
MAG
saves lives builds futures
Welcome to
Manchester



Canal Street, in Manchester's LGBT+ Village

Come as you are

Why you'll be at home in the UK's No. 1 city

Why is the Mines Advisory Group based in Manchester? More to the point, why would *you* want to be in Manchester?

Partly it's because of the charity's roots in northern England - it was founded in Cockermouth in the Lake District in 1989.

Partly it's because it's a city with a tradition of diversity, non-conformism, and radicalism - the women's suffrage movement, the Curry Mile, the LGBT+ Village, the Co-operative movement.

Partly it's because it's a cosmopolitan and international city which attracts people and businesses from all around the world.

And partly because it's such a great place in which to live and work. The Economist named Manchester as one of the top 50 most liveable cities in the world in 2019, claiming the top spot in the UK.

The table ranks 140 cities on a range of factors, including political and social stability, crime rates, education and access to healthcare.

Manchester rated particularly highly for its high-quality affordable housing, whether that's city centre apartment living, or the suburban dream of living in Didsbury or Chorlton, where a three-bedroomed house costs £300k on average, compared with £750k in London.

It also rated well for its excellent cultural and entertainment offering, with theatres, cinemas, live music, clubs, two Premier League football giants, and a vibrant bar and restaurant scene.

Plus, it's the gateway to some of the most beautiful landscapes in the United Kingdom, with the Lake District, North Wales, Yorkshire Dales, and the Peak District less than 90 minutes away.

And it's one of the best-connected cities in the UK, with direct trains to all other major cities in Britain, and international flights to all five continents.

Why would you want to be in Manchester? Why *wouldn't* you?



Beetham Tower in Deansgate

Darren Cormack, Deputy CEO



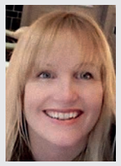
"We've lived as a family in Heaton Moor for 10 years. It offers excellent links into the city with lots of buses, trains or trams. I cycle which takes less than 25 minutes. Heaton Moor has lots of independent shops, restaurants, a great cinema, and a hidden gem of a second-hand book store!"

Angela Mulholland-Wells, Finance Director



"I really enjoy living in Hale, being surrounded by restaurants, shops and bars and having a wide choice of high performing schools. And the city is only a 20-minute tram ride away. The village is also next to Altrincham, home to a fantastic food market."

Sarah Howell, Executive Assistant to CEO



"Sale is a great place to live, built along the Bridgewater Canal, it has a variety of shops, cafes, bars and restaurants. Sale has the Waterside Arts Centre, with a theatre, art galleries, studios and workspaces. Schools are excellent in Trafford and there is plenty to do with families."

City of culture, sport, night life & business



Old Trafford Stadium



The Lowry

The Royal Exchange Theatre, inside the old Royal Exchange building

What makes MCR special

Culture

Manchester has one of the most exciting cultural scenes in the UK, with a wide range of theatres, galleries, libraries, arthouse cinemas, and museums.

Home, on Tony Wilson Place, is a cultural hub with galleries and cinema screens, while the redbrick Whitworth Gallery is a treasure trove of art from the 19th to 21st centuries, including works by Van Gogh, Picasso, and Gauguin.

The stunning John Rylands Library is an extravaganza of gothic splendour.

The range of theatre is represented by venues like The King's Arms in Salford, a pub with a grassroots theatre upstairs, via the Royal Exchange Theatre, which shows classic plays from Shakespeare to Chekhov, to the Palace Theatre, home of crowdpleasers like The Book Of Mormon and We Will Rock You.

At Salford Quays, headquarters of the BBC and ITV, are The Lowry, a complex of theatre auditoriums and galleries, and Daniel Liebeskind's Imperial War Museum North.

Night Life

Manchester's food scene has exploded in the past 10 years. It's now a far cry from the Rusholme Curry Mile (still there, still brilliant) and Uncle Joe's Mint Balls, washed down with Vimto.

These days the city boasts Adam Reid's The French, one of the Good Food Guide's 50 best restaurants in the UK, as well as the Michelin-starred Mana.

Then there's Ancoats, a formerly down-at-heel area now reinvented as one of the most exciting foodie destinations in the country.

The home of the legendary and much-missed Hacienda still has a vibrant club and bar scene, with the likes of Wolf At The Door, Cottonopolis, and The Wash House - a secret bar hidden behind a launderette in the Northern Quarter.

And, of course, Manchester has a well-known LGBT+ Village, centred on Canal Street, made famous in Channel 4's Queer As Folk.

Sport

Manchester teams have dominated the football Premier League since its birth in 1992. The Red half of the city racked up title after title during its Golden Age under Sir Alex Ferguson, while United's rivals City are also league champions. Both teams have world class stadiums, at Old Trafford and at the Ethiad.

But it's not just about football. The Ethiad, of course, was home to the Commonwealth Games in 2002, and sits in SportCity, which includes the Manchester Velodrome, the home of British cycling and inspiration for Team GB's long list of Olympic gold medals.

SportCity also includes the National Squash Centre and Manchester Regional Arena, a 6,200-seat venue which hosts national athletics trials.

And "the other" Old Trafford is home to Lancashire Cricket Club, and a regular venue for international cricket tests, including the Ashes.

Business and Innovation

Manchester was the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution and industry and innovation are still at the heart of the city region.

Blue chip companies including Adidas, AstraZeneca, Barclays, Google, Kellogg's, KPMG, RBS, Siemens, and Umbro have headquarters in Greater Manchester.

And Manchester, the city which both first discovered how to split the atom, and then became the world's first nuclear-free city, is where graphene, the world's thinnest and most conductive material, was isolated.

That innovative spirit is a Manchester tradition. The first free public library, the first fully artificial canal, the first bus route, the first passenger railway station, the first mill to use steam power, the first mechanical submarine, and the first computer with memory and stored program all call Manchester home.

Further Reading

- **manchestereveningnews.co.uk**
- **ilovemcr.com**
- **homemcr.org**
- **thelowry.com**



Statue of Emmeline Pankhurst at St Peter's Square, Manchester

City of radical thought and acts

Manchester has been a hotbed of radical ideas over hundreds of years.

The Peterloo Massacre of 1819 occurred when tens of thousands of anti-poverty and pro-democracy protesters were attacked by forces armed with swords and clubs. Up to 20 people died in the slaughter.

In 1862, the millworkers refused, at great personal cost, to touch any cotton picked by US slaves, in order to support Abraham Lincoln's embargo during the American Civil War.

Friedrich Engels, whose statue stands in Tony Wilson Place *(inset),* developed the tenets of Marxism, along with Karl Marx, while he lived in Manchester.

And Emmeline Pankhurst, who was born in Salford, and lived in Manchester, founded the Women's Social and Political Union in 1903, agitating for, and winning, the right for women to vote.





Spinningfields in Manchester city centre



The Lead Station in Chorlton



King's Ransom, Sale



St John's Church, Altrincham



Didsbury Library

Education is at the heart of the city

Greater Manchester has a wide selection of state and private schools.

Seven out of the top 10 state schools in the city region are in the Trafford borough, which takes in Sale and Altrincham. These include Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Altrincham Grammar School for Girls, Loreto Grammar School, Sale Grammar School, and Saint Ambrose College.

Within the city itself is The King David High School.

Two fee-paying schools in south Manchester are in the top 100 for GCSE results. These are Manchester High School for Girls and Withington Girls' School.

For boys, Manchester Grammar School also produces excellent results, as does St Bede's College in Whalley Range, which is a co-educational faith school.

Manchester also has one of the highest populations of students in Europe, with 100,000 people attending the five universities of the city region: University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Salford, University of Bolton, and University Academy 92. The region also hosts University Campus Oldham and the Royal Northern College of Music.



Living in the city . . .

If you're looking for a home in the beating heart of a city, or among the soothing leafy sounds of the suburbs, Greater Manchester is the place for you.

The city region has the perfect mix of affordable housing and amenities, with decent schools and nurseries, and shops that are open when you need them.

If it's city living you're after, the most popular areas right now are the Northern Quarter, the Green Quarter, and Castlefield, where there is a wide range of converted and purpose-built modern penthouses and apartments.

The Northern Quarter is a hotbed of bohemian and alternative culture, and a draw for DJs, who frequent the record shops in the area. It is often used as a double for New York in Hollywood films, including Captain America and Morbius.

It borders Ancoats, which is developing a reputation for great food and nightlife.

The Green Quarter is just north of Victoria Station, and full of newly-regenerated areas, and converted railway arch shops and bars, ideal for city living.

It includes NOMA, the largest urban development scheme in north-west England.

Castlefield is a canal-filled and charming area around Deansgate station, strewn with green areas, bridges and waterside bars

It comes into its own in the summer months, when the Castlefield Bowl, a canal-side outdoor venue, hosts rock and classical concerts.

You might also want to look at the wider Deansgate area and Spinningfields, which are pricier, but right in the thick of things.

Still within the city limits, but away from the city centre are the neighbourhoods of Didsbury and Chorlton.

Didsbury's tree-lined streets and green spaces, including Fletcher Moss Park, Didsbury Park, and Parsonage Gardens, make it a much sought-after area.

Chorlton is a touch more bohemian, with period properties, cafes, bars, and restaurants, and a thriving arts scene, but still a great place to raise a family.

There are parks and forests around Chorlton, including Chorlton Water Park, a nature reserve with a central lake.

Wandering further into Greater Manchester, you can find the towns of Sale and Altrincham. Sale is five miles south of the city centre and is a commuter town with access to the M60, as well as Victorian properties,

Nearby Altrincham is an affluent area dubbed the "Kensington of Manchester", and the home of many Londoners who have relocated to the north west thanks to MediaCity UK at Salford Quays. It boasts good schools and excellent transport links and is close to Manchester Airport.

Around 15 miles from Manchester are the towns and villages of the Cheshire Golden Triangle, best known as the homes of Premier League footballers in the north west. The points of the triangle are generally accepted to be Alderley Edge, Prestbury, and Wilmslow, all of which have a variety of bars, restaurants and boutiques.

Average price of...
2-bedroom flat, Northern Quarter
£275k

2-bedroom flat, Spinning-fields
£325k

Average price of...
3-bedroom house, Chorlton
£300k

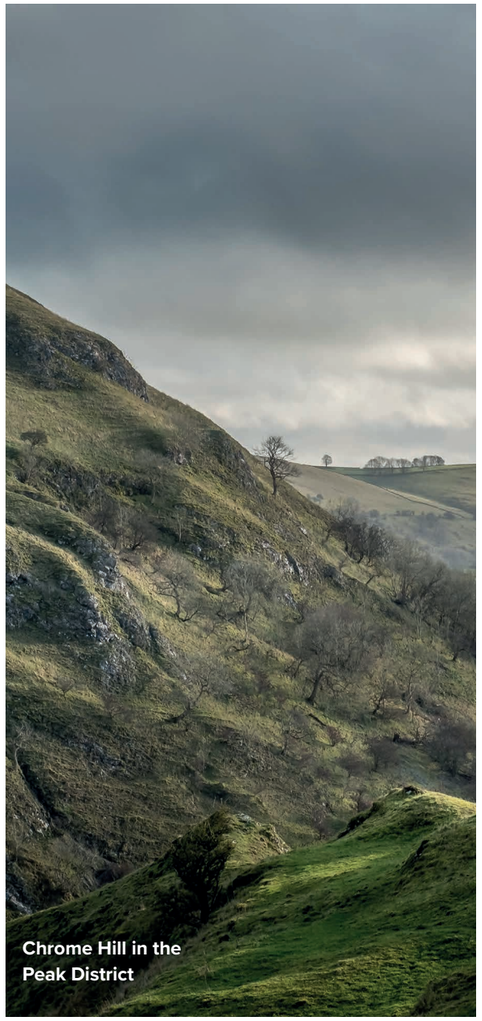
3-bedroom house, Altrincham
£550k

. . . or suburbs

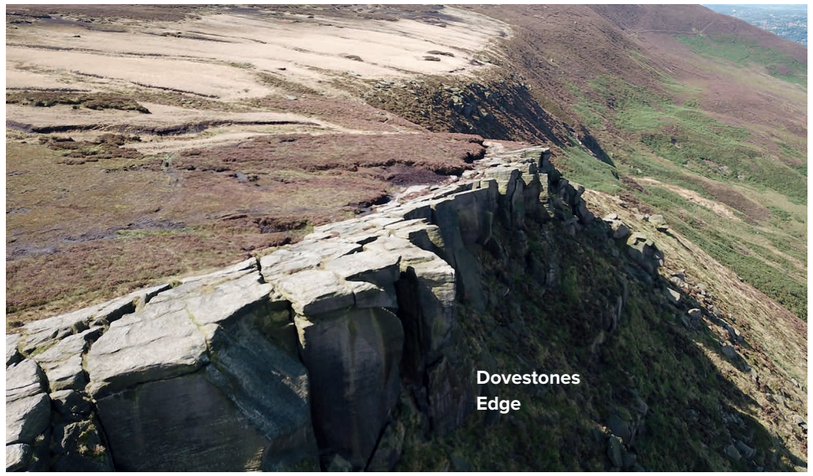
Beauty on our doorstep

Manchester: gateway to the North

The Lake District is just 90 minutes from Manchester



Chrome Hill in the Peak District



Dovestones Edge

Manchester has its fill of outdoor attractions, but sometimes a trip to the park just doesn't cut it.

But in less than an hour and a half you can find yourself in some of the most beautiful landscapes northern England has to offer.

In Oldham, on the edge of the Peak District National Park, is the picturesque Dove Stone Reservoir, which has its own sailing club. Around the reservoir, in the Chew Valley, are a range of crags including Dovestones Edge, the Ravenstones, and Wimberry Rocks.

Heading into the Peak District itself, you can visit the Victorian spa towns of Matlock Bath and Buxton, travel on the cable car and explore the caverns at the Heights of Abraham, or wander around the rugged hills of Dark Peak.

To the west are the beaches at Crosby, home of Antony Gormley's Another Place, and Formby, with its red squirrel pinewoods.

To the north east are the Yorkshire Dales, where you can visit the ampitheatre at Malham Cove, pass the Ribblehead Viaduct, visit Wensleydale, hike to Dent, England's highest railway station, and take in the Pennines.

To the north is the Forest of Bowland, an area of outstanding natural beauty. It's not a forest in the woodland sense, but in its original definition as a hunting area, with deep valleys and rocky ground.

Further north west is the Lake District National Park, famous for its stunning landscapes of mountains and lakes, world class attractions, and, these days, its Michelin-starred restaurants.

The Lake District is home to England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike, and England's longest and deepest lake, the 10-mile long Windermere. Windermere station is easily accessible via Oxenholme on the West Coast Main Line, but you can drive to Kendal in under 90 minutes from Manchester.



Another Place

And if you're tired of England, you can reach beautiful North Wales in the same time, via the historic Roman city of Chester.

Head into Snowdonia National Park, ride on the mountain railway at Llangollen, or take your bucket and spade to the charming and unspoilt seaside town of Llandudno, or the beaches of the island of Anglesey.

Further Reading

- **visitoldham.com**
- **visitpeakdistrict.com**
- **yorkshiredales.org.uk**
- **golakes.co.uk**
- **gonorthwales.co.uk**

Making connections

Getting from A(ncoats) to B(ury) couldn't be easier

The first passenger railway journey was into Manchester, and transport has remained part of the city's story over the years.

It's one of the best connected cities in the UK, with 56 trains a day running from Manchester Piccadilly to London Euston, and six flights a day to JFK Airport in New York.

And it's just as easy to get around Manchester as it is to get away from it...

Local Transport

Manchester is easily explored on foot, with a city centre you can navigate in around 20 minutes. It's also a bike-friendly city with many cycle lanes.

A bus service operates around the city, and there are regular trains to the surrounding Greater Manchester towns, like Bury, Oldham, Rochdale, and Wigan.

But the star of the show is Metrolink, Greater Manchester's tram service, and one of the most successful light rail services in the UK.

National Transport

Manchester is close to the M6 via the M60 and M62.

By rail, there are regular direct services from Piccadilly, Victoria, and Oxford Road to London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Bristol, Cardiff, Exeter, Southampton, Sheffield, Leeds, and York.

There are also internal flights from Manchester Airport to London, Glasgow, Belfast, Castletown, Edinburgh, Exeter, Newquay, Aberdeen, Inverness, Jersey, Norwich and Southampton.

Manchester's Piccadilly Station

Metrolink trams connect the city with Greater Manchester



International Transport

Manchester Airport has flights to New York, Beijing, Brussels, Berlin, Barcelona, Dubai, Lisbon, Toronto, Hong Kong, Amsterdam, Doha, Addis Ababa, Mombasa, and Washington DC, making it perfect for the international traveller.



Manchester Airport

Jane Cocking, CEO



"Living in New Mills in Derbyshire, 15 miles from Manchester and on the north-west edge of the Peak District provides the joys of being able to live looking out over the magnificent peaks, but still being less than half an hour's commute to central Manchester"

Betty Callaghan, Fundraising Officer



"Chorlton, where I live, is a trendy cosmopolitan suburb of south Manchester and it's filled with ex-Hacienda musicians, MediaCity commuters and young families.

"It is saturated with bars and cafes and always has something going on."



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