

Finding out about...

Public transport to hospitals

in Greater
Manchester



Public transport to hospitals



With limited space, high demand and parking charges, using the car to get to hospitals is awkward and difficult. So why not travel by bus, train or Metrolink tram?

Public transport is convenient, great value and takes the strain out of your journey. You don't have to worry about finding a parking space, time limits or feeding meters – and you're freeing up parking spaces for people who have no choice but to use their cars.

Most hospitals in Greater Manchester have excellent public transport links, with a wide range of options to make your journey simple and convenient. And whether you're visiting, attending an appointment or going to work, this guide will help you make the best travel arrangements for using buses, trains and trams.

Good reasons to leave the car at home

- Parking is difficult at most hospitals and looking for a parking space may hold you up.
- You have to pay to park at most hospitals.
- You could be taking up a parking space that's urgently needed by someone who has no choice but to travel by car.
- You may have to park some distance from the hospital entrance.
- You may have to keep going back to your car to 'feed' the meter.
- If you have to stay at the hospital, you may have to move your car.
- If you have treatment it may not be safe to drive home.



Where to get all the information you need to plan your journey

Here are some easy ways to get the information you need – helping you to make accurate plans for travelling to hospital by public transport.

Phone

Talk to one of the Traveline team for information about all bus, train and tram services in the Greater Manchester area. They will also send you timetables, leaflets and maps.

Phone Traveline 0871 200 22 33 (calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays).

GMPTE Travelshops

You'll find **GMPTE Travelshops** at most bus stations in Greater Manchester, and our staff will be pleased to help you plan your journey and provide details of services and times.

Online

If you have access to the internet, visit **www.gmppte.com/hospitals**, the best source of information for access to hospitals in Greater Manchester by public transport.

The website provides maps of the hospitals, locations of bus stops, rail stations or tram stops close to the hospital. It also displays route maps of services to and from the hospital, which you can download and print.

At the hospital

You will find information about local services at all bus stops located around the hospital entrances.

We are also introducing public transport information displays in hospitals to help you find the correct starting point for your journey home.

If you work at a hospital that employs a travel co-ordinator, ask if there are any special arrangements or schemes to help staff use public transport.

Checking bus times by mobile phone

You can check bus times at any stop using your mobile phone. Just follow these three simple steps

- 1. Key in the bus stop code on your mobile phone (the code is shown on the bus stop plate).**
- 2. Text the code to number 84268.**
- 3. Read the timetable information for buses using your stop – you will receive this in a text message reply to your phone.**

This service costs 25p plus the standard charge from your mobile phone service provider.

How's my train running?

If you have a tone phone you can get up-to-the minute information about the next train from most stations in Greater Manchester by phoning **0161 228 0322**. The 24-hour automated service tells you what time the next trains are and if there are any delays. Simply follow the instructions given.



Choosing the right ticket

There are three simple options to allow you to complete your journeys without difficulty. The best choice for you will depend on how often you need to go to hospital, what time you need to be there and whether you will travel by bus, train or tram.

Cheaper fares off-peak

Train and tram travel is cheaper 'off-peak' – after 9.30am on weekdays or anytime at weekends or bank holidays. On buses the same fare is usually charged at all times of day.

1. If you are making straightforward, single journeys to and from hospital, the easiest option is to just pay for each journey as you make it. Ask if a return ticket is available, as this will usually cost less. (If you buy a return bus ticket make sure that the same bus company will run your return journey, this is not always the case, even on the same route).
2. If you need to change services or will make other journeys during the day you may find a day ticket is good value. You can buy day tickets for buses, trains and trams or different combinations of travel. These tickets are available 'off-peak' and allow travel throughout Greater Manchester.
 - **Day Saver bus allows unlimited bus journeys for a whole day for £4.30 (or £4.60 at peak times).**
 - **Rail Ranger allows unlimited train journeys for a whole day for £4.**
 - **Evening Ranger allows unlimited train journeys after 6.30pm for £2.**
 - **Metro Max allows unlimited Metrolink tram journeys for a whole day. Price varies depending on boarding stop £2.90 – £4.**

Day Saver tickets allow unlimited travel on combinations of buses, trains and trams.

- **Day Saver bus and train £5.30.**
- **Day Saver bus and tram £5.80.**
- **Day Saver train and tram £6.30.**
- **Day Saver bus, train and tram £7.00.**

Prices shown are correct as of April 2009 and are subject to change.

3. If you work at a hospital you may want to consider buying a season ticket. These are available weekly, monthly and annually for buses, trains and trams.

For full details visit www.gmpte.com, call into a GMPTE Travelshop (located at most bus stations in Greater Manchester) or phone Traveline on **0871 200 22 33** (calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays).

You could be entitled to lower fares or free travel

Financial help with fares

If you receive benefits you may be entitled to a contribution towards your public transport fares to hospital. You will need to take current proof of benefit entitlement with you and retain your tickets as proof.

To check you are eligible please contact the Hospital's Cashier's Office who will be able to advise you before you travel. You can contact them via the numbers provided in this leaflet.

Information leaflet HC11 explaining entitlement can be obtained from your local post office, Job Centre Plus or the Hospital's Cashier's Office.

Concessionary travel

The National Concessionary Travel Pass allows people aged 60 or over and qualifying disabled people to free travel on local buses in England between 9.30am and 11pm on weekdays and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

A GMPTe National Concessionary Travel Pass has additional benefits. It allows free travel on buses, trains and Metrolink trams in Greater Manchester between 9.30am and midnight on weekdays and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. You pay a reduced concessionary fare at other times.

- **If you are aged 60 or over and you live in Greater Manchester you are entitled to a GMPTe National Concessionary Travel Pass.**
- **If you are physically disabled or have learning difficulties you may be entitled to either a GMPTe National Concessionary Travel Pass or a GMPTe 'concession plus' pass which allows free bus travel at all times.**
- **If you are under 16 you are entitled to pay the concessionary fare at all times. If you look over 16 you can get a free Under-16 card to prove your age if people think you are older. (If you are aged 13 to 15 you must have an Under-16 card to obtain child fares on Metrolink trams.)**

For more information about concessionary or free travel phone **0161 244 1050**.

Travel Vouchers for blind people and people with walking difficulties

GMPTe Travel Vouchers are for people who are not able to use ordinary buses because they have serious walking difficulties or are registered blind. They can be used to pay for taxis and for travel on accessible bus services such as Ring & Ride and community transport.

For an application form and further information please write to GMPTe Passes and Permits, 2 Piccadilly Place, Manchester M1 3BG, or phone **0161 244 1050**.

Community transport services

A number of different community transport services operate across Greater Manchester, helping people to access essential services, including healthcare. Most community transport operators will be able to help you to get to hospital if you have difficulty using ordinary public transport.

For more information or to find the local operator in your area please visit **www.manchesterctforum.org.uk** or contact Beth Sharratt on **0161 277 1029**.

Local Link

Local Link is a new type of public transport service operating in various parts of Greater Manchester – picking passengers up from their home and taking them to where they want to go within certain areas. Local Link services are shared with other passengers using minibuses and taxis.

To find out if a Local Link service operates in your area phone Traveline on **0871 200 22 33** (calls cost 10p a minute from landlines, mobile and landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays).

Transport for Sick Children

Transport for Sick Children is a registered charity working throughout Greater Manchester and helping children to reach their hospital appointments. If you have difficulty getting your child to and from health appointments please speak to your Health Visitor or Social Worker and ask them to contact the charity directly.

If you or anyone you know has access to a vehicle and would like to become a volunteer driver for the charity, please phone **0161 432 7800**.

Ring and Ride

Ring and Ride provides transport for people who have difficulty using ordinary public transport. The service operates across Greater Manchester picking passengers up from their home and taking them to where they want to go within certain areas. For further information please phone **08454 50 80 90**.

Hospital contact numbers

If you want to check visiting times, ward numbers or ask for any information, phone the hospital number shown below.

Altrincham
Altrincham General Hospital
Market Street,
Altrincham WA14 1PE
0161 928 6111

Bolton
Royal Bolton Hospital
Minerva Road,
Farnworth BL4 0JR
01204 390390

Bury
Fairfield General Hospital
Rochdale Old Road, Bury,
Lancashire BL9 7TD
0161 764 6081

Leigh
Leigh Infirmary
The Avenue, Leigh
Lancashire WN7 1HS
01942 244000

Manchester
Christie Hospital
550 Wilmslow Road,
Withington, Manchester
M20 4BX
0161 446 3000
0845 226 3000

Manchester
Royal Eye Hospital
Oxford Road,
Manchester M13 9WH
0161 276 1234

University Dental Hospital
Higher Cambridge Street,
Manchester M15 6FH
0161 275 6666

Manchester
Royal Infirmary
Oxford Road,
Manchester M13 9WL
0161 276 1234

North Manchester
General Hospital
Delaunays Road, Crumpsall,
Manchester M8 5RB
0161 795 4567

Prestwich Hospital
Bury New Road, Prestwich,
Manchester M25 3BL
0161 773 9121

Royal Manchester
Children's Hospital
Oxford Road, Manchester
M13 9WL
0161 276 1234

St Mary's Hospital
Hathersage Road,
Manchester M13 0JH
0161 276 1234

Wythenshawe Hospital
Southmoor Road,
Wythenshawe
Manchester M23 9LT
0161 998 7070

Withington Hospital
Nell Lane, West Didsbury,
Manchester M20 2LR
0161 434 5555

BUPA Spire Hospital
(Private)
Russell Road, Whalley
Range, Manchester M16 8AJ
0161 226 0112

Salford
Salford Royal
formerly Hope Hospital
Stott Lane, Salford,
Manchester M6 8HD
0161 789 7373

Oaklands Hospital
(Private)
19 Lancaster Rd Salford,
Manchester M6 8AQ
0161 787 7700

Stockport
Stepping Hill Hospital
Poplar Grove, Stockport,
Cheshire SK2 7JE
0161 483 1010

St Ann's Hospice
(Charity)
St Ann's Road North
Heald Green, Cheadle,
Cheshire SK8 3SZ
0161 437 8136

Alexandra Hospital
(Private)
Mill Lane, Cheadle SK8 2PX
0161 428 3656

Cherry Tree Hospital
Cherry Tree Lane,
Stockport, Cheshire
SK2 7PZ
0161 483 1010

Tameside
Tameside
General Hospital
Fountain Street,
Ashton-Under-Lyne,
OL6 9RW
0161 331 6000

Rochdale
Rochdale Infirmary
Whitehall Street,
Rochdale OL12 0NB
01706 377777

Trafford
Trafford General Hospital
Moorside Road Urmston,
Manchester M41 5SL
0161 748 4022

Stretford
Memorial Hospital
226 Seymour Grove,
Old Trafford,
Manchester M16 0DU
0161 748 4022

Oldham
The Royal
Oldham Hospital
Rochdale Road,
Oldham OL1 2JH
0161 624 0420

Wigan
Royal Albert
Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane, Wigan,
Lancashire WN1 2NN
01942 244000

Whelley Hospital
Bradshaw Street,
Wigan WN1 3XD
01942 244000

Wrightington Hospital
Hall Lane, Appley Bridge,
Wigan, Lancashire WN6 9EP
01942 244000

Walk-in Centres in Greater Manchester

There are a number of 'Walk-in' medical centres throughout Greater Manchester – where you don't need to make an appointment to see a doctor or nurse.

Information endorsed by the Patient's Council

Bolton
Walk-in Centre
Lever Chambers
27 Ashburner Street
Bolton, Lancashire
BL1 1SQ

Burnage
Walk-in Centre
Burnage Health Care
Centre,
347 Burnage Lane,
Manchester M19 1EW

Bury
NHS Walk-in Centre
18 Parsons Lane, Bury
Lancashire BL9 0JZ

Leigh
NHS Walk-in Centre
Leigh Infirmary
The Avenue, Leigh,
Lancashire WN7 1HS

Manchester
Piccadilly
NHS Walk-in Centre
1st floor, Gateway House,
Station Approach,
Piccadilly South,
Manchester M1 2GH

Central Manchester
PCT Walk-in Centre
Manchester Royal
Infirmary, Oxford Road,
Manchester M13 9WL

Oldham
Walk-in Centre
Lindley House
1 John Street, Oldham,
Lancashire OL8 1DF

Prestwich
Walk-in Centre
Fairfax Rd, Prestwich,
Manchester M25 1BT

Rochdale
NHS Walk-in Centre
90 Whitehall Street
Rochdale, Lancashire
OL12 0ND

Withington
NHS Walk-in Centre
Withington Hospital
Nell Lane, West Didsbury,
Manchester M20 2LR

Wythenshawe
NHS Walk-in Centre
Wythenshawe
Health Care Centre,
Stancliffe Road,
Manchester M22 4PJ

If you would like this information in other formats such as in Braille, in large print, on audio CD or in other languages, please phone Traveline on **0871 200 22 33**.

public transport information



0871 200 22 33

10p a minute from landlines

traveline.info

7am - 8pm Mon to Fri • 8am - 8pm Sat, Sun & Public Hols

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Disclaimer

We have done all we can to make sure the information in this publication is correct, however GMPTe cannot be held responsible for any loss or inconvenience arising from errors or omissions.

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2 Piccadilly Place
Manchester
M1 3BG

Tel **0161 244 1000**
Fax **0161 244 1011**

