

# TRUCK STOP REVIEW

## JUNCTION 29, CHESTERFIELD

Junction 29 Truckstop, one of three operated by Onroute, is a couple of miles away from its namesake on the M1 motorway, near Chesterfield in north Derbyshire. Once you get off the motorway it is relatively well signposted and it's in the middle of an industrial estate.

It's a good establishment geared up for truck drivers with plenty of facilities. Also, and most importantly, it's very clean, very inviting and perfectly tailored for food, showers, shopping and other things a truck driver needs.

If heading northbound, come off the slip road and take the first exit – or third exit if coming south on the motorway. It is also easily accessible off the A617. Take the A6175 and simply follow the signs and you can't miss it.

### Food

There are three main breakfast offerings, the Onroute breakfast at £7.50, the Lite breakfast at £6.50 and the Vegetarian breakfast also at £6.50, all of which include a tea or coffee. You can add extra items as well should you desire.

Main meals start with omelettes – all of which are served with chips and are £7-8 and then there is a range of other main meals including the likes of steak pie dinner, chilli con carne, curry, cottage pie, spaghetti bolognaise, fish and chips, gammon, mixed grill and steaks. Prices vary but start at £7.95. I had the steak pie and it was very nice, coming with mash or chips and a choice of veg.

There is a wide range of rolls or sandwiches plus salads at £7.50 not



to mention jacket potatoes, burgers and old favourites like egg & chips or ham, egg & chips. For a light meal, beans on toast is also available.

There is a good choice of desserts as well, and a wide range of drinks and there is also a fridge with soft drinks.

The café is open Mondays to Thursdays from 0600 to 2100, Fridays is 0600 or 2000 while Saturdays is 0700 to 1030 – it is closed on Sundays.

### Facilities

There is an extensively stocked shop open from 0700 to 2000 on Mondays to Thursdays, 0700 to 1900 on Fridays and

0700-1200 on Saturdays, but it too is closed on Sundays.

It sells snacks and drinks as well as stuff for you day to day work, such as HV jackets and vests, cleaning equipment, toiletries, in-cab gear and other stuff you need for driving.

There is also a bar area and you can play a game of pool, watch Sky TV or relax with a drink in the comfortable TV lounge and bar.

There is also a single bay truckwash which is manned from 0800 to 1600 on Mondays to Fridays, but is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. The site has a fully automated forecourt which allows you to get fuel 24/7 and 'pay at pump' for refuelling with diesel, gas oil and AdBlue.

The site is fully fenced and floodlit, the site provides safe, secure parking with 24 hour CCTV surveillance.

There are showers, with four cubicles for men. There are also women's showers. The toilets and showers were very clean and presentable.

It costs £25.20 to park overnight or £29.20 with an £8 meal voucher. The parking area was very impressive; clean and newly tarmacked, and well lined out.

Between 2200 and 0600 there is a 'no noise' in the parking area, so fridges cannot be run and trailer swaps are not permitted.

There is a sizable outside seating

area while inside the seating area is immaculate. Even on a Friday teatime, with clocking off time looming, I found the staff very friendly and helpful both in the café and in the shop.

### Verdict

They say you only get one chance to make a good first impression, and the first thing that you notice about this establishment is how clean it is. Always a good start.

The friendly staff, who were flexible to tweak my meal request is also another big plus. Finally the quality – the food was excellent – and I pondered that a similar kind of meal in a pub would be at least 50% more expensive, perhaps even double the cost.

A good and capacious parking area, plenty of facilities and easy access to the motorway makes this a very good Truckstop indeed. Highly recommended.



### Junction 29

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