

# Planning your journey

When you go by bus, train and tram you won't need to worry about driving unfamiliar routes, finding somewhere to park or keeping the kids entertained along the way.

You will all be free to relax and enjoy the views on your route.

The walk starts at the Heaton Park entrance on Bury Old Road. This location is easy to reach using public transport because it is on a main bus route between Manchester and Bury and there are bus stops outside the park. The entrance is also opposite Heaton Park tram stop. There are regular and frequent tram services to these stops from Manchester and Bury, which run seven days a week. Trams run every six minutes during the daytime and every 12 minutes during the evenings and all day Sunday and public holidays. Tram services from Manchester start at Altrincham Interchange so if your journey starts in Trafford it may be convenient to make a connection there.

Bus 135 runs directly between Manchester and Bury at least every 10 minutes and every 20 minutes during evenings (including Sundays and public holidays). Buses 137 and 138 also run between Manchester and Bury Interchange via Hollins every 20 minutes during the daytime, every half hour on Sundays and hourly every evening.

If your journey starts from the immediate east of Heaton Park you may find it more convenient to catch a bus to other stops on Middleton Road near the Smithy Lodge entrance or other stops near the tram museum. There are frequent services from Middleton bus station including buses 59, 64, 115 and 156. The map shows paths in the park that allow you to join the suggested walk. For details of these services phone Traveline on 0871 200 22 33\*

Most public transport services run until around 11pm Mondays to Saturdays. Last services may run a little earlier on Sundays and public holidays.

We've made general recommendations for your journey, based on starting points in different Districts of Greater Manchester below but for details of exact times and routes please phone Traveline on 0871 200 22 33\*

Starting and finishing from (area or district)	The information shown is for your guidance. Please phone Traveline 0871 200 22 33* for details of exact routes and times.
<b>Bolton Oldham Stockport Tameside Wigan</b>	Catch a bus or train to Manchester centre then catch a bus or tram to Heaton Park. Bus 59 runs directly from Oldham bus station to stops on Middleton Road.  The return journey is the reverse of above.
<b>Bury</b>	Check if there is a convenient bus or tram service directly to Heaton Park (or alternatively a convenient bus to stops on Middleton Road). If not catch a bus to Bury then catch a bus or tram from Bury Interchange direct to Heaton Park.  The return journey is the reverse of above.
<b>Manchester</b>	Check if there is a convenient bus or tram service directly to Heaton Park (or alternatively a convenient bus to stops on Middleton Road). If not catch a bus or train to Manchester then catch a bus or tram from city centre stops direct to Heaton Park.  The return journey is the reverse of above.
<b>Rochdale</b>	Check if there is a convenient bus service directly to Heaton Park (or to bus to stops on Middleton Road). If not catch a bus or train to Manchester then catch a bus or tram from city centre stops direct to Heaton Park.  The return journey is the reverse of above.
<b>Salford</b>	Check if there is a convenient bus service direct to Heaton Park. If not catch a bus, train or tram to Manchester then catch a bus or tram from city centre stops direct to Heaton Park.  The return journey is the reverse of above.
<b>Trafford</b>	Trams run direct to Heaton Park from Metrolink stops in Trafford, including Altrincham Interchange. Alternatively catch a bus or train to Manchester centre then catch a bus or tram to Heaton Park.  The return journey is the reverse of above.

\*Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff.

# Getting more information

## By phone (ideal when you're out and about!)

**Buses, trains and trams:** Phone Traveline on 0871 200 22 33\* (7am – 8pm Mon to Fri, 8am – 8pm Sat & Sun and public holidays) for information about bus, train and tram times and the tickets that will suit you best.

**Trains:** For up-to-the-minute information about the next train from any Greater Manchester rail station, simply phone 'How's my train running?' on 0161 228 0322 and follow the instructions given. Our automated service will tell you what time the next train is and if there are any delays.

**Buses:** You can check bus times from most bus stops using your mobile phone.

- **Key in** the bus stop code on your mobile phone – the code is shown on the bus stop plate.
- **Text** the code to number **84268**.
- **Read** the text reply giving you timetable information for buses using your stop. (Service costs 25p plus the standard charge from your mobile phone service provider).

## Online

Full information about public transport services and a journey planner is available online at [www.gmpte.com](http://www.gmpte.com)

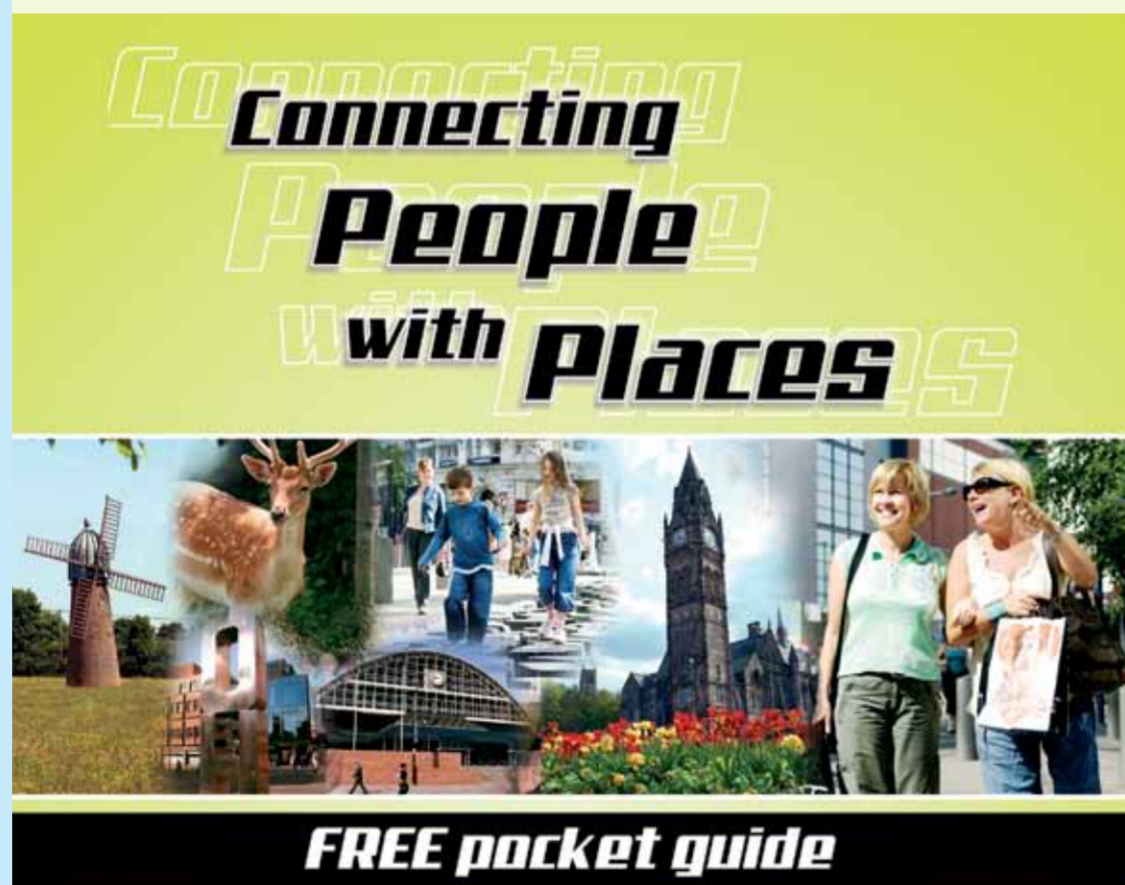
## In print

GMPTe produce a range of timetables and information about public transport which you can pick up at any **GMPTe Travelshop**.

## By post

Ask for leaflets to be posted to you by phoning 0871 200 22 33\* saying which leaflet or timetable you require.

\*Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff.



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Greater Manchester has lots to offer when it comes to connecting people with places. Whether it's shopping, sight-seeing, visiting friends or just getting to and from work; you can do it using buses, trains and Metrolink trams.

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- Choosing the best tickets
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(Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.)

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# Choosing and buying tickets

You'll enjoy great value when you travel by public transport. Travel costs less 'off-peak' – after 9.30am on weekdays, or anytime at the weekends or on public holidays and so we recommend that you make the most of the bargain priced 'off-peak' tickets shown below.

Single tickets are available for every public transport journey and some companies also offer returns and their own 'day' tickets that are valid on their services only. If your trip involves changes or multiple journeys, there's an excellent choice of 'off-peak' tickets which allow you to travel throughout Greater Manchester, making as many journeys as you want. They last the whole day so you don't have to keep paying fares each time you travel – and these tickets can be used on nearly all companies' services.

Whichever ticket you choose for yourself, accompanied children under five travel free. A special fixed low fare called the 'concessionary fare' is available for under 16's and on trains and trams they pay approximately half fare. Child fares are also available for all the tickets featured except DaySaver.

National Concessionary Travel Passes are issued throughout England and allow free off peak travel on bus services. GMPTe passes issued to residents of Manchester also allow free travel on trams and local trains in Greater Manchester at off-peak times and for reduced concessionary fares at other times.

An Under-16 Card is needed to travel on Metrolink if you are aged 13 to 15. These are available free and you can get an application form from GMPTe Travelshops or visit [www.gmpte.com](http://www.gmpte.com)

## For bus, train and tram

OFF-PEAK

DaySaver tickets are available for various combinations of bus, train and tram travel. Simply buy your ticket from the bus driver, rail station booking office (or the train conductor if closed) or Metrolink ticket machine before your first trip of the day.

- **DaySaver Bus only** £4.30 (also available before 9.30am for £4.60)
- **DaySaver Bus and Train** £5.30
- **DaySaver Bus and Tram** £5.80
- **DaySaver Train and Tram** £6.30
- **DaySaver Bus, Train and Tram** £7.00

## For train only

OFF-PEAK

Rail Ranger gives you unlimited 'off-peak' travel on all trains in Greater Manchester for a whole day. Buy Rail Ranger from the booking office or the train conductor if the booking office is closed.

- **Rail Ranger Adult** £4.00, Child £2.00

## For tram only

OFF-PEAK

MetroMax gives you unlimited 'off-peak' travel on all Metrolink tram routes for a whole day. You can buy MetroMax from Metrolink ticket machines at all tram stops.

- **MetroMax** (off-peak price depends on boarding stop)  
Adult £2.90 – £4.00, Child £1.10 – £1.70  
Also available before 9.30am - Adult £5.60, Child £2.60
- **MetroMax Four-Adults** £10.00
- **MetroMax Family** £6.20 any day Monday to Friday, £5.00 Saturday or Sunday (up to three children, accompanied by one or two adults)
- **MetroMax Weekend** Adult £5.00, Child £2.50, Family £7.00

## To travel further by bus, train and tram

OFF-PEAK

Wayfarer tickets are ideal if you're travelling further afield for the day. You can use them for travel throughout Greater Manchester and also parts of Derbyshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and Staffordshire. With a Wayfarer ticket you can travel by bus at any time and by train and tram after 9.30am Monday to Friday and all day at weekends and public holidays.

- **Wayfarer Adult** £10.00
- **Wayfarer Group** £20.00 (up to four people, including two adults)
- **Wayfarer Concession** £5.00 (aged 5-15 or 60 and over)

Available in advance from GMPTe Travelshops, staffed rail stations and tourist information centres in the Peak District. You cannot buy them on the bus, on the train or at Metrolink tram stops.

## Season ticket holders

Don't forget if you have a Traincard, Countycard or County Bus Saver you can use it to travel throughout Greater Manchester. And if you have a Greater Manchester rail season ticket (for journeys between two Greater Manchester rail stations) you can travel by train anywhere in Greater Manchester at weekends and public holidays.

For more information about day tickets visit [www.gmpte.com/daytickets](http://www.gmpte.com/daytickets) or phone 0871 200 22 33 for a leaflet. (Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff).

All prices shown correct September 2009.



**Places to GO...**  
**Heaton Park**  
Beautiful parkland & stunning views  
Walk route and public transport information

Transport for Greater Manchester

**Archive copy only**

Please note that some of this information is now out of date.

This may include the walking route, contact numbers and public transport information.



This is one of a range of GMPTe 'Places to Go' guides, giving you ideas for walks, attractions, places to visit and things to see in Greater Manchester and surrounding areas. The guides are completely **FREE** and each one gives you carefully researched, helpful information about the places featured, recommended routes for superb walks and details of how to get there and back by public transport.



If you would like other 'Places to Go' guides:

- **Call at a GMPTe Travelshop (at bus stations in Greater Manchester).**
- **Visit [www.gmpte.com](http://www.gmpte.com) where you can order online.**
- **Phone 0871 200 22 33 and leave your details.**

(Calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays)

If you have any comments about this leaflet or suggestions for new guides please email [publicity@gmpte.gov.uk](mailto:publicity@gmpte.gov.uk) or write to **Marketing Communications, GMPTe, PO Box 429, Manchester M60 1HX**

*Disclaimer: The information provided in this guide has been carefully checked but GMPTe cannot accept responsibility for inaccuracies or errors.*



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**public transport information**



**0871 200 22 33**  
10p a minute from landlines  
**traveline.info**

7am - 8pm Mon to Fri • 8am - 8pm Sat, Sun & Public Hols

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Welcome to GMPTe's 'Places to Go' guide to

# Heaton Park

Beautiful parkland, stunning views and a fascinating history

Enjoy a great day out exploring one of the great landscape parks of the North West, with fantastic walking, fabulous views and plenty of fun for all the family. It's easy to get to by public transport too!



Originally part of the estate of the Egerton family, Heaton Park was bought and opened to the public by Manchester Corporation in 1902. At 640 acres it is the largest municipal park in Manchester and one of the biggest in Europe. For over a century it has attracted thousands of visitors with a great range of attractions, events and entertainment for all the family.

Our suggested walk shows a lot of what Heaton Park has to offer; visit once and you'll want to come back time and time again! Of course you are completely free to wander off the route and explore other parts of the park.



Heaton Park opens at 8am all year round. Closing times vary depending on the time of year. For further details phone 0161 773 1085, or visit [www.heatonpark.org.uk](http://www.heatonpark.org.uk)

## Make it an even better day out

Start your walk by stepping onto a bus, train or tram.

You don't need a car to get out there and enjoy yourself! Simply step onto a bus, train or tram and you're on your way to a great day out, by yourself or with friends or family. The adventure begins from the moment you step out of the door.

Greater Manchester has an excellent public transport system that'll take you where you want to go quickly and easily. It's a fun way to get out and about, no-one has to drive so you can all enjoy the journey – and you don't have to worry about traffic jams, getting directions or parking problems. Better still, at the end of the walk everyone is free to relax in the pub!

See inside for a handy guide to:

- **Planning your journey**
- **Getting more information**
- **Choosing and buying tickets**

# Heaton Park

An easy walk through formal parkland with fascinating features, fun places to visit and some great views.

## Walk route

- Start and finish:** Heaton Park entrance on Bury Old Road.
- Distance:** 3 miles, with an extra mile if you visit Hazlitt Wood Pond.
- Time:** 2½ hours. Allow extra time for visiting attractions and allow 45 minutes extra if you take the optional walk to Hazlitt Wood Pond.
- Terrain:** Easy walking along roadways and paths with gentle climbs and descents. Additional options include walking on grass or following narrower tracks.
- Family friendly:** Ideal for families, but keep children and dogs well supervised near water.
- Accessibility:** Suggested route is suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. Optional walk to Hazlitt Wood Pond is not suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.
- Recommended footwear:** Comfortable footwear. Optional walk to Hazlitt Wood Pond requires sturdy footwear.

2

Continue along the path past the Bowling Greens, a world-class centre built for the 2002 Commonwealth Games. Follow the path as it bears right then take the path that runs alongside the road to the right. Follow the short path to your left to the Dower House, a stylish 18th century conversion of an old house, and now home to the Manchester Bee Keepers, with regular demonstrations and delicious honey on sale. *The Dower House is open 12am – 5pm on public holidays and Sundays in summer.*

Retrace your steps to the main path, with a large children's play area to your right, and go through the gate next to the cattle grid. Follow the path down towards the Hall.

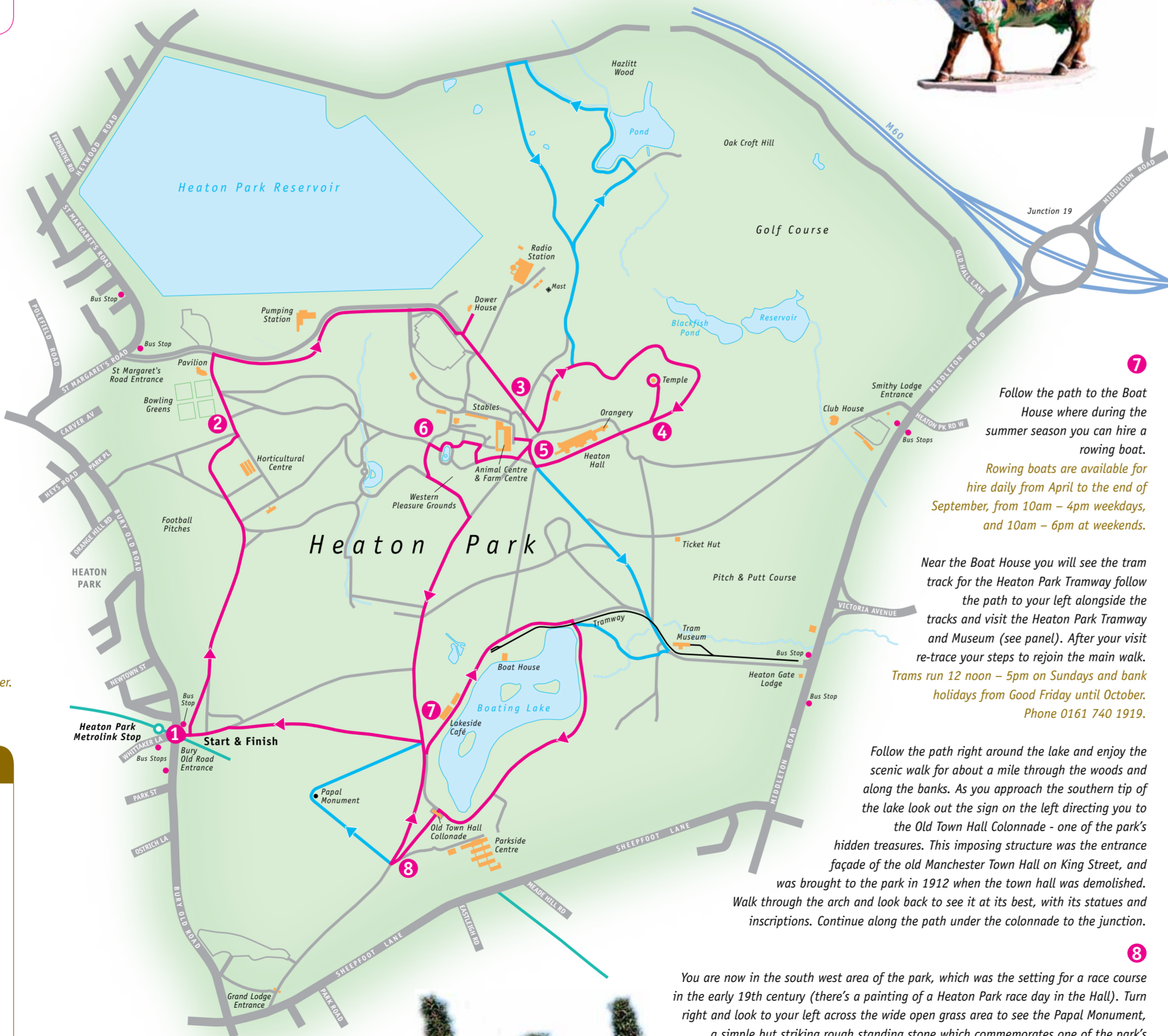
3

As you approach the Hall, go along the path to your left (signposted for toilets). Here you have an option to extend your walk and go to **Hazlitt Wood Pond**, look for the point of departure from the main walk on your left (see inset). Follow the curve of the path round the wooded hill and look for the path on your right and follow the steep but short walk up to the Temple. From this vantage point the view is superb! Built on the highest spot in the city of Manchester, the Temple was designed in the classical style by James Wyatt and may have been used as an observatory by Sir Thomas Egerton.

## Down to Hazlitt Wood Pond

There's a break in the path bank on your left opposite the toilets (see 3) near the Hall. Cross the grass here and head for the gate you can see ahead, with the telecommunications mast to your left. Go through the gate, past grazing horses and in 30 yards you will come to a fork in the path.

Take the right path and follow the slope down through the trees. Climb over the stile and you'll soon get to the lovely little lake known as the Hazlitt Wood Pond. It's a beautiful, unspoiled and quiet area - and if you're lucky you may even spot a kingfisher. Keep to the left of the pond on a stone path (a little overgrown) and walk around it with the fence to your left until you're more or less opposite the starting point of the path. It goes left away from the pond here and leads you up through the woods alongside a delightful stream, and towards the park perimeter wall. When you get to the end of the path, slip through the narrow gap (designed to keep horses from passing through). Here you should turn left, following the main path back to the Hall (passing the path to the Pond) and turning left to re-join the main walk as it heads towards the Temple.



1

From the Metrolink tram stop, or bus stops, enter Heaton Park by the Bury Old Road entrance. Take the path to the left here (signposted for the Horticultural Centre and Football Pitches). Follow the path and look out for the first of several wonderful views across to the Pennines to your right. After a couple of hundred yards, you'll come to the Horticultural Centre, a walled garden that was used to grow food for the occupants of Heaton Hall. Look inside for the wildlife garden and ornamental pond. *The Horticultural Centre is open 10am – 5pm in the summer and 10am – 3pm in the winter. Phone 0161 773 1085 or visit [www.heatonpark.org.uk](http://www.heatonpark.org.uk)*

## Things to look for and do

- Nature & wildlife:** Ponds and lakes with waterside birds and flowers, rare breed cattle, farm animals, formal gardens and woodland flora and fauna.
- History:** 18th century Heaton Hall, Orangery, Temple, Dower House, Old Town Hall Colonnade and Papal Monument.
- General interest:** A wonderful variety of animals in the Animal Centre and Farm Centre. 'Land train' and vintage tram tides (summer only). Extensive playgrounds. Golf, pitch & putt, driving range, bowls, rowing, fishing, guided walks, orienteering and horse/pony riding. Seasonal entertainments and regular major events.
- Food and drink:** Several cafes in the park, and a choice of pubs and takeaways close to start and finish point.
- Toilets:** At the Farm Centre, close to the Hall and in the Lakeside Café.



4

Retrace the path from the Temple and rejoin the main path until you reach the Orangery that adjoins the Hall. Originally, built for Lady Margaret, wife of the 2nd Earl of Wilton, it is now a popular setting for wedding parties and business functions. Look out for a small blue plaque to the right of the door, commemorating the 133,516 trainee aircrew who were stationed at Heaton Park during World War II. In front of the Orangery there's a delightful formal garden, and as you proceed along the back of Heaton Hall you can see a Ha-Ha, a low walled ditch designed to stop cattle grazing on the formal lawns and present a clear view from the house - now enjoyed by a pair of lead lions guarding the south side of the hall. Heaton Hall itself was designed in 1772 for Sir Thomas Egerton by James Wyatt, and now houses a collection of furniture, paintings and musical instruments. *The Hall is open from Easter Saturday to the end of August, Thursday to Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 11am – 5.30pm. There is no admission charge.*

5

Follow the path to the junction and bear right to the Farm Centre, originally the stables and coach house, and now home to the Stables Café and the offices - where the helpful staff can provide you with a wealth of information. The Animal Centre is here too - it's a magnet for families with younger children, who can come face to face with all their farm-yard favourites and some more exotic creatures! *The Farm Centre, Animal Centre, and Stables Café are open daily throughout the year. Times vary so phone 0161 773 1085, or visit [www.heatonpark.org.uk](http://www.heatonpark.org.uk)*

6

Coming out of the Farm Centre, keep it to your right and continue towards the restored Western Pleasure Grounds - signposted for Dell Gardens. The path dips down through lovely woods alongside a stream, and comes out at a small children's playground, where you should turn right along the main path. *Look out for the boating lake on your left and then take the path on the left keeping the lake to your right. Here you will find swans and wildfowl on the twelve-acre lake. Hungry or thirsty? There's the opportunity here to drop in to the Lakeside Café where you can enjoy a cup of tea. The Lakeside Café is open daily, all year round and offers hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and hot food. Phone 0161 798 5158.*

7

Follow the path to the Boat House where during the summer season you can hire a rowing boat. *Rowing boats are available for hire daily from April to the end of September, from 10am – 4pm weekdays, and 10am – 6pm at weekends.*

Near the Boat House you will see the tram track for the Heaton Park Tramway follow the path to your left alongside the tracks and visit the Heaton Park Tramway and Museum (see panel). After your visit re-trace your steps to rejoin the main walk. *Trams run 12 noon – 5pm on Sundays and bank holidays from Good Friday until October. Phone 0161 740 1919.*

Follow the path right around the lake and enjoy the scenic walk for about a mile through the woods and along the banks. As you approach the southern tip of the lake look out the sign on the left directing you to the Old Town Hall Colonnade - one of the park's hidden treasures. This imposing structure was the entrance façade of the old Manchester Town Hall on King Street, and was brought to the park in 1912 when the town hall was demolished. Walk through the arch and look back to see it at its best, with its statues and inscriptions. Continue along the path under the colonnade to the junction.

8

You are now in the south west area of the park, which was the setting for a race course in the early 19th century (there's a painting of a Heaton Park race day in the Hall). Turn right and look to your left across the wide open grass area to see the Papal Monument, a simple but striking rough standing stone which commemorates one of the park's greatest days when the Pope visited the park in 1882. If you want a closer look, cut across the grass. Retrace your steps, continuing towards the Hall and looking for the path signposted 'Metrolink, Heaton Park' to the finish on your left.

## The Heaton Park Tramway and Museum

Visitors to the Heaton Park Tramway can ride on a variety of working historic trams that date back to the early 1900s. Ride on the trams along the restored line that runs between the Tram Terminus and the boating lake. You have the opportunity to see Manchester tram '765' a 'California' type single-deck originally used on the famous 53 route where only single deck trams could run because of low bridges. Also running is Hull tram 96, originally a double-deck tramcar that in the 1930's was cut down to a single-deck! You will also see Manchester L53, a horse drawn tram dating from the 1880's.



As well as working trams, make sure you pay a visit to the fascinating museum housed within the tram depot. Here you can trace the development and history of trams in Manchester and see a working model tramway. There is also a shop in the museum selling books and souvenirs of your visit. *The Heaton Park Tramway runs between 1pm - 5pm on Sundays and public holidays from Easter until the end of September. A small fare is charged to ride on the trams. The Tramway Museum and shop are also open on Sundays and public holidays and admission is free. For more information or special bookings phone the Operations Department on 01282 436802 or 01254 665119.*

