

Thirty three HUDDERSFIELD – VICTORIAN CENTRE

Huddersfield is a very fine Victorian town with much impressive architecture.

Take the train from Eccles Station to Stalybridge. Here change onto a train for Huddersfield. Alight at Huddersfield. *This stone built station dates from 1847. Notice the early Victorian iron and glass train shed and the giant lanterns that illuminate it.*

Steps and an underpass take you across to the Manchester platform, and ticket hall. Once outside you are on the impressive St George's Square. *Notice the huge stone lion of 1853 on the building opposite.*

After taking in that view look back at the station frontage. *It has a symmetrical, classical design with a large central portico. Smaller colonnades link to two outbuildings. The badges (in roundels) on the pediments of these buildings are of 'The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway', and 'The Huddersfield and Manchester Railway and Canal Company'.*

The two outbuildings are the station bars. *Both sell a range of real ales and food including meals, and lead onto the Manchester platform.*

Face outwards again and walk to the right. Then turn left onto Westgate. On your left is the Byrom Arcade (*well worth a look in*) and on your right you see the fine frontage of Westgate House. Cross John William Street. *This and New Street are shopping streets that extend quite a way to the right. At the far end are the library and art gallery, Town Hall (with concert hall) and an old theatre on Queen Street. (These make the trip much longer.)*

Continue down to St Peters Parish Church. *Built 1836 it still has large galleries needed to cope with large 19th century congregations. In the crypt there is a very good tearoom.*

Continue down same street –*notice the front of The Boy and Board Hotel.*

Turn left along Lord Street for a fine view of the buildings in the area. Turn left onto St Peter's Street and then right along Byrom Street to the Market Hall. *This fine covering roof was erected in 1888. The market is held on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.*

Go along Northumberland Street to return to the railway station.

CLASSIFICATION: A DODDLE. SHORT.
ARCHITECTURE, FOOD & DRINK, SHOPS.
RAIL FARE: category three.