

ORIGINAL NIGHTS OUT:

GLASGOW

Forget deep-fried pizzas. **FHM & the Smirnoff Co. show you how to have a 'mintit' time in one of Europe's coolest cities...**

The stereotypes people throw around Glasgow are legendary. Popular folklore dictates that it is a gritty, perpetually rainy netherworld full of drab high-rises and urban wasteland. A place responsible for launching Wet, Wet, Wet and any number of imaginative deep-fried delicacies onto the world. But as any visitor to the city in the last decade or so will attest; Glasgow couldn't be further removed from these xenophobic clichés. It's hip (*Time* magazine likened its vibrant music scene to 1990s' Seattle). It's classy (beyond-swanky bars and restaurants abound). And moreover, it's fun. The friendliness of the locals ensures that's nigh on impossible to have a bad night out in the city. Heck, there are now even salmon leaping in the once-polluted River Clyde. Time, then, to check out the city's regeneration for yourself via *FHM* and the Smirnoff Co's guide...



THE CLUB WITH GOURMET CHIPPY

A labyrinthine £12 million development, 29 Royal Exchange Square has a nightclub whose walls are lined with contours of the female form plus an upmarket fish'n'chip eatery which stays open when the club closes so revellers can forego their usual end-of-night stodge. Savvier clubbers can clamber up the wrong fire exit to end up in the 29 private members' club for a chance to drink with the likes of Alex Ferguson and Gordon Ramsay. www.29glasgow.com

DRINK AND BUY VINYL AT MONO

Feted by the Glaswegian rock glitterati, Mono's features include: a bar, restaurant, a *High Fidelity* record shop (monorailmusic.com), a grocery, six big metallic vats of alcoholic lemonade and as befits its twee indieboy status, a lending library. Belle & Sebastian have performed on its carpeted stage while Alex Kapranos has given talks on obscurist cinema.



GLASGOW KISSES AT ARTA

Hang out in Glasgow long enough and you'll hear the name 'Stefan King'. This entrepreneur has seemingly gobbled up (and transformed) most venues in the city, such as ostentatious Artà. Resembling a 17th Century Spanish galleon, it drips with Gothic candelabras, huge oil paintings and artificial night sky. Signature cocktail? The Glasgow Beso ("kiss" in Spanish). www.arta.co.uk



GLASGOW'S WEST END

Cobbled thoroughfare Ashton Lane is the ace lots-to-do district of Glasgow. Kick off at the Grosvenor Cinema (www.grosvenorcinema.co.uk) to sup drinks while watching movies, before ambling along to one of the city's best restaurants, the Ubiquitous Chip (www.ubiquitouschip.co.uk). Offering uniquely Scottish fare such as Scrabster Landed Ling and Mallaig Skate Wings, it attracts the likes of Mick Jagger and Roman Abramovich (who ordered the house white wine).

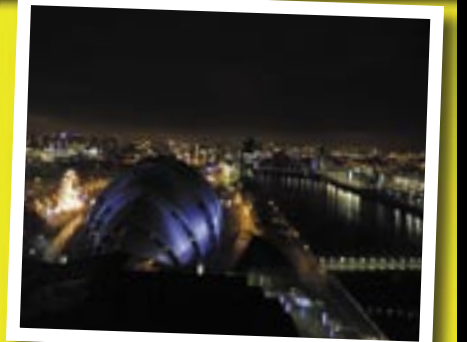


UNDERNEATH THE ARCHES

The space beneath railway lines have provided succor for many people over the years – Blitz bomb-dodgers, a pre-fame Kurt Cobain, and patrons of The Arches, a deranged 65,000 square feet venue nestled underneath Glasgow Central Station. Housing an avant-garde arts space and a theatre, its seminal club repeatedly crops up in the 'World's Best 10 Clubs' lists, thanks to events such as the monthly Death Disco. www.thearches.co.uk

WIN A TRIP TO GLASGOW!

You've read how far Glaswegian nightlife has come over the last two decades. You've glimpsed the city's panoply of original evenings out. Now, the Smirnoff Co. is offering you and an associate the chance to win a two-night trip to the bravehearted boom town to experience it for yourself. Simply head to www.fhm.com/smirnoff anytime before April 30 2008 and enter the prize draw that you'll find there. Live in Glasgow? Don't run away. This comp is open to you as well. Best of luck now...



SMIRNOFF ELECTRIC CABARET GLASGOW

Forget Hogmanay, Burns Night, Deep-Fry-Your-Granny-Day and any other Caledonian get-together you care to mention – to experience Scottish bacchanalia in full swing, head to Glasgow's ABC this April 17 for Smirnoff's Electric Cabaret. As yet, the line-up is a closely-guarded secret, but weggies (natives) attending last year's event were treated to the likes of the Guillemots, the Go! Team and Lemon Jelly. For more info head to [URL HERE]

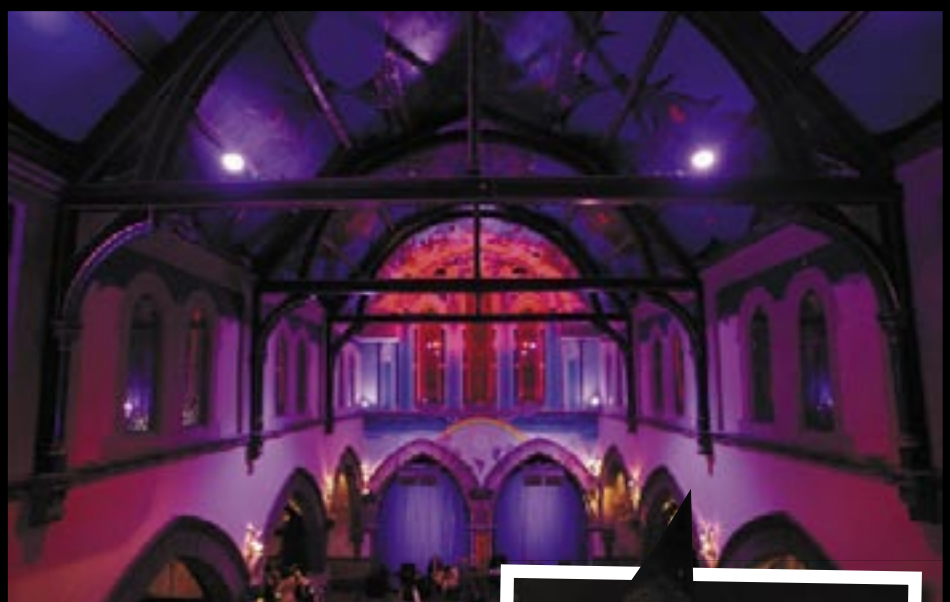


SMIRNOFF 10 UK REP

The UK's Smirnoff 10 ambassador touches down in Brazil to party at the Salvador Carnival. Two words: Lucky. Sod.

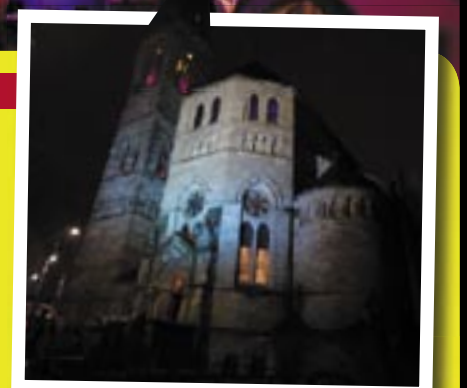
Where we British usually dish up pancakes to celebrate Lent, Brazilians let loose on the streets like voles out of hell with a week-long music, dance and snog-fest. Imagine the best party you ever went to, make all the guests ten times more attractive, throw in streamers and glitter guns and add in dancing for five hours behind a truck rigged up with a sound system the size of Jupiter. It really is that amazing...

NEXT MONTH: PARIS
Mon Dieu! The Smirnoff Co. arrives in Paris for molecular mixology cocktails, capsule hotel rooms and much more...



SPECTRAL CLUBBING AT ORAN MOR

Five years ago Òran Mór (it means 'big melody' in Gaelic) was a derelict Victorian church. It's since been converted into a multi-purpose venue fabled for its bars and 'A Play, A Pie & A Pint' theatre sessions. Meanwhile, downstairs in 'The Venue' club (the church's former crypt), staffers have spied a male ghost and orbs mysteriously crop up on clubbers' photos. www.oran-mor.co.uk



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