

10 Things Manchester is Famous For

1. Football

There is no denying that football and Manchester go hand-in-hand. Walking down the city's streets, you will frequently hear people discussing football. Manchester City (blue side) and Manchester United (red side) are two of the most popular football clubs in the world. Fierce rivals as they are, the competition between the two is what makes football here so lively.

2. Coronation Street

The longest-running show on TV, Coronation Street was filmed in Manchester. If you need some catching up, this British soap opera depicted the lives of residents in the fictional town of Weatherfield since the 1960s. From famous characters like Ken and Dierdre to delectable Lancashire food such as Betty's Hot Pot, Coronation Street will not fail to capture your attention.

3. Music

Manchester is not only the music capital of the UK, it has shaped music worldwide. In the late 1980s, a vibrant music and culture scene developed in Manchester. The "Manchester Scene", as it was called, saw the blending of genres such as 1960s pop, acid house, and rave music. With notable bands such as The Smiths, The 1975, The Stone Roses, and Oasis, all originating in the city, Manchester remains influential in the music industry.

4. University of Manchester

The University of Manchester has influenced developments worldwide. It was here that nuclear energy and radiotherapy developed after Ernest Rutherford's breakthrough in splitting an atom in 1917. The first modern computer, which ran its program in 1948, was also developed at the University of Manchester. Our smartphones and laptops are its legacy, showing how this global institution has shaped our world.

5. The Industrial Revolution

The Manchester we know today emerged during the Industrial Revolution. It is the first industrialised city in the world. The first working canal in the UK and the world's first railway line developed here in 1761 and 1825, respectively. As the largest producer of cotton and textiles, Manchester was the engine of the Industrial Revolution. The second largest railway station in the UK, Victoria Station is still one of the oldest in the world.

6. The Worker Bee

The Worker Bee is the symbol of Manchester. All across the city, on bins and the side of buildings, the Worker Bee stands conspicuously, showing how the city was built from the ground by hardworking people. It symbolises collective strength and has been there for over 250 years.

7. The Suffragette Movement

A pivotal part of world history, the Suffragette Movement, originated in Manchester. Its leader, Emmeline Pankhurst, was a Moss-side-born Manchester native. Along with her comrades, she worked tirelessly to secure the right to vote for women at the turn of the 20th century.

8. Vimto

One of the most popular drinks in the UK, Vimto, was invented in Manchester in 1908. Made of grapes, blackcurrants, and raspberries, Vimto has a soft distinctive flavour. Its founder, John Nicols, accidentally produced it when trying to create a healthy drink to combat alcoholism.

9. Manchester Arndale

The diverse range of shopping districts in Manchester makes shopping an unforgettable experience in this city. One of the largest shopping centres in the UK, Manchester Arndale is a one-stop destination for high-street fashion brands, accessories, and beauty products. There are more than 200 stores, food outlets, and leisure venues such as Urban Playground at Arndale.

10. Green Spaces

The urban landscape of Manchester is dotted with green spaces. Within this bustling city, residents and visitors can find peaceful retreats in the numerous parks and botanical gardens. Heaton Park is one of the largest municipal parks in Europe and covers over 600 acres of land. Fletcher Moss Botanical Garden is Didsbury's hidden gem, housing woodlands and wildlife habitats.
