# Wetherspoon’s reinstates popular tuna jacket potato amid menu and pricing controversies



Wetherspoon’s chief executive Sir Tim Martin recently reinstated a popular menu item following a customer’s direct complaint about its removal. Adam Gale, a regular patron of the Rodboro Buildings pub in Guildford, Surrey, expressed his disappointment after discovering that the tuna jacket potato had been taken off the menu, although other fillings like beans and cheese remained available. In correspondence with Sir Tim, Mr Gale pleaded for the return of the tuna filling, which he described as a favourite.

Sir Tim Martin responded with a personal touch, admitting that he had not noticed the removal since he himself had switched from tuna jacket potatoes to chicken wraps and salad for lunch. Nevertheless, he confirmed that the tuna filling had been reinstated immediately. This move reflects a commitment to customer feedback and may serve as a reassurance amid recent changes to Wetherspoons’ menus and pricing.

Wetherspoons has been under scrutiny lately for several alterations to its food and drink offerings. Some busier or city-centre pubs have removed certain dishes, such as the Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap and Simple Curries, to streamline kitchen operations and improve service speed. While this was intended to enhance efficiency, it has sparked dissatisfaction and surprise among customers, some of whom have described the changes as ‘bizarre.’ These menu modifications coincided with a 7.5% price increase on food and drink implemented earlier, which also contributed to customer frustration.

In addition to menu shifts, customers have been puzzled by unusual pricing adjustments at various locations. Viral social media posts have called attention to oddly specific price points, such as soup at £4.03 and nachos at £5.54, breaking from the more familiar and straightforward pricing patterns that loyal Wetherspoons visitors expect. These changes, tied to the broader 7.5% price hike, have left some patrons questioning the rationale behind the new pricing strategy.

Further compounding customer concerns, Wetherspoons recently faced a nationwide vegetable shortage due to adverse weather conditions affecting European crop yields. This led to the temporary removal of tomatoes from the Full English breakfast and other meals like burgers and steaks. The shortage was publicly acknowledged by the chain, resulting in notable customer disappointment expressed across social media platforms.

Despite these challenges, Sir Tim Martin has declared an intention to maintain current prices throughout the summer and autumn, aiming to avoid further hikes following the earlier increases in January. He has also called for tax parity between pubs and supermarkets, highlighting the disparity that sees pubs charged the standard 20% VAT on food and beverages while supermarkets pay none on similar items. Alongside these policy appeals, Wetherspoons plans to expand significantly, opening 30 new pubs over the coming year and creating around 1,800 jobs. Locations for directly managed new outlets include Edinburgh Old Town, Farnham in Surrey, Basildon in Essex, Manchester, Heathrow Airport, and key London hubs like London Bridge and Paddington. The expansion contrasts with a previous trend of site sales, reflecting a strategic refurbishment of the chain’s presence.

While the reinstatement of the tuna jacket potato might seem a small victory, it underscores the broader balancing act Wetherspoons faces between operational efficiencies, customer satisfaction, and market pressures. The chain’s future moves, particularly regarding menu choices and pricing, will likely be closely watched by its wide customer base and industry observers alike.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2099284/wetherspoon-boss-reinstates-menu-classic)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2099284/wetherspoon-boss-reinstates-menu-classic), [[2]](https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/whats-on/food-drink-news/wetherspoons-fans-appalled-popular-menu-26739364), [[3]](https://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/weird-news/wetherspoons-fans-furious-beloved-pub-29764948)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.devonlive.com/news/uk-world-news/wetherspoons-customers-baffled-bizarre-change-8307221), [[5]](https://www.ladbible.com/news/wetherspoon-new-menu-prices-508559-20230405), [[7]](https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/food/1755486/wetherspoons-price-hike-menu)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/whats-on/food-drink/wetherspoon-punters-furious-pub-chain-8273495)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2099284/wetherspoon-boss-reinstates-menu-classic), [[7]](https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/food/1755486/wetherspoons-price-hike-menu)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2099284/wetherspoon-boss-reinstates-menu-classic)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2099284/wetherspoon-boss-reinstates-menu-classic> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/whats-on/food-drink-news/wetherspoons-fans-appalled-popular-menu-26739364> - Wetherspoons fans have expressed concern over the removal of popular dishes from the menu at busier pubs. Patrons noticed that items like the Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap and Simple Curries were no longer available. A Wetherspoons spokesperson confirmed that certain busier or city centre pubs have removed some dishes to simplify operations and improve service speed. This change follows a previous price increase of 7.5% on food and drink items. Customers have voiced their disappointment over the menu alterations, with some describing the changes as 'bizarre'.
3. <https://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/weird-news/wetherspoons-fans-furious-beloved-pub-29764948> - Wetherspoons customers have reacted angrily to the removal of beloved menu items, including the Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap and Simple Curries. The pub chain confirmed that these changes were made to streamline operations in busier locations. The decision has sparked frustration among patrons, with some expressing shock and disappointment over the menu cuts. The move comes after a 7.5% price increase on food and drink items, leading to further dissatisfaction among customers.
4. <https://www.devonlive.com/news/uk-world-news/wetherspoons-customers-baffled-bizarre-change-8307221> - Wetherspoons customers have been left puzzled by 'bizarre' price changes on the menu. A TikTok video went viral, highlighting the confusion over the new pricing structure. The video showcased items like soup priced at £4.03 and nachos at £5.54, which deviated from the usual pricing patterns. The pricing changes are attributed to a recent 7.5% price hike on food and drink items. Customers have expressed confusion and frustration over the new pricing system, with some questioning the rationale behind the changes.
5. <https://www.ladbible.com/news/wetherspoon-new-menu-prices-508559-20230405> - Wetherspoons customers have been left scratching their heads over the 'bizarre' new prices on the menu. Fans of the chain flock to its pubs for the reliably low prices, but not only have prices gone up - they've gone weird too. A TikTok video went viral, highlighting the confusion over the new pricing structure. The video showcased items like soup priced at £4.03 and nachos at £5.54, which deviated from the usual pricing patterns. The pricing changes are attributed to a recent 7.5% price hike on food and drink items.
6. <https://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/whats-on/food-drink/wetherspoon-punters-furious-pub-chain-8273495> - Wetherspoons customers have expressed outrage over the removal of tomatoes from the Full English breakfast due to a nationwide vegetable shortage. The chain announced that tomatoes would be missing from its breakfasts and certain lunchtime meals, including burgers and steaks, until supplies return to normal. Customers have voiced their disappointment over the missing ingredient, with some taking to social media to express their frustration. The shortage is attributed to bad weather in parts of Europe, affecting crop yields.
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/food/1755486/wetherspoons-price-hike-menu> - Wetherspoons has increased prices on food and drink by 7.5%, leading to confusion among customers over the new menu prices. A pubgoer expressed surprise at the changes, noting that items like soup and nachos were now priced at £4.03 and £5.54, respectively. The chain stated that despite the price hike, they believe their prices remain very competitive in all locations. The decision to raise prices follows previous menu changes and has sparked discussions among patrons.