

Thirty five MANCHESTER – CATHEDRAL & VISITOR CENTRE.

Situated in a pleasant bustling corner of Manchester, The Cathedral is a fine old building well worth seeing inside. The new refectory in the visitors' centre provides excellent food for lunch.

Take the train from Eccles to Manchester Victoria. Alight there. Cross the road outside the station concourse and go left. Turn right onto Long Millgate and proceed along the side of Chetham's School until you come to the Cathedral. Turn right down Fennel Street then left along Victoria Street to see the west front. *Turn left onto Cathedral Yard. Notice on your right the Hanging Ditch Bridge under the buildings. The ditch is now part of the new refectory.*

Enter the cathedral by south door. *Here a blue badge guide is sometimes available should you wish to be conducted around. The building is wonderfully quiet compared to the bustle in the city outside.*

The Cathedral was built in the fifteenth century collegiate church with much original architecture. It became a cathedral in the early nineteenth century. *Of particular note: the original rood screen; the fine woodwork and misericords in the choir; the regimental chapel, and the wooden ceiling of the same style as Eccles parish church. Notice also how the addition of side aisles has resulted in an almost square cathedral.*

The Cathedral holds many services, concerts, lunchtime recitals, meetings, and is noted for the quality of its music. A music and events leaflet is available listing the packed schedule for the academic year. *Choral evensong is held at the following times: 17.30 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. 15.30 on Saturday and 18.30 on Sunday.*

More information can be had by contacting: The Cathedral, Manchester M3 1SX. Telephone 0161 833 2220 or www.manchestercathedral.org.uk

On leaving The Cathedral go down the alley opposite and on your right is The Cathedral Visitor's Centre. This has displays, a gift shop, and downstairs is the new refectory. *This provides excellent teas and lunches. Mon.-Sat 10.00-16.00.* To return to Victoria station go left out of the visitors centre (*pass, or call in, The Crown & Anchor, Sinclair's and the set back Wellington*) turn left along Cathedral Street and back along Long Millgate.

CLASSIFICATION: A DODDLE.
ARCHITECTURE, CRAFTSMANSHIP, MUSIC,
WORSHIP, FOOD & DRINK

RAIL FARE: category one.