



Manchester Guide

for attending the Vegan and Animal Rights Conference

**You will find information on travel, accommodation
and places to eat and visit whilst in the city.**

varconference.com

TRAVEL

The Vegan and Animal Rights Conference will take place in central Manchester at the Mercure Manchester Piccadilly Hotel (Portland Street, Manchester M1 4PH).

How to get there from outside Manchester

By Train

From Manchester Piccadilly Station

- Is a 10–15 minute walk. Exit the station, turn right towards the city centre, then left onto Portland Street, where the hotel is located.
- Or take the Metro-link tram (Maybe included in your ticket) to Piccadilly Gardens. The tram stop is <1 minutes from the hotel.

By Coach

From Chorlton Street Coach Station (National Express)

- Is a 7 minute walk. Exit the coach station onto Chorlton St, walk towards Portland St, and turn right. Continue straight, and the hotel is on the left.

From Shudehill Interchange (Megabus & Local Buses)

- Is a 15 minute walk or one stop on the tram to Piccadilly Gardens.

By Car

From the M56 Motorway


Follow signs to Manchester city center and continue on Portland Street. The hotel is on the left-hand side.

Parking: Is available at the hotel (charges apply). Spaces are limited, so pre-booking is recommended.

International travel

By Plane

From Manchester Airport



Take a direct train to **Manchester Piccadilly Station** (~20 minutes). From there, follow the walking or tram directions above.

TRAVEL

Travelling around the city

Public Transportation:

Manchester's Metrolink tram system and local buses serve the city well. The nearest tram stop is Piccadilly Gardens, a short walk from the hotel.

Trams operate on a tap on & off system, and the buses are standard fares bought from the driver with contactless.



ACCOMMODATION

Where to stay

Manchester offers a variety of accommodation options, but as a busy city hosting many events, we recommend booking early for the best prices and availability.

The venue's central location makes it convenient whether you stay in the city center or a little further out, where prices may be more budget-friendly. Manchester's excellent transport connections, including late-night and some 24-hour services, make getting to and from the venue straightforward.

Accommodation Suggestions

- For central Manchester hotels, try **Booking.com**, or **Airbnb** which is great for group bookings or room-only options.
- **Budget Tip:** Consider staying just outside the city centre in areas like Stockport, which has excellent transport links to Manchester. Stockport train station, for example, is only 10 minutes from Manchester Piccadilly by train and is serviced by most northern train routes.

FOOD

Where to eat

WITHIN CITY CENTRE

TAKE-OUT / LIMITED SEATING



Desert Island Dumplings

Third floor, Afflecks, 52 Church St, Manchester M4 1PW

Fusion dumplings



Little Aladdin

72 High St, Manchester, England, M4 1ES

Indian Cuisine, noted for its affordable food



Go Falafel

3 Newton St (Also has a Deansgate store)

Falafels, salads and juices made fresh, all to go (This is our top pick!)

RESTAURANTS



Wholesome Junkies

Location 1: Hinterland Bar, 16-20 Turner St, Manchester M4 1DZ

Location 2: Central Piccadilly, 38 London Rd, Manchester M1 2PF

Serves burgers and delicious vegan junk food, in non-alcoholic bar



Purezza

75-77 High St, M4 1DH

Pizzas and small plates, locally sourced ingredients (Restaurant)



The Allotment

18/22 Lloyd Street, Manchester, M2 5WA, United Kingdom

Seasonal ingredients, local and sustainable grower ingredient where poss (*worth booking in advance*)

OUTSIDE OF MANCHESTER CITY CENTER



Lotus Plant Based Kitchen

536 Wilmslow Rd, Manchester, England, M20 4BY

Chinese cuisine (Restaurant)



Herbivorous

445 Wilmslow road, Withington, Manchester, M20 4AN

American Style burgers, subs, and sides



Ice Shack

1c 160-164 Wellington Rd, Manchester, England

Vegan dessert parlour selling cakes, ice cream, milkshakes and hot drinks.

WHAT TO DO

Staying an extra day or few, Manchester has lots to offer; famous for its industrial & rebellious past, football and arts.

Art & Culture

Street Art in the Northern Quarter:

Immerse yourself in the Northern Quarter's creative spirit, where vibrant street art adorns the city's walls. Each mural tells a story, capturing the ever-evolving essence of Manchester.

Manchester Art Gallery:

With an impressive collection of paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts.



People's History Museum:

Embark on a journey through time at the People's History Museum, a living narrative of democracy and social change. Explore the stories of the working class, echoing struggles and triumphs that have shaped Manchester's history.



Banner exhibition, People's History Museum

Architecture & Literature

Discover the John Rylands Library:

Step into a neo-Gothic masterpiece housing rare books and manuscripts.

Chetham's Library:

Step into Chetham's Library, one of the oldest public libraries in the English-speaking world, dating back to 1653.

Manchester Cathedral:

Explore Manchester Cathedral, a stunning architectural gem that has witnessed centuries of history. Its grandeur and historical significance make it a must-visit.

Football:

Old Trafford & Etihad both have tours, or you can visit the National Football museum, Urbis Building, Cathedral Gardens, Manchester, M4 3BG

Thank you for reading. We will be releasing a conference handbook with more information to help you prepare - or refer to the conference APP Whova.

-VARC TEAM