

Places to GO...

Central Manchester

Mills & canals, science & industry

City trail 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information is now out of date.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.

ENTRANCE

Connecting People with Places





Welcome to GMPTÉ's 'Places to Go' guide,
Central Manchester

Cotton mills, canal paths and a marvellous free museum

Explore the history and heritage of 'Cottonopolis', strolling along by the canal - and then find out more at a fantastic museum. It's easy to get to by public transport!

The Romans arrived in AD79, calling their fort on the legionary road between Chester and Ribchester (near Preston) 'Mamucium'. But Manchester came into its own much later when the cotton trade transformed a small woollen and linen industry centre into the world's first industrial city.

The immense wealth generated by cotton - and the associated engineering supply chain - is to be seen in the abundance of opulent Victorian warehouses, huge mills and transport infrastructure, which survive in and around the city centre. This walk takes in just a small part of this; a window onto a heritage that is swiftly being absorbed into the rapidly regenerating city centre. And at the end of the walk, The Museum of Science & Industry reviews and reveals much of the history and heritage you've just enjoyed.

Make it an even better day out

Start your day 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 day everyone is free to relax in the pub!

See inside for a handy guide to:

- ***Planning your journey*** *page 10*
- ***Choosing and buying the best ticket*** *page 12*
- ***Getting more information*** *page 14*

Central Manchester – the trail

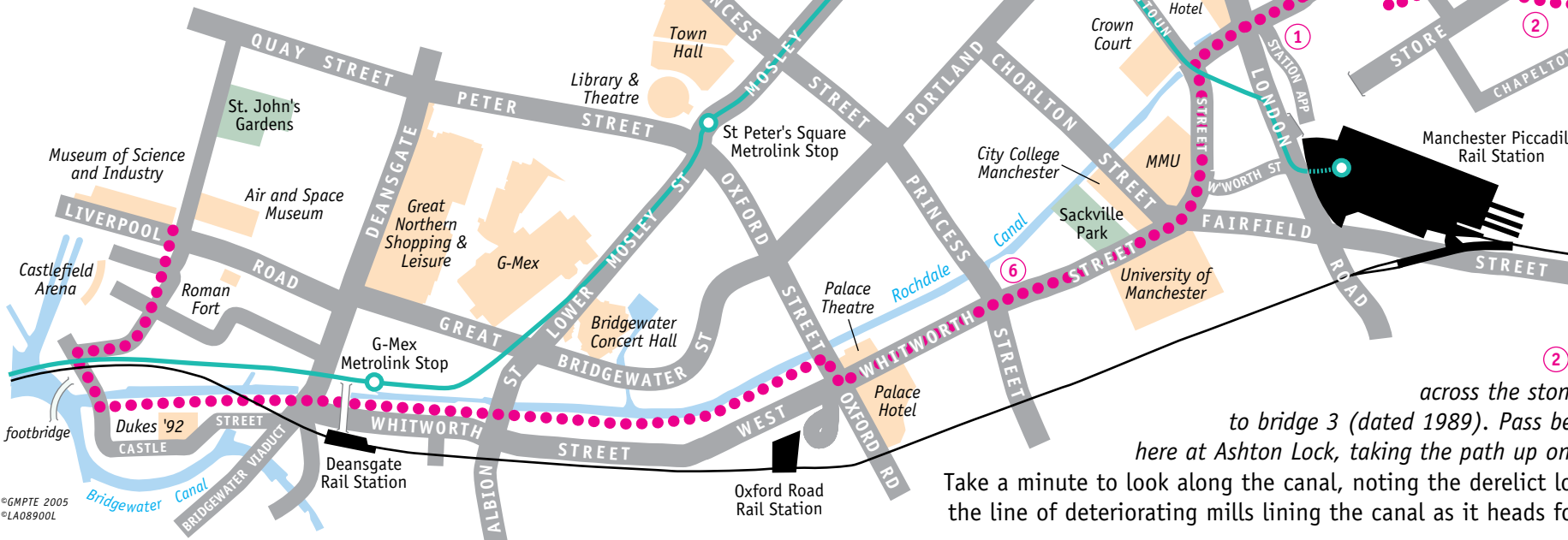


Start: Manchester Piccadilly rail station.
Finish: The Museum of Science and Industry, Liverpool Road.
Distance: 2¼ miles.
Time: 1½ hours
Terrain: Easy walking on streets and canal towpaths, some main roads to cross.
Family friendly: Yes.
Accessibility: Reasonable, some steps so difficult for wheelchairs.
Recommended footwear: Walking shoes.

- Suggested walk route
- ▬ Pedestrianised areas
- ▬ Roads

Along the canals

While the cotton industry was the lifeblood of the rapid growth of Manchester, the canals were the arteries that fed this growth. Three canals converge in the city centre; this trail combining these waterways gives you glimpse of the past, present and future.



① Find the foot of the sloping access road to Manchester Piccadilly rail station and turn along Ducie Street. Pass in front of The Place Hotel, a redeveloped old bonded goods railway warehouse built in 1867. Pass the next building and turn right into Jutland Street. Look right for metal steps down to the towpath and join this, water on your right. This is the end of the **Ashton Canal**, opened in the 1790's to serve the textile industry, move coal and transport limestone from the Peak District. It is now part of the 'Cheshire Ring' leisure waterway. This area was a warren of wharfs and warehouses, now mostly redeveloped as 'Piccadilly Village'.

② Remain on the towpath across the stone aqueduct and through to bridge 3 (dated 1989). Pass beneath this and turn left here at Ashton Lock, taking the path up onto Great Ancoats Street. Take a minute to look along the canal, noting the derelict lock-keepers cottage and the line of deteriorating mills lining the canal as it heads for the distant Pennines.

Tourist Information

You can find out more at Manchester Visitor Information Centre in the Town Hall Extension on Lloyd Street (near to Central Library). Phone 0161 234 3157 or visit www.manchester.gov.uk/visitorcentre

- ③ *Walk right along the main road to the nearby Central Retail Park. At the far end of this, drop down right to another towpath at Lock 82, Ancoats Lane. Take a short diversion right here to appreciate the heritage of the **Rochdale Canal**.*

This opened in 1805 linking Manchester via Rochdale to the Yorkshire woollen towns. It differs from the Ashton Canal because it is a broad canal - the locks can take boats up to 14 feet wide, whereas the Ashton (a narrow canal) is limited to boats seven feet wide. Since restoration in 2004 the Rochdale canal is open to through navigation from Castlefield in Manchester to Sowerby Bridge in Yorkshire.

Beside this waterway are, firstly, McConnel & Kennedy's Mills, which were amongst the first to be lit by gas and have machinery powered by steam engines. In their Victorian heyday they became attractions in their own right to engineers, industrialists and well-to-do travellers. Long derelict, they are now being redeveloped as Royal Mills apartments and flats. Adjoining are the gargantuan Murrays Mills, built about 1800 and the largest yet built. Here you're at the edge of New Islington, the transformed industrial heartland of Ancoats being reborn as a 21st century urban village.

- ④ *Walk to the next bridge and turn left across the canal. Keep right to Jersey Street, then left and left again to wind a way through the complex back to the canal and the bridge at Ancoats Lane. Rejoin the towpath, go under Great Ancoats Street and trace the towpath past the old Brownsfield Cotton Mill; all of these mills once had their own branches of the canal. In 200 yards cross the curving footbridge and turn sharp-left.*

Here you're at the heart of a complex of canal basins (many now filled in and built upon) marking the junction of the two canals, hemmed in by superb Victorian and Edwardian warehouses, the earlier Dale Street Canal Warehouse (1806) and modern apartments.

Time to leave the towpath for a short distance.

Go beneath the arched car-park entrance and turn left to Ducie Street. Turn right and cross London Road and go ahead to Aytoun Street at the Crown Courts; here turn left to Whitworth Street and turn right along this in front of the UMIST campus.

Temples to the wealth that cotton generated are everywhere here, as fine-an-array of late Victorian and Edwardian warehouses as you'll find anywhere; the elaborate, Baroque-style Lancaster House is hard to miss. Most of these old warehouses are now apartments.

- ⑥ *Cross directly over Princess Street and keep ahead.*

To your right on Winsor Street is glimpsed a former power station and octagonal chimney. Built in 1901, it generated electricity by steam power; the waste steam was also piped as heating to many of the adjoining warehouses whilst the electricity helped power the city's trams. At the corner with Oxford Road is the imposing **Palace Hotel**, formerly the Refuge Assurance building - building started in the 1890's and finished in the 1930's!

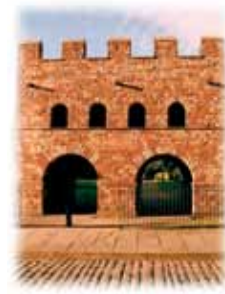
*Turn right on Oxford Road here, and cross to the steps leading down to the canal towpath. Continue west to reach Dukes 92 bar and the **Castlefield** area.*





Here, the Rochdale Canal meets the **Bridgewater Canal**, the first to be built in Britain since the time of the Romans, reaching here in 1765. There are countless impressive structures in this area of docks, warehouses and wharfs, all now converted into offices, flats and leisure uses. Narrowboats often add a splash of colour to the area. The modern interloper is the graceful Merchants Bridge, built in 1996.

*Don't cross this, instead keep right to pass left of Barça café bar and walk beneath the series of viaducts carrying railways and Metrolink high above the canals. Walk through to **The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester** on Liverpool Road noting the reconstruction of part of the Roman Fort up to your right.*



The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester

It would take many hours to do justice to the exhibition halls and displays here!

Visit the world's first railway station, Liverpool Road (built by George Stephenson in 1830)... discover Underground Manchester on a trip through the sewers and water-supply system... explore The Making of Manchester which charts the growth of the city... marvel at the Power Hall which exhibits the world's largest collection of working steam mill engines... walk around the Electricity Gallery and National Gas Galleries which tell the fascinating story of these everyday necessities. Make sure you've plenty of time for them all!

Adjacent is the graceful old, cast-iron & glass Lower Campfield Market building, now housing the Air & Space Hall, with a planetarium, flight simulator, a virtual parachute jump and countless famous aircraft.

*Best of all, entry to all these attractions is free (except for special exhibitions which change on a regular basis). Open daily 10am - 5pm (except 24-26 December) You'll find full details on **0161 832 2244** and at www.msim.org.uk*



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.

Manchester is easy to reach by bus, train and tram from all parts of Greater Manchester. Most districts have a direct bus connection to the city centre and direct services run from all town centre bus stations. Most train services and every Metrolink tram route includes a stop in Manchester centre.

It's easy to get to the start at Piccadilly rail station too - when you arrive in Manchester it's easy to get around with FREE travel. Metroshuttle is a FREE bus service linking shopping areas, businesses and main rail stations, including Piccadilly. If you have a valid rail ticket to Manchester you can also use Metrolink trams FREE in the city centre. This includes singles, returns and all the other rail tickets featured on pages 12 and 13.

The Museum of Science & Industry is very close to both Deansgate rail and Metrolink G-Mex stations; both are well signed from the museum area and can be accessed by a lift (daytime only) from a point just behind the Roman Fort.

Most public transport services run until around 11pm Mondays to Saturdays. On Sundays and bank holidays services run less frequently and last services may finish a little earlier.

We've made general recommendations for your journey, based on starting points in different districts of Greater Manchester on the next page but for details of exact times and routes please phone Traveline on **0871 200 22 333***.

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

Starting and finishing from (area or district).

*The information shown is for your guidance. Please phone Traveline **0871 200 22 333*** for details of exact routes and times.*

**Bolton
Oldham
Rochdale
Stockport
Tameside
Wigan**

Check if there is a convenient bus or train service direct to Manchester, otherwise catch a bus or train to your nearest town centre and make a direct connection there.

The return journey is the reverse of above.

**Bury
Salford
Trafford**

Check if there is a convenient bus, train or tram service direct to Manchester, otherwise catch a bus or train to your nearest town centre and make a direct connection there.

The return journey is the reverse of above.

Manchester

If you live in Manchester there will probably be a convenient bus, train or tram service to and from the city centre.



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.gmpite.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 station 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 £6.00, Child £2.60
- **MetroMax Four-Adult** £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.gmpite.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.

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**

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.

Connecting People with Places



FREE pocket guide

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.

Our pocket guide is crammed with useful tips and info such as:

- Planning your journeys
- Choosing the best tickets
- Free travel in the city centre
- Useful maps
- Information on the move

Order your copy today.

Phone: **0871 200 22 33**

(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.

or visit: **www.gmpte.com**



GMPTe

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.gmppte.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@gmppte.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.



PO Box 429
Manchester
M60 1HX

Tel 0161 244 1000
Fax 0161 244 1011

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