

Gulp! Reviews

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Yelp! Is quite likely the most well known site for restaurant reviews, and is one of the first places many people look to see if a local joint is decent or not. However, like many sites, it is open to basically anyone with an internet connection, and we all know what that leads to. What's even better is that so many people seem to think that their opinion has any real weight on the site outside of what really amounts to a number, so I think that adds that extra bit of flavor to the pretentious ramblings.

Let's start of with something that will go down easy, like White Castle:

<https://www.yelp.com/biz/white-castle-louisville-12?osq=white+castle>

Bersabed C.

4 STARS

Never tried one before.

Couldn't pass the opportunity. . I mean after all the trouble that Harold & Kumar went to eat a couple of them, I had to have one.. or 20

Fluffy.. feels like you are eating air.. no meat.. but hell how can you not eat 5, 10, 20 of them?

Pretty good.

Will be back

Tip. Try the bacon cheddar grilled chicken. Muy bueno

Tabitha S.

2 STARS

While traveling through Louisville we pulled off the interstate to use the bathroom and get all of us a milk shake/ice cream. There were about 3-4 people whom seemed to look like employees hanging out by the door smoking. We walked in and there was about 10 people in there. My fiance' walked up to the counter while I took the kids to the bathroom. We came out of the bathroom to see that my fiance was still standing there and NO ONE had even acknowledged him standing there yet. No "we will be right with you sir" or nothing. Like he had not been standing there for the last 5 minutes. Finally he says "Does anyone see me standing here?" The employees behind the counter all look at him and then look at each other and continue doing what they are doing. Nothing came out of their mouth or anything. So my fiance says "Anyone??" Two girls look at each other and continue about their business. RUDE! We said forget this and walked out. Wendys across the street had awesome customer service, smiles, and delish milkshakes and frostys.

I understand people get busy and they were working on other customers orders but to ignore a customer and pretend they are not there is rude. And maybe you should send you employees out to smoke if you are busy too.

Now, how about a Museum, like this one, the Museum of Psychiatry:

<https://www.yelp.com/biz/psychiatry-an-industry-of-death-los-angeles-2?ylist=scraping-the-bottom-of-the-barrel-hoffman-estates>

Jamie P.

5 STARS

Came here today for a field trip with my class. Last time I was here it was a few years back and I must say, this time was much more pleasant.

Our wonderful tour guide was Ashley and she's extremely knowledgable. Definitely made it a wonderful experience for our class.

At this museum, they cover the history of psychiatry and where it all began as well as what's happening present day. Such an educational experience indeed. I'm not going to go into too much detail because I suggest you come and experience it yourself :)

Admission is free and they have a small lot for parking.

Andy N.

3 STARS

Oh my... we actually made it here.

Two of my friends visiting California for the first time wanted to eat, drink, and see this museum, and that's exactly what we did. The museum was surprisingly cool, albeit very one-sided to the point that I felt almost guilty taking antibiotics (as I proceed to pop another pill... i kid).

Our initial tour guide was very welcoming and gave us the rundown of the museum: there would be exhibits and videos, and you could spend anywhere from five minutes to three hours inside. She also assured that nothing would pop out at us. Yep, that was exactly my fear with the jail cell door that you had to walk through in order to enter the museum.

I learned a lot going through actually! Although again, take everything with a grain of salt. The museum aesthetically was very solid and everything was there to make sure you cringed and hate medicine. There is definitely some mature content inside, so children of all ages are welcomed!

At the end, the workers will chat you up and ask you for feedback, reflections, and some donations for the museum. Just be persistent if you're genuinely not interested, but for the cool design of the museum, I'd say a buck is still worth it.

Definitely stop by just to say you went somewhere Tom Cruise would approve. Free parking is available on the sides.

Alex W.

1 STAR

Wow!!! This place really opened up my eyes to the insanity and corruption of psychiatry. I studied psychology in college and now I have to unlearn everything. I would get a lobotomy to do so but that was also spawned by the demons of psychiatry. Psychiatry is a big fat lie. It was responsible for everything from nazism, terrorism, autism, Kurt Cobain's death, my dog's separation anxiety, etc... but hey, the lady there told me I can join their Scientology cult and they will fix everything. For \$8000 a month. You should join too!

Effie L.

1 STAR

Propaganda at an all time high in this museum! The Church of Scientology is all over this place, including on brochures and on the movie credits. Apparently, psychiatrists are to blame for all people having mental illnesses, yes, this is what this museum wants you to believe. Plus, this museum does not think anyone who has a mental illness should be on any type of medication, they blame the medications for people having mental illnesses. Now, I never did speak or meet anyone in this museum who is a doctor, so for this museum to say they are fact based is beyond me. My family currently has someone in a mental facility who is on a 5250 hold due to being schizophrenic, without the medications, he would be hearing even more people talking to him in his head. I would definitely skip this museum, because they do not seem to understand that the brain is a living organ than can become ill, and medications are needed in the treatment for diseased brains.

After visiting the Museum, we'll need somewhere to stay somewhere for the night, so why not the Jack London Inn:

<https://www.yelp.com/biz/jack-london-inn-oakland-oakland>

Aldon B.

5 STARS

It's not so bad. It's funky. My room is totally renovated. It's quiet in the back. Fourth floor.

Seriously. Not so bad. And at seventy a night...c'mon!

Dogberry P.

1 STAR

Dangerous. Room on our floor had a sign from police saying it was a shut down meth lab. Smell of pot in room and meth cooking in the middle of the night somewhere else. Had to open windows because air conditioning broken. All night heard yelling and prostitutes. Should be condemned by city. Hotel sites such as Orbitz, etc. should not book this hotel. Do not stay here under any circumstances. Not safe. There is a respectable hotel with Jack London in the name nearby. Do not confuse this with that one.

Had to put a star to post review but would not award this hotel any stars.

John J.

1 STAR

Do not stay at this hotel. When we arrived our driver had trouble finding the hotel as the name on the front was only partially lit. There were street people hanging around the front and drug deals being transacted at the entrance to the hotel. One angry street person tried to follow us into the hotel. Scary. When we got to our floor we noticed a police sign that a meth lab had been exploded and the room had been cleaned but could not be used.. This is the filthiest hotel I have ever stayed at. A/C did not work. The noise coming from behind the hotel was very loud until 3:30 am.. There were major fights including a screaming prostitute who said she was going to kill her client if he did not pay her. The so called breakfast was a joke....left over bagels. Do not confuse this with the other Jack London hotel on the square.

CITY OF OAKLAND; YOU SHOULD CLOSE THIS HOTEL.

Okay, so now let's all go back to some food, with the Regal Cafe Pizzeria:

<https://www.yelp.com/biz/regal-cafe-pizzeria-boston-3>

Robby W.

1 STAR

How on earth does a Yelp Elite Squad member (and one who meticulously checks everything beforehand as a general rule) get taken by a sham pizza joint? Well, my friends, drinking all night til 2 AM and getting back to the hotel so piss drunk I figuratively had to have the front desk clerk order for me probably goes a long way in explaining my lack of due diligence.

I won't rehash everything that has been said before, as it seems this place has been on the receiving end of hatred from the Yelp locals in Boston for a number of years now. How they have managed to stay in business as long as they have is bewildering to me. I can't actually comment on the taste of my pizza and wings that I ordered as I never received them. They just waited around for a couple of hours til I passed out, and then rammed it to me. A similar tactic used by date rapists everywhere. I feel so violated.

I am half surprised you guys have not banded together and headed down there with torches and pitchforks in hand yet. After having to undergo the same ordeal as the rest of you when I was in town for business recently, that sounds like a hell of a good idea from my standpoint.

Now that would be a Yelp Elite Squad event I would love to see sponsored.

Jen J.

5 STARS

This 24 hr pizzeria would get 10 stars if Yelp let me.

The most abstract piece of art I've encountered.

Their pizza is abstract, there's no guarantee you'll get a circle.

The pricing is abstract, where a 12\$ pizza turns 100\$ real quick.

Their salad is abstract, a lettuce head chopped and thrown onto a canvas.

Your order is abstract, you might get half or a third of what you ordered.

Wow. Beautiful. Pizza to be admired, but not eaten.

Matt O.

1 STAR

Pizza had no taste whatsoever. The cat that stole rancid chicken from the trash wouldn't even eat it. Chicken fingers were disturbing visually and completely void of flavor. The cat wouldn't eat those either. What the hell am I going to feed the cat now?

He is dying

Help

And now, for our critic in residence, Michael "Nickname" P.:

https://www.yelp.com/user_details?userid=ygoRSK6huNDn5EU8tXGbVA

National Tax Preparation

5 STARS

Money and numbers and doing math and the IRS are all really scary prospects to me. As with anything else in my life that's uncomfortable, I do what any brave, noble Type-A personality would do... avoid it all together. Firmly the latter in the fight-or-flight situation and happy to be there.

Last year, having just started an LLC while juggling W2 and miscellaneous income, I had what I thought would be a tricky tax situation. I met M&C not in a stuffy office but in a coffeeshop in

my neighborhood. M&C answered all my annoying questions, gave me a crash course in accounting for tax purposes, and offered up pointers on how to best stay organized as well as suggested cloud-based solutions to help keep track of my business finances. The process was fast, we settled up easily at the table, and I was on my way with the biggest tax refund I've gotten yet for roughly \$100 less than all the other comparable service I've priced.

They not only did all the scary icky stuff that I hate, but also gave me piece of mind that it was done right (as well as let me know I wasn't a total dummy when it comes to taxes, which I appreciated).

Clifton Donut Shop

5 STARS

Listen... I gotta be real with you. I usually don't fuck with donuts. I mean, they're fine. Fried dough with greasy sugary stuff on top. Great, I wanted to expand my equator a bit anyway and try to rush in a little diabetes too.

BUT... my girlfriend brought these home one day. I was astounded. Very very light and airy inside, creamy and sweet on the outside. The best donut I've had in a long time, possibly ever (granted I've not made the pilgrimage to Portland, OR's Voodoo Donuts yet).

I stopped in today and had a pretty unique and delightful customer experience. This woman behind the counter, saturated with a sing-songy personality, is hands down the most persuasive suggestive seller I've encountered. I walked in for three French crullers (the afore7mentioned variety I recently tried). There were four total left in the case, so she turned toward me and said "no, you want four, yes? Take them all" as she delicately grabbed the tongs and added a fourth. OK, yes, I want four. As I walked toward the cash register: "you want donut holes too, yes?" No, I'm good! "Make it half dozen donuts, better deal." She grabbed the tongs. OK, yes, you're right, I guess I want donut holes. So now I hve a half dozen donuts, twice what I came in for, but guess what... I AIN'T MAD. It came to a total of \$3.80.

I will be back, but I'll need someone to help restrain me from a dozen. She's good like that, and I need to respect my body, which is my temple, and not fill it with too much ethereal sugary goodness.

Janik's Cafe

5 STARS

Caveat: this is a Pitchfork-style review with anecdotal evidence. I had a lot of time to think about this review while riding the bus today.

GOD, I HATE WICKER PARK!!!

When I first moved to Chicago, all my friends that live or have lived in the city told me that Wicker Park would fit my creative personality. Now, I have to sorta take that as an insult (not

really, but still, Wicker Park is as much of an artist's community as Six Flags). I wanted to make a web comic that encapsulates the Wicker Park experience. Each edition would be the same premise (inspired by, ya know, places like Earwax):

Customer walks in to order a sandwich...

Cust: Hi, could I get the California Club and a cup of soup please?

Server: *with obvious suggestion of severe ennui* uuuuuuuuugggggghhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh.... yeeeeeeeeeeaaaaaaah, I guess

Cust: Oh, um, gee, sorry to put you out. Can I pay today with my debit card?

Server: *even stronger boredom* uuuuuuuuugggggggghhhhhhhhh.... naaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhh, did you, uhhhhhhhhhhhhhh, read, uhhhhhhhhhhhhhh, the sign? Uhhh, sooo boooooored!

I've never seen people so painfully bored in my life. I've also never really experienced the inability to get good, no frills or surprises, food. I'm from the south, and we like food that keeps it simple, uses fresh ingredients, and is priced accordingly. I'm sorry, I'm just not into experimental, artisan-crafted, fusion dishes that are fun-sized and more satisfying to look at than eat (I'm looking at YOU, Las Palmas Restaurant, and your Mexican-French-Intergalactic Fusion Clusterf**k... just make me a quesadilla... Steely Dan Christ!). I enjoy fine food every now and again, but Jeebus, if I want art, I'll take the blue line to Monroe and visit the Art Institute. If I want a sandwich, I want bread, some stuff, cheese, and a satisfying side.

Janik's Cafe takes everything I hate about Wicker Park cuisine and inverses it... giving me a profound sense of hope again! I've eaten there twice this week!

Good, tasty food that's simple: timeless sandwiches, hearty salads, chunky soups, and even Mexican dishes and breakfast food (served all day). I had a warm Chicken Cesar sandwich today for \$4.75 that is still keeping me fat and happy at this very moment. You get an awesome, eclectic, but unpretentious meal, and when you throw down a 10 spot, you get change.

Plus, everybody employed there is more than happy to see you because they seem to care about their food and business and appreciate you spending your money there and enjoying the food. I'm a former server, so I know how to provide good service and also what to expect. And Janik's delivers.

It isn't hard - good, uncomplicated, wholesome food that's filling with a choice of different side dishes at a very fair price, coupled with smiles and an inviting atmosphere. I don't know why this concept is lost on the rest of Wicker Park and some of the surrounding area, but since Janik's is a rock in a sea of lameness, I will continue to make a special trip to Damen & Division for my favorite lunch in Chicago.

LaSalle Network

2 STARS

This place has been as helpful finding me a job as my pet rock. I'm surprised no one else has reviewed this place.

There is one person there (Ryan) who was always helpful and pleasant, but for the most part, it's been a lousy experience.

When you go in the first time, you fill out tons of forms, including an application that has all the information that your resume would have. Except that you have to fill it out in the event that "the resume becomes missing." Really, is this a concern?

It takes about 20 minutes to do the paperwork, then you take a battery of tests on their computer, usually over skills such as the Microsoft Office suite and your typing speed. This takes about an hour.

I did this in October the first time I came in. I never heard back from them concerning a job. I called again in January and had an interview scheduled. When I walked in, they had no idea I had an interview, and then made me take all the tests AGAIN. Even though I kept saying "I did all this already, you have the records," the front desk lady kept repeating "oh, don't worry, it doesn't take long."

After the hour of testing and paperwork, I was interviewed by one of the managers who apologized for the front desk lady messing up and making me take the test again. I told them that was okay, but that I kept telling her I'd already done these tests over and over again and she ignored me. She was totally dense. Vapid, even.

Then the second interviewer was completely condescending to me, telling me what it's like to work in the real work. She stereotyped me because I'm only 23, but I've worked hard my whole life and have managerial experience... which she would've known had she looked at my resume.

I've had much better experiences with other staffing agencies like Brill Street. So, long story short... LaSalle Network is great... for me to poop on!

Kingfish

1 STAR

Abysmal. Absolutely terrifying experience.

I'm new to Louisville, and wanted to take my girlfriend out for Valentine's Day. Since I'm broke, this is our, like, once-a-month venture out for food adventure. We both love seafood, wanted to eat somewhere that faced the river (for romantic purposes, you see), and were looking for

something relatively inexpensive. This sounded like the perfect place... and I was very unfairly punished for not having properly researched.

We get there, and it's dead. Beer signs and TVs everywhere. Totally not romantic. At all. The room is large and well-lit, like a cafeteria. We're sat in the middle of the room - dead center - with no one around us. Kinda weird, and you can't see the river at all since the beer signs and TV reflect too much glare on the windows.

Our waitress approaches us with a rather remarkable beehive and asks in annoyance "what do you want to drink?!" I get better service at Waffle House, dude. At this point, we're considering bolting, but whatever.

I got the Fish and Chips, and the chips were waffle fries that were microwavable, similar to the fries I would get in high school. Again, whatever, I'm hungry. But my girlfriend got the \$20 Crab Legs. Half of them were so overcooked and rubbery that they couldn't be cracked - and hence, she was unable to eat them. Having both been servers, neither of us felt comfortable talking to the manager, though we had a right to. I just paid the bill in full and wanted to go home to cook something myself that would be cheaper and infinitely better.

What really sealed the deal for us never returning to Kingfish though... according to our ticket, our servers name was "Judy Booty." Total Twin Peaks shit.

Oh, and Judy Booty picked up the check before we had left the table, with is a no-no in Chapter 1 of Serving 101.

I ended up calling the manager later to discuss our experience. She was professional with me and offered a free crab legs dinner on our next visit. Though I appreciate her gesture and attempt to correct the situation, I always found this a funny strategy. Hey, your food sucked, so we're gonna give you a coupon to get more of the shitty food for free. But that's probably as good of a solution as any - just ironic, I suppose. With Kingfish, though, my mantra, as demonstrated, is "whatever."

North End Cafe

1 STAR

Haha, ho-ly shit... let me tell you about my Friday night.

There is something supremely Twin Peaks/Twilight Zone about this place. As a friend of mine commented "it's like I keep waiting for something to happen but I don't know what."

Okay so, story time. We went here to watch a friend perform, as they have live entertainment occasionally. It was ironic that upon entering, the door guy who takes cover and marks your hand remarked that he "didn't know what he was doing." Shit man, he was like the only person that could adequately do his job that night.

I approached the bar, and since my cohort was hungry, asked if we could order some food there. The bartender replied "umm, no." "Oh okay, are you all still serving?" "Yes." "Okay, cool, so how would I go about ordering this food to eat?" "Let me ask." He proceeds to have a 2-3 minute huddle with some other staff - it was like watching a war room - and finally hands down the consensus: "have a seat and someone will be with you." Alright, that works... but of course, we waited quite a long time before a server greeted us. Again, a pretty forgivable offense usually, but the experience was already weird thus far and things were about to get hairier.

Finally an older man approached "you all doing drinks tonight?" "Actually we were hoping to see a menu." Then... homeboy GAPPED at me. Straight gaped, and then MUTTERED "muhurrr, guh, okay" to himself in a super annoyed fashion and slammed the menus down. What a fucking socially inept ass way to treat a table. The "muhurr" is the closest approximation I can conjure up to the sound he made at the request of seeing a menu. My bad for asking to see a menu at a restaurant, bro.

He returns, and then in a gruff and agitated tone, goes through the menu with us "we're out if this, this, this, this, this, this, this" - pointing at half the choices - "...um, but everything else we have I guess." Great! At this point, we are ready to get some quick food elsewhere and return to catch our friend. As we start to get up, another man (whom I assume is a manager) approaches to take our order. I tell him "I think we changed our mind about food for right now." "Oh were you not greeted? Did we not have the tapas you wanted? Did you not like the atmosphere?" He asked like 2 or 3 other questions before I was like "dude, it's cool, we just changed our minds!" I didn't want to stand there and complain about this restaurant's extreme awkwardness in public, adding to said awkwardness. We just wanted some food, and lol, I guess doing this is a difficult task at North End.

So we went next door to Twig and Leaf. In comparison, the service was great. Think about that. Sandwich was dope, too... buttered the bread and everything.

We return to catch the show, and against my better judgement, I decided to grab us some drinks. I order a bourbon and ginger ale and a Magic Hat on draft. We received a bourbon and coke, which at this point is totally fine, but of course then the beer keg blew. Again no big deal, so I order an Anchor Stream. Blew again. "Sorry man, all our kegs are blown." All of them? How does a bar blow out all its beer? So he asked "how about something in a bottle?" They were out of my first choice obviously and I think I eventually ended up with some gnarly like a Heineken or similarly shitty. By now I'm finding the whole situation hilarious because I recognize when a divine power is trolling me.

But wait, to quote Dan Savage, "it gets better."

Walking between the bar and where our friend was performing, I saw a table in the other room with a couple of my friends. As I turn the corner to approach them and say hello, I see the server sitting with them! The plot, she thickens!

Later, after our former server left, I went to say hello to my friends again, and asked if they knew the guy so I could decide whether it would be tactful to relate how totally uncomfortable and awkward he made us feel earlier.

My friend said "no, we don't know him personally..."

"...he came and sat with us because he's the owner."

MUHURR!

[Steve C.](#) wrote a **review** for [Redacted]

2 Stars

Disappointed with the Cha cha cha ramen which supposed to be a garlic lover's favorite, it failed me totally. Though the broth was very rich and flavorful, I couldn't hardly taste the garlic as promised, the noodle was chewy and curly with slices of tender char shiu and a soft boiled egg, this dish was just average. My lady's veggie ramen turned out to be like a bowl of salad piled on top of fine skinny noodles and in a flavorful soy based broth. The takoyaki we ordered on the side wasn't up to our liking neither, though crisp on the outside but mushy inside with junks of cut up tako(octopus), not a pleasant feeling when you try to swallow it.

Jamie L.

4 Stars

This lovely new bookstore is one of the best in the country, that I have found.

It moved from downtown to Capitol Hill a few years ago, and is tucked away on a side street, but it is well worth the trip.

I found a book I was looking for (but did not know I was looking for it) on the 'remainder' table upfront. I had special ordered a book, and found this treasure in 3 minutes while they were finding my order. It was the first Georges Simenon novel, one I had been too cheap to buy full price.

I work in a different wing of this industry, and I despair at most new bookstores. They are packed with fluff, like games and stationary (you know who I mean). This one has a very good coffee shop in the back, but the job of this store is to sell BOOKS.

I ordered an English Pliny the Younger's letters, they got it for me quickly, and when I came back 6 months later, the young man who ordered it for me remembered my order! The booksellers here

a quite professional and know their stuff.

The 'title selection' is very good, they are not like some of those cheap chains who only carry best sellers.

You can find obscure books here, that they have to curate for a while before they sell them.

I would give this place 5 stars but I heard the 4 star rankings sound "more sincere" and are read more.

Go here, NOT online, keep books-stores alive, please.

If you live on Capitol Hill or are just visiting the area, like Downtown, and you love bookstores, check this one out.

John R

2 Stars

For the Cafe: They are piping in jazz music into the cafe now, pretty loud actually. I have to have my earphones in and up pretty loud to drown most of it out.

I used to come here quite a bit.. Liked that it was quiet, not now. Annoying. Hard to concentrate with bongos and horns playing loud... ;)

Don't think I'll be back.

Okay, I came back. The music is still loud and I have earphones in. At least it's not jazz today.

The Section Below I call: 'Seattle Hipsters Review Target:' - Taylor

Lily H

4 Stars

Target is a great boon for everyone, especially those who work or have to go through downtown on their way to work.

It is a good alternative to online amazon shopping, where I had been doing most of my shopping because I wanted to avoid the hassles of crowds downtown.

However, I need to warn others that the area is not necessarily very safe, even from other shoppers!

Wednesday evening I went down to Target to pick up a soundbar speaker. I found it on the shelf and brought it over to the check-out electronics counter on the third floor.

I was standing about 5 feet from (to the side and to the back of) a young neatly dressed African-American woman who was paying for something. She turned and walked away. In fact she almost walked into me. Instead of brushing past me, she started to yell at me, "WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE IN MY WAY?"

In a state of shock by this nastiness, I could only stammer, "You don't need to have to be so rude..." but she mumbled "You were in my way" and walked away.

(I'm sure if I had behaved that way towards her, she would have screamed in my face, or even smacked me, a racial minority like herself. As a person of color, I have the obligation to speak out against racism, whatever its color).

The store clerk witnessed the incident and was sympathetic, the other customers did not appear to take notice, which I think is typical of Seattle. Shop till you drop.

But something more than merchandise is being transacted: social dynamics (even if few shoppers are aware of or choose to admit it).

The experience left me shaken. Racism can upset even a simple shopping expedition.

I'm not so sure I want to continue shopping at Target, if it changes the way Westlake Plaza did only a few years after it opened and began to attract an aggressive crowd.

But I hope it doesn't, because having a Target downtown, one that is well lit and well organized, is so convenient.

Denise W.

3 Stars

This is the only Target I know of that the Bathroom is upstairs and not near the entrance. Went in to use the bathroom and there was already a long line up. At the same time, I ended up shopping at the place

Its a smaller version of the regular Target but again it is located near Pike Place Market. Good convenient location. Staff are friendly.

When I say small version of the regular Target this means things are limited. Not that much items for sale here.

Cara L.

3 Stars

Having a Downtown Seattle Target is one of the coolest things ever when you've never lived in a city with a downtown Target.

It's one of the first places I went to spend money when I moved here. Heck--I even remember taking a photo of it and sending it to my family to brag. And it's always nice to see that Targets carry familiar brands when you're in a new city you know nothing about.

Let's just split this review up into the good and the bad...

GOOD

- IT'S DOWNTOWN!
- Walkable
- Free 2 hour parking
- LEGOS! And they keep Minifigures series packs in stock!
- YOU CAN BUY LIQUOR HERE! (Which isn't a surprise unless you're from Ohio, like me)
- I haven't noticed a price difference here, despite the location
- It's a cool-looking Target
- The checkout folks are always the nicest
- Two checkout areas on the 1st and 2nd floors
- A decent selection of groceries
- BOMB hours.
- Service dog friendly = any dog you want to bring in. Haha.

BAD

- I know the smells of human excrement and "piddle" are typical of big-city-living, but it's pretty highly concentrated here. Which brings me to the next "bad"...

- Panhandlers are very aggressive at this location. Why? Tourists.
- And because this location is so heavily frequented by tourists, it almost seems like their selection is more catered towards that crowd. I'd rather have some of the things they don't carry in stock here than aisles of travel stuff.
- Speaking of selection, I used to not be able to go into a Target without leaving with clothes, shoes, accessories, etc. Not at this location. This Target is always out of my size and the way the dept. is set up makes you not even want to bother looking. The womens clothing section messy, picked through leftovers that are crammed in so tightly it's stressful to find things. Different styles stacked on top of each other hide many items you'll likely miss. Not a fun time.
- In general, I don't depend on this Target having anything I need in stock. And yes, the inventory and stock is lacking here overall.
- It's always busy, but you'll have that
- I mentioned that the grocery selection is decent. However, it's almost more of a pain when you have ALMOST everything. I can go to Target to get 85% of my groceries, but then I have to make an extra stop somewhere that has a deli so I can get non-pre-packaged lunch meat. I'd rather it be all or nothing.

Overall, it's cool to have a Target so close and downtown. However, I don't get that same "I want to linger here, look at everything and buy all the things I don't need" feeling that Target usually gives me. When I'm here, I just want to leave ASAP.

Sheri F.

4 Stars

This Target (tar-jay, as we all pronounce it, ha ha!) is freaking huge! Three stories tall with a full grocery store and all the goodies Target is known for, I came in for the first time yesterday and wanted to shop all day.

Found out that there's parking here - hallelujah! Big, big deal in this area downtown where parking is a pain in the butt.

Since there's so much more square footage, they sell a lot more items than the regular Targets I've been to like higher end decor and home goods. Saw this amazing lamp with a real marble base and copper shade for \$50 that I was drooling over.

Don't get confused like we did on the escalators. If you are on the third floor, the escalators will take you down to the first floor on the south side when you went up on the north side. You'll just have to walk back to the other side of the building.

Lines were really long, so I'd come back at a time during a weekday to avoid the crowd.

Jon L

3 Stars

Being a suburbanite, I have to say CityTarget is not as great as the Target locations that we have on the Eastside. The selection here is smaller and the prices are a bit higher because it is in downtown Seattle. If this was not downtown Seattle, this would be a 2 star place.

However you must consider the location. It is just a few steps away from Pike Place Market which makes this location good for tourists and townies alike to buy random goods. Snacks, sunblock and everything in between.

The layout here is somewhat like the Northgate location as it is tri-level and they have an escalator which moves your cart up or down as you shop each floor. Grocery items and a Starbucks are on the ground floor. Women's clothing, cleaning products, health/beauty items and the pharmacy on the second floor. And electronics, sporting goods, men's clothing and housewares on the third floor.

Everything here is thought up to consider the needs and location of this store. As a result, product sizes offered in the store are smaller than the usual. As this Target is in Seattle, this location does not offer any plastic bags due to the ban. You can however get paper bags for a nickel each.

With numerous Target locations to choose from on the Eastside, I won't shop at CityTarget unless I am downtown and need to pick a random item. However, it is worth a visit for tourists and urban dwellers because there isn't a store downtown that is as comprehensive.

Tan Lo S

4 Stars

This obsession with Target was dying down until City Target came to Seattle, hahahaha. I can't get enough, and I don't know WTH makes Target so damn appealing but damn it, I won't fight this urgent love any longer! The long awaited opening as arrived--well unofficially that is.

Their soft pre-grand opening happened Wednesday I believe. Thankfully, I was off so here I was, wandering through the beautiful bulls eye shop. I love how skinny the feel of target it is. It's not a huge whole store--it's a "city target"--meant for people on the go, quick stops, quick pick-me-ups, etc... and I think this store does justice.

Everything is so neatly and beautifully aligned, with a great color scheme and floor plan. The very first floor is groceries, and I can't remember what is on the 2nd and 3rd... I know the top has electronics, I think music, books, bedding, while the 2nd (main floor, I think) has make up, school, cleaning, etc.

I think the check out lines may seem troublesome in the future. YES, I bet you anything there will be long lines soon enough with their small area for a check out (but is nicely arranged at the exit).

I think people were SO nice & friendly and definitely made CT a GREAt place to be at for this pre-grand opening. So far, I like it. It's like I'm in love all over again-- with Target hahaha!

PS. I heard their lot fits 185 cars? More or less & is free the 1st hour w/ a \$20 purchase. Ehhhh.

Cherise F.

4 Stars

CityTarget is a new concept for the company. Seattle is one of the few locations across the country to have one, which is awesome in itself.

This store is urban chic. It has three stories complete with elevators, escalators, and cart escalators. It has a parking garage (an expensive \$10/hour but is free for 1 hour if you spend more than \$20). The location, on 2nd and Pike/Union, is central to bus lines and the light rail. This is a great addition to downtown Seattle and was definitely needed.

This Target is a bit smaller and some things are more expensive but still has a good selection of items and a pharmacy. I was a bit disappointed to see that their tiny cosmetics department didn't include Physician's Formula products, but oh well. Groceries and health and beauty products are a great value at Target, especially compared to other downtown stores.

Like every Seattle retail store, paper bags cost an additional nickel each. Help the environment and remember to bring your own reusable bags or make sure to recycle those paper bags.

Thus Endeth the Seattlites versus Target section

Candice G

3 Stars

My roommate thinks I project my feelings onto one of my cats... which is the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard because my cat's favorite movie is 'The Bodyguard' starring Whitney Houston and Kevin Costner and I've never even seen that movie.

This information, though useless to most, is relevant to this review because while this store does not carry cat items or allow even cats inside the store, I actually came here for my cat who has a deep emotional & physical connection to plastic bags from Nordstrom Rack. What better gift to bring back for him than a big, brand new, pristine plastic bag from the "Flagship Nordstrom Rack", as we (my roommate & I, not my cat) jokingly referred to it.

This is probably more because this NR is below ground level, but it felt a lot more like a Filene's Basement circa 2004 than a modern day Nordstrom Rack in its hometown. I was certainly hoping for more and was a little disappointed with the size, display, and overall selection of this Nordstrom Rack. The whole store is a smidge more cramped and chaotic than I can deal with.

I tried really hard to find something worthy of buying to get a big plastic shopping bag, but my wallet just wasn't having it. Even the make-up section was a little lackluster and not worth waiting in the infamous Nordstrom Rack wrap-around lines for a single eyeliner.

My roommate ended up snagging a plastic bag from one of the bins underneath the non-register check-out stations and we got the heck out only to realize that pretty much every complimentary umbrella plastic bag that you find at the entrance of every store is the same kind of bag my cat

likes and we could have picked him up something from just about anywhere, but I felt good bringing him back a name brand (or off brand, I guess) plastic bag to lick to his heart's content.

Things People from Leeds, Yorkshire, England, UK hate.

The Corn Exchange is a shopping centre in Leeds City Centre, in the 19th century it was literally a commodity exchange, which eventually shut. Reopened a few different times as a shopping venue. But, people in the North complain about everything. -Taylor

Rowena H.

3 Stars

One of the greatest tragedies of Leeds shopping was the effectual closure of the Corn Exchange. This beautiful building was a bastion of independent unique shops, a favourite place to browse and buy for a vast amount of people, until a year or two ago.

Through the mixed management of Zurich Assurance and Central Retail, costs of renting the retail units soared and businesses were given 10 months notice of plans to make The Corn Exchange into a gourmet food emporium.

That was back in 2007 (or thereabouts). And we all gasped in horror; not only would we lose one of the most unique shopping experiences in Leeds, but we would be given a what, a food *cough* emporium?! Never was there a more ridiculous idea. Leeds already has some of the most delectable restaurants in the North, there was absolutely no need for a gourmet food emporium. We wanted our indie shops!

So the dark ages began. And funnily enough, for the last two plus years, The Corn Exchange has been almost permanently empty of both business and custom. My boyfriend and I went in not so long ago for a little look, and it was sad, empty - you could almost hear the tumble weed.

But, there is light at the end of the tunnel. (Or, the beautifully designed ceiling - designed specifically so that there was plenty of light to inspect the grain without causing a shadow.) Seemingly, having finally seen the error of their ways, the powers that be are now making it possible for those independent retailers to come back to their old haunts, Dawn Stretton, amongst others have now moved back in!

I imagine that this must have been considered rather carefully, after all - once bitten, twice shy, but if it means restoring this gorgeous heritage rich building to its former glory, then I am all for it. I can't possibly rate it any higher in its current state, but I will say - watch this space!

Qype User

5 Stars

Really good idea. Restaurant down stairs, shops on the other floors. Boutique shops. Bought a Banksy canvas for £20.

Check it out

Li F

2 Stars

The Corn Exchange. The Beloved Corn Exchange. What happened? Once upon a time you were so good. You were a jewel in the crown of this West Yorkshire City. You were packed to the brim, full of colour and life and quirk. You were an attraction, a paradox, a contrast, a metaphor. In your old and beautiful carcass you housed the contemporary, the alternative, the colourful and the unique. You were busy and full of custom and appreciation, and your sole purpose wasn't for that of photo opportunities from non locals to the area. What happened oh beloved Corn Exchange? Where did your soul go? And when the hell is it coming back? You were once the main attraction, and your walkways were jammed with locals and tourists alike, all clamouring to taste the depth of variety and niche you offered. Who decided to make you smell like food?

All drama aside, whatever happened to the Corn Exchange over recent years really is sacrilegious. When I first started shopping in Leeds I used to love visiting the Corn Exchange, distinguishable by its grand rotund architecture, topped off with the domed roof, and that was just the impression it made from the outside. Walking inside the glorious building was another matter altogether, the size and scale of the building really was breathtaking, and the only plus I can see from the massacre of all business within the Corn Exchange is the appreciation of the size, scale and craftsmanship of that beautiful building, especially the roof. Word on the grapevine is sense has been restored and businesses are slowly but surely returning to the Corn Exchange, however, I haven't seen any real movement in this area for a long long time. The restaurant on the lower level is the main attraction nowadays, which is both sad and depressing, as it just isn't meant to be like that. It's not a building for fine dining it's a building made for hustle and bustle and when it returns, we will all be happy. However in its current state, no matter how much I love this place, it cannot be rated above the two stars I begrudgingly bestow it. Hope aside, when the initiative is taken to restore this beauty to its former glory, I have my five stars waiting.

Douglas P

3 Stars

Prior to my much anticipated visit on 24th., i did a reccie yesterday at 3pm, to see how it had changed since my last visit a few years ago. It looks beautiful and was decorated for Christmas which was nice. I decided to have something to eat at the main restaurant but there was a rope across what i took to be the entrance so i wondered if it was still open. I hailed a passing waitress, sorry, waitperson, and said i wanted something light so could i get a sandwich. She looked at me as if i'd broken wind and told me if thats all i wanted i should go to the cafe and waved me away. Good start. I went to the cafe and went to the counter to order something and was told to sit down and a waitress would attend to me. I ordered a beef sandwich on brown bread and a pot of tea. It was lovely with lots of beef with salad and horseradish sauce with a little wispy side salad. The tea was ok but a bit weak. I asked the waitress, a little foreign person, what time the main restaurant closed and she said, 11 oclock. I said, so its not actually open for lunch and she said Keh?. i said is it not open all day and she said yes. I said, do you have to book, again Keh?. Do you have to make a reservation?. Oh yes especially at weekends. Glad i got that sorted out. I then asked her if the cafe made their own bread and she said, we have bread in the shop. I said, do you cook it yourseves, Keh? Do you bake it in the oven? She said, You

want olive bread? I wanted to ask a few more questions but i didnt want to miss Emmerdale. The sandwich was lovely but a tad expensive, the bill came to nearly 8 quid. I left a tip in the hope that the waitress might be saving up for English lessons. It was lovely to see so many interesting shops and i bet that on a busy day the atmosphere would be great. Two shops caught my eye, Get a better body and Dirty Girl. I wondered whether to get a better body first then go and get a dirty girl or, get a dirty girl first whereas i might need a better body, decisions decisions.

Done with the corn exchange.

Rowena H (Again)

3 Stars

So, after the burger incident, I came back here again. Not glutton for punishment, as such, but glutton for meat and it was about time that I got some dinner. My friend and I got seated really swiftly, but it was getting on for 10pm ish, and I have to say - I'm a fan of late night eating. Not enough places serve food beyond 10pm and I love nothing more than sitting sociably with beers and a plate of good grub late on. We used to do this often at Uni, and unfortunately I struggle to find late night bites that aren't £3 chicken burgers in Leeds town. (If you know of any, please send 'em my way.)

So, this time I did the right thing, and ordered the ribs. I did one of the combo meals, meaning I got the most humongous chicken wings to accompany my platter of flesh, and ordered just the one side - those fabulous smoky porky beans. Definitely the best side here, just overtaking the pickles. In spite of the fact the place was buzzing, and the staff rushed, we got our check really quickly. I was very tempted to order another shake, but knowing they come in pint milk bottles, I knew it'd be wasted. (Or at least half would!)

Taking in all the free smells available, I picked a sauce and got stuck in. Oh heavenly, succulent rib meat. It does just fall off the bone, and it's flipping addictive. The wings are cooked extremely well, and even though I favoured the pork over the wings, I did my best to demolish them. I'm not sure how best to actually finish a plate here - eat as quickly as possible before you feel full, or take the stamina approach and methodically endure bite by bite. Either way, I've not achieved finishing a plate here ever.

And so, the verdict is thus. I love the theme, and welcome the American style eating. It's not something I think any of us should indulge in on a regular basis, for obvious reasons, but it's certainly a real treat for anyone who loves enjoying good meat. I really like the chips here, and whilst that might not sound like an achievement, I'm sure it must be as so many places get them wrong. The sauces and glazing however have, after at least three visits, become cloying. I can't quite appreciate the difference in any of them, all being so sickly sweet, and so after about half an hour of eating I found myself desperate for a new taste. The initial rush of that rib taste just doesn't remain exciting for me, but that is just me.

So, with the sauces being rather samey, but the meat being really well cooked I'm on par and reckon it's definitely worth a visit for a treat, but I'll be spreading those out so I don't completely lose interest. I daren't try the burgers again, despite being well celebrated by trusted friends, as I

just can't afford the disappointment! Kudos to the excellent range of drinks though, and there's definitely enough on the menu to make each visit an indulgence in something new. We'll definitely be seeing each other again sometime...

Lee G

2 Stars

Having eaten here before with an average experience I thought I would give it another go as my lovely wife fancied a burger.

As far as the service went it was fantastic, we were greeted very well and the staff were attentive, knowledgeable of the menu and friendly exactly what you want.

Reds do offer a very wide selection of the BBQ based food and the smell that hits you as you walk in is a BBQ'ers dream. The beer selection is also very good however it is very expensive over £4.50 for a pint of Brooklyn Lager.

We I decided what we wanted, she got a Burger and Fries I built my selection of Baby Back Ribs, Beef Brisket and Sweet Potato Fries and when we ordered it was no more than 5 minutes and it was laid in front of us on trays. I like this little feature even if it is turning up everywhere.

The burger my wife got looked awesome stacked high with salad, melting cheese and a juicy meat slab in the middle Awesomeness!! My tray looked good but I was very disappointed with the meager portion beef brisket 2.5 pieces I received for £8.50 and the sweet potato fries had obviously been sat on the side a little while waiting for people to order them. The ribs were nice needed a bit more sauce over them and they were cooked a little too much (probably cooked and reheated judging by the 5 minute timescale of ordering to eating)

The food was average would recommend the burger over the rest it is the prices which really lets it down. I was well aware of what I was ordering and the cost of it all and would be happy to pay it with a better quality product. They should maybe not cook so much in advance, I am sure people would be happy to wait a little longer and get a better meal I know I would. And they need to up the portions a little bit paying £8.50 i expect a mini mound of Beef brisket not a mole hill.

Still better than meat liquor but falls behind Cattle grid for me.

Jo T

2 Stars

I only have one friend who will go to Wagamama with me. Similarly, I'm the only person she knows who will go to Wagamama with her - so whenever we meet up for lunch more often than not we end up going to Wagamama.

I've always liked Wagamama; I like the atmosphere, the staff are friendly and attentive, and eating the food makes me feel like I'm being healthier - as if eating noodles and vegetables once will cancel out those three pizzas I ate the previous week.

I'm a big fan of noodles. I'd even go so far as to say I was a "noodle enthusiast" if such a thing existed (I don't think it does), so I ordered the Yaki Udon and gyoza as a side dish. My friend ordered chicken tama rice and chilli squid as a side.

The chilli squid arrived first and was cooked to perfection. A lot of people don't like squid because of the texture (it can taste like rubber bands or old chewing gum if over-cooked). But I'm a big fan and I have to say, it really was delicious.

The gyoza arrived next and they were steamed dumplings from heaven. I don't even really know what gyoza are, but I would happily order four or five portions and instead of a main if it wasn't totally frowned upon.

Then my friend's chicken tama rice arrived - freshly steamed and colourful, I felt healthier just looking at it. So my friend and I chatted, and she told me how good the chicken tama rice was, and I guzzled some more gyoza and chilli squid, all the while looking over at the kitchen, hoping my Yaki Udon would show up soon.

Now, I know that the food is cooked freshly as to order and won't necessarily arrive at the same time as the other dishes, but my friend had nearly finished her chicken tama rice before my Yaki Udon emerged. When it finally arrived, it wasn't the steamy taste-fest I had anticipated.

Have you ever accidentally left a pan on a high heat for too long? And when you remember, you return to the pan to find it's a charred mess glued to the bottom of the pan? You know that whatever it was you were cooking (say, stir fried noodles with meat and vegetables) is ruined but you're hungry, so you attempt to salvage the burninated mess by sloshing half a bottle of oil into the pan and chiselling the mess out with a spatula and gloomily eating it even though it tastes horrible?

Well, I think that's what happened to my Yaki Udon. It was a greasy, charred mush. I was really disappointed. I've never had a bad experience at Wagamama, but I really felt like my main had been thrown in a wok and forgotten. The meat and prawns were burned on one side and the noodles were oily and slimy. Normally I plough through a plate of Yaki Udon, but I gave up once the indigestion set in.

In the evening I ordered a totally non-healthy pizza to make up for the lunchtime sadness.

I'm hoping that this was a one-off, and that the Yaki Udon will make a return to form next time. Or maybe I'll just order the chicken tama rice (or some other steam-tastic, nutritious-looking main) when I next make a trip to Wagamama. Or maybe I'll just order five plates of gyoza and try not to feel judged.

Tammy W

2 Stars

My first visit here was quite some time ago and i didn't no like it but it failed to exactly wine me over so when my friend suggested we meet for Monday night T, i agreed halfheartedly.

The restaurant was quiet when we went in (6.20pm) and we were seated right away. Our waiter said he'd be looking after us and even wrote his name on my friends place mat. We ordered a soda & lime & a lemonade which came fairly quickly- other than that- we didn't see him again!

The food is well presented into its various sections but that I'm afraid is where I lost interest. The 'salad' bar was very samey, the 'Indian' station wasn't manned, the pizza/pasta section has a queue, the server on the tepenyaki section barely understood english an the desserts were all a bit of a let down.

This is a total breakdown of what I tried-

Artichoke salad (nasty taste of burned onion)

Tomato & mozzarella salad (had clearly been left there a while as the tomato slices were dry!)

Mexican salad (mostly white cabbage & a very acidic dressing)

Olives (ok quality)

Vege spring rolls (almost cold)

Chicken & veg dim sum (hardly able to differentiate which was which & the outside was slimy)

Crispy chicken (never seen 'crispy' in its life!)

Sushi (fell apart as soon as I put my fork in)

Quesedilla (was pleasant enough)

Pepperoni & chicken tikka pizza (all dough, a very tart tom sauce and both cold)

Vege noodles cooked to order (although I'd specified 'spicy' they were bland and the veg was still cold)

passion fruit cheesecake (too sweet & no taste of the passion fruit)

Choc 'mud cake' (quite hard unless I ate with the hot choc sauce)

Melon & pineapple (nice enough- how could you get this wrong)

Creme brulee (not hard to mess this one up & it was OK)

So, I'd tried quite a lot and concluded this:

If you want to stuff your face with substandard barely warm but nicely presented food then this is your place.

Even after a 15% discount (with the Light elite card) the bill was still £13.94 each.

Far too expensive to pay & come away feeling all you've ate is rubbish!

Tyler B

1 Star

I don't really want to give another negative review it seems all I do nowadays is look down on things, but saying that here is another negative review.

Took my wife and 2 year old child here last week on Halloween we were seated rather quickly and a member of the friendly wait staff explained to us what we had to do and took our drink order. Sadly this was the last we saw of her and I guess that's normal but we had at least 6 other members of staff come clear our table and yet another member of staff give us our bill(more on that later).

Now the idea is simple- sit, order drinks, gorge, and then leave looks like heaven right???

We went for early dinner which was 13.99 which is by no means alot of money and 3 pounds for a coke which well lets face it if it doesn't have some liquor in it at the price then the least you can do it have refills which I didn't get any while we were there. Not to mention they charged 3 pounds for my daughters coke and it was half the size.

They have the buffet set up quite nicely as soon as you walked in they have your salad station and a severe lacking of veggie food but I eat meat so this didn't concern me much, then as you walk around the buffet area you are hit right in the face by the stunning looking but flavour lacking dessert buffet.

They have an Indian station which they will cook for you but you have to get their attention to get them to do so, so I left it and got some chicken Tandoori. Good, tasty, a little spicy so no complaints sadly I should have had just a plate of the wings because everything else was dry, flavourless and just plain not nice. Rubbery late night take away pizza, burgers that needed a lot of help, super greasy curry and a chili that i couldn't tell what meat was actually used in creating it. It just wasn't a good show they put on, the only redeeming part was a young man that came and talked to our daughter and handed her a bag of treats for Halloween.

Now onto the bill as stated above my buffet 13.99, my wife's 13.99, our cokes 6.00 and then the surprise our daughter which is 2 to which she had a few bites off our plates and a couple of swigs of her 3.00 coke, her buffet came to 6.50. She is 2 its not like she went up to the man cooking the Chinese food and asked for a big heaping plate of noodles she had maybe a few chips, and some jelly. To top it off they added gratuity to our bill which is fine as they do all the clearing up for you and we have no issues leaving a tip but it was 10 percent and I just don't know who the 10 percent went to. As stated above we have 6 members of wait staff help us and then a different member give us our bill, It was just all a bit random and I don't think I will be going back again.

Pinksys

3 Stars

I had a bad experience here yesterday. First, my shoelace came undone and it was too busy for me to stop anywhere and do it up so I had to walk dead stupid because my right shoe was falling off. I don't normally wear shoes I have to lace up, which was probably the issue really, cos I'd just bought some converse hi-tops and wanted to wear them in a bit and had forgotten that double knots are the way forward.

Anyhoo. Then I needed to pee. And finding the toilets was such a saga, with signs telling me to go upstairs (which I did), then to follow the concourse all the way round (which I did), and then

queue up at the parking machines (which I did), and then get in a lift. At this point I got so confused and didn't believe that I had to come up an escalator and then get in a lift and so I ended up finding new toilets in the Kirkgate Market bit, which weren't very nice because they smelled of poop.

I don't remember much else about Kirkgate Shopping Centre other than that it has an Argos and a Primark in it.

M N K

1 Star

I have been a regular customer for years until yesterday. I ordered pizza which wasn't ready on time, then staff made excuses blaming me for ringing up 10 minutes ago? rather than 30 mins ago as I had done, and said I would have to wait for pizza, however even though the chef who had my order according to him 10 mins ago, still refused to rectify the mistake and compounded it instead by taking his time to make the pizza. I asked for a refund and left after 15 mins, as they had no intention of serving me on time. I was fasting yesterday as I am today, and was 15 mins late opening my fast with my children due to their lack of customer service care. It is not the first time, this has happened, I gave them the benefit of the doubt the previous couple of times. They seem to employ a number of staff who can't speak a word of English and become thugs if you question their mistakes. I would not recommend this takeaway to anyone.

Justin R

2 Stars

I don't know what the designers and architects were smoking! This is Leeds a rainy northern city, not Dubai! There is no sand and sun! Why is this place so open? It's great in summer, but for the majority of days where the weather is crap you're gonna be exposed to the elements!! Yeah the rain won't fall, but it's gonna be mighty cold!

This place is a living hell to get around. It's packed full of teenagers loitering all over the place getting in the way, hoards of trendy looking giggling girls with Topshop and Urban Outfitters bags (probably from Harrogate or 'burbs in North Leeds) spending daddy's money, screaming babies, dudes in gangs who have come to laydee spot and look the biz for Saturday night.... I had to get myself together, run and go into a bar and have a Jack Daniels on the rocks to get over the whole ordeal. Then I thought 'screw this' and went home.

Why didn't they put something like the Oasis in Meadowhall (Sheffield) or something for kids, trendy posers and general obsessive consumer twats to loiter and hang around and pose in? Instead they're all stuck clogging up your path being annoying. Arndale in Manchester is annoying to get around, but at least that place is really spacey and warm and there are huge open spaces and lots of seats.

This place is SO poorly laid out. Those escalators are ass. Why is there only a few in the whole building? You're like a sardine rammed on em. Did they realise how many people this place would attract? It's easy to forget how to get out of the hole it's so poorly laid out. The toilets are

pretty spacey and decent for their purpose though. They're pretty clean and I hope in future they are well maintained.

I don't think it will take people who already shop in the independents out of them. I think these people are worrying too much. You won't be seeing Leeds look like Sheffield anytime soon. To me Trinity is just another soulless big glass container full of chain stores you'll find anywhere. If you aren't into chain store shopping you won't like this place. What is worrying is the amount of big retailers who are moving into this from their premises outside. This could have a real bad effect on small independent retailers.

By the way... TGI Fridays, Yo Sushi and Nandos all look like a living hell on weekends. I wouldn't even bother trying to get a seat if you don't wanna wait.

Oh I also don't get the big hype about a Leeds Apple Store. Their customer service is incredibly overrated. You only get good service if you pay for it with Apple.

Rachel D

2 Stars

So £350 million was spent on this place and they couldn't even put on some doors! I think it's a brilliant addition to Leeds but I don't understand why it is an outdoor mall? It's freezing!

The best thing about a shopping centre is that you are inside away from the elements. Not in here. It is open so you are pretty much outside and if you walk too close to the barrier upstairs you will get rained on.

I can't understand the logic behind this as this will definitely be a reason not to go. Who wants to have a meal with the risk of hyperthermia? Okay maybe slightly dramatic but I hate being cold.

Away from the lack of heat the shops are not very well signed and the toilets are impossible to find. On the plus side the security guards are really helpful and know where everything is.

I have to mention the horse that I find highly random balanced high up on a pole. The sculpture is brilliant but with it being suspended in the air all you see when you walk in is a giant horse's bum! Very odd.

Not my favourite place, I prefer to shop in the rest of Leeds but invest in some doors or a few heaters and maybe I will have a rethink.

Angelina S

2 Stars

I'm not a natural shopper. I can barely get through even one hour in the city centre without needing to sprint into the nearest public house and have a calming beer. Perhaps my brain has learned that agoraphobia = fine ale, triggering waves of unnecessary panic in the hopes of hoppy rewards. My dog has learned that squeaking violently at me more often than not results in a

tasty dried banana chip, and that's a woefully moronic small rodent. We are none of us immune to Pavlov it would seem.

So it was Wednesday, I'd had a beer and a brownie at The Reliance with the bearded one and I felt ready to take on the squawking multitudinous horde of shuffling consumptionists in Leeds City Centre, all in the hopes of finding a birthday present for a 30 year old hippy and her 8 year old son. Easypeasylemonsqueezy.

Except. No.

I had barely reached Primark when the prickling irritation of alternatively being held up at a snail's pace behind the 3 abreast DLA daytrippers and then sprinting through the throngs of cackling warpainted teens got too much. I'd bought nothing. I'd only been on Scope for 3.2 minutes and already I was hiding in a doorway phoning my mate to meet up for pint number two.

I decided the best approach after a lovely sojourn at The Swan would now be to dart into the nearest discount card shop then bolt into Trinity and finish the deed. Ha! I should be so lucky. The card dealy went fine, Trinity on the other hand was a lot like the film The Cube but without any of the excitement or anticipation....although you do need an idiot savant on hand to navigate all three featureless floors. I just couldn't find any spark of interest in there, all I wanted was a wee and some Lego (in no particular order) but the instant desire to leave the minute I stepped through the doors was overwhelming and I admit I pretty much gave up before I even started. There was just nothing suitably enticing that made me want to be there...and the toilets proved impossible to locate even with my attempts to gain directions from a feckless floor assistant as I became increasingly sweaty eyed. He didn't know either and the map was incomprehensible....and I say this with a Master's of Science Degree in Catchment Dynamics. Things you didn't know about me eh?

So I admit, I gave up. I can't get excited about seeing the same old chains in featureless white cubicles under a plexiglass dome. So I went to the market, had a glorious tinkle in their excellent bogs then bought everything I needed under one fine Victorian roof. Then I went back to The Reliance. Mission accomplish. Beer obtained. Urge to kill fading....fading...RISING...fading....gone.

Perhaps I am being unfair. Yes Trinity is exactly what it aims to be, a blank sterile space with lots of glass filled with the same shops you get everywhere in every city in every town....supported by the same chain restaurants....I was just so instantly bored it was hard to see the appeal.