



Manchester, Liverpool & Northwest England

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Northcote Hotel (p560)
- ➔ Manchester House (p540)
- ➔ Little Fish Cafe (p561)
- ➔ Simon Radley at the Grosvenor (p546)
- ➔ Salt House (p554)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Inn at Whitewell (p560)
- ➔ 2 Blackburne Terrace (p553)
- ➔ King Street Townhouse (p538)
- ➔ Stone Villa (p545)
- ➔ Richmond Hotel (p552)

Why Go?

Two rival cities with rich traditions, a medieval masterpiece, an island unto itself and some of the finest countryside in England...this is just a flavour of what the northwest has to offer. Dominating the region is Manchester, arguably England's most exciting city and the unofficial capital of the north. Just across the Pennines is Liverpool, fiercely proud of its own heritage and well able to put it up to its bigger neighbour in all matters from food to football. Near to both is Chester, a historic Tudor postcard with a legacy dating back to Roman times. And, just to prove that the northwest isn't all about humankind's concrete footprint, you can get away from it all in some of Britain's most beautiful – and walkable – countryside, in northern Lancashire and on the Isle of Man.

When to Go

- ➔ The world's most famous steeplechase – the Aintree Grand National – is run just outside Liverpool over the first weekend in April.
- ➔ May and June are Tourist Trophy (TT) Festival season on the Isle of Man – beloved of motor enthusiasts the world over.
- ➔ In the arts, the highlight is the Manchester International Festival, a biennial showstopper held in July.
- ➔ Music buffs should visit Liverpool in the last week of August for madness at Creamfields dance-fest and for the Mathew St Festival, an ode to all things Beatles.
- ➔ The football (soccer) season runs from late August until May.

Manchester, Liverpool & Northwest England Highlights

- 1 International Slavery Museum** (p550) Learning a history lesson at Liverpool's most emotionally charged museum.
- 2 Beatles' Childhood Homes** (p551) Visiting the Liverpool houses where John and Paul grew up – and wrote their earliest hits.
- 3 HOME** (p541) Catching a show at Manchester's exciting and provocative arts centre.
- 4 City Walls** (p543) Tramping Chester's fortifications like the Romans did 2000 years ago.

