

= Carrow Road =

Carrow Road is an association football stadium located in Norwich , Norfolk , England , and is the home of Norwich City Football Club . The stadium is located toward the east of the city , not far from Norwich railway station and the River Wensum .

The club originally played at Newmarket Road before moving to The Nest . When The Nest was deemed inadequate for the size of crowds it was attracting , the Carrow Road ground , named after the road on which it is located , was purpose @-@ built by Norwich City in just 82 days and opened on 31 August 1935 .

The stadium has been altered and upgraded several times during its history , notably following a fire that destroyed the old City Stand in 1984 . Having once accommodated standing supporters , the ground has been all @-@ seater since 1992 . The ground 's current capacity is 27 @, @ 244 , the most recent works being the addition of approximately 1 @, @ 000 seats in the summer of 2010 . The stadium 's record attendance since becoming an all @-@ seater ground is 27 @, @ 137 , set during a Premier League match versus Newcastle United on 2 April 2016 . In the days when fans could stand on terraces , Carrow Road saw a crowd of 43 @, @ 984 when hosting Leicester City for an FA Cup match in 1963 .

Carrow Road has also hosted under @-@ 21 international football and a number of concerts , including performances by Elton John and George Michael . The Carrow Road site includes catering facilities and a Holiday Inn hotel offering rooms with views of the pitch .

= = History = =

= = = Background = = =

Norwich City F.C. played at Newmarket Road from 1902 to 1908 , with a record attendance of 10 @, @ 366 in 1908 . Following a dispute over the conditions of renting Newmarket Road , the club moved to a new home in 1908 , a converted disused chalk pit in Rosary Road , Norwich . The new ground became known as The Nest , named for Norwich City 's nickname , " The Canaries " .

By the 1930s , the ground capacity was proving insufficient for the growing crowds : The Nest 's largest crowd was 25 @, @ 037 in the 1934 ? 35 FA Cup . The physical limitations of the site of The Nest meant that expansion was not possible , and there were safety problems with the existing structures . The club began looking for alternative accommodation in 1926 , their hand forced finally when one corner of the pitch subsided up to 30 feet after old chalk workings collapsed . An attempt to patch up the problem with railway sleepers and soil failed to impress The Football Association (FA) , who wrote to the club on 15 May 1935 , saying The Nest " was no longer suitable for large crowds and measures must be taken " .

The club 's dilemma was acute : the FA no longer approved of large crowds at The Nest , but the new season was just weeks away . About half a mile south of The Nest , they found a new site , the Boulton Paul Sports Ground in Carrow Road , which belonged to J. & J. Colman .

= = = Stadium 's name and initial construction history = = =

The new stadium took its name from the street which encloses the ground on three sides , the fourth boundary being the River Wensum . The name " Carrow " originally refers to the former Carrow Abbey that once stood on the riverside , its name in turn having possible Norse origins . In 1800 , John Ridges , owner of the Carrow Abbey Estate and the land opposite on the banks of the Wensum in Thorpe Hamlet , " granted permission for a proposed road access across his grounds to Carrow " . By 1811 , Philip M. Martineau , a surgeon , owned the building , lands and manor of Carrow , including the adjacent Thorpe land . Carrow Hill Road was created on his Carrow Abbey Estate , to provide work for the poor in the community . The road linked Martineau 's Bracondale Estate to Carrow Toll Bridge , installed in 1810 . Norwich Railway Co. had acquired the land in

Thorpe around Carrow Road by the 1840s , and by 1860 the Thorpe site of the future stadium belonged to the firm of J. & J. Colman . The stadium 's Thorpe Corner acknowledges this historical link . In 1935 , Colman 's offered the 20 @-@ year leasehold to Norwich City and construction of the new stadium began swiftly on the site : tenders were issued on the day the site was purchased and ten days later , on 11 June , work began .

Initial materials were sourced by demolishing the former " Chicken Run " section of The Nest , with the rubble dumped as a bank at the river end of the new ground . Thereafter , work proceeded quickly , with most of the stands and terraces built by 17 August . A practice match was held on 26 August with work " still in progress " , and , after just 82 days , on 31 August , the ground was opened for a Second Division fixture featuring West Ham United . The stadium had an initial capacity of 35 @,@ 000 , including 5 @,@ 000 seats under cover . Norwich won the game 4 ? 3 ; the attendance was 29 @,@ 779 , which set a new club record crowd for a home game . The first competitive goal at the ground was scored by Norwich 's Duggie Lochhead .

The new stadium was described by club officials as " the largest construction job in the city since the building of Norwich Castle " , " miraculously built in just 82 days " and " the eighth wonder of the world " . An aerial photograph from August 1935 shows three sides of open terracing , and a covered stand with a Colman 's Mustard advertisement painted on its roof , visible only from the air . The club 's association with Colman 's has continued into the modern era ; in 1997 the club signed a shirt sponsorship deal with the company . The mustard manufacturer 's original factory was located adjacent to the stadium in Carrow Road , and the ground was opened by Russell Colman , the President of the club . The author Simon Inglis describes the early Carrow Road as comprising " a Main Stand , a covered end terrace and two large open banks " . The covered terrace was paid for by Captain Evelyn Barclay , the vice @-@ president of Norwich City ; it was constructed in time for the opening of the 1937 ? 38 season , and while the original construction is long gone , the end retains the name of its benefactor .

At this time , the ground 's capacity was 38 @,@ 000 , with space for 10 @,@ 000 of " the more vociferous of the home and away supporters " , in the new Barclay end . The new ground received a royal seal of approval : on 29 October 1938 , King George VI watched twenty minutes of the home game versus Millwall , the first time a ruling monarch had watched a Second Division match .

= = = Ground developments = = =

Floodlights were erected at the ground in 1956 and the £ 9 @,@ 000 cost nearly sent the club into bankruptcy . However , Norwich 's success in the 1958 ? 59 FA Cup (where as a Third Division club they reached the semi @-@ final , losing to First Division Luton Town after a replay) secured the financial status of the club and provided sufficient funds for a cover to be built over the South Stand . In 1963 , the record was set for attendance at Carrow Road : a crowd of 43 @,@ 984 watched a sixth round FA Cup match against Leicester City , and the South Stand (now the Jarrold) was covered shortly afterwards .

In the wake of the Ibrox stadium disaster in 1971 , a government enquiry brought more stringent safety requirements , which , when applied to Carrow Road , resulted in the capacity being drastically reduced to around 20 @,@ 000 . With focus on the dangers of standing , seats began to replace terracing : by 1979 , the stadium had a capacity of 28 @,@ 392 , with seats for 12 @,@ 675 . A fire in 1984 partially destroyed one of the stands which eventually led to its complete demolition and replacement by 1987 with a new City Stand . When it opened , then chairman Robert Chase compared the experience of visiting the new stand to " going to the theatre ? the only difference being that our stage is covered with grass " .

After the Hillsborough disaster in 1989 and the subsequent outcome of the Taylor Report in 1990 , the stadium was converted to all @-@ seater . In 2003 the South Stand was replaced by the new , 8 @,@ 000 @-@ seat Jarrold Stand . In the summer of 2010 , work was undertaken to increase the ground 's capacity from 26 @,@ 018 to 27 @,@ 000 . This was achieved by finding additional capacity for seats within the existing stands .

=== Pitch ===

In 2004 , £ 700 @, @ 000 was invested in improving the pitch . The former all @-@ grass surface was replaced with a sand @-@ based Desso GrassMaster one , the mix of artificial and real grass which , according to the then groundsman Gary Kemp " guarantee [d] that the pitch would be looking good enough for every match to be broadcast on TV " . The under @-@ soil heating system " can clear snow and ice within eight hours of being turned on " .

=== Eightieth anniversary ===

In anticipation of the ground 's 80th anniversary on 31 August 2015 , a rematch of the original fixture versus West Ham was played on 28 July . As part of the celebrations , the club offered season ticket holders the opportunity to mark their seats with their name or a message . Fans were also offered the chance to buy tickets for a celebratory dinner with the first @-@ team squad , the menu provided by the club 's joint majority shareholder , the celebrity chef Delia Smith .

=== Stands ===

The current stadium consists of four stands ; the Norwich & Peterborough Stand , the Barclay , the Geoffrey Watling City Stand and the most recent addition , the rebuilt South Stand .

=== Norwich & Peterborough Stand ===

This end of the ground , closest to the River Wensum , was originally known as the " River End " , a name that still persists among fans . An old stand was demolished in April 1979 and a two @-@ tiered replacement was completed in December 1979 . The stand was officially named the Norwich & Peterborough Stand in the 1990s , after a sponsorship deal with the Norwich & Peterborough Building Society . An extra 160 seats were installed in the summer of 2010 .

=== The Barclay ===

The Barclay is named after Captain Evelyn Barclay , a former vice @-@ president of the club , who donated the cost of roofing the original stand . This was built in 1937 , but demolished in 1992 , when a new two @-@ tier structure , modelled on the River End (now the Norwich & Peterborough Stand) was built in accordance with the recommendations of the Taylor Report .

The betting company Coral were announced as the stand 's sponsors in August 2015 .

=== Geoffrey Watling City Stand ===

The single @-@ tiered Geoffrey Watling City Stand was built following a severe fire in its ageing predecessor on 25 October 1984 . The fire was apparently caused by an employee of the club leaving a three @-@ bar electric fire switched on overnight .

The City Stand (as it was named at the time) cost £ 1 @. @ 7 million to build and was used for the first time on 30 August 1986 when City hosted Southampton . It was formally opened by the Duchess of Kent on 14 February 1987 . The stand was renamed in honour of Norwich City president Geoffrey Watling , who died in 2004 , aged 91 . The stand has the lowest capacity of the four ; it also houses the directors ' box , the press area and hospitality suites . Where The Barclay extends around to meet the Geoffrey Watling City Stand is the Thorpe corner infill , known to supporters as ' The Snakepit ' .

=== The South Stand ===

The South Stand is on the site of the former South Stand , which was named in honour of Sir Arthur

South . The new stand was partially opened for the game against Sheffield United on 31 January 2004 , and fully opened for the next home match , a game versus West Ham . It was opened by Ken Brown , a former manager of both clubs .

From 2004 until May 2016 the stand was sponsored by Jarrolds , a local department store . It is a single @-@ tiered stand of cantilever construction with a capacity of 8 @,@ 212 . The corner infill between the Jarrold and Norwich & Peterborough stands is called the Aviva Community Stand . It was built in 2005 and named after sponsors Aviva . It seats up to 1 @,@ 700 fans , and also provides extensive facilities for disabled supporters .

On 15 June 2016 it was announced that following the termination of Jarrold as the stand 's sponsor , the stand would revert back to its historical name of the South Stand . Irish coffee company The Galway Roast were announced as the stand 's new sponsors , which would be officially called The South Stand sponsored by The Galway Roast .

= = = Visiting supporter accommodation = = =

Accommodation for visiting supporters is provided in the end of the Jarrold Stand closest to The Barclay . The Essential Football Fan describes the away end as follows :

" As you would expect from a new stand , the facilities and view of the playing action are good . The normal allocation in this area is 2 @,@ 500 fans although this can be increased further for cup games . If you are located at the very back of the stand then you can enjoy some fine views of the city . "

= = Other facilities and services = =

The corner between The Barclay and the Jarrold Stand contains a Holiday Inn hotel , which opened in 2007 . The hotel , with six floors and 180 beds , has pitch @-@ facing rooms where customers can watch matches . The club gave Holiday Inn a 150 @-@ year lease , receiving in return a 30 % stake in the hotel and £ 1 @.@ 1 million .

Catering at Carrow Road is provided by Delia 's Canary Catering , which is part of Norwich City Football Club PLC . Smith took control of the catering at the club in 1999 .

Catering facilities include : " Yellows American Bar & Grill " , an American @-@ style diner located in the Norwich & Peterborough Stand ; and " Delia 's Restaurant and Bar " , located in the Norwich & Peterborough Stand . " The Gunn Club " is a catering facility behind The Barclay , named after former player and manager Bryan Gunn . There are a number of other conference facilities around the ground , many named after former players and club officials such as Darren Huckerby and Sir Arthur South , as well as former club sponsors Lotus Cars .

= = Transport = =

Carrow Road is approximately ten minutes walking distance from Norwich railway station , which is on the Great Eastern Main Line to Liverpool Street station via Ipswich . Although resident parking scheme is in force in the roads surrounding the stadium , a park @-@ and @-@ ride facility operates around the city centre enabling visitors to the ground to arrive by bus .

= = Future plans for construction = =

Norwich City have a capped season ticket allocation of 22 @,@ 000 , with a waiting list . The club regularly sells out its home allocation of tickets and , in 2013 ? 14 , the ground had an occupancy rate of 99 @.@ 95 % , one of the highest in the Premier League .

In this context , the club has often stated that it plans to increase the capacity of the stadium in the future , The Geoffrey Watling City Stand has foundations designed to support a second tier , and the roof could be removed and replaced after a second tier is added . In January 2011 , chairman Alan Bowkett announced an interest in expanding the ground by about 8 @,@ 000 seats , because

Carrow Road was routinely close to capacity . Bowkett said :

The trade off is between capacity and price . I 've had some conversations with people saying ' it 's getting a bit expensive Alan ' and I know it is . I think the obvious route is the Geoffrey Watling stand , whether you put another layer on it or take it down and re @-@ build , I don 't know . Probably the sensible thing to do is bite the bullet , take it down and build a new stand , but it means 18 to 24 months without revenue and the people in that stand tend to be the people who have been the supporters for many generations .

In 2012 , the club commissioned the University of East Anglia to undertake a study of the costs of significantly increasing the ground 's capacity . The study 's report cited a cost of £ 20 million to expand the ground by 7 @,@ 000 seats . In response , chief executive David McNally announced that the club would therefore only expand the stadium at such a time that Norwich City has become a fixture in the Premier League . At the club 's 2015 AGM , it was reiterated that expansion of the ground was not a priority , although developing the training facilities at Colney , was .

= = Other uses = =

= = = International football = = =

Carrow Road has never hosted a match involving the England national team , but the England under @-@ 21 team has played at the stadium on five occasions . The first was in 1983 in a European Under @-@ 21 Championship qualifying match against Denmark , which England won 4 ? 1 . The team played another qualifying match in the same tournament at the stadium in 1997 , beating Greece 4 ? 2 . The Slovakia team featured in a friendly match at the ground in June 2007 , England winning 5 ? 0 in front of a crowd of 20 @,@ 193 people . In 2010 , the ground played host to a play @-@ off against Romania , a game the home side won 2 ? 1 in front of a then record all @-@ seated attendance for the stadium of 25 @,@ 749 . Most recently , in October 2012 , the England U21s defeated their Serbian counterparts 1 ? 0 at Carrow Road .

Games involving the England under @-@ 19 team and the full England women 's team have also been played at the stadium . The women 's team have played there on two occasions ; the first a 1 ? 0 defeat to Nigeria in July 2002 , in front of over 8 @,@ 000 fans , and the second a 1 ? 0 victory over Iceland in March 2006 , before a 9 @,@ 616 crowd .

= = = Music = = =

The stadium has occasionally hosted music concerts . Status Quo played a concert there in 1997 . Elton John , supported by Lulu , appeared at the venue in 2005 . George Michael gave a performance there on 12 June 2007 , supported by Sophie Ellis @-@ Bextor , and Rod Stewart performed a concert at the stadium in June 2011 .

The Elton John and George Michael concerts both attracted crowds of over 20 @,@ 000 people . Andrew Cullen , the director of sales and marketing for the Carrow Road ground , told BBC Radio Norfolk prior to the George Michael performance that he hoped such concerts would become an annual summer event for the venue , if big enough star names could be attracted .

= = Summary of ground records = =

Highest attendance : 43 @,@ 984 , Norwich City 0 ? 2 Leicester City , 1962 ? 63 FA Cup sixth round , 30 March 1963 .

Highest attendance (all @-@ seater) : 27 @,@ 137 , Norwich City 3 ? 2 Newcastle United , 2015 ? 16 Premier League , 2 April 2016 .

Biggest margin of victory : 8 , Norwich City 8 ? 0 Walsall , Football League Third Division South , 29 December 1951 , Norwich City 8 ? 0 Sutton United , 1988 ? 89 FA Cup fourth round , 28 January 1989 .

Biggest margin of defeat : 6 , Norwich City 1 ? 7 Colchester United , Football League One , 8 August 2009 .

Goals in a game : 9 (several occurrences) . Most recently ; Norwich City 4 ? 5 Liverpool , 2015 ? 16 Premier League , 23 January 2016 .