

Spacious, interesting, a wide variety of fascinating things for sale. Warm and friendly.

Rated 5 Stars 6 days ago NEW

Lovely place with cafés and lovely individual stalls. Nice place to mooch around and find something wonderful.

Rated 5 Stars a week ago NEW

Lovely old pannier market and dog friendly would definitely recommend a visit to anyone in the area

Ideal for That Special Gift

Rated 5 Stars Dec 2024 • Family

We were in Tavistock for a few hours and took advantage to visit the Pannier Market. Great array of different items - some specialist - that you do not find elsewhere. Plenty of options and ideal if you are looking for that Unique Gift. Toilets available and a Cafe within the Market serving Hot & Cold Food as well as Drinks. Ideal to spend a while wandering around and being undercover the weather won't spoil your visit.

4. Designated Premises Supervisor

The festive period saw an increase in bar led activity, with nothing to report from a licensing perspective.

Duane Carruthers
Market Reeve & Designated Premises Supervisor
Tavistock Town Council
duane.carruthers@tavistock.gov.uk