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MANCHESTER GUIDE

The University of Manchester

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of Manchester

MANCHESTER
1824

Manchester
GUIDE



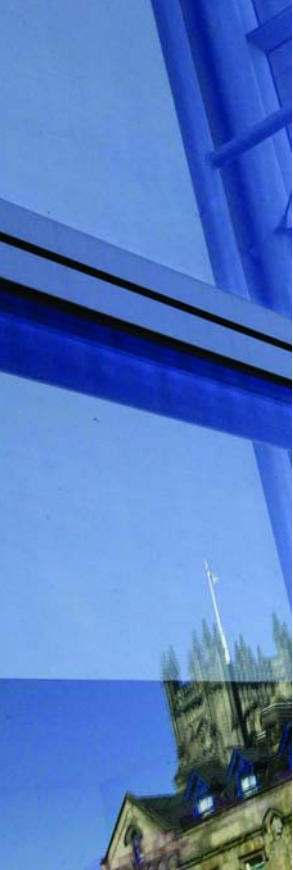
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welcome to Manchester

Whether you're here for a brief tour or you've just moved in, you're in for a treat. Manchester is a city of contrasts...





A big cosmopolitan city with a compact and friendly city centre. A trend-setting music and style capital that still has a place for street markets and local pubs. A place with an illustrious past that's always at the cutting edge of what's new.

Manchester is a city famous for its industrial history – immediately evident from its grand Victorian buildings: memorials to the civic pride of the City Fathers. The Mancunian entrepreneurial spirit that led the world into the industrial revolution is alive and kicking today. New architectural delights including Urbis, the Imperial War Museum North, the Lowry and the City of Manchester stadium have been rising up between the regenerated originals, such as the Manchester City Art Gallery and Piccadilly Station. But Manchester is not just about buildings. The culture, food, music, nightlife, shopping and sport are second to none. Manchester United, the Hallé orchestra, the Hacienda, Harvey Nichols – need we say more?

The University of Manchester is right at the heart of this exciting city – geographically, historically and culturally. The University campus is only a short walk from the city centre and all its attractions. And you don't have to be in the city long to see that our own fine buildings, our pioneering milestones (including splitting the atom and being the birthplace of the computer) and our cultural assets (Manchester Museum, Whitworth Art Gallery, Contact Theatre and the Student Union's venue, the Academy) are all integral to Manchester's unique character.

We hope this guide helps you to enjoy discovering this vibrant and dynamic city. Who knows, you might never want to leave.





orientation

One of the major appeals of Manchester is how user-friendly it is. Its size and compactness make it easy to get around and a pleasure to get to know.



You won't have to get three underground trains to get from museum to art gallery, struggle on crowded buses from one shopping area to another, or pay a fortune for taxis on a night out.

Manchester's city centre is made up of the following closely linked areas (see the map on the inside back cover for how they all fit together):

● **Albert Square**

The civic centre of Manchester. The imposing Victorian Town Hall and Central Library dominate, but narrow streets full of character and bars and restaurants surround these. The Manchester Visitor Information Centre is in an extension of the Town Hall, so this is a good place to start if you're new to the city.

● **Castlefield**

Just off lower Deansgate, this historic area is popular with visitors. It offers canals, walkways, great bars and restaurants, many overlooking the water.

This is also where you'll find the Museum of Science and Industry and Granada TV Studios (including the Coronation Street set).

● **Deansgate, King Street, St Ann's Square**

This is an area of prestigious designer shops and the famous Kendals department store, as well as the University's own impressive John Rylands Library. The pedestrianised St Ann's Square has shopping arcades and the Royal Exchange theatre.

● **Peter's Fields**

The GMEX conference centre and venue, the Bridgewater Hall (home to the Hallé orchestra), the Great Northern leisure and entertainment complex, the Radisson Edwardian hotel and Deansgate Locks (with its bars, restaurants and the Comedy Store) are all here.





orientation

○ Exchange Square and New Cathedral Street

This newly regenerated area has great open spaces, Cathedral Gardens and Exchange Square. But its appeal is much more varied: from massive windmills, stepping stones and a huge TV screen, through to Harvey Nichols and Selfridges, the city's oldest pub and the glass wedge which is Urbis (the Museum of the Modern City). Just across the road is the 24-hour entertainment complex, the Printworks. Victoria Station and the Manchester Evening News (MEN) Arena, the busiest concert venue in the world.

● Manchester Arndale and Market Street

All the leading high street shopping chains plus a 1,000-seater foodcourt, the Foodchain, currently undergoing a major facelift.

○ Piccadilly

Where the north of the University campus meets the city centre. Traditionally the heart of the city, this is where you'll find Piccadilly railway station and the freshly landscaped Piccadilly Gardens, now with a huge water feature with 180 jets (one of the largest fountains in Europe), lawns and contemporary pavilion.



● Oxford Road

Just down from the Town Hall and Central Library, the University campus dominates a large section of Oxford Road, which includes the Whitworth Art Gallery, Contact Theatre and Manchester Museum. This is the focus of one of the largest student communities in Western Europe (made up of The University of Manchester and nearby Manchester Metropolitan University and Salford University). Oxford Road is oddly famous for being the busiest bus route in Europe. It also boasts the BBC, Oxford Road station, countless bars, cafes and student-based shopping and entertainment.

● Rusholme, Fallowfield

Continue down Oxford Road to Rusholme, Victoria Park and Fallowfield - the main student residential areas. Rusholme's famous Curry Mile has Europe's highest concentration of Asian eateries. This neon-lit strip also has bhangra music shops, Asian jewellers and exotic fruit and veg stalls. Fallowfield's local economy is primarily geared towards students and its bars, shops and restaurants reflect this.

Salford Quays

The Quays is a newly developed area two miles from Manchester's city centre. The Imperial War Museum, The Lowry arts centre and the Designer Outlet shopping centre overlook the Quays and Wharfs. Nearby in Trafford are Manchester United Football Stadium (and megastore) and Lancashire County Cricket Club.

Beyond the City Centre

If you get tired of city life, Manchester is perfectly placed to explore the delights of the Northwest. The Peak District, North Wales and the Lake District are within easy reach. The picturesque towns of Chester, Buxton and York are all a short train ride away or for seaside treats - there's the unspoilt dunes of Formby or the gloriously tacky Blackpool.





- **The Gay Village**

The social centre of Manchester's vibrant gay scene. The Village runs alongside the Rochdale Canal, making for plenty of al-fresco drinking and eating opportunities.

- **Northern Quarter**

One of the most unique areas of the city centre. The Northern Quarter is the hip student's shopping paradise. At its centre is Afflecks Palace with five floors of independent outlets. This area is also great for clubbing gear, urban street wear, small bars and eateries and is the DJ centre for new imports and exchanging vinyl.

- **Chinatown**

Manchester has the largest Chinatown in the UK outside of London. Not surprisingly you'll find a myriad of Far Eastern restaurants offering Chinese, Japanese, Thai and Korean cuisine. The centrepiece is the Chinese arch built by Peking craftsmen. The City Art Gallery and CUBE (Centre for the Understanding of the Built Environment) are on the fringes of this area.

eating and drinking

Manchester led the
café bar revolution
and has more entries
in the Good Food Guide
than any other city
outside London.



Eating and drinking

You can choose any nationality at any price, from celebrity chefs to cheap kebabs. Here are a few for starters.

Restaurants

The Living Room

Modern European
80 Deansgate
0161 832 0083

Le Petit Blanc

Modern French from Raymond Blanc
55 King Street
0161 832 1000

Simply Heathcotes

Another celebrity chef, Paul
Heathcote, wows Manchester
Jacksons Row
0161 835 3536

La Tasca

Busy Spanish tapas bar
76 Deansgate
0161 834 8234

Obsidian Bar and Restaurant

Robust modern fare in amazing
surroundings
Princess Street
0161 238 4348

Stock

Proper Italian
4 Norfolk Street
0161 839 6644

Jowata

African
322 Deansgate
0161 835 1099

Croma

Great pizzas and atmosphere
1 Clarence Street
0161 237 9799

Livebait

Fresh fish
Lloyd Street
0161 817 4110

Tampopo

Noodle bar
16 Albert Square
0161 819 1966

Wagamama

Noodle bar
The Printworks
0161 839 5916

Yang Sing

Most famous Chinese in
Manchester – book well in
advance
34 Princess Street
0161 236 2200

Pacific

Two floors: one serving
Chinese, the other Thai
58-60 George Street
0161 228 6668

Zinc Bar and Grill

Terence Conran's stylish and
busy Manchester eatery
The Triangle
Hanging Ditch
0161 827 4200

Cafés and café bars

You'll find plenty of branches of
coffee and sandwich places, such
as Caffe Nero, Starbucks and Prêt
à Manger. More unusual and
independent outlets include:

Java

Manchester's first independent
coffee bar
95 Piccadilly
(with branches elsewhere)
0161 236 4003

Love Saves the Day

Smithfield Buildings
44 Tib Street

Kro Bar

325 Oxford Road
0161 274 3100

Café Muse

in the Manchester Museum
Oxford Road

Tribeca

50 Sackville Street
0161 236 8300

Corbieres

2 Half Moon Street
0161 834 3381

Loaf

Deansgate Locks
0161 819 8243

Eighth Day

Oxford Road
0161 273 4378





museums and galleries

There are more than 50 museums and galleries in Greater Manchester, most of which are free. Two of the best belong to the University.



The Whitworth Art Gallery

Fine collection of watercolours and an inspiring mix of contemporary and traditional work.

The University of Manchester

Oxford Road

0161 275 7450

www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk

Manchester Museum

Mummies, ethnographic material, birds and animals (live and stuffed), the only life-sized T.rex skeleton in the Northwest and a great café.

The University of Manchester

Oxford Road

0161 275 2634

www.museum.manchester.ac.uk

Manchester City Art Gallery

Recently restored and beautifully extended, wonderful Pre-Raphaelite collection and key contemporary shows.

Moseley Street

0161 234 1456

www.cityartgalleries.org.uk

Imperial War Museum North

Breathtaking building designed by Daniel Libeskind to represent three shards of a shattered globe. With moving and thought-provoking exhibits and amazing audio-visual show reflecting how war has shaped people's lives.

Trafford Wharf Road

Trafford Park

0161 836 4000

www.iwmn.org.uk

Manchester Museum of Science and Industry

Based in the oldest passenger railway station in the world, the museum tells the story of the history, science and industry of Manchester, and features many of the University's scientific stars including Ernest Rutherford and

Sir Bernard Lovell.

Liverpool Road

Castlefield

0161 832 1830

www.msim.org.uk

CUBE

Centre for the Understanding of the Built Environment dedicated to exploring architecture and design.

113-115 Portland Street

0161 237 5525

www.cube.org.uk



Urbis

Dramatic glass museum of the modern city.

Cathedral Gardens

0161 907 9099

www.urbis.org.uk

Castlefield Gallery

Artist led gallery.

2 Hewitt Street

Knott Mill

0161 832 8034

www.castelfieldgallery.co.uk

The Lowry

Eye-popping arts centre with galleries (including extensive



LS Lowry collection), two theatres and restaurants.

Pier 8, Salford Quays

0870 787 5780

www.thelowry.com

People's History Museum

Museum dedicated to the lives and struggles of working people in the city where the first Trades Union Congress took place in 1869.

www.peopleshistorymuseum.org.uk

0161 839 6061





theatre and cinema

Manchester offers everything from highbrow to avant-garde via sing-a-long-a West End musicals at the city's many theatres.



Theatre

The Contact Theatre

Post-modern medieval castle on the outside, performance space for innovative plays, music, dance and culture on the inside.
Oxford Road
0161 274 3434
www.contact-theatre.org.uk

The Green Room

Rapidly changing fringe programme that includes theatre, dance, mime and cabaret.
Whitworth Street West
0161 950 5900

The Library Theatre

Classic drama and new writing beneath the Central Library.
Central Library, St Peter's Square
0161 235 7110
www.libtheatreco.org.uk

Palace Theatre

Opera, musicals and popular touring shows.
Oxford Street
0870 401 3000

Opera House

Musicals, big comedy names and other West End extravaganzas.
Quay Street
0161 242 2503

The Lowry

Full programme of music and theatre – from opera through Shakespeare and even panto.
Pier 8, Salford Quays
0161 876 2000
www.thelowry.org.uk

The Royal Exchange Theatre

Most famous stage in the city. Classic plays and new works in theatre-in-the-round.
St Ann's Square
0161 833 9833
www.royalexchange.co.uk

Cinemas

Manchester has an impressive range of cinemas ranging from the 20 screen multiplex at the Filmworks (which also has an IMAX screen) to the Cornerhouse that shows more unusual and arthouse film and runs post-film talks and workshops with international directors and film experts.

thefilmworks

The Printworks
Dantzic Street
08700 10 20 30
www.thefilmworks.co.uk

The Cornerhouse

Oxford Street
0161 228 7621
www.cornerhouse.org





music

Musically the city
can't be bettered. From
baroque to bhangra –
you can find a place to
hear it here.



Classical music lovers have a wide choice including the Bridgewater Hall, home of the Hallé and the Manchester Camerata. The Royal Northern College of Music stages classical and modern-jazz concerts and you can catch Opera North at the Lowry.

Manchester has always been at the cutting edge of music having produced The Smiths, The Stone Roses, Buzzcocks, Joy Division, New Order, Happy Mondays, Oasis, Badly Drawn Boy and the Doves among many others. Small venues abound such as The Roadhouse, Night and Day and the Retro Bar where huge names such as the White Stripes first performed to an intimate crowd. Nights range from local band showcases and indie acts to DJ-based electroclash. The latest jazz sounds can be heard at Band on the Wall and Matt & Phreds.

Bigger names play at the Student Union's famous venue on campus, The Academy, the Apollo and the enormous Manchester Evening News Arena (Europe's largest indoor concert venue) that attracts everyone from Madonna to Pavarotti.

Bridgewater Hall
Lower Moseley Street
0161 907 7000
www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk

Royal Northern College of Music
Oxford Road
0161 907 5555
www.rncm.ac.uk

The Lowry
Pier 8
Salford Quays
0161 876 2000
www.thelowry.org.uk

Roadhouse
8 Newton Street
0161 237 9789
www.theroadhouse.u-net.com

Night and Day Café
26 Oldham Street
0161 236 9840

Retro Bar
78 Sackville Street
0161 274 4892

Matt & Phreds
85 Oldham Street
0161 831 7002

Band on the Wall
25 Swan Street
0161 8341786
www.bandonthewall.com

Manchester Academy
Oxford Road
0161 275 2930
www.manchesteracademy.net

The Apollo
Stockport Road
08709 913 913
www.alive.co.uk/apollo

MEN Arena
Victoria Station
0161 950 8000
www.men-arena.com





clubs and bars

Manchester has a worldwide reputation for its wildly varied nightlife.

In the last few years there has been an explosion of places which blur the distinction between bar and club. Below is a small selection to look out for and to try. More venues, and up-to-date details of different nights can be found at www.manchesterad.com

Bars

Gay Village

Spirit
Manto
Eden
Via Fossa
Bar Below
Tribeca
Essential

Peter's Field and Deansgate Locks

Revolution
Loaf
The Fat Cat Café
Bar Baa
Sugar Lounge
Bar 38
Square
Walkabout
Atlas
Brannigans

Northern Quarter

Ascension
Dry Bar
Night and Day Café
Cord
Bar Centro
Bluu

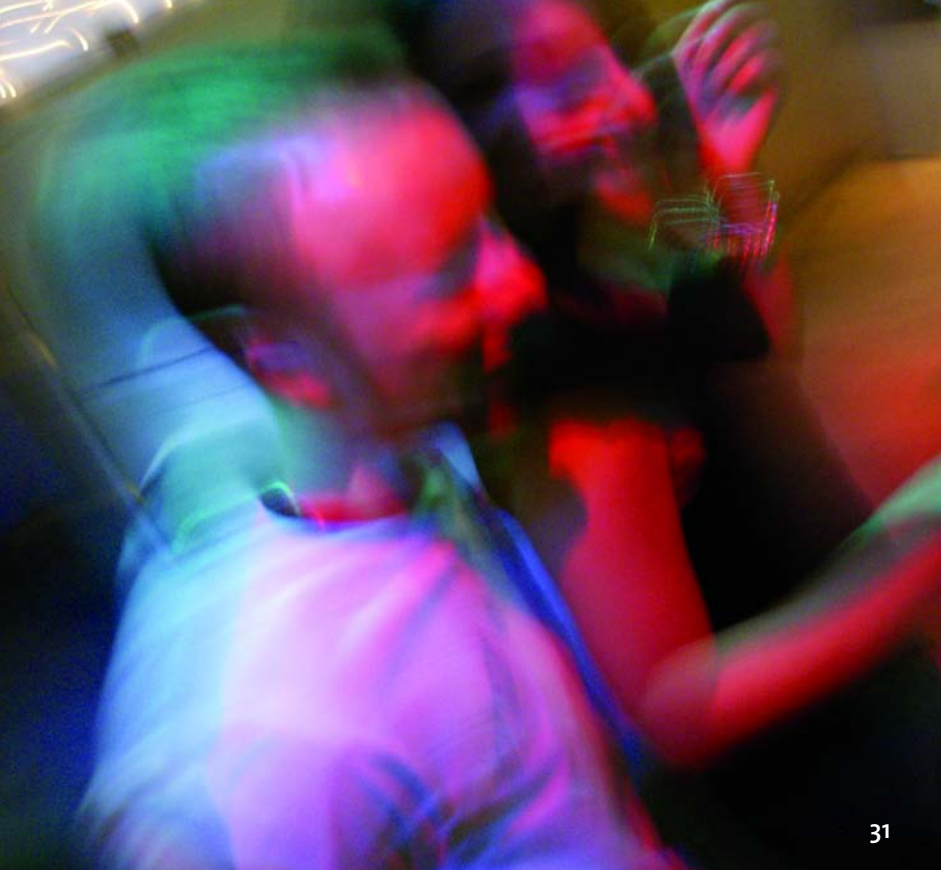
Oxford Road

Po Na Na
Zumbar
Revolution
Pure Space
The Thirsty Scholar
Music Box
Jillys

Clubs

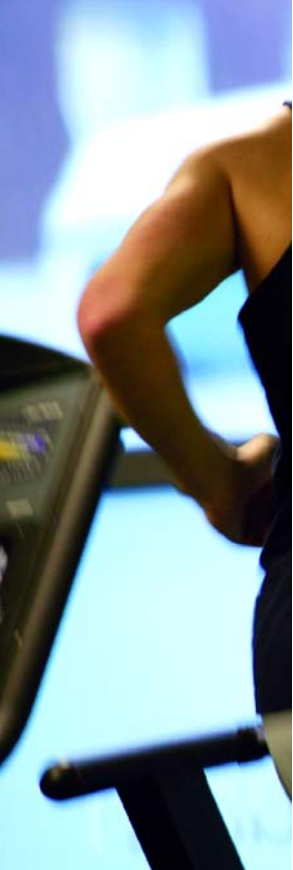
Sankeys Soap
The Ritz
Fifth Avenue
42nd Street
Club V
Infinity
North
The Roadhouse
Fab Café
Music Box
South





sport

Manchester's love affair with sport can't be exaggerated. The city lives and breathes sport.



The 2002 Commonwealth Games showcased Manchester to the sporting world and has left a legacy of fantastic venues and facilities. The City of Manchester Stadium, built for the games, is now Manchester City Football Club's home. Just next-door is the Manchester Regional Arena a 6,000-seat athletics stadium. Also part of the complex, 'SportCity', is the National Squash Centre, an indoor tennis centre and the Manchester Velodrome, where the British cycling squad train but anyone can hire a bike and have a go.

The Manchester Aquatics Centre, at the heart of the University campus, was also built for the games. As well as an Olympic-sized pool and diving pool, it has a fun pool, jacuzzis and a high specification gym offering a wide range of fitness activities at generous discounts for students.

Spectators are spoilt for choice. There's rugby union at Sale Sharks, ice hockey team Manchester Phoenix at the MEN Arena, speedway and dog racing at Belle Vue stadium. For world-class cricket go to Lancashire's Old Trafford Ground and just down the road you can't miss Manchester's most famous export, Manchester United.

**Manchester United
Museum and tour**
0161 868 8631
Megastore
0161 868 80004
Ticket hotline
0161 872 0199
www.manutd.com

**Manchester City
Superstore**
0161 232 3000
Ticket hotline
0161 226 2224
www.mcfc.co.uk

Lancashire County Cricket Club
0161 22 4000
www.lccc.co.uk

Manchester Phoenix
MEN Arena
0161 950 5000/930 8000
www.manchesterphoenix.co.uk

Manchester Velodrome
0161 223 2244
www.manchestervelodrome.com

BelleVue Dog Track
0161 223 8000/6060
www.bellevuestadium.co.uk

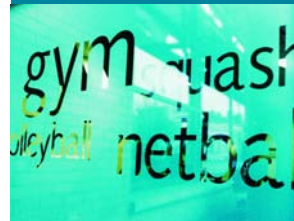
BelleVue Speedway
0161 223 7720
www.bellevuestadium.co.uk/speedway

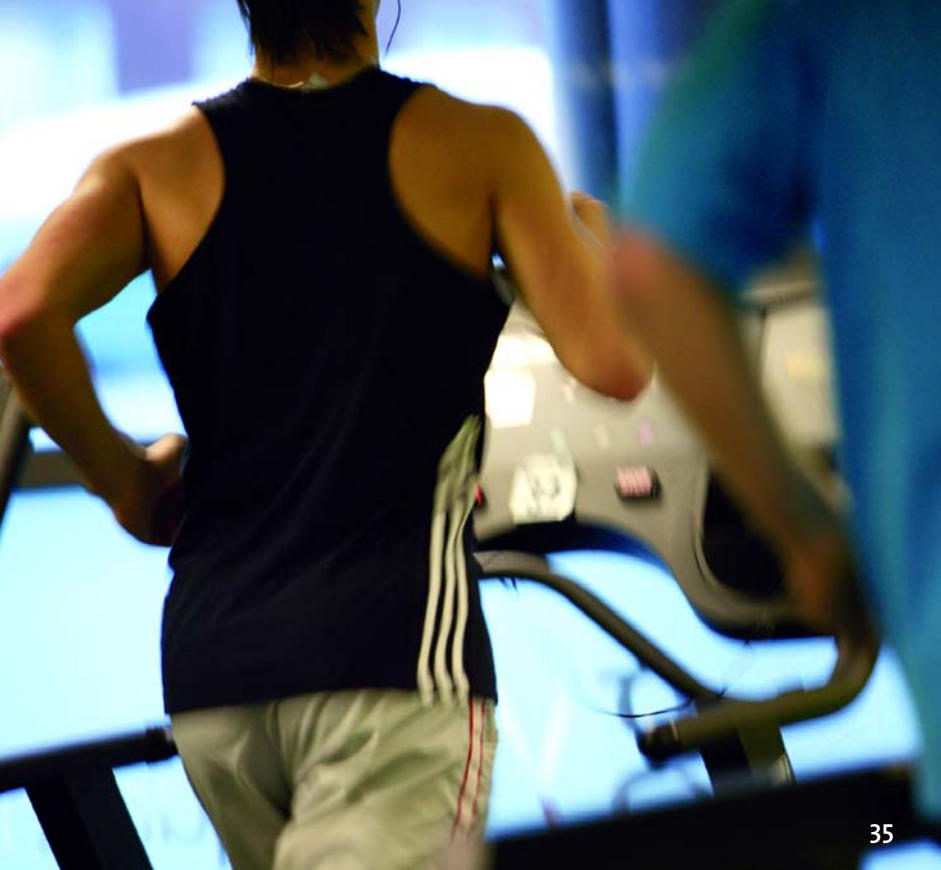
**Manchester City Council
Leisure**
www.manchester.gov.uk/leisure
0161 234 5000

Manchester Aquatics Centre
www.manchester.gov.uk/leisure/indoor
0161 275 9450

Salford Watersports Centre
www.salford.gov.uk/watersportscentre
0161 877 7252

Sale Water Park
www.thedeckersgroup.com/tws/
0161 962 0118





shopping

Manchester is *the* hassle-free place to shop. High street flagships, big designers and cool independents are all within easy reach.



Manchester is blessed with the most enviable range of big high street names and designer names, but the city's trump card is its unique independent shops. You'll find most of these in the Northern Quarter, including Arc, Oxfam Originals and Pop Boutique as well as the legendary Afflecks Palace.

If it's designer names you're after, you won't be disappointed. Check out Exchange Square, King Street and St Ann's Square for Selfridges, Harvey Nichols, Diesel, Vivienne Westwood, Armani, DKNY and Paul Smith.

The Triangle in Exchange Square and St Ann's Square also have a good range of the more stylish (and costly) chain stores such as Muji, Jigsaw, Calvin Klein Underwear, GAP, Flannels, Zara, Heals, Office and Habitat.

All the High Street favourites including a huge Boots and Marks and Spencer, Top Shop, Hennes, HMV and TK Maxx can be found in and around the Arndale and Market Street.

If the city centre doesn't satisfy your shopaholic tendencies, the Trafford Centre is just a short bus ride away with 280 more shops to browse in.





getting around

The city centre is compact enough to explore on foot, but if you need to get somewhere speedily there are plenty of options.



Metrolink

Metrolink is the fast, frequent and fully accessible tram system that serves the whole of the City Centre. 0161 205 2000 www.metrolink.co.uk

Rail and bus

Manchester has an extensive bus and local rail network. GMPT 0161 228 7811 www.gmtpe.gov.uk

For all rail enquiries call 08457 484950

Taxi

There are taxi ranks from all key points in the city, including all the main railway stations, Cross Street, High Street, St Mary's Gate and Piccadilly. Black cabs can also be hailed on the street.

Mantax

0161 230 3333

Taxiphone

0161 236 9974

Car parking

There is ample, well sign-posted parking in the city centre, although this can be expensive.

NCP

0161 817 8900

Q parks

0870 4420104





essential information

This should have given you a taste of the city, but there's a whole lot more out there. Here's how to find out about the very latest Manchester happenings.



www.manchestersonline.com

The website of the Manchester Evening News covering all things Manchester.

www.destinationmanchester.com

Find and book accommodation online and access lots more tourist information.

www.citylife.co.uk

Manchester's listings magazine's website includes a good what's on guide.

www.manchesterad.co.uk

Listings and information for Manchester 'after dark'.

www.umu.man.ac.uk

The University of Manchester Students' Union site.

www.visitmanchester.com

Great Manchester official tourism website.

Manchester Visitor Information Centre

Town Hall Extension

Lloyd Street

St Peter's Square

0161 234 3157

www.manchester.gov.uk/visitorcentre

The University of Manchester Visitors Centre

Oxford Road

0161 275 2922

www.manchester.ac.uk





discover Manchester

‘Manchester is the place
where people do things...
“don't talk about what
you're going to do - do it”.
This is the Manchester
habit.’ Judge Parry, 1912

