



ITINERARY TWO

May/June

Discover the distinctive character of Hull, Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool with the First Transpennine Cities of Northern England Rover ticket. These four lively, post-industrial cities are linked by the Trans-Pennine rail route, and this new city trail for 2017 is designed to highlight the very best of the bold cultural programming each has to offer.

This is a standout year to visit, as Hull unveils its 12 month programme as the [UK City of Culture](#), including a spellbinding spectacle in a cemetery, [Depart](#). As summer begins, a bold new adaptation of Jane Austen's [Persuasion](#) comes to the stage in Manchester on the bicentenary of its publication. Meanwhile, Liverpool presents [50 Summers of Love](#), a season of events and performances that celebrate the landmark cultural shifts that took place in the UK in 1967, and Leeds welcomes the return of its [Indie Food Festival](#).

All four cities boast boutique and high street shopping, independent bars and restaurants serving a global range of cuisines, quality accommodation and good transport links - with each of the cultural trails here designed to be within walking distance unless otherwise specified.



HULL

The [UK City of Culture programme](#) brings a transformative buzz to the home of the formidable poet Philip Larkin (1922-1985), who described Hull - with its ancient harbour, historic Fruit Market area and coastal feel - as a city of 'sudden elegancies'.

Event Highlights

[Richard III](#). This co-production between Hull Truck Theatre and Northern Broadsides sees Shakespeare's most villainous king brought to life in brutal, bloody style. 5-27 May, tickets £12-20
[Depart](#). Acrobats, aerialists, choral singers and video artists come together for this spectacular performance from internationally acclaimed circus artists, Circa. 18-21 May, *General Cemetery*.

an influential figure in the movement to eradicate the slave trade. On the same street - and good for families - is the interactive [Streetlife Museum](#) (daily, free), filled with recreated street scenes (including sounds and smells). For a small diversion, stop by Market Place to see the statue of King William III on horseback - locally known as King Billy - before returning to the city centre to see Shakespeare's [Richard III](#) (5-27 May, tickets £12-£20) at [Hull Truck Theatre](#), a co-production with the celebrated Northern Broadsides theatre company. Afterwards, make a visit to [Kardomah94](#), a restaurant, bar and exhibition space with an event line-up that includes theatre, film, spoken word nights and gigs.

Day Two

Start your day with a visit to the new, pop-up [Humber Street Gallery](#) (daily, free) in the Fruit Market cultural quarter, a warehouse space filled with exhibitions and gallery takeovers by world-leading artists throughout 2017. In this area -

Start your day with a visit to the new, pop-up [Humber Street Gallery](#) (daily, free) in the Fruit Market cultural quarter, a warehouse space filled which is currently undergoing £80m of regeneration - you'll also find a microbrewery, bars, clubs and restaurants. Don't miss [The City Speaks](#) (2 February - 31 December, free) nearby; designed by Michael Pinsky, this installation relays your words, spoken into a microphone onto the west tower of Hull's tidal surge barrier.

The afternoon can be spent following a [city centre trail](#) of the places frequented by Larkin (keep an eye out for the giant, colourful, artist-decorated Toad sculptures that are a legacy of a public art project in Hull. Close by is the [Scale Lane footbridge](#); go with a picnic, or simply find a sheltered spot to ride the bridge as it opens to let shipping pass. Make sure to leave time to travel to General Cemetery for [Depart](#) (18-21 May), a stunning site-specific performance from internationally acclaimed circus artists Circa as part of Hull's UK City of Culture programme. From there, make your way to [Früit](#), a venue that combines theatre, film, music, comedy, markets, club nights and festivals - making it the ideal place to while away the hours. Further out from the city centre by bus or taxi is [The Adelphi Club](#), a popular live music venue that's host to regular gigs.

Day One



Ferens Art Gallery

Start at the [Ferens Art Gallery](#) (daily, free), close to the railway station. Newly reopened after a major refurbishment, the gallery features a magnificent permanent collection as well as changing exhibitions, such as a selection of incredibly life-like sculptures by [artist Ron Mueck](#) (22 April - 13 August). Nearby is Queen Victoria Square, home to the [Maritime Museum](#) (daily, free), which tells the story of Hull's role as a port and gateway to Europe through objects including some excellent ship models and a full-sized whale skeleton. From 22 March to 7 May, the museum will also be host to the [Weeping Window](#), a cascade of thousands of ceramic poppies from a high window, inspired by the First World War.

Next, walk to the Old Town and revived waterfront area, where plenty of options for lunchtime food and drink are to be found, as well as [Wilberforce House](#) (daily, free), museum and birthplace of William Wilberforce,

LEEDS

Along with its reputation for being a shopping hotspot, Leeds - with its Victorian facades, covered arcades and shining waterfront buildings - is also a centre for dance, sculpture, festivals and a vibrant independent food and drink scene. No wonder, then, that the city is making a bid to be European Capital of Culture 2023.

Event Highlights

[Slam Dunk](#). Leeds' annual punk and rock music festival returns to venues across the city centre for one day only. *28 May, tickets £44*

[Leeds Indie Food Festival](#). Celebrating the city's independent food and drink scene, this festival features hundreds of culinary events across a wide range of venues. For 2017, the festival will be streamlined into three strands: Eat, Drink, and Do. *11-28 May, tickets free-£65*

[Fragmented Light Orchestra](#). Based on the 3,500-year old design of the harp, this interactive light and sound instrument at the Howard Assembly Rooms uses touch responsive technology to transform its environment. *1-3 June, free*

[The Grapes of Wrath](#). A striking new adaptation of John Steinbeck's classic novel comes to the stage at the West Yorkshire Playhouse. *24 May - 10 June, tickets £13.50-£30*

Day One

The **[Henry Moore Institute](#)** (Tuesday - Sunday, free), founded by Leeds College of Art graduate and acclaimed sculptor Henry Moore, is a good place to start the day. Discover a major new commission by Aleksandra Domanović alongside existing works that respond to classical Greek votive statues in **[Votives](#)** (23 March - 11 June) - as well as the excellent **[Sculpture Research Library](#)** on the first floor. Next door is the **[Craft Centre and Design Gallery](#)** (Tuesday-Saturday, free), beneath Leeds Art Gallery: here you'll find work by over 300 UK designer makers on display, including glass, ceramics, jewellery, textiles and prints, as well as themed exhibitions such as **[Branching Out](#)** (18 March - 24 June), which features craft inspired by trees. Best of all, everything on display is for sale. Although Leeds Art Gallery itself is currently closed for refurbishment, its **[Victorian Tiled Hall Cafe](#)** (daily, free) is worth a visit - for lunch, or just to admire the stunning barrel-vaulted mosaic ceiling.

Day Two

Depending when you visit, you may want to plan day two in the city around **[Leeds Indie Food Festival](#)** (11-28 May, tickets free-£65) or punk and rock festival **[Slam Dunk](#)** (28 May, tickets £44). Otherwise, contemporary art centre **[The Tetley](#)** (daily, free) - complete with bar and kitchen - is a great way to spend a morning; it's a short bus or taxi ride from the city centre. Also across the River Aire is **[The Royal Armouries](#)** (open daily, free), the Leeds branch of the national museum of arms and armour and home to around 8,500 objects in six themed galleries.

Spend the afternoon back in town, exploring Leeds' characterful **[Victorian Quarter](#)**, a beautiful shopping centre resplendent in marble, gilded mosaics, cast iron and the biggest stained glass window in England. Nearby are the **[Queens](#)** and **[Thorntons](#)** Arcades, which are also worth a visit, as well as the newly Michelin-starred restaurant that's causing a stir **[The Man Behind the Curtain](#)** (Tuesday - Saturday, booking essential). Next, take a bus or taxi to **[Hyde Park Picture House](#)** (daily), a Grade II listed arthouse

cinema with an Edwardian balcony and original gas lights. It's also not far from the **[Brudenell Social Club](#)** - a former working men's club turned live music venue and ideal spot to while away the rest of the evening.



Spend the afternoon back in town, exploring Leeds' characterful **[Victorian Quarter](#)**, a beautiful shopping centre resplendent in marble, gilded mosaics, cast iron and the biggest stained glass window in England. Nearby are the **[Queens](#)** and **[Thorntons](#)** Arcades, which are also worth a visit, as well as the newly Michelin-starred restaurant that's causing a stir **[The Man Behind the Curtain](#)** (Tuesday - Saturday, booking essential). Next, take a bus or taxi to **[Hyde Park Picture House](#)** (daily), a Grade II listed arthouse cinema with an Edwardian balcony and original gas lights. It's also not far from the **[Brudenell Social Club](#)** - a former working men's club turned live music venue and ideal spot to while away the rest of the evening.



MANCHESTER

International culture, industrial heritage, political thought and medieval history run through Manchester's historic city centre, edgy Northern Quarter, trailblazing university campuses, progressive Gay Village, the lively districts surrounding Deansgate and the cutting-edge surrounds of MediaCityUK.

Event Highlights

[Persuasion](#). A bold new adaptation of Jane Austen's classic novel at the Royal Exchange Theatre on the bicentenary of its publication - and of her death. 25 May - 24 June, tickets from £16.50

[The Life of Objects](#). The historic John Rylands Library hosts this exhibition exploring the ideas and emotions we associate with objects - the stories they tell about people and the past. 16 March - 27 August, free

formerly a Victorian fish and poultry market, it's now home to a café and 18 different studios, where you can buy stunning jewellery, ceramics, prints, knitwear and more direct from the makers. Close by is the [Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art](#) (Tuesday - Sunday, free), a small but fascinating gallery that champions cutting-edge Chinese art.

Spend the afternoon in Manchester's medieval quarter, the heart of which is the 600 year-old [Manchester Cathedral](#) (daily, free), which hosts a range of events from live gigs to vintage clothing fairs. Circling a pleasant, grassy area behind the Cathedral are [Chetham's Library](#) (Monday - Friday, suggested donation £3), the oldest free public reference library in Britain and its newly opened [Stoller Hall](#) concert venue, and the [National Football Museum](#) (daily, free), an ideal spot for families - and football fans. Alternatively, take a tram out to [MediaCityUK](#), where the old working docks have been replaced with shining cultural beacons [The Lowry](#) (daily,

free) - home to contemporary art exhibitions, dance and theatre - the [Imperial War Museum North](#) (daily, free), which charts the global history of conflict, and the [BBC](#), including the [BBC Philharmonic](#) orchestra. Make your way back into town by tram or bus towards evening: theatre-lovers should head for the [Royal Exchange Theatre](#) and a brand new adaptation of Jane Austen's [Persuasion](#) (25 May - 24 June, tickets from £16.50), while music fans will find a whole roster of venues ready to cater to their needs. Check out the programming at astounding Wesleyan Chapel turned live music venue [The Albert Hall](#), jazz bar [Matt & Phreds](#) or legendary venue [Band on the Wall](#).

Day Two

The beautifully redesigned [Whitworth](#) art gallery (daily, free) is a short bus ride down Oxford Road away from the city centre - and a great place to start the day. Here you'll find exhibitions including [A Sense of Growth](#) (14 April - 11 June, free) a showcase of work by leading British designer Lucienne Day and 40 years of photographs of Mumbai by [Sooni Taraporevala](#) (from 4 March) as part of *New North and South*, a three year programme of artistic commissions and events to celebrate the shared heritage of South Asia and the North of England, as well as a stunning cafe among the trees. Keep going further down

Day One



Manchester Craft & Design Centre.
Photo: Chris Payne

[Manchester Art Gallery](#) (Monday - Sunday, free) in the city centre is a great introduction to the combined civic pride and cultural ambition of the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution: designed by the architect behind Highclere Castle (or Downton Abbey), it houses 25,000 artefacts across six centuries and contemporary exhibitions by world-leading artists. [Strange and Familiar: Britain as Revealed by International Photographers](#) (25 November 2016 - 29 May 2017), an exhibition curated by acclaimed photographer Martin Parr, is a particular highlight. On the other side of Piccadilly Gardens is the sprawling Northern Quarter, perhaps Manchester's most characterful district with enough diversions for a morning of exploring, including independent coffee shops, bars, restaurants - and some great spots for vintage clothing bargains. Here you'll find [Manchester Craft & Design Centre](#) (studios open Monday - Saturday, free);

Oxford Road (by bus or taxi), past the (in)famous Curry Mile, and you'll reach Manchester's [Gallery of Costume](#) (Thursday - Sunday, free), where there's an exhibition of outfits by [Mary Quant](#) (3 November 2016 - 5 November 2017), fashion designer to an international clientele of hip young things in the '60s and '70s. Don't forget to take in the two universities that populate Oxford Road as you head back towards the city centre; they boast Hogwarts-esque buildings, the [Holden Art Gallery](#) (Monday - Friday, free) and some serious alumni between them.



International Anthony Burgess Foundation

Your next stop is the [International Anthony Burgess Foundation](#) (Monday - Friday, free), a small arts venue tucked away in an old mill where a season of [events celebrating the centenary](#) of prolific writer, composer and journalist Anthony Burgess is unfolding. A short walk from here is [HOME](#) (daily, free), an arts complex with ambitious cross-arts programming across its two theatres, five cinema screens and 500 square metres of gallery space. From HOME, walk on towards the arterial road of Deansgate where you'll find Manchester landmark the Beetham Tower (71-metres tall, it hums in high winds) and the [John Rylands Library](#) (daily, free), which houses a collection of rare books that spans five millennia in a neo-Gothic building that took nine years to build. The current special exhibition here is [The Life of Objects](#) (16 March - 27 August, free), a showcase of some of the more unusual objects in the library's collection. Not far from here is the [People's History Museum](#) (daily, free), the national museum of democracy.

Evening plans might include a return to HOME's theatre - or tickets to a classical music concert at the stunning [Bridgewater Hall](#), such as Shoenberg's *Gurrelieder* featuring an all-star vocal line-up, massive choral voices and the combined forces of the Halle and BBC

Philharmonic (4 June, prices from £13.50). This astonishing venue was built in 1996 for £46m so that, incredibly, all 22,000 tons of it float on nearly three hundred earthquake bearings, or giant springs. Specially designed to allow the perfect amount of cubic space per person, the acoustics (and programme) here are incredible.

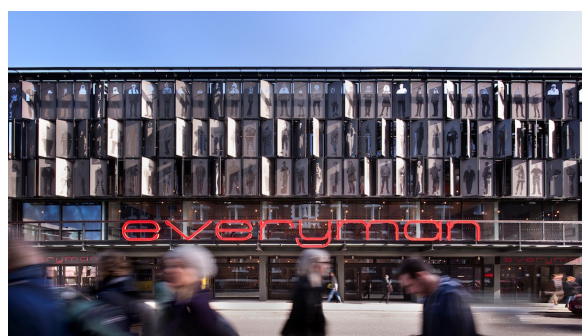
LIVERPOOL

This waterfront city with UNESCO World Heritage Site status has an international reputation for its music scene, and the artists it has produced - but its cultural credentials now include major museums and art galleries, theatres and festivals along streets busy with quirky shops, top notch coffee spots and high quality, independent restaurants.

Event highlights

67-17: 50 Summers of Love. A spectacular season of events in honour of 1967, a year of huge cultural shifts in the UK, with Sgt Pepper Redux - a collection of performances from international artists - celebrating the release of the seminal Beatles album in the same year. 23 April - 3 September

Sound City. It's the 10th anniversary of Liverpool's premier metropolitan music festival - with Metronomy, John Cale & Guests present The Velvet Underground and Nico, and The Human League headlining. 25-28 May, tickets from £35



Everyman Theatre

Day One

Get a feel for Liverpool's maritime past by beginning the day at the city's waterfront - with [Tate Liverpool](#) (daily, free) on Albert Dock your first port of call. Here you can see an exhibition that sets Tracey Emin's famous bed alongside works by William Blake in [Tracey Emin and William Blake in Focus](#) (16 September 2016 - 3 September 2017). Next, stop off at the [Merseyside Maritime Museum](#) (daily, free entry), which charts the city's seafaring history, and the [International Slavery Museum](#) (daily, free entry), which explores Liverpool's role in the slave trade, is next door. For fans of the Beatles, the [Beatles Story](#) (daily, adult tickets £14.95) on the other side of Albert Dock is a must, while photography enthusiasts should head for [Open Eye Gallery](#) (Tuesday - Sunday, free) next, a short walk away along the waterfront. Headlining there is [Culture Shifts](#) (6 April - 18 June) in April. Nearby is the newly opened [British Music Experience](#) (daily, adult tickets

adult tickets £16) in the grand Cunard Building, the UK's museum of popular music featuring artefacts pivotal to the UK's musical history. If you're visiting during Liverpool's annual [Sound City](#) (25-28 May) music festival, head further along the waterfront to Clarence Dock, where the 10th anniversary programme will unfold.

Head back into the city centre for the afternoon, and to historic arts venue [Bluecoat](#) (daily, free) where British artist [Louisa Martin](#) (5 May - 24 June) presents a new installation and a major solo show by Palestinian artist [Larissa Sansour](#) (5 May - 24 June) occupies the ground floor galleries. Stop at the cafe for lunch, or walk to Liverpool's Ropewalks district; packed with independent shops and food and drink options, this area is also home to [FACT](#) (daily, free), a cinema, gallery and new media arts centre. Not far from here is Liverpool's [Everyman Theatre](#), with productions that make a worthwhile evening's diversion - otherwise, the city's live music scene is one of the most vibrant in the North. Check out the line-up at [Arts Club](#) back in the Ropewalks district and [The Cavern Club](#) (made famous by The Beatles) or, for classical music, [Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and Music Room](#).

Day Two

A trip to Liverpool wouldn't be complete without a visit to the city's two cathedrals: the imposing [Anglican Cathedral](#) (daily, free) and the modernist [Metropolitan Cathedral](#) (daily, free) - home to a stunning, newly commissioned art installation [Sevenfold](#) by internationally renowned artist Liz West - are at either end of the aptly-named Hope Street. Walking between the two, you'll pass the [Everyman Theatre](#), which reopened in March 2014 after extensive - and now award-winning - renovation to its stage, restaurant and backstage areas (including a metal façade with 105 Liverpool residents cut into it), a number of good bars and restaurants - including the [Liverpool Philharmonic Dining Rooms](#), an incredibly ornate Art Deco drinking den, not to be confused the [Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and Music Room](#) (home to the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic orchestra) on the same street. Spend the afternoon exploring the area around Liverpool Lime Street Station: here you'll find the looming, neo-classical grandeur of

the Grade I listed [St George's Hall](#) (daily, free), which boasts a striking 25 metre-high barrel vaulted ceiling and an exquisite, original Minton tiled floor made from around 30,000 individual tiles (only occasionally unveiled to the public). Behind the hall is the [Walker Art Gallery](#) (daily, free), an impressive gallery with a collection of paintings, sculpture and decorative art from 13th century to present day alongside temporary exhibitions. Next door is the Grade II-listed [Liverpool Central Library](#) (daily, free) - the largest of the 22 libraries in the city and restored to its full historic glory thanks to a £50m refurbishment - and next door to that, Liverpool's [World Museum](#) (daily, free). For the evening, head to the city's up and coming Baltic Triangle, only a ten minute walk from the city centre: here you'll find the epic feeling [Camp and Furnace](#) bar and event space, mid-19th century pub [The Baltic Fleet](#), and Black Lodge Brewery's [Tap Room](#).



The Bluecoat

