

Travel Journal, Manchester 2013
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Manchester 2013

Now that we have been back in Germany for a while, I want to take a look back at our trip to Manchester and the surrounding areas. We covered quite a bit of ground and it was very interesting to see villages and areas you might not get the idea to visit on your own!

We started out with a rainy day in Blackpool. That did not keep me and my group from visiting Blackpool Pleasure Beach and trying out all the rides there. Even though we got properly soaked, it was quite a fun day!

The next day, we went into the city centre. None of us wanted to go cycling around with that big of a chance of rain, so we set out to do a bit of shopping. We walked around the city centre for a while and even though we did not find everything we were looking for, it was really interesting. We mostly noted down shops to spend our money in and then went to the foodcourt in the Arndale Centre for some yummy Taco Bell.

On Friday, we went to Conwy and had a tour of the castle. There were some interactive elements there as well which I really liked and I took lots of pictures, too. After that, I had a walk to the harbour and discovered a little lifeboat station. The stories behind the work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution had a boat on display there, and I also got a brochure in Welsh there!

On Saturday, I did not feel so good, so I just stayed home instead of going to Liverpool or Chester. Sleeping in and relaxing was much needed.

For our trip on Sunday, we went to the Peak District. Unfortunately, the weather acted up again, so we could not follow our original plans of hiking around the area. Fortunately, Phil organised something really exciting as an alternative: a visit to Speedwell Cavern! It was really impressive going on a boat tour down these tiny tunnels and learning a bit about how the people worked in there. We all got out alive and well (no bumped heads, thanks to the hard hats we got!) and got picked up by the bus to go home pretty much just when it started raining. Our timing was really good for this part of the trip.

Our city centre cruise around the canals on a narrow boat unfortunately got cut a bit short because of the weather. It was still pretty interesting to see the city from such a different perspective and learning about all the things the city does to improve for visitors and residents alike.

For our last day in Manchester, some more shopping and walking around the city centre was pretty much all we did, so I will not go into more detail here. The Bronte Parsonage Museum was really interesting as well. I think I might even start reading some Bronte-Novels, even though I never did before. Our ferry transfer was mainly uneventful, and despite some hiccups with the organisation here and there, we all got home safely and rich with memories. It really was a nice trip!