

Textual analysis [EN]

MANCHESTER

Manchester - Home of Brit cool

Learn all about Manchester from its unique landmarks like Old Trafford and Curry Mile to its rich cultural hotspots like Lowry Centre and Urbis.

A cool, contemporary metropolis

Manchester, in England's North Country, is one of Britain's coolest cities. This once industrial city has reinvented itself as a truly contemporary metropolis, with modern landmark buildings such as the Lowry Centre, a thriving art and culture scene, and world-class sport - its home to the world famous Manchester United Football Club. It's often cited as the world's first industrialised city, and elements of Manchester's industrial past can be found as you travel throughout the city. It's this dramatic mix of old and new that gives Manchester its unique character.

Culture & heritage

Birthplace of the industrial revolution, the computer, the football league and Top of the Pops, Manchester's heritage is impressive to say the least. Manchester is now a thriving metropolis, but it's not hard to spot Manchester's past. Central Library, inspired by the Pantheon in Rome, is the largest municipal library in the world; and the magnificent Royal Exchange Theatre, formerly the Cotton Exchange, now houses the world's largest theatre-in-the-round.

Attractions

The city's attractions – from the museums and galleries, to sports stadiums and music venues – offer something for everyone. Most of Manchester's 90 or so museums are free, including the galleries at the world-famous The Lowry Centre. If you don't know where to start exploring Manchester, try an open bus tour from St Peter's Square.

Top daytime must-do's	Top night time must-do's
Let your inner culture vulture loose at the Manchester Art Gallery .	Take in a dance, theatre or family show at the The Lowry Centre.
Go behind the scenes at Old Trafford with the Manchester United Museum & Tour .	Watch your favourite big-name star perform at the MEN Arena .
...or show your support for Manchester City – the Manchester City Experience .	Enjoy a delicious curry at the Rusholme Curry Mile .
Discover all there is to know about city life at the Urbis exhibition centre.	Find out where to see the hottest new bands with out guide to music in Manchester
Shop till you drop at the Trafford Centre – home to over 230 shops	

Food & drink

Manchester's diverse culture mix mean's there's a great range of places to eat and drink. Manchester has a reputation for great dining whatever your budget. From award-winning restaurants to cosy gastropubs, you'll find something to suit every taste in every corner of the city. And if you want to pick up some great local produce to take home, there are plenty of farmers and produce markets around.

Shopping

Manchester is a shopping destination in its own right, even rivalling the reputation of London. Manchester Fashion Market is the first dedicated fashion market in the North West; King Street is destination designer labels; the Arndale Centre is full of high street bargains; and Affleck's Palace is a labyrinth of independent boutiques. With great choice under one roof, Manchester's shopping centres and department stores are often a destination in themselves.

Sports

When it comes to sport, Manchester is top of the league. Football is the city's big sport – the 2 local Premiership teams are Manchester City and Manchester United, one of the world's most successful football clubs. Think Manchester sport is just about football? There's so much more to discover, with venues that play host to a wide variety of sporting activities. World-class sporting facilities were built for the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, including the City of Manchester Stadium and the Manchester Aquatics Centre.

Music & nightlife

It'll come as no surprise that a city with as much imagination as Manchester refuses to sleep when the sun goes down; after all, music and nightlife is part of Mancunian furniture and is showing no signs of being thrown onto the bonfire. From real ale pubs to cutting-edge clubbing, Manchester's nightlife is as varied as it is exciting. New, emerging bands, well-established club nights and the very best in classical music concerts; that's where Manchester's appeal lies today. The city is full of intimate music venues for live music fans, and if you want to experience Manchester's clubs and bars, head to the Northern Quarter, Deansgate and Castlefield.

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