

YHA Manchester

229 Castlefield basin

Distance: 1.5 miles (2.4km)

Ascent: 9m (30ft)


Time: Allow 30m to 1h

Start/Finish: OS Locate SJ 830 976

what3words ///each.kings.sand



Facilities

 Food, drink and toilets available at YHA. No public toilets. Pubs on route and other food and drink options nearby.



Seats on route (see map)



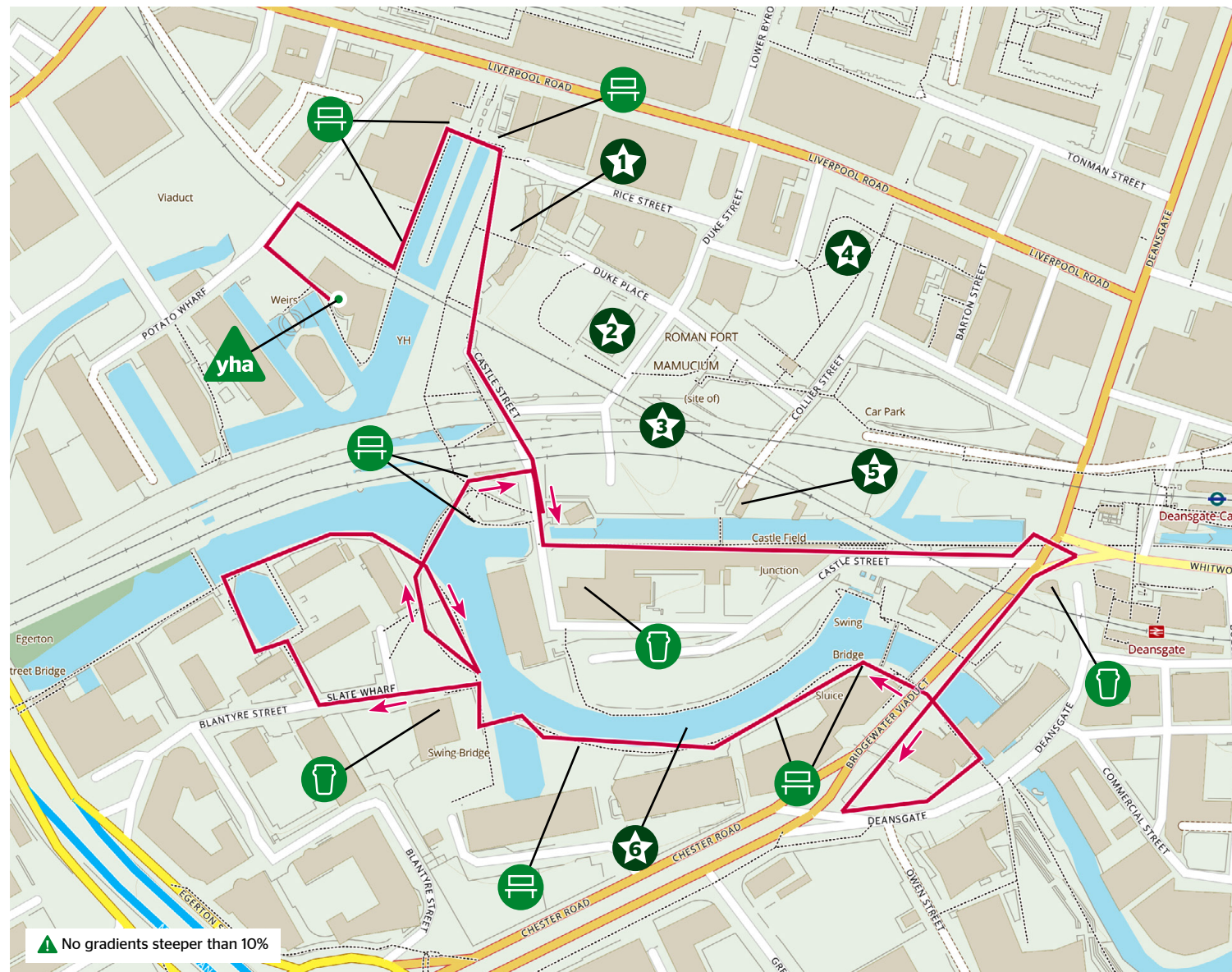
Wheelchair accessible



Pushchair accessible

This route has been created by YHA to provide inspiration and to aid planning and preparation of your walk. It doesn't replace the need for an OS Map or the OS Maps App to navigate your walk safely. Digital maps are a guide and do not always reflect the conditions on the ground, ensure you are aware of your immediate surroundings.

Scan or click to view this route on the OS Maps App – also a route profile and GPX





Thank you for choosing to walk from our hostel.
We hope you have a great time.

Exploring the cities and towns of England and Wales is part of YHA's heritage. Our city hostels provide a base to wander through parks and streets and discover history, culture, sights and attractions.

To make it easy for everyone to enjoy walking from YHA hostels, we have curated three walks – of differing levels of difficulty. They have all been graded – the higher the grade, the more challenging the route.

Remember:

- Check the local weather forecast (metoffice.gov.uk).
- Wear the right clothing for the route and weather and shoes that you can easily walk in.
- Download the OS Locate and what3words apps to your phone.
- Be considerate in residential areas or places of work.
- Take care when crossing busy roads and look out for cyclists.
- Dispose of litter properly in bins.
- Dog poo – bag it and bin it – any public waste bin will do
- Plan your adventure – know what to expect and what you can do.

In case of emergency call 999 and use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.

For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to yha.org.uk/walks

If you encounter problems with this route contact walking@yha.org.uk

Scan or click to shop
for OS maps online
osmaps.com/yha

Share your walks
 #YHAWalks

Route Summary

A short walk around historic canals. From the hostel turn right onto Potato Wharf, pass under the railway bridge and take the path immediately on the right to the canal. Take care near the water, no barriers in places. Head around the moorings, pass in front of the wide steps and under the railway bridge onto Castle Street. Head under more bridges, cross over the canal and turn left onto the towpath at the lock. Head under a bridge, take the ramp on the right and turn left onto Castle Street. The towpath section is narrow in places with open access to the water, it can be avoided by staying on Castle Street. Cross Bridgewater Viaduct at the pedestrian crossing and turn right, turn left onto Deansgate and left under the apartment building, signposted to Castlefield Canal Basin. Follow the canal towpath to the wooden lift bridge. This towpath is wider than the previous one with more barriers, but care near the water is required. Cross the bridge, turn right, then left alongside the wall to Slate Wharf. Pass the carpark and turn right at the post box onto the tree lined alley to the small canal basin. Head around the basin to the left and turn right to cross the lift bridge. Follow the towpath, which has no barriers to the water, and take the modern white bridge to cross the canal. Bear right after the bridge, turn left onto Castle Street and retrace the route to the hostel.

Accessibility

The route follows towpaths, paths and roads. There are no steps on the route, stepped alternatives available in places. Surfaces are tarmac or paved, and block paving which is moderately cobbled and may cause difficulty for some. One main road crossing with traffic lights and dropped kerbs. Smaller roads have dropped kerbs. Some narrow sections of towpath in places and sections with no barrier to the water.



Points of interest (see map)

Great examples of canal architecture and engineering – with lots and lots of bridges.

- 1 Castlefield Bowl – open air music and events venue
- 2 Mamucium Roman Fort
- 3 National Trust, Castlefield Viaduct
- 4 Castlefield Urban Heritage Park
- 5 The Saul Hay Gallery displays contemporary art
- 6 Bridgewater Canal, opened in 1765 and named after its owner, the Duke of Bridgewater. Often described as Britain's first canal, it was used to transport coal to the industrial areas of Manchester.