

Seventy WIGAN – TOWN, MARKET & SHOPS

'There's more to Wigan than pies and pints!' at least according to the locals. In fact there are many fine buildings; an outdoor & indoor market (open Monday to Saturday) and an impressive array of shops from old fashioned, to modern large stores in the Grand Arcade.

Take the train to Manchester Victoria and from there catch a train to Wigan Wallgate. Alight at Wigan Wallgate.

Leave the station and turn left along Wallgate.
On the left you will pass The Clarence Hotel (*an interesting brick front - Allgates real ale on handpumps*).

Bear left at the Post Office towards the church.
Look down the alleyway between the Post Office and The Last Orders – *you will see the only entrance to Allgates Brewery. Brewery tours can be arranged. Ring 01942 234976.*

Continue into the church yard. *There is an octagonal war memorial – the lowest tier names the fallen in the First World War, many of them from The Manchester Regiment.*

Behind the memorial you will see the ancient Wigan Parish Church of All Saints - *it has a fine bell tower with clock.*
Go round the left hand side of the church to get to the opposite side. *To your left there is an arched gateway. Notice the fine brick building on Crawford Street.*

Leave the churchyard through the very tall thin stone gateway. This takes you into King of Prussia Yard.
Walk ahead towards The Bricklayers on Hillgate. *Down to your left is The Anvil (Hydes beers on handpump).*

Turn right along Hillgate.
At the Crofters Arms (*colourfully tiled!*) turn right again.
This brings you out on Market Place *with many half timbered buildings.*

Turn left into Market Place and walk along.
Go left into and walk through the Makinson Arcade- *light and Victorian.*

Cross the little Square into Leigh Arcade – *modern with upstairs shops too.*
Go straight through here and into the Square with the open market – *there from Monday to Saturday.*

There is a large modern clock tower.

Through the doors at its base enter the market hall for a look around (*new, big, and open Monday to Saturday*).

Leave the market hall by the door onto Hope Street (*just along from the way you came in*).

Public toilets are to the left outside.

Walk along Hope Street and through The Galleries 1987 directly opposite.

This brings you out on Standishgate. *There are even more shops down to your left!*

Turn right up Standishgate.

On the left is the Grand Arcade – *Wigan's 'Arndale' with many modern large stores.*

On leaving the Grand Arcade continue up Standishgate towards the church tower and then go along the left side of Market Place.

On the left here is The Wiend (*delightful - don't miss this, it's an old Wigan shopping street*).

Next to it is The Moon Under Water (*J.D. Wetherspoon - real ales and food*).

Continue ahead onto Wallgate. Wigan Wallgate Station is on the right – *notice the iron and glass canopy on the front.*

Catch your train back to Manchester Victoria from here.

CLASSIFICATION: SHORT, EASY

MARKETS, PUBS, CAFES, SHOPS, FOOD,
ARCHITECTURE

RAIL FARE: category one

MAP OS 1:50 000 sheet 108

Phillips Street Atlas Greater
Manchester