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**UK Restaurant Market Thrives Amidst Economic Challenges: Valued at £18.6bn in 2023**

According to the latest insights from Lumina Intelligence's [Operator Data Index](https://lumina-intelligence.com/product/operator-data-index/), the UK restaurant market exhibited resilience in 2023, reaching a valuation of £18.6 billion. Despite economic challenges marked by high inflation, the industry experienced a commendable growth rate of +4.4% during the same period.

The report highlights that the overall eating out market achieved a slightly higher growth rate of +5.8%, indicating that restaurant closures and restricted consumer spending have posed challenges for further market expansion.

Notably, branded restaurants emerged as a success story in 2023, achieving a remarkable turnover growth of +7.7%. The market has witnessed a distinct polarization, with premium brands such as The Ivy, Côte, and Miller & Carter thriving while mid-market brands faced struggles. The shifting preferences of consumers have notably favoured fast-growing brands like Flat Iron and Rudy’s Pizza, which offer high-quality experiences at accessible price points.

In an effort to boost profitability, restaurant groups have strategically rationalised their estates. Leading brands experienced a decline in estate size by a combined average of -2.6%, largely driven by mid-market chains undergoing estate restructuring to alleviate debt. Seizing this opportunity, stronger operators such as The Big Table Group increased their acquisition activity, aiming to consolidate market positioning, secure synergies, and expand their reach.

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**The Operator Data Index:**

Lumina Intelligence’s Operator Data Index [**Operator Data Index**](https://lumina-intelligence.com/product/operator-data-index/)providescontinuous turnover and outlet data on **400+ UK pub, restaurant, QSR, sandwich and coffee shop operators**, analysing the leading and fastest growing brands through an interactive dashboard, bringing subscribers quarterly market intelligence reports.

**Report methodology**

The Lumina Intelligence Operator Data Index is a tool that tracks the performance of hospitality operators, providing market rankings based on turnover and outlet numbers, segmented by sub-channels.

Our Operator Data Index includes:

* Comprehensive data on leading UK hospitality operators
* Access market rankings, sales and outlet counts and monthly analysis presentations.

**About Lumina Intelligence**

Lumina Intelligence inspires the global food and drink sector with deep, actionable insights powered by the world’s best analytics technology. Our products and services are used by the major brands and organisations in these fast moving and growing markets to support business planning, strategic marketing and new product development.

<https://www.lumina-intelligence.com/>