

NEWMARKET

HOME OF HORSERACING



ROYAL BEGINNINGS

It is due to Newmarket's historical links with royalty that the town became known as the Home of Horseracing and the Headquarters, or 'HQ', of the British racing industry.

Back in 1605, James I first came to stay in Newmarket, attracted by the open land of the Heath as it possessed all the attributes needed to stage his and his courtiers' favourite sporting activities: coursing, hunting and racing horses. Having been protected and nurtured for over four centuries, Newmarket Heath is still used for sport today.

One Heath activity outlasted all the others and became known as the "Sport of Kings": horseracing.

What was once just a pastime for royalty is now a multi-million pound global industry, with Newmarket at its heart. Combined, the horseracing and thoroughbred breeding related businesses in the region conservatively contribute over £240m* to the local economy per annum, directly employing 3,600 and providing in excess of 9,300 jobs in total.

Above Her Majesty The Queen at the official opening of Palace House, the National Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art, in 2016.

**Newmarket's Equine Cluster: The economic impact of the horse racing industry upon Newmarket, by SQW, 2017 Update.*

THE SEEDS ARE SOWN...

The peak of Newmarket's royal patronage was Charles II's reign, during which time he built a palace stretching from the High Street to Palace Street. What is left of the palace now forms part of Newmarket's National Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art, Palace House.

From the era of Charles II developed the first organised racing - leading to the founding of The Jockey Club in 1750, with its home on the same site as the current Jockey Club Rooms. In 2016 Newmarket Racecourses celebrated 350 years of its oldest known race, the Town Plate.

Not only were kings and queens drawn to Newmarket by the Heath, so too have some of the greats in the history of British art. Stubbs, Seymour, Herring and Munnings all painted scenes of Newmarket Heath and the town is home to one of the best collections of sporting art in the world when the collections at Palace House and The Jockey Club are combined.

Integral to Newmarket's enduring role at the heart of horseracing is the Heath. The Heath is Newmarket's equivalent of a natural mineral. Under the protection of The Jockey Club, the Heath avoided being ploughed up during the wars and has been kept free of railway lines and new roads, thereby allowing Newmarket's 'natural asset' to continue to attract horses and grow the sport's contribution to the local economy.

However, it was not always so; Newmarket has endured peaks and troughs. In the mid-nineteenth century there were more racehorses trained at Stockbridge, Hampshire than in Newmarket. Today there are no horses trained at Stockbridge, while there are close to 3,000 horses in Newmarket.

The Derby Trial

This painting shows the 1884 Derby winner St Gatien (in the middle, ridden by the legendary Fred Archer) about to have his final gallop at Newmarket before the race, with the stands of the Rowley Mile racecourse in the background. Painted by W H Hopkins and E Havell in 1884, the picture is from the collection housed in The Jockey Club Rooms.



GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

“Through the last five centuries, the Heath has been the single most important factor in the town’s development - after all, there are over 50 towns that boast a racecourse, but none that has the Heath or anything to compare with it.

“It was these gallops that brought the trainers, the staff, the owners and the horses, and with them followed ancillary businesses - veterinarians, saddlers, forage merchants, blacksmiths, sales companies, bloodstock agents, as well, of course, as the development of the surrounding land to accommodate the great studs that now surround the town.”

Trainer, Sir Mark Prescottt Bt



Horses exercising on Newmarket Heath

A VIBRANT INDUSTRY

Newmarket is home to Tattersalls, the oldest bloodstock auctioneers in the world and the largest in Europe. In 2017 Tattersalls offered a total of 6,441 horses, generating an annual turnover in excess of £364 million, the highlight of which was a European record for a thoroughbred at auction when the mare Marsha was sold for 6 million guineas (£6.6m).

Largely due to investment from overseas-based breeders, over the last 30 years the quantity and quality of stallions based in Newmarket has increased markedly. There are currently more than 30 stallions based in the area, including the world’s highest ever rated racehorse, Frankel, and one of the most successful stallions in the world, Dubawi, both of which command a covering fee in excess of £150,000 per mare.

Below The champion Frankel stands at Banstead Manor Stud, just outside Newmarket



In total, Newmarket-based stallions cover up to 3,000 mares every breeding season, February to June, generating a total turnover of more than £150 million in covering fees.

A total of £10.85 million in prize money will be put up by Newmarket Racecourses in 2018, which stages more class 1 ‘Pattern’ races than any other racecourse.

Newmarket is home to three of the leading equine veterinary practices in the world and two equine hospitals. Combined, the practices and hospitals employ 100 veterinary surgeons and support staff.

Below Tattersalls auctioneers enjoyed another good year of results, topped by the sale of Marsha for 6m guineas.



Lot 1848
6,000,000 gns
EUR 7,134,120 JPY 955,628,730
AUD 11,136,510 USD 8,469,090
Lot 1847 8,000 gns

£364M
2017

6,441 horses sold in 2017
generating £364M

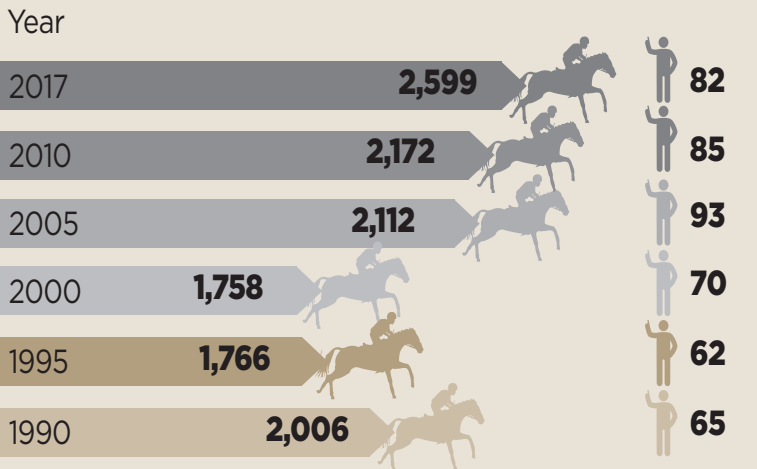
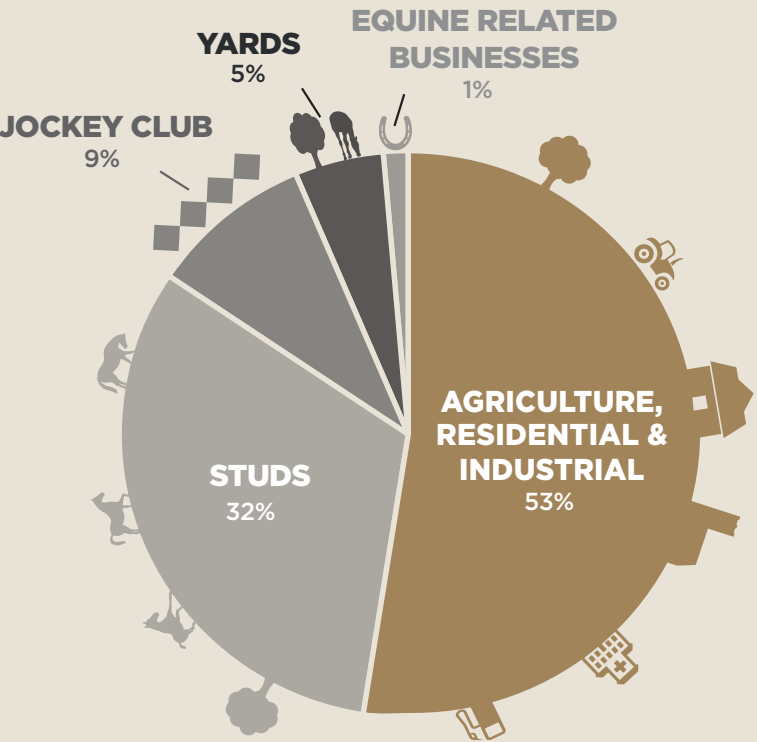
£137M
2000

LAND USE WITHIN 5 MILES OF THE CLOCK TOWER

Newmarket is home to a variety of organisations that perform important roles within the horseracing industry. These include: The National Stud and British Racing School, the charities Animal Health Trust, Injured Jockeys’ Fund, Racing Welfare and the National Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art at Palace House.

There are 50,000 acres within a five mile radius of the Clock Tower on Newmarket High Street of which 47% (23,500 acres) relate directly to the racing and breeding industry.

- 15,990 acres are stud land.
- 4,500 acres are managed by The Jockey Club and include the Training Grounds, Racecourses, National Stud and various residential and commercial properties.
- 2,300 acres are non-Jockey Club managed training grounds, including Godolphin and over 100 training yards.
- 710 acres include property owned by Tattersalls, British Racing School, pre-trainers and veterinary practices.



HORSES IN TRAINING (Monthly Average)

TRAINERS

HORSES IN TRAINING

Around one-third of the total of Flat horses-in-training in the UK are stabled in Newmarket and around one-fifth of the overall total.

There are over 80 racehorse trainers using Newmarket Training Grounds.

The 2,500 acres of Jockey Club Estates Training Grounds include 50 miles of turf gallops, 14 miles of artificial gallops and 30 miles of purpose-built horsewalks/walking grounds.





ECONOMY AND TOURISM

In 2017 Newmarket Racecourses attracted 365,000 visitors to meetings on the Rowley Mile and July Course.

In 2016 Her Majesty The Queen officially opened the National Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art. Developed by Forest Heath District Council in conjunction with the Horseracing industry, the restoration of Palace House and the accompanying stable yard and its transformation into the National Heritage Centre was a multimillion- pound project, funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant and charitable donations.

The National Heritage Centre is expected to attract thousands of new visitors per annum to Newmarket.

Despite a population half the size, Newmarket has the same number of hotel rooms as Bury St Edmunds, just 14 miles away. The 2017 update of the economic impact of Newmarket's Equine Cluster confirmed that Newmarket has over 270 rooms. Business generated from events at the racecourse and sales at Tattersalls is key to the economic viability of Newmarket's hotels and the rates of the rooms increase for around 50 nights of the year, coinciding with racing and sales. The report conservatively estimated that visitors and tourists attracted to Newmarket by racing-related activities contribute around £9.5m per annum to the local economy and the hotels provide employment for more than 200 people.

Also a source of employment for 250 people is the LGC laboratory, nearby in Fordham, specialising in forensic testing and analytical services in sport. Initially developed specifically for British horseracing, the laboratory now also provides a range of services to other sports and clients.



Visitors to Palace House enjoy being introduced to retrained racehorses (top). Children using the simulator in the museum (below). For more information visit palacehousenewmarket.co.uk

