



# Manchester Sightseer 100

MW42

19/02/2022 [10]

You can start this ride from Sale Water Park or Daisy Nook (where there is free parking) or at Simister using the pay & display parking for Heaton Park. You could also start at one of several stations along the route but note that non-folding bikes are not allowed on Metrolink trams. There is some off-road cycling, but you can use a road bike, a gravel bike, a mountain bike etc.

Manchester is very much "work in progress", but it will be great when it's finished. You may find that construction work impedes your way, so take a map. You should perhaps avoid riding it when City or United are at home.

For a successful validation, you must:

- enter at **www.delphcyclist.info/MancPerm.html** (don't worry about the ride date at this stage)
- register your ride date by texting **07931 911324** or emailing **mike@PeakAudax.co.uk** before you start
- visit all the controls listed below within the time limits - note that this is a non-mandatory route
- establish your "proof of passage" by
  - downloading the eBrevet - see **www.delphcyclist.info/eBrevet.html**
  - or recording a GPS track (must be .GPX format) showing you visited each Control Location
  - or collecting till receipts or ATM slips from anywhere at the Control Location
- completing all the details on your Brevet Card (name, address, ride date, control locations and times plus your signature) and returning to me within 14 days of your ride

**Controls:** The ride works best using the E-Brevet app or a GPX track to authenticate your ride. The route is advisory, but you should ensure that you pass within ½km of the locations below (indicated by Grid Reference and what3words.com). If you haven't access to the app or GPX you may still collect receipts from the various suggested locations.

**eBrevet:** Ride Code **MW42**.

<b>Sale Water Park</b>	The route sheet starts from Sale Water Park Visitor Centre (SJ 06 925/ <i>civic.flames.flight</i> )			
<b>Simister Island</b>	☐ SD 830 057 <i>behave.shed.system</i>	<b>TILL RECEIPT</b> from One Stop shop, Heywood Road	19	19
<b>Didsbury</b>	☐ SJ 847 918 <i>cook.renew.trying</i>	<b>TILL RECEIPT</b> from Costa café, School Lane	21	40
<b>Velodrome</b>	☐ SJ 874 987 <i>handy.bake.fame</i>	<b>TILL RECEIPT</b> from Starbucks café	12	52
<b>Daisy Nook</b>	☐ SD 921 005 <i>curl.puppy.moods</i>	<b>TILL RECEIPT</b> from visitor centre café	7	59
<b>Irlam</b>	☐ SJ 719 938 <i>uproot.steady.coconuts</i>	<b>TILL RECEIPT</b> from Tesco Express, Fairhills Road	26	85
<b>Tyldesley</b>	☐ SD 705 019 <i>test.pipe.visual</i>	<b>TILL RECEIPT</b> from Co-op Petrol Station, Manchester Road	11	96
<b>Sale Water Park</b>	☐ SJ 806 925 <i>civic.flames.flight</i>	<b>TILL RECEIPT</b> from café	18	114

**RIDE DETAILS:** see **www.delphcyclist.info/MancPerm.html** for GPX files, Route sheet, Maps, etc

**CLIMBING:** **670m** (total climbing) **118m** (max elevation) AAA points: **0**

**TIME LIMITS:** **3 hrs 48 mins** (30kph) and **9 hrs 30 mins** (12kph)

# Manchester Sightseer

## Sale – Simister (19km)

1 continue towards tramstop

0.3  Rifle Road

0.6  walk over Jacksons Boat bridge and continue north to **Barlow Moor**

**Hardy Lane Extension:** a planned dual carriageway from south Manchester to connect to the motorway. Never built and route used instead by Metrolink

0.9  along Hardy Lane with the tram

1.8  Barlow Moor Road

3.0  cross Wilbraham Road

**Sedge Lynn (Wetherspoons):** former billiard hall ironically opened by a Temperance movement. The former cinema next door was the venue of the first performance by three local brothers who grew up to become the **Bee Gees**

3.5  Kensington Road

3.7  Oswald Road

4.0  at school gates  
 onto Warwick Road South

4.8  beside Metrolink stop and over tram tracks  
continue on Brian Statham Way

**Brian Statham:** a cricketer from Gorton who played for Lancashire and England. He once held the world record for most wickets taken in Test Cricket.

**University Academy 92:** co-founded by members of United's "class of '92" junior footballers

**Trafford Town Hall:** a neo-classical building, inaugurated as Stretford Town Hall in 1933

5.1  cross Talbot Road

5.4  cross Chester Road onto Sir Matt Busby Way

**Roman Road:** cross route to Deva (Chester)

**Sir Matt Busby Way:** named for a former City player!

**United Trinity:** Statue of George Best, Dennis Law and Bobby Charlton

**Sir Alex Ferguson Way:** manager of Aberdeen FC, who won the 1985 Scottish Championship, the last team to do so that isn't Rangers or Celtic

5.9  cross Wharfside Way

6.3  **Salford Quays** cycleway on R over Tramtracks then left alongside waterfront

**Metrolink Trafford extension:** opened in 2020 taking the network to 103km with 99 stops.

**Salford Docks:** Once the 3<sup>d</sup> busiest port in Britain, closed in 1982 and redeveloped as **Salford Quays**

6.8  over footbridge

**Lowry Bridge:** vertical lift bridge linking the **Imperial War Museum North** and the **Lowry Centre**

**Lowry Centre:** named after a matchless Salford painter who may have done some shopping near here

7.1  cross over former Dock 9

**Dock 9:** the largest of the Ship Canal docks, used for services to Montreal.

**Media City:** home to the BBC and ITV. "Wetherfield" (the current set for Coronation Street) is nearby

7.7  Broadway

8.2  Trafford Road and  
 onto pavement at church tower

**St George's Church:** built 1858, closed 1993 and all but the tower demolished

8.5  use cycleway under A57/M602 O (NB zigzag R & L in the middle)

8.7  onto Cross Lane

9.2		Cross Lane
9.4	 	Broad Street
<b>Salford University:</b> started life as the Royal Technical Institute in 1896.		
<b>Joule House:</b> (across the road) residence of the Salford-born brewer, physicist and unit of energy		
9.9		between beside University and the river through Peel Park
<b>Peel Park:</b> named for former Prime Minister Sir Robert Peel from Bury, who did much to encourage the creation of public parks, as well as founding the police.		
<b>Willow trees:</b> latin "salix", gives its name to both salicylic acid and Salford		
11.1		Frederick Road, over bridge then
<b>William Robinson:</b> Salford's mayor between 1878 - 1881 gets plenty of credit for this bridge opened 1880		
11.2		onto riverside cyclepath
		over river, straight onto Gerald Rd
11.6		Seaford Road
11.8		Cromwell Road
<b>Manchester Racecourse:</b> closed in 1963, only part of the grandstand remains. Local bookie Fred Done is behind the housing development on the site		
<b>Richard Husband:</b> another mayor, another bridge		
12.1	 	Lower Broughton Road
<b>Broughton RUFC:</b> formed in 1869, still playing locally. They predate <b>Broughton Park RUFC</b> (1882) now playing in South Manchester and <b>Broughton Rangers RLFC</b> (1877) who became a founder member of Rugby League in 1895		
<b>The Cliff:</b> Manchester United's former training ground and now home to their Women's team		
13.0		onto Hope Street
		on Knoll Street (not the cobbles!)
13.3	 	onto Bury New Rd
13.5		New Hall Road

14.1		Old Hall Road
<b>Broughton:</b> Home to many Jewish refugees. Simon, 1 <sup>st</sup> Baron Marks of Broughton, and son of the "M" of M&S was active in Zionism to establish Israel as a Jewish homeland.		
14.2		Park Lane
<b>Broughton House:</b> opened 1916 for military veterans		
14.5		Singleton Road
14.8		Bury Old Road
15.7	  	Sheepfoot Ln
		into Heaton Park and continue through park towards the hall
<b>Heaton Park:</b> visitors include polish <b>Pope John Paul II</b> in 1982 for a mass Mass of over 100,000, and <b>Oasis</b> , who played to 210,000 over 3 nights in 2009 Crown Green bowling may be the norm "up north", but Heaton Park has the only flat bowling greens in Manchester built for the 2002 London Olympics		
17.3		left towards north carpark (café on L)
<b>Heaton Park BT tower:</b> able to withstand a nuclear attack, although this hasn't been tested (yet).		
18.4		at park exit, St Margaret's Road
18.8		Heywood Road
	 	<b>Simister</b>
for till receipt turn left here for shops		

## Simister – Didsbury (21km)

2 ↑ continue along Heywood Lane

**Heaton Park Reservoir:** its water travels at 4mph from Haweswater in the Lake District, 72 miles away

**Simister Island:** population 0, 100,000 daily visitors

**Same Yet Inn:** When the signwriter for the Star Inn asked the pub's name after a refurbishment, he was told "same yet" - or so the story goes

2.7 ↗ back on tarmac  
 ↘ Ellis Lane (at summit)

4.2 ↗ Boothroyden Road

4.5 ↑ through gate then zigzag L&R and over M60

4.9 ↗ onto Boothroyden Road

5.2 ↖ Boothroyden Road

5.6 ↗ Plant Hill Road

6.5 ↖ French Barn Rd (after Academy)

7.0 ↑ through bollards

7.1 ↗ onto Lion Street

**Pride in Blackley:** there used to be a White Lion pub across the road from Ye Golden Lion. All on Lion Street of course. Pronounced 'Blakeley'

9.0 ↗ look for Glenmore Drive on R, then

9.1 ↘ next left  
 ↖ at Hendham Vale sign  
 ↗ Hendham Vale **City Centre**

**Hendham Vale:** one of the Council's first major landscaping projects in the 1970s, transforming an industrial wasteland into a green riverside corridor for the benefit of the local community.

**River Irk:** rises in Royton and adds its waters to the Irwell and ultimately the Mersey. Once noted for its eels, feeding on oils from the many woollen mills

9.6 ↑ through gate and soon  
 ↘  **CityCentre** thru bollards

9.9 ↗ Collyhurst Road

**Angel Meadow:** was one of the city's worst slums, greatly influenced visitors Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx when writing "The Communist Manifesto"

11.7 ↘ Dantzic Street **Ring Road**

11.8 ↗ over A664 onto Dantzic Street, continue on pedestrian area

**One Angel Square:** HQ of the Co-op group, founded in Rochdale in 1844 - nicknamed the "sliced egg"

12.0 ↗ Miller Street

**CIS Tower:** once the tallest building in the UK, now it barely makes the top 10 in Manchester

12.1 ↖ Corporation Street

**Balloon Street:** James Sadler took off in a hot air balloon from a garden here in 1785, only the 2<sup>nd</sup> such flight in the country. He took his cat with him

**Victoria Station and Manchester Arena:** The scene of a terror attack in 2017. 

**Urbis Building:** opened as the "Museum of the City" in 2002, now the "National Football Museum"

12.5 ↑ follow tramtracks through Exchange Square on Cross Street

**The Printworks:** former newspaper works but now a leisure hub, opened by Lionel Ritchie and Sir Alex Ferguson but I don't what they sang

**Exchange Square:** former home of Corn Exchange

**Manchester Arndale Centre:** opened in 1971, a massive IRA bomb devastated the area in 1996 but left the pillar box and its contents undamaged

**Town Hall:** The Victorian Gothic building provides a great climbing frame for Father Christmas

13.0 ↗ John Dalton Street

**John Dalton:** devised the atomic theory

13.2 ↖ Deansgate

<b>John Rylands Library:</b> no-one knows what first attracted Enriqueta to millionaire entrepreneur and philanthropist John Rylands, 42 years her senior when they married. As his widow, she could certainly afford to build the library as a memorial
<b>Chopin:</b> came to Manchester in 1848 to play a concert. Famous for writing "Could it Be Magic" for Manchester's Take That
13.5  Peter Street
<b>Great Northern Railway goods warehouse:</b> now houses a leisure development & yet more shops
<b>Free Trade Hall:</b> <b>Bob Dylan</b> recorded his "Live at the Albert Hall" here in 1966 (to the calls of "Judas"). The <b>Sex Pistols'</b> concert in 1976, inspired the formation of <b>Joy Division, The Smiths</b> and <b>The Fall</b> . The site of the <b>Peterloo Massacre</b> in 1819
<b>Midland Hotel:</b> where Charles Rolls met Henry Royce. Parking was a lot cheaper in those days
<b>Manchester Central Library:</b> completed in 1934. The DIY section has plenty of books on Shelving.
<b>Palace Theatre:</b> opened in 1891, one of two main theatres in Manchester
<b>Oxford Road Station:</b> still awaiting refurbishment as part of the Northern Hub 
<b>Refuge Assurance Building:</b> once an office building now a hotel. Had the same architect as the Town Hall
<b>Manchester Aquatics Centre:</b> opened by the Elizabeth II for the 2002 Commonwealth Games.
<b>Royal Northern College of Music:</b> has many noted alumni including a Master of the Queens Music
<b>The Pankhurst Centre:</b> on Nelson St, the former home of Emmeline Pankhurst & her daughters
<b>Manchester Victoria University:</b> founded as Owens College in 1851. Mancunian J J Thompson studied here and earned one of Manchester's 25 Nobel prizes, as did Neils Bohr and Ernest Rutherford
<b>Whitworth Hall:</b> named after engineer Joseph Whitworth, famous for his screws
<b>MRI (Manchester Royal Infirmary):</b> a good place to come for a Magnetic Resonance Image (MRI) scan
<b>Whitworth Art Gallery:</b> a Van Gogh, a Picasso and a Gauguin were stolen from here in 2003. If only their founder could have thought of a way of screwing them to the walls. The paintings were found in a local toilet

<b>Rusholme:</b> home to the world famous "curry mile"
<b>Fallowfield Velodrome:</b> venue for the 1893 Cup Final, once owned by Reg Harris, but now demolished and the site for the student Halls of Residence
<b>Marcus Rashford:</b> a mural is on Copson Street near Winnington Costa
19.5  Wilmslow Road
<b>Christie:</b> one of Europe's leading cancer hospitals
21.3  onto School Lane at Costa
©  <b>Didsbury</b>

## Didsbury – Velodrome (11km)

3 continue on School Lane

1.0 ↕ cross A34

**A34/Kingsway:** the only road in Manchester with a "3" prefix. Kingsway was built in the 1930s as a dual carriageway with a wide central reservation for trams

1.2 ↻ Burnage Lane

**Oasis:** Noel and Liam Gallagher were brought up in Cranwell Drive. Don't look back in Ancoats!

2.6 ↻ Errwood Road

**Cringle Fields:** backs onto Crossley Motors, a former car and bus maker

4.5 ↗ onto Transpennine Trail **Reddish**

**Fallowfield Loop:** a former railway line allowing trains from Sheffield to access Manchester Central

**Levenshulme South:** station open 1892, closed 1958

**Thirlmere Aqueduct:** pipes bringing water to Audenshaw reservoirs from the Lake District

8.2 ↖ onto Canal path **SportCity**

**Stockport Branch Canal:** opened in 1797, closed 1962, running to Lancashire Hill above Stockport

10.6 ↖ onto Ashton Canal **SportCity**

**Ashton Canal:** part of the Cheshire Ring, also linking Manchester with Yorkshire via the Pennine tunnels. Open 1797, closed 1961, reopened 1974

11.5 ↖ **SportCity** then sharp L back over canal

**National Cycling Centre:** Cafés at McDonalds or Starbucks © **SportCity**

## Velodrome–Daisy Nook (7km)

4 right before Velodrome, follow yellow path to gateway into Bank Street

**Bank Street:** Newton Heath FC played here from 1893 to 1910 then moved to Old Trafford (they had changed their name to Manchester United)

0.1 ↕ John Heywood Street

0.6 ↗ Clayton Street (at corner shop)

0.8 ↖ North Road

**St Cross:** a Victorian church and listed building. Opened (but not consecrated) in 1866, as the Bishop at the time thought the fancy internal decoration and the dedication to the Holy Cross was "not very C of E"

0.9 ↗ Clayton Hall Road  
↖ Stanton Street

1.1 ↗ & ↖ onto Eastern By-Pass

**Eastern by-pass:** planned in 1945 but very little was built other than this short stretch of dual carriageway looking very much out of place

1.4 ↗ Scholfield Street

1.5 ↖ Ashton New Road, beware trams

2.2 ↕ ⚠ after Tameside sign and  
↗ ↕ Manor Rd by Edge Ln tram stop

3.2 ↻ Greenside Lane (after cemetery)

**Greenside Mill:** now under multiple occupancy. Also in Droylsden were Fairfield Mills (making world famous Christy Towels but now a Tesco), and Robertson's Jam Factory (who used a Golly - not very PC! - for their branding and is now a housing estate)

3.8 ↖ ⚠ Market Street, over M60

**Droylsden FC:** known as "The Bloods" as they were founded at the Butchers Arms pub in 1892

6.8 ↖ at RH bend, and

7.0 ↗ to Visitor Centre © **Daisy Nook**

## Daisy Nook – Irlam (27km)

5 exit **Daisy Nook** car park

**Easter fair:** held annually, the subject of a painting by L S Lowry in 1946, sold for £3.8 million in 2007

1.2 Ashton Road, through **Woodhouses**

**River Medlock:** rises in Oldham and flows through Manchester on the way to the Mersey Estuary

4.5 over bridge then  
 through **Clayton Vale**

**Clayton Vale:** nature reserve, formerly industrialised with a tannery, dyeworks and a Smallpox hospital

5.9 after Clayton viaduct

**Clayton viaduct:** built in 1904 to serve Stuart Street **Power Station**, cooling towers demolished in 1978.

6.6 1<sup>st</sup> R after viaduct Fairclough Street

**Philips Park:** opened in 1846, named after a local MP, now includes a Mountain Bike "skills zone"

6.9 Stuart Street  
 before main road and  
 onto canal towpath

**Bradford coal mine:** closed in 1968 because of subsidence, the site of the 2002 **Commonwealth Games stadium**, home to **Manchester City**

9.1 at lock 9 thru bollards  
 Old Mill Street

**Roman Road:** leads to Eboracum (York)

9.3 over Great Ancoats Street

**Store St Aqueduct:** the world's first skewed aqueduct

**Jutland Street:** City Centre Manchester's steepest hill on the right; have a go at the 35% cobbled climb!

9.8 Boad Street  
 Travis St under **Piccadilly**

**Piccadilly Station:** was to be the terminal of the ill-fated Picc-Vic underground line, and perhaps of HS2.

10.3 Fairfield Street

**The Star and Garter:** a listed building, pub and a live music venue. It was moved brick by brick from its previous location when London Road Station was expanded in 1849. A further station expansion is again threatening its existence, an example of levelling down

10.5 Fairfield St

**London Road Fire Station:** an iconic building from 1906, has stood largely unused since 1986

continue along Whitworth Street

**Sackville Street/UMIST:** now Manchester University. A sculpture of computer pioneer Alan Turing is in Sackville Park opposite

11.2 over **Oxford Rd**

**Harry Hall:** 1989 World Masters Champion, and Tom Simpsons' mechanic when he died on Ventoux

**Jack Rosenthal:** former Coronation Street writer, has his own Street name. It leads to **Tony Wilson Place** with a statue of **Engels**

11.7 over Albion Street

**Hacienda Apartments:** on the site of the former nightclub founded by Tony Wilson from Granada TV

11.9 Deansgate  
 1st left Bridgewater Street

**Mamucium:** reconstruction of the 79AD Roman fort.

12.3 Duke Street  
 pass Castlefield Sunday School  
 opposite Campfield Market

**Liverpool Road Station:** opened in 1830 as the world's first inter-city station, and now houses the **Museum of Science and Industry**

**Castlefield Curve:** railway bridge, part of the Northern Hub, its construction controversially severed the rail connection to Liverpool Road Station

12.9 at Trinity Way  
 Regent Road over River Irwell

<b>River Irwell:</b> rises near Bacup, its lower course now forms part of the Ship Canal
13.3  Ordsall Lane in <b>Salford</b>
<b>Ordsall Hall:</b> where Guy Fawkes is reputed to have planned the Gunpowder Plot
<b>Soapworks:</b> formerly Colgate Palmolive factory
14.8  Trafford Road over Ship Canal
15.2  Pomona Strand  right onto cobbles left down ramp, sharp right onto towpath under <b>Throstle Nest Bridge</b>
17.7  right after stepped bridge onto branch canal and immediately  onto cyclepath to
17.9  Moss Road
18.6  Derbyshire Lane
19.1  3rd exit Bradfield Road
<b>M60:</b> Manchester's oldest motorway has an identity crisis; it opened as the M62, became M63, then M60
20.6  Moss Vale Road, under rail bridge
20.8  Railway Road
<b>Cheshire Lines Railway:</b> between Manchester Central and Liverpool Central, both stations now closed
21.6  Flixton Road in <b>Urmston</b> 
<b>Tim Bobbin:</b> Wetherspoons named after Urmston poet John Collier born 1708 who wrote under this name
<b>Abbotsfield Park:</b> an unknown "beat combo" was booked to play Urmston show in 1963, but when they appeared here in August, the Beatles attracted thousands of screaming girls
23.1  Flixton Road
23.6  Irlam Road continue to Irlam Locks
<b>Irlam Locks:</b> One of 5 sets of locks on the Ship Canal

25.9  over Ship Canal at Irlam Locks  between fence and wall
26.1  A57
26.4  Fairhills Road
27.2 Tesco on left for receipt   <b>Irlam</b>

<b>Irlam – Tyldesley (10km)</b>	
6	 Roscoe Road
0.9	 and continue over Chat Moss
<b>Chat Moss:</b> an area of extensive peat bog	
<b>M52:</b> Liverpool to Salford motorway opened in 1974, by which time it had been renumbered as M62 and its destination changed to Humberside	
3.7	 at Medley Green Farm
4.1	 at Birch Farm
4.5	 over level crossing
<b>Liverpool &amp; Manchester Railway:</b> the world's first intercity rail link, now electrified with fast services	
over Bridgewater Canal	
<b>Astley Green colliery:</b> closed in 1970, now a museum	
7.9	 over A580
<b>East Lancs Road:</b> opened by George V in 1934 as the UK's first purpose built intercity highway	
8.2	 Coach Road <b>Tyldesley</b>
for till receipt, right on Manchester Rd for petrol station on right, then return  <b>Tyldesley</b>	
8.5	 Church Road
9.6	 onto cycle path alongside Guided Bus Route 
<b>Leigh Guided Bus:</b> opened in 2016	

## Tyldesley – Sale (19km)

7 continue on cyclepath alongside busway

0.7  cross Mosley Common Road

1.3  cross New City Road

2.2  B5232 New Earth Road

2.8  over A580

3.4  &  Leigh Road

3.6  2<sup>nd</sup> left Boothshall Way

4.0  Quayside Close (before Moorings)  
 at end and  onto cyclepath  
 alongside canal

**Worsley New Hall gardens:** on the left, renovated in 2021 as RHS Garden Bridgewater

**Bridgewater Canal:** commissioned by Francis Egerton (3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of Bridgewater), opened 1761 to transport coal from his mines in Worsley to Manchester, reducing the price of coal by about half

6.4  onto Barton Road

7.8 

**M602:** planned as M57, opened in 1971

9.1  Barton B5211

9.8  Barton B5211

**Barton Swing Bridge:** if open, wait or head into Eccles, then Coronet Way to Salford Quays and the Bridgewater Canal near Old Trafford – take a map!

10.0  immediately after crossing Barton Bridge and rejoin towpath

**Barton Swing Aqueduct:** opened in 1894 to carry the canal over the Ship Canal and is still the world's only navigable swing aqueduct.

It replaced **Barton Aqueduct**, opened in 1761 as the first navigable aqueduct in the UK. There are plans to reinstate the towpath over the swing aqueduct.

**Trafford Centre:** just lots of car parks and shops.

**Trafford Park:** the first planned industrial estate in the world and still the largest in Europe.

13.7  take right branch at canal junction

15.7 through both sets of white gates then  
 **Sale Water Park**  &  &   
under canal and railway tunnels

16.1  follow narrow path alongside railway

16.6 over Mersey bridge, then keep lake on your left to Sale Sailing Centre

**River Mersey:** Merseyside starts here! An anglo-saxon word for "boundary" and divides Lancashire from Cheshire, and Mercia from Northumbria

**Sale Water Park:** a flooded former gravel pit used in the construction of the M63

17.5 continue on 5mph exit road to

18.0  café on left  **Sale Water Park**

*Organised by Mike Wigley to Audax UK regulations*

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