



Travel Guide and Activities



Useful Information

Climate

Manchester has a mild temperate climate, with cool summers and mild, rainy winters. Rain is common throughout the year, so packing an umbrella or raincoat is advisable, especially during autumn and winter.

Money

The official currency in Manchester is the British Pound Sterling (GBP, £).

Telephone Country Code

The telephone country code for the UK, including Manchester, is +44.

Electricity

230 V; 50Hz – 3-pin plug

Tap Water

Tap water in Manchester is safe to drink, unless there is a sign to the contrary (e.g. on trains), and is subject to strict quality control measures.

Useful Links

[Fitness](#)

[Events](#)

Transportation

Manchester is easily explored on foot, with plenty of pedestrian-only zones. It is possible to traverse the main central locations within around 20-minutes, end-to-end. Manchester is a bike-friendly city with many marked cycle lanes and dedicated routes throughout the city centre and beyond. The city has a well-developed road network with numerous bus, tram, taxi services and ride-sharing options.

The Ultimate Manchester Bucket List

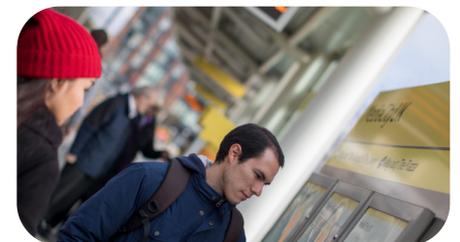
Must-See Sights and Travel Essentials

Manchester is known for its significant contributions to the Industrial Revolution. Today, the city blends historical charm with modern attractions and is famous worldwide for its music scene, football teams, and vibrant cultural landscape. With a mix of modern buildings, Victorian architecture, and expansive green spaces, Manchester has grown into a lively urban centre.

[Check out the Monthly Activities Calendar](#)

5 Things to Do

- Visit the Manchester Museum
- Take a tour of the Old Trafford or Etihad stadiums
- Explore The Lowry arts centre
- Relax at Heaton Park
- Enjoy the Museum of Science and Industry



Public Transport Info

Metroshuttles are free buses linking the main rail stations, car parks, shopping areas and businesses in Manchester city centre. Metroshuttle buses run from Piccadilly, Salford Central, Victoria, Oxford Road and Deansgate rail stations. There are three circular routes covering the main areas in the city centre.

There are four key train stations in Manchester city centre – Deansgate, Piccadilly, Oxford Road and Victoria. Of these, Piccadilly (one minute from EC Manchester) attracts the most visitors' and is the main arrival point into the city centre.

Manchester's Metrolink tram system has been developed to encourage easier and faster travel in the city centre and beyond. Connecting all major railway stations and tourist attractions, the Metrolink runs every few minutes, making it the perfect mode of transport for those who do not require a strict timetable.

[Learn more about Manchester's public transportation here.](#)

[More information about public transport may be found here.](#)

Legal Driving Age

In the UK, the minimum legal age for driving is 17 years old.

Alcohol Age

The legal age for purchasing alcohol is 18 years old. This applies to all establishments selling alcoholic beverages. Proof of age may be required at bars, pubs, and shops selling alcohol, and many venues in Manchester will ask for identification to verify age.

Smoking Laws

Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed public spaces and workplaces, including restaurants, pubs, and cafes.

Insurance

Students must have adequate health, accident and travel insurance while attending any of our programmes.



British Public Holidays

Public holidays falling on a weekday

2026: 01 Jan, 03 Apr, 06 Apr, 04 May, 25 May, 31 Aug, 25 Dec, 28 Dec

Visa Requirements

Visa requirements depend on your nationality and length of stay; most international students will need a student visa to study in the UK. Please contact us for more information.

[Visa Requirements](#)

Cost of Living

Bottle of water / soda (0.33 litre)

£0.75-£1.50

Coffee/Cappuccino (Starbucks)

£2.25-£3.00

Fast-Food combo meal

£5.00-£6.00

Meal, inexpensive restaurant

£8.00-£20.00

Fitness club (monthly, 1 adult)

£17.00-£35.00

Public transport (local transport)

£2.20-£4.00 (one-way)

Public transport (monthly pass)

£50.00-£80.00