Most walks, around £10.
Please book on eventbrite where possible.
Welcome to Manchester, the capital of the North, the world’s first industrial city – the industrial strength city. We at New Manchester Walks have developed a unique and remarkable range of tours covering every aspect of local history.

INFORMATION

New Manchester Walks is an official walks, talks and tours outfit of professionally-trained and qualified Blue Badge guides (plus celebrity guests) with decades of experience in the tourism business in Manchester, Liverpool, London and around the world.

Most walks cost about £10. Where possible please book on eventbrite to avoid disappointment as many of our tours are now so popular. Walks tend to last up to two hours. Canal and countryside walks are usually longer.

The leaflet has been compiled by Ed Glinert, long-established Manchester, Liverpool and London journalist, tour guide and Penguin author.

Many of our tours are picture led. It all adds to the experience.

COACH TRIPS

Book an exhilarating and expertly entertaining tour for your group, club, office or society.

- Panoramic Manchester
- The Beatles’ Liverpool
- Coronation Street locations
- Wild and Wuthering Yorkshire
- The Charms and Treasures of Cheshire

TALKS

Book a speaker for a talk on all aspects of Manchester or London history: architecture, Marx & Engels in Manchester, the Town Hall Murals, Jack the Ripper, L. S. Lowry, Peterloo, industry and inventions, the Pankhurts, royal scandal down the ages...

WEATHER

No one wants to walk around in torrential rain. Occasionally it might not be possible to conduct a tour through inclement weather. If in doubt, please see website before setting off.

LAST MINUTE CHECKS

Please see website for dates and book with eventbrite, where possible, but do check the website before setting off.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY

Greeting the new year – the year of Peterloo 200 – with a full programme, including The Seven Wonders of Manchester, Alan Turing, The Hidden Gems and Angel Meadow

FEBRUARY

As winter gives way to spring, we are celebrating Manchester’s Glorious Victorian Art & Architecture, Marx & Engels in Manchester, the Smiths, and our greatest writer, Anthony Burgess, born 25 February 1917.

MARCH

It’s spring and it’s also International Women’s Day (and week) which means a packed programme of relevant tours including the Pankhurts, The Women of Peterloo and The Formidable Women of Manchester.

APRIL

Explore the back streets and hidden corners of Manchester: Ancoats, Angel Meadow, Didsbury, Knutsford, Macclesfield, the Northern Quarter, Strangeways, Victoria Park, plus all the regular favourites.

MAY

Birthdays of three major figures with huge local connections took place this month: Sylvia Pankhurst, Karl Marx and Matt Busby, all commemorated with guided tours. We are also honouring Ian Curtis, our greatest local singer, on the date of his tragic suicide.

JUNE

The Histories Festival begins on 7 June and continues through the summer until mid-August. This year the theme is of course Peterloo and we are conducting a full range of historical tours with the emphasis on Manchester as a city of people protest.

JULY

Our tours are being supported by the Manchester Fringe Festival, which takes place throughout July. Discover the full history of Manchester this month: architecture, art, music, politics and famous people. The 17th of July marks the anniversary of the opening of the Bridgewater Canal, Britain’s first, which runs through Manchester.

AUGUST

The 16th of August 2019 marks the 200th anniversary of the Peterloo Massacre, one of the defining moments in English history. We are hosting various Peterloo tours, covering every aspect of the story: the build-up during the Regency period with Manchester as the hellish world’s first industrial city, the dramatic and horrific events of the day itself, and the fascinating and unexpected aftermath.

SEPTEMBER

On 13 September 1877 Manchester Town Hall opened. Although the building is currently closed, we regularly celebrate Manchester’s glorious Victorian architecture and heritage.

OCTOBER

This is literature month, with a full programme of literary-themed tours during the Manchester Literature Festival, commemorating Anthony Burgess, Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell, Thomas de Quincey, Shelley, Shakespeare and their connections with Manchester. At the same time is the Science Festival, with tours honouring Alan Turing, John Dalton and Ernest Rutherford.

NOVEMBER

We don’t stop for autumn. As the leaves fall we remember in particular L. S. Lowry (born 1st of November 1887) and Friedrich Engels (the great activist and writer’s 199th birthday, 28 November).

DECEMBER

Special festive tours, particularly in the short evenings during the Christmas markets.

in step with the city...
**THE MAIN SIGHTS**

**CENTRAL LIBRARY**
Outside it resembles Rome’s Pantheon. Inside there are touches of St Peter’s Basilica. All around is one of Britain’s biggest public book collections and a heroes’ and heroines’ gallery of the city.

*Regular tours; particularly popular with private groups*

**CHETHAM’S LIBRARY**
Ancient 15th century cloisters and corners of a former college of priests which now holds Europe’s oldest library where Marx & Engels planned communism.

*Monthly tours, mostly midweek, in conjunction with the Cathedral*

**JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY**
Glorious Gothic architecture, holy texts and priceless artefacts fill one of the world’s most awe-inspiring palaces of culture and greatest libraries, built out of the love of a wealthy widow for Manchester’s most successful 19th century merchant.

*Monthly tours*

**MANCHESTER ART GALLERY**
One of the greatest collections of Pre-Raphaelites’ paintings housed in Charles Barry’s Classical-styled former gentlemen’s club.

*Featured in “The Great Art Treasures of Manchester”, the Pre-Raphaelites, Lowry and Valette tours*

**MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL**
The heart of mediaeval Manchester and an ancient place of worship.

*Monthly tours, mostly midweek, in conjunction with Chetham’s*

**MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**
Okay, it’s closed for vital repairs for a few years, but Ed Glinert’s Town Hall book is the next best thing.

**ROYAL EXCHANGE**
It was the world’s biggest trading room, where top-hatted Victorian gentlemen staged cotton deals and where the nation’s finest thespians now trade lines.

*Included on various tours such as Cotton, John Rylands Library and the 7 Wonders of Manchester*

**ST ANN’S CHURCH**
Manchester’s only city centre 18th century church features stunning stained glass windows and magnificent memorials salvaged from long lost places of worship.

*Included on various tours, such as the Great Art Treasures, the 7 Wonders of Manchester*

**MIDLAND HOTEL**
Manchester’s most famous hotel has entertained Churchill, American presidents, and kings and queens.

*Tours (with optional tea) one Sunday a month and Mondays for private groups*

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*Right: Chetham’s Library*
*Below: John Rylands Library*

*Above: Midland Hotel*
*Left: Royal Exchange*

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**in step with the city...**
ARCHITECTURE

Classical styled temples, Gothic spires, Italianate palazzi, baroque banks, modernist towers, yet so many major Manchester buildings were deliberately designed to look like an existing European or American structure: the Town Hall as Ypres Cloth Hall; the Free Trade Hall, Verona’s Palazzo della Gran Guardia; all explained in the tours listed below.

LE CORBUSIER’S MANCHESTER
The most influential architect of the 20th century never came to Manchester but his influence is everywhere.

MANCHESTER’S GLORIOUS VICTORIAN ARCHITECTURE

ART

Manchester and Salford captured in all their industrial glory by L. S. Lowry, and in strange subdued colourings of mauves and Turneresque greens by the great French impressionist Adolphe Valette. This is the home of an unrivalled collection of Pre-Raphaelites and the greatest new British religious paintings of the 20th century.

ADOLPHE VALETTE
An Impression of Manchester

L. S. LOWRY’S LONELY LIFE

PRE-RAPHAELITE WOMEN OF MANCHESTER ART GALLERY
They dazed and dazzled. They starred and shone. They glowed and gleamed through the canvas and the frames. They were amongst the most feted women of the 19th century, captured for all time in intensely saturated luminous colour by the great artists, but their names are barely known to the public and their stories are as sad as the paintings.

FOOTBALL

Maradona good, Pele better, George best.
DID YOU KNOW?

When George Best first arrived in Manchester as a raw 15-year-old in July 1961, never having left Northern Ireland before, he asked the taxi driver outside the station to take him to Old Trafford, and was surprised to be asked “Which one?” On being told further that Old Trafford was the name of a cricket ground, Best was more confused. Growing up in Belfast, he’d never heard of cricket. *Find out more on our football walks.*

The Quality Street Gang, Manchester’s 1970s villains, are honoured in song on several Thin Lizzy records, including the classic single “The Boys Are Back In Town”. *Find out more on our gangland walks.*

The best book on Victorian Manchester is Friedrich Engels’s *The Condition of the Working Class* in England. Published in 1845, it was written in German and unavailable in English until 1885. *Find out more on our political walks.*

The opening of the Manchester Ship Canal in 1894 allowed ocean-going liners to come within two miles of the city centre, bringing in raw materials from around the world, and taking away cotton goods and machines to the furthest reaches of the globe. *Find out more on our Salford Quays and canal walks.*

MANCHESTER IS MUSIC CITY – 10 REASONS WHY

Lisa Stansfield – All Around The World
The Distractions – Time Goes By So Slow
Durutti Column – Sketch for Summer
808 State – Pacific State
Elbow – Mirrorball
Happy Mondays – God’s Cop
Joy Division – Dead Souls
New Order – True Faith
The Smiths – Ask
The Fall – The Classical

*Find out more on our music walks.*

10 MANCHESTER INVENTIONS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD

Manchester invented the modern world, for this was the first city of the industrial revolution, and its inhabitants have given society some of its greatest creations. These are the ones we detail on our walks.

1. **JOHN KAY’S FLY SHUTTLE, 1733**
   One of the great inventions that made Manchester the world centre for cotton. Kay fought for copyright in the courts but wasn’t successful. He died in France ruined.

2. **BRITAIN’S FIRST CANAL – THE BRIDGewater, 1761**
   Britain’s first man-made waterway, with a route independent of rivers, was devised by Francis Egerton, 3rd Duke of Bridgewater, to prevent flooding in his Worsley mines. By 1765 it was built through to Castlefield, revolutionising transport and industry.

3. **ATOMIC THEORY, 1803**
   John Dalton, a Manchester scientist working on George Street (now in Chinatown), proved that matter was made of atoms, ushering in the modern scientific age.

4. **VEGETARIANISM, 1809**
   William Cowherd, a curate at St John’s Church in the 1790s left to set up a chapel in Salford where he preached that people should “eat no more meat till the world endeth”. It catalysed a new world-wide movement – vegetarianism.

5. **FIRST PASSENGER RAILWAY, 1830**
   The Manchester-Liverpool Railway was the first passenger line in the world as well as the first with two tracks, timetables and stations. The Manchester terminus, Liverpool Road, survives as part of the Science & Industry Museum.

6. **THE FIRST SUBMARINE, 1878**
   A Moss Side vicar drew up the designs for the first submarine in his Deansgate office. He went to Rhyl to test it.

7. **COMPETITIVE FOOTBALL, 1888**
   At the Royal Hotel (where Primark is) in 1888 William McGregor, a Scottish draper, devised an ingenious new means of testing the best football teams, which has continued all the way to our modern, cash-rich Premier League.

8. **ROLLS ROYCE, 1904**
   Frederick Henry Royce, a local engineer, met Charles Stewart Rolls, a wealthy London playboy, in Manchester in 1904 and made the world’s first luxury cars here.

9. **THE FIRST PROGRAMMABLE COMPUTER, 1948**
   Tom Kilburn and Fred Williams built a machine out of war surplus materials that could perform calculations from a stored program – what is now recognised as the first computer. They first used it on 21 June 1948, running a program written by Kilburn, the world’s first computer programme and the only one he ever wrote.

10. **GRAPHENE, 2004**
   The world’s thinnest material, one atom thick, soon to revolutionise computer screens and electronic technology, was created by two Manchester University scientists, Konstantin Novoselov and Andre Geim, in 2004.

*Just the latest of a series of Manchester inventions that shook the world!*
Tours covering every aspect of the city’s literary history, featuring the Brontes, Anthony Burgess, Lord Byron, De Quincey, Dickens, Gaskell, Ted Hughes, Shakespeare, Shelley and Howard Spring.

Especially during October, the month of the Manchester Literature Festival

MUSIC

Manchester is the city that gave the world some of its greatest groups: The Fall, New Order, The Smiths, Buzzcocks, Joy Division, Happy Mondays...

IAN CURTIS’S MANCHESTER
JOHN COOPER CLARKE
JOY DIVISION’S MACCLESFIELD
MADCHESTER
MANCHESTER IN 12 SONGS
MANCHESTER MUSIC: THE HACIENDA YEARS
MARK E. SMITH’S MANCHESTER
THE SMITHS
10CC’S STOCKPORT

We host regular music tours covering every aspect of the city’s amplified heritage – and we play the sounds at carefully chosen locations

THE HISTORY OF MANCHESTER IN 20 OBJECTS

One of Europe’s largest cemeteries is the final resting place of L. S. Lowry, Matt Busby, Tony Wilson, John Rylands and the forgotten victim of the Munich Air Disaster.

Monthly tours

in step with the city...
PLACES

ALDERLEY EDGE
Wizards, wells and wonderful views in verdant, woody, colourful Cheshire. From the Bronze age to 21st century celebrities, with King Arthur, the Druids, copper-mining Romans, the Jacobite army and the Spanish Armada on the striking sandstone outcrop known as “the Edge”.

ANCOATS
The world’s first industrial suburb, a factory hoot from the city centre, was home to some of the world’s oldest mechanised mills, now modern workshops, smart apartments and beard-friendly bars.
*Monthly tours at weekends*

ANGEL MEADOW
The seediest and slummiest 19th century Manchester rookery, infested with cholera and criminals, described by Friedrich Engels as “hell on earth”. Nice.
*Monthly tours, mostly on weekday evenings*

CASTLEFIELD
The Roman birthplace of Manchester became a centre of new industry in the 18th century and has now been spectacularly revived.

DIDSBURY
It’s Posh Down South
Manchester’s most sumptuous suburb hides many a tantalising tale.

MACCLESFIELD
Meet the Maxonians in the only mill town (Silk Town) that wasn’t bombed during WWII, once home to William Shakespeare and Ian Curtis.
*Quarterly on Treacle Market Day*

LINDOW MOSS & WILMSLOW
Sturdy footwear needed for a spot of bog-trotting around the eerie Ice Age land made famous by the discovery of “Lindow Man” in the 1980s and a host of local celebrities.

LORDS OF THE SHANGRI-LA
The political correct tour of Manchester
Why in this radical city are there more statues of Tories, colonialists and imperialists than socialists and achievers? And then there are the dodgy paintings in the Art Gallery...

NORTHERN QUARTER
Streets named in Mediterranean tiles, pavements slabbed in mosaic, cult markets and cardamom-scented curry cafes. Boho Manchester, cool Manchester, modish Manchester. It’s good; it’s modern.
*Regular weekend tours*

SALFORD
Dirty old town to some or the “real North” to others, the Crescent City is packed with stories of rogues and rough diamonds, religious zealots, reformers, radicals and revolutionaries.

STOCKPORT
With a huge contribution to music, sport, science, art, culture and aviation, ‘Hat Town’ has it all.

2019 is the year of Peterloo, the 200th anniversary of the most dramatic incidents in English political history. Manchester has been a bolshie city, an angry city, a shock city, a suffragette city and even, briefly, a fascist city. It is clearly England’s political city.

PETERLOO MASSACRE
2019 is the year of Peterloo, the 200th anniversary of 16 August 1819, when some 60,000 Mancunians were attacked by the military at a political demonstration. Within minutes a dozen were dead and hundreds injured. We are hosting a series of walks covering every aspect of one of the defining moments of English history.

THE POLITICALLY CORRECT TOUR OF MANCHESTER
Why in this radical city are there more statues of Tories, colonialists and imperialists than socialists and achievers? And then there are the dodgy paintings in the Art Gallery...

in step with the city...
MANCHESTER’S HISTORIC PUBS
Far from the madding crowds are the back-street boozers, twilight alehouses and tucked-away taverns where serious thinking and occasional drinking set Manchester to rights in a sea of tall tales and taller ales. Perfect for after hours workplace bonding.

MARX & ENGELS PUB WALK
What ever happened to Leon Trotsky? Well he never came to Manchester, but Marx and Engels did, and boy did they like a drop.

PUBS OF OLD MANCHESTER
These are the pubs that time forgot, where Manchester floats on a sea of mild and bitter, and ‘gastro’ means Holt’s rather than haute cuisine. Even more perfect for after hours workplace bonding.

CANAL CRUISE
Take to the water as we cruise from Castlefield along the Bridgewater Canal, through Pomona Lock into the Manchester Ship Canal and up to the Quays. Private bookings for groups only.

GRAND CANALS OF MANCHESTER
Towpaths and Tunnels, Capstans and Cuttings
Through the old industrial heartlands (east) to Sportcity and its state of the art stadiums or west to radically regenerated Castlefield on our tours of towpath tales and lockside lore.

IN SEARCH OF THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL

LOST RIVERS OF MANCHESTER

SCIENCE & INDUSTRY
Manchester was where atomic theory was devised, the atom first split, the computer invented and graphene isolated. Discover the appliance of science on tours featuring Alan Turing, John Dalton and the atom bomb.

ALAN TURING
He broke the Nazis’ Enigma code, almost invented the computer, and was persecuted to a painful suicide by the ungrateful authorities. A tortured genius and modern martyr. Regular weekend tours

COTTON: THE CLOTH THAT CUT MANCHESTER
It grows in the American Deep South, was shipped to the North-West, and spun in the mills before being packed and pressed, shown off in palatial warehouses, and turned into clothes to dress the world. Cotton’s legacy can be found across Manchester, from the Town Hall, topped by a golden cotton boll, to the Royal Exchange where cotton merchants traded in the world’s biggest room.

THE WORLD’S FIRST RAILWAY
Adventures on the Wheels of Steel
15 September 1830: thousands gather at the edge of Manchester for the arrival of the iron horse bearing the prime minister and the president of the board of trade. It all went wrong on the day.

WEIRD & WONDERFUL
HELL IS A CITY
Savile, Brady, Hindley, Shipman, the Ripper, Hangman Pierrrepoint & some really bad folk. It all went wrong on the day.

HITLER’S PLANS FOR MANCHESTER
Swastika banners on the Town Hall, jackbooted thugs “cleaning” the streets, SSGB – it nearly happened.

SPOOKY MANCHESTER
Tragic deaths, accidental deaths, hoax deaths, bloody deaths, death by shooting, murders, assassinations, instant death, unexplained deaths, slow torturous death, decapitations and hangings. Watch out for the graverobbers!

STRANGEWAYS NO ESCAPE!
The dodgy prison, the edgy streets.

MAPPING THE MEDLOCK
The River that Manchester Forgot

SALFORD QUAYS
Huge docks which once harboured the world’s ocean-going liners. Gleaming museums of the modern age. A world famous canal, as deep as Suez, as powerful as the Panama. Here a new city – Media City – has risen, a city of glass, steel and burnished metal, bold and brilliant.

IN SEARCH OF THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL

Don't Fall for Enemy Propaganda
- Against our Government
- Against our Allies
- Against Catholics, Jews or Protestants

Remember-Hitler and the Japs are trying to get us fighting among ourselves
Veterans of foreign war of the United States
2019 is the year of Peterloo commemorations, the 200th anniversary of 16 August 1819 when a crowd of 60,000 people were attacked by the military at a political demonstration. Within minutes a dozen were dead and hundreds injured.

OFFICIAL PETERLOO MASSACRE TOURS 2019, THE YEAR OF PETERLOO 200

Tours devised by Ed Glinert, the only Manchester guide who has worked with Paul Foot, author of Red Shelley, and Mike Leigh, director of the Peterloo film.
Meet Central Library, St Peter’s Square

Sat 19 January – 12 noon
THE PETERLOO MASSACRE
The Countdown to Peterloo 200

Sat 9 February – 11.30am
BEFORE PETERLOO
“We are on the Brink of Liberty”

Sat 9 February – 2.30pm
AFTER PETERLOO
“Remember the Foul Deeds of Peterloo”

Sat 9 March – 11am
IN SEARCH OF THE FIRST PETERLOO MEMORIAL

Sat 9 March – 2.30pm
THE WOMEN OF PETERLOO

Sat 30 March – 2pm
THE PETERLOO MASSACRE
We Remember

Sat 6 April – 11.30am
THE PETERLOO MASSACRE
We Remember

Sat 11 May – 11.30am
BEFORE PETERLOO
“We are on the Brink of Liberty”

Sat 11 May – 2.30pm
AFTER PETERLOO
“Remember the Foul Deeds of Peterloo”

Sat 8 June – 11.30am
PETERLOO: THE BUILD-UP

Sat 13 July – 11.30am
BEFORE PETERLOO
“We are on the Brink of Liberty”

Sat 13 July – 2.30pm
AFTER PETERLOO
“Remember the Foul Deeds of Peterloo”

Fri 16 August – times to be confirmed
PETERLOO
The Ultimate Tour on the Day of Peterloo 200

Sat 17 August – 2.30pm
FAME IS THE SPUR
The Great Peterloo Novel