



Manchester
International
Festival
2019 4–21 July
mif.co.uk

Manchester International Festival (MIF, 4–21 July) presents one of the finest occasions during which to stay in Manchester, a city already filled with prestigious cultural attractions, and further transformed every other year by 18 extraordinary days of world premieres and special events. The home of the Festival is **Festival Square**, in the heart of the city in front of the grandeur of the Town Hall, and reconfigured for MIF19 with a new, larger stage. The superb, carefully-selected independent food and drink stands here deliver quality across the board, and are an opportunity to try some of the city's best-loved kitchens. Elsewhere across the city are 20 world and UK premieres from internationally-acclaimed artists: be among the first to see one-off creative collaborations from the likes of Philip Glass and Phelim McDermott, Yoko Ono, and Idris Elba with Artistic Director of the Young Vic, Kwame Kwei-Armah. The productions that make up MIF19 are created by an assembly of names unrivalled elsewhere in the world – and this outstanding programme is also part of the run up to **The Factory**, a world-class cultural space and new home for MIF. This guide is your specially-selected introduction to some MIF19 highlights, luxurious places to stay, what else to see in Manchester, indulgent food, drink and shopping, as well as travel both to and around the city.

Intro to Highlights

There's much that makes Manchester International Festival exceptional. Every other year, the Festival commissions an acclaimed **programme of world premieres** by internationally-renowned artists in some of Manchester's most outstanding venues. MIF19 is no different, featuring a gripping adaptation of Ayn Rand's uncompromising 20th century classic *The Fountainhead* from one of the world's greatest theatre directors, mesmerising new work from composer Philip Glass for *Tao of Glass* at the Royal Exchange Theatre, and a **monumental performance** of Shostakovich's Symphony No.7, 'Leningrad', originally written for more than 100 musicians. The countdown to MIF19 has begun, with tickets to several productions already beginning to sell out: when they do, the opportunity to be among the first to see these remarkable events will have passed. Here we highlight some of the most cutting-edge, eminent work taking place as part of the festival – plan your visit now, and be part of the experience.

Highlights

BELLS FOR PEACE

A world premiere for the opening MIF19: renowned artist Yoko Ono invites the people of Manchester to gather together in Cathedral Gardens and send a message of peace to the world. For Yoko Ono's first major work for the city of Manchester, join thousands of diverse voices and a people's orchestra of bells from home and abroad as the city rings and sings out for peace.

People across Greater Manchester are currently designing and creating their own unique handcrafted ceramic bells at a series of special workshops. Join them on the day to hear them – or bring a bell of your own and welcome the world to Manchester.

Thur 4 July

6pm

Cathedral Gardens, Corporation Street, M4 3BG

Standing

Suitable for all ages

Admission free

Tree

Directed by Kwame Kwei-Armah, Artistic Director of London's Young Vic, with music inspired by Idris Elba's album *Mi Mandela*, *Tree* is an electrifying new blend of drama, music and dance that follows one man's journey into the heart and soul of contemporary South Africa – with the audience standing at the centre of the action.

It's just 12 hours from London to his parents' homeland, but to Kaleo (Alfred Enoch), South Africa is another world. A family tragedy finally forces him to visit for the first time – and as he takes his journey of healing, Kaleo must confront hidden histories and right the wrongs of the past. But first he must face the present: a shattered family, fighting to hold on to what they believe is theirs.

Sat 29 June – Sat 13 July

[Times vary / Click 'Book Now' for full schedule]

Access Perfs

CAP Tue 9 & Wed 10 July, 8pm

Upper Campfield Market Hall, Campfield Avenue Arcade M3 4FH

Standing

Recommended 14+, Under-18s must be accompanied by an adult

£10 Greater Manchester residents on lower wage [Register here](#)

£35

£30 previews (Sat 29 June – Wed 3 July), Concessions

£2 transaction fee per order (no per ticket fee)

Invisible Cities

This world-premiere production centres on the edgy relationship between Kublai Khan, the volatile head of a vast empire, and explorer Marco Polo, who must transcend a language barrier to describe it for him. *Invisible Cities* conjures a series of fantastical places using a spellbinding mix of theatre, choreography, music, architectural design and projection mapping.

Zenobia, a city of joy. Beersheba, a celestial city of gold. Isadora, a city of promise, seduction and desire. A vast and spectacular empire is brought to life – all for the benefit of its emperor, who may never get to see it for himself...

Tue 2 July – Sun 14 July

[Times vary / Click 'Book Now' for full schedule]

Access Perfs CAP Wed 10 July, 8pm & Sun 14 July, 2:30pm

BSL Thur 11 July, 8pm

Mayfield, Baring Street M1 2PZ

Reserved Seating

£10 Greater Manchester residents on lower wage [Register here](#)

£35

£30 Previews (Tue 2 – Thur 4 July), Concessions

£2 transaction fee per order (no per ticket fee)

The Anvil

MIF is marking the 200th anniversary of the Peterloo Massacre – a pivotal moment in British history and landmark on our road to democracy – with the world premiere of a major new piece by composer Emily Howard, one of our most original musical voices, and writer Michael Symmons Roberts, winner of the Costa Poetry Award.

The Anvil is performed at The Bridgewater Hall by the BBC Philharmonic and a huge massed chorus featuring the BBC Singers and three Hallé choirs. It is an elegy to the day in 1819 when more than 60,000 people flooded into St Peter's Field from all over Manchester, peacefully united in their passion for the right to vote – but as the speeches began, armed troops on horseback charged into the crowd, killing 15 and injuring more than 600.

Sun 7 July

6pm

The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street M2 3WS

£10

My Head Is Disconnected

Weird, wonderful and forever wild at heart – the iconic David Lynch is taking over HOME for the duration of MIF19. *My Head Is Disconnected* is the first major UK exhibition of Lynch's paintings, drawings and sculpture, featuring over 60 weird and wonderful works dating from the late 1960s to the present day.

Best known for films such as *The Elephant Man*, *Blue Velvet* and TV show *Twin Peaks*, many of us are already familiar with Lynch's on-screen vision, but since graduating from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, he has also produced a prolific body of work across painting, sculpture, photography and drawing. Lynch's surfaces, which are scratched, charred and three-dimensional in form, are like windows into the soul.

Sat 6 July – Sun 21 July

Noon – 8pm Mon-Sat

Noon – 6pm Sun

BSL-led tour Sat 20 July, 3pm

HOME, 2 Tony Wilson Place, First Street M15 4FN

Admission Free

Parliament of Ghosts

This major installation reflects on the half-forgotten history of Ibrahim Mahama's home country: Ghana. Abandoned train seats, faded railway sleepers and scrapped school furniture form a vast parliamentary chamber in the heart of the Whitworth. *Parliament of Ghosts* beautifully evokes the histories and memories of a country whose journey from British colony to independent nation was completed barely 60 years ago.

Also encompassing painting, sculpture, photography and film, this exhibition lends powerful new context to this haunting assemblage of lost objects from a nation in transition.

Fri 5 July – Sun 21 July

10am-5pm daily, except 10am-9pm Thur

Access performances – Audio+ tours Tue 9 & Tue 16 July, 2pm and CAP tour Tue 16 July, 2pm

The Whitworth, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road M15 6ER

Admission Free

The Fountainhead

A gripping adaptation of Ayn Rand's uncompromising 20th-century classic, *The Fountainhead* is a portrait of Howard Roark, a brilliant young architect who rejects easy routes to commercial success in favour of innovation and independence. A passionate hymn to individualism – and a dark, violent love story.

Ivo van Hove brings his Internationaal Theater Amsterdam ensemble to The Lowry to perform the UK premiere of his most controversial work; Rand's *The Fountainhead* is a major inspiration for libertarian politicians on both sides of the Atlantic. It's 'a war of ideas', in Van Hove's words, encompassing art and architecture, commerce and capitalism.

Wed 10 July – Sat 13 July

[Times vary / Click 'Book Now' for full schedule]

Running time: 4hrs 15min including interval

Lyric Theatre, The Lowry, Pier 8, The Quays M50 3AZ

Presented in Dutch with English surtitles and contains scenes of an adult nature

16+

£10 Greater Manchester residents on lower wage [Register here](#)

£18, £24, £30, £35

Concessions £5 off

£2 transaction fee per order (no per ticket fee)

Tao of Glass

Part-concert, part-performance and inspired by a dream, this world premiere marries ten meditations on life, death and Taoist wisdom with ten brand new pieces of music from Philip Glass, presented by Phelim McDermott (Improbable) with an ensemble of musicians and puppeteers.

An exploration of life, loss and a single question: Where does true inspiration come from? Composer Glass and performer-director McDermott have worked together on acclaimed opera productions in London, New York and beyond, and *Tao of Glass* is their most personal collaboration yet.

Thur 11 July – Sat 20 July

[Times vary / Click 'Book Now' button for full schedule]

REL Thur 18 July, 2.30pm

CAP Thur 18 July, 7.30pm

BSL Fri 19 July, 7.30pm

AD Sat 20 July, 2.30pm

Running time: 1 hour 45min (no interval)

Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Square M2 7DH

£10 Greater Manchester residents on lower wage [Register here](#)

Previews (Thur 11 – Sat 13 July): £13, £20, £28, £33

Mon-Thur: £18, £25, £33, £38

Fri, Sat Eve & Weekend matinees: £19, £27, £36, £41

Concessions £5 off

£2 transaction fee per order (no per ticket fee)

Leningrad

Sir Mark Elder, the Hallé's Music Director, and acclaimed Dutch theatre director Johan Simons will be discussing a new work for The Factory before a performance of Shostakovich's monumental Symphony No.7, 'Leningrad'. Written for more than 100 musicians and first performed in the midst of the siege of the composer's home city during the Second World War, the symphony's creation was a triumph of the human spirit.

This is a rare opportunity to get close to the genesis of a major new artwork, and to experience a towering landmark in modern music.

Thur 11 July

7.30pm

The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street M2 3WS

£10 Greater Manchester residents on lower wage [Register here](#)

£13, £18, £24, £29, £34

Concessions £5 off

£2 transaction fee per order (no per ticket fee)

Why you should sign up copy

Sign up to download our full guide to Manchester International Festival 2019, with extended highlights from the Festival, recommendations for the best places to stay, eat, drink and shop in Manchester, and our exclusive picks of other things to see in the city – all in a convenient PDF format. Uncover special offers from our partners, as well as the latest information on MIF19.

Where to Stay

Luxurious, historic and unique, Manchester's leading hotels are each a truly inviting prospect – for one night during the Festival, or several. They occupy some of the city's landmark buildings (such as the place where Rolls met Royce), and are furnished with a meticulous attention to detail. Here are a few of the best.

Principal Manchester Hotel

Completely refurbished in 2016, the Grade II listed Principal Manchester is a landmark on the Manchester skyline, with its striking clock tower and terracotta front. Opposite Oxford Road station, its rooms feature double height windows, wood panelling and original tiling. The Principal is also home to ground floor bar and restaurant The Refuge.

From £128/night

Oxford St, Manchester M60 7HA

<https://www.phcompany.com/principal/manchester-hotel/>

King Street Townhouse

Described as a 'baby grand hotel', the King Street Townhouse occupies an Italian renaissance style building that dates back to 1872, with 40 bedrooms and suites, a range of specially-designed spaces for food and drink, an infinity spa pool on the roof and a new screening room and wine cellar in its basement. Luxury reigns throughout.

10 Booth Street, Upper King Street, Manchester M2 4AW
<https://www.eclectichotels.co.uk/king-street-townhouse/>

Great John Street Hotel

The communal spaces inside the Great John Street Hotel nod back to the building's history as a Victorian school house, with each bedroom individually designed to showcase the many original features. There's a south facing terrace on the roof with views over the city, as well as a luxurious Oyster Bar and a library with a second, more secluded private terrace.

Great John Street, Manchester M3 4FD
<https://www.eclectichotels.co.uk/great-john-street/>

Hotel Gotham

Rooms at the multi award-winning Hotel Gotham range from king-size doubles to Inner Sanctum suites, which each have a huge wonderwall screen and are decorated with the vintage suitcases and hat boxes of yesteryear. The hotel's restaurant, Honey, has two AA Rosette awards, while the speakeasy-style bar Club Brass is open to hotel guests and members only, and has views across the city from its exclusive roof terrace. Situated inside Edwin Lutyens' Midland Bank Building on King Street, there are gestures to the building's financial past throughout.

100 King Street, Manchester M2 4WU
<https://www.hotelgotham.co.uk/>

The Midland Hotel

First opened in 1903 on a historic site, The Midland Hotel's Grade II listed, terracotta-tiled building has been an iconic part of Manchester ever since. Centrally located, the hotel has played host to globally famous figures (it's where Rolls met Royce), with two award-winning restaurants (The French and Mr Cooper's), elegant rooms and a calming urban spa.

16 Peter St, Manchester M60 2DS
<https://www.themidlandhotel.co.uk/>

Radisson Blu Edwardian

Another opportunity to stay inside one of Manchester's most historic buildings, the 5-star Radisson Blu Edwardian hotel is set inside the former Free Trade Hall, once host to Charles Dickens, Churchill, Bob Dylan and the Sex Pistols. Now offering stylish accommodation alongside Japanese and Mexican small plates at the Peter Street Kitchen and the ultimate in relaxation at the hotel's gym and spa, the Radisson Blu Edwardian brings a new generation of award-winning luxury to Manchester's Peter Street.

Free Trade Hall, Peter Street, Manchester M2 5GP
<https://www.radissonblu-edwardian.com/manchester-hotel-gb-m2-5gp/gbmanche>

What else to see

Manchester International Festival programmes world premieres in Manchester's world-class cultural spaces, as well as unusual venues across the city. Enhance your Festival experience by visiting a selection of the city's other defining sites – from the home of a classical novelist, to an astonishing library that took ten years to build.

The John Rylands Library

If you're going to MIF's *Atmospheric Memory* at the Science and Industry Museum, the John Rylands

Library is an exceptional sight nearby. One of the best examples of neo-Gothic architecture in Europe, the library took ten years to build, featuring a pioneering air-filtering system and elaborately locked and sealed bookcases. The Historic Reading Room is particularly sensational, with a spectacular vaulted ceiling raised more than 40 feet above the aisle.

150 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3EH
<https://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/rylands/>

Manchester Museum

Alfred Waterhouse, the man behind London's Natural History Museum, designed the gothic, Grade II* listed structure that now houses Manchester Museum's archive of over four million pieces. Highlights here include one of the most significant collections of ancient Egyptian artefacts in Europe, made up of around 18,000 objects, and a cast of the second most complete T-Rex skeleton ever found, nicknamed Stan. Manchester Museum shares Manchester's Oxford Road with the Whitworth, where you'll find Ibrahim Mahama's *Parliament of Ghosts* for MIF19.

University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL
<https://www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/>

Manchester Cathedral

Not far from the Royal Exchange Theatre, where composer Philip Glass and performer-director Phelim McDermott's MIF19 collaboration *Tao of Glass* will take place, Manchester Cathedral dates back to at least the 1400s, and has been rebuilt many times in its 600-year history – with millions currently being invested in the exceptional detail of the Grade I listed building. It remains a place of worship, but has also branched out to become an extraordinary setting for regular gigs and events.

Victoria Street, Manchester M3 1SX
<http://www.manchestercathedral.org/>

Elizabeth Gaskell's House

From 1850 to 1865, this Grade II* listed Regency-style villa was home to Victorian novelist Elizabeth Gaskell, author of now-classic novels including *North and South*, *Wives and Daughters* and *Cranford*. £2.5m worth of renovations have restored the property to its original 1860s splendour, with carefully sourced furnishings throughout; it's much as Elizabeth Gaskell's esteemed visitors, including Charlotte Brontë, Charles Dickens and Harriet Beecher Stowe, might have remembered it.

84 Plymouth Grove, Manchester M13 9LW
<http://elizabethgaskellhouse.co.uk/>

IWM North

Visitors to The Lowry for *The Fountainhead*, *Re:Creating Europe* or *Abida Parveen with Nahid Siddiqui* as part of MIF19 should consider making IWM North part of a trip to MediaCityUK. This award-winning national museum is recognised as one of the top four Large Visitor attractions in the country, housing artefacts that include J.R.R. Tolkien's revolver from the Battle of the Somme in a building designed by internationally acclaimed architect Daniel Libeskind.

Trafford Wharf Rd, Manchester M17 1TZ
<https://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-north>

Chetham's Library

Chetham's Library is oldest public library in the English-speaking world, its collection of designated national and international importance. Next to Manchester Cathedral, the original sandstone building dates back to 1421; it's home to over 40 medieval manuscripts, and the desk where Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx developed their political ideologies during the height of the industrial revolution. Look carefully, and you'll also find a cat flap dating back at least to the Tudors.

Long Millgate, Manchester M3 1SB
<https://library.chethams.com/>

Food and Drink

Festival Square is the home of the Festival in the heart of the city – and prioritises quality, independent food in its resident kitchens. From special events to dishes from one of Manchester's most hotly-tipped new bistros, the Square is a hub for some of the best cooking in the region – and conveniently surrounded by other acclaimed restaurants and bars.

Festival Square: Kala

Bistro food by acclaimed chef Gary Usher – newcomer Kala brings a choice selection from its King Street site menu to Festival Square.

Festival Square: Idle Hands

Speciality coffee by day espresso martinis by night – the well-loved team at Idle Hands also major in delicious tray bakes and excellent vegan cherry pie.

Festival Square: Paul Heathcote and Friends

Legendary chef and restaurateur Paul Heathcote curates a series of **Lazy Lunches** and **Supper Clubs** at Festival Square, with some of the best chefs working today – a multiple, Michelin-star line-up of unique, indulgent menus.

Salut

A short walk from Festival Square is Salut, which has a regularly changing selection of open bottles in its wine preservation machines – including some exceptional vintages. Help yourself to a glass (using a pre-paid card), or choose a bottle from the shelves with the help of the expert staff. Perfect for a drink in between MIF19 shows.

11 Cooper Street, Manchester M2 2FW

<https://salut.co.uk/>

The Ivy

Located in the heart of Manchester's Spinningfields and opulently decorated throughout, The Ivy offers three floors of drinking and dining, with modern British classics served in the Brasserie, Asian-inspired cocktails and small sharing plates at Ivy Asia on the second floor and afternoon tea one of several menus available at the year-round Roof Garden. There are also two dedicated rooms for private dining.

The Pavilion, Byrom Street, Manchester M3 3HG

<https://theivymanchester.com/>

20 Stories

A rooftop restaurant, cocktail bar and plant-filled terrace with 360 degree views across Manchester, 20 Stories in Spinningfields draws on locally-sourced ingredients for dishes that showcase the best of the North West.

No 1 Spinningfields, 1 Hardman Square, Manchester M3 3EB

<https://20stories.co.uk/>

Tattu

Tattu's most unusual feature is its artificial indoor blossom tree – the highlight of the lavishly decorated dining room in this innovative Chinese restaurant. Sharing dishes from a menu that includes colourful dim sum and complex small plates is encouraged, though you may want to keep your choice from the exquisite dessert menu to yourself. There's also a Taste of Tattu menu available for lunchtimes.

Gartside Street, 3 Hardman Square, Manchester M3 3EB

<http://tattu.co.uk/>

The Refuge

The beautifully-appointed restaurant and bar in the Principal Manchester hotel has several sections

for drinking and dining, including a stunning indoor 'Winter Garden' – making it perfect for dinner or after-show drinks. The bar stays open until 2am, usually with someone DJing on the decks.

Oxford St, Manchester M60 7HA

<https://www.refugemcr.co.uk/>

Adam Reid at The French

For true luxury, book a table in the Grade II listed dining room at The Midland Hotel: Adam Reid at The French has set the benchmark for fine dining in Manchester, with an exceptional, inventive menu that includes the Golden Empire dessert, winner of the BBC's prestigious Great British Menu competition. Also at The Midland is the acclaimed Mr Cooper's Restaurant and Bar.

16 Peter St, Manchester M60 2DS

<https://www.the-french.co.uk/>

Shopping

Manchester hasn't lost its reputation as a superior place to shop: in fact, the revival of King Street has further enhanced the city's retail offer. Our favourite areas and stores each have quality as their hallmark: from limited edition whiskies to rare denim and the very best designer names. If you're browsing between MIF19 shows, these are the places to go to.

King Street

Part of the Manchester's former financial district, King Street is now home to a range of high-end and designer shops, including Diesel, DKNY, Hobbs, Cath Kidson, Neal's Yard, L'Occitane and Karen Millen. It also has the added bonus of a number of stand-out restaurants for a liquid break or refreshments, including **El Gato Negro Tapas** and **Tast**, which specialises in Catalan cuisine.

Lanigan & Hulme

Prioritising quality materials and manufacturing, this independent menswear boutique at the Royal Exchange Arcade is unusual for its personal service, guided by the two owners' 40 years of combined experience in fashion. Purchases can come with a glass of champagne – and the friendly attention of two bulldogs, who are part of the team and regulars on the shop floor.

Unit 9, Royal Exchange Arcade, Manchester M2 7EA

<https://www.laniganandhulme.com/>

hangingditch wine merchants

This independent wine specialist is on the medieval site where either linen – or, it's rumoured, people – were once hung out to dry. Next to Manchester Cathedral, it's also the best place to shop for wine in the city, with a large selection to drink in-house or take away, and sharing plates as well as nibbles served daily. The seating out front is one of the city's best sun traps in warmer weather, with rugs on hand for stiffer temperatures.

Britannic Buildings, 42-44 Victoria St, Manchester M3 1ST

<https://www.hangingditch.com/>

Selfridges

Home to designer brands including Whistles, The Kooples, Mulberry and Chanel, Selfridges has an entire floor dedicated to beauty and two different eateries – San Carlo Bottega for Italian small plates and Farmacia del Dolce for sweet treats.

1 Exchange Square Central, Manchester M3 1BD

<https://www.selfridges.com/GB/en/features/info/stores/manchester-exchange-square/>

Rivet and Hide

Over in Manchester's vibrant Northern Quarter is Rivet and Hide, which specialises in exclusive selvedge denim from the mills of Japan, alongside clothing, footwear and accessories inspired by vintage American

style. The shop itself features stripped wooden flooring, clothes rails hung from the ceiling by metal hooks, and expert staff.

59 Thomas St, Manchester M4 1NA

<https://rivetandhide.com/>

The Whisky Shop

This small shop houses an impressive range of whiskies to browse (and in some instances sample), including exclusive releases, international blends, and allocations of the rarest limited releases. A mecca for whisky enthusiasts.

3 Exchange St, Manchester M2 7EA

<https://www.whiskyshop.com/shops/the-whisky-shop-manchester>

Traveling

Straightforward to navigate on foot, Manchester is connected up by trams and buses, including two **free bus** routes that cover a good part of the city centre. With direct rail links to London and cities across the North, it's an easy place to get to – and to explore.

Getting here

Situated in the North West of England, Manchester is a landlocked metropolitan city, adjoined by the city of Salford. The Peak District is less than two hours' drive to the south east of the city, with the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District a little further to the north. Manchester's closest major cities are Liverpool, Sheffield and Leeds.

Manchester Airport

Manchester Airport has three terminals, and is the third largest airport in the UK. Manchester is directly connected to over 200 destinations around the world by over 60 different airlines. It's around a half hour drive to the city centre, and connected by train, bus and coach. For more information about the airport, see [Visit Manchester](#).

By train

Manchester has three main train stations:

Manchester Piccadilly, with access to -

- Manchester's **free bus**, with two circular routes across the city
- Metrolink trams on four lines
- A taxi rank at the Fairfield Street entrance

Manchester Victoria, with access to -

- Buses from Victoria Station Stop NW
- Metrolink trams on five lines
- Taxis from Manchester Victoria Approach

Oxford Road, with access to -

- Buses from Whitworth Street West and Oxford Street (outside The Principal hotel)
- Taxis from Whitworth Street West, at the bottom of the station approach road, outside Sainsburys

Average train journey times from:

- London – 2hrs 7mins
- Edinburgh – 3hrs 15mins
- Birmingham – 1hr 28mins
- Manchester Airport – 14mins
- Liverpool – 34mins
- Sheffield – 52mins
- Newcastle – 2hrs 25mins
- York – 1hr 20mins

By coach

National Express and [Megabus](#) provide services from all over the country into Chorlton Street Coach Station in the heart of the city centre.

By road

Manchester is well connected to the rest of the UK via excellent motorway links. The M60 ring road connects the city to motorways north, south east and west.

Getting around

Trams

Manchester's [Metrolink](#) sees frequent trams services departing from each stop. The network is divided into Zones 1, 2, 3 and 4 – check which zone your destination falls in using a [Metrolink map](#) before buying your ticket. There are ticket machines on the platforms; it's essential to buy before boarding.

Buses

Commercial bus services run right across Greater Manchester – see [Transport for Greater Manchester \(TfGM\)](#) for departure times, journey planning, tickets and travel information

Free bus

The [Manchester free bus](#) takes two circular routes around the city centre, and is a 'hop on, hop off' service, running every 10 minutes until 10pm Monday to Saturday.

NCP Parking

NCP is the official car parking provider in Manchester City Centre – visit the [NCP website](#) for locations and details.

Cycling

There are marked cycle lanes and dedicated routes across the city centre and beyond. Visit the TfGM [cycling website](#) for bike parking, routes, rides and tips.