# Rising Cost of Pint of Beer in the UK Sparks Concern Over Affordability



### Cost of a Pint of Beer Continues to Rise in the UK

The cost of a pint of beer in the UK has increased significantly, with the average price now standing at £5.17, up 23% from £4.21 in 2023, according to research by Finder. London remains the most expensive city for a pint, costing an average of £6.75, a 14% increase from last year.

Other cities with high average prices include Oxford (£5.69), Belfast (£5.48), and Brighton and Hove (£5.47). In contrast, Gloucester offers the least expensive pints at an average of £3.35.

The surge in prices can be attributed to several factors, including increased duty rates, rising staff and energy costs, and an exceptionally wet winter affecting grain production. This makes the average UK pint almost double the world average of £2.74, placing the UK as the ninth most expensive country for beer.

Politically, Labour leader Keir Starmer has suggested retaining the current beer duty freeze if elected, while the Conservative government has pledged to keep pub beer duty lower than supermarket rates.

Despite rising costs, regions like Hull (£3.61) and Northampton (£3.74) still offer more affordable options.

Emma McClarkin, chief executive of the British Beer and Pub Association, emphasized the need for fair taxation and a reformed business rates system to help manage the rising costs.

In summary, while enjoying a pint at a pub becomes more expensive across the UK, there are still variances based on location, highlighting significant regional cost differences.