

Manchester's Host City

Application for WCEU 2020

Hi application review team,

We have added a copy of the form as a PDF with the answers shown in red.

Hopefully this will make it easier to read our rather extensive answers.

Thanks,

The Manchester Bidding Team.

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All fields in this application have been left optional to allow navigation back and forth, and make it possible for you to fill it in the order of your choice. Please note though that they are all required and must be filled by February 28th, 2019 at 23.59 UTC

Any files that are uploaded will be shared outside of the organisation they belong to.

Your local Community and WordCamp

How many WordPress Meetups were organised in 2018?

We have a thriving WordPress community in Manchester, and we're lucky to have other WordPress and meetup groups running within the UK to support our application.

The Manchester WordPress User Group organised 12 events in 2018.

Other meetups with events in 2018.

Within 1 hour on the train

Oldham: 11

Blackburn: 10

Leeds: 11

Liverpool: 5 (launched 2018)

Sheffield: 9

Rest of UK mainland

Newcastle: 7

Glasgow: 20

Edinburgh: 12

Essex: 7

Suffolk: 6

Cambridge: 20

Bristol: 13

Cardiff: 9

London: 11

WP Hooked (London): 11

Bournemouth: 6

Portsmouth: 12

Brighton: 11

Tunbridge Wells: 10

Exeter: 1 (launch event)

Dundee: launched 2019

What was the average attendance of the WordPress Meetup in 2018?

In Manchester the average attendance is 35 per month.

Based on signups on Meetup / of meetups

Oldham: 6

Blackburn: 10

Leeds: 47

Liverpool: 13

Sheffield: 20

Newcastle: 38

Glasgow: 26

Edinburgh: 39

Essex: 9

Suffolk: 12

Cambridge: 21

Bristol: 49

Cardiff: 27

London: 66

WP Hooked (London): 36

Bournemouth: 13

Portsmouth: 12

Brighton: 34

Tunbridge Wells: 24

Exeter: 30

Did you organise a WordCamp in your city in 2018

☒ Yes

☐ No

There was a WordCamp in 2018, but it was organised by a different team.

How many people attended your 2018 WordCamp?

173

Tell us more about your 2018 WordCamp

Answer options:

- Yes, definitely.
- Nope, not at all.
- Almost, we were very close.
- This doesn't apply.

Were you able to finance your WordCamp without help of Community Support?

Yes, definitely.

Did you get positive feedback > 75% in the post-WordCamp survey?

Yes, definitely.

Did you reach gender parity in your speaker lineup?

Almost, we were very close

Did you sell more than 50% of available tickets?

Yes, definitely.

Did you organise a WordCamp in your city in 2017

☒ Yes

☐ No

There was a WordCamp in 2017, but it was organised by a different team.

How many people attended your 2017 WordCamp?

211

Tell us more about your 2017 WordCamp

Answer options:

- Yes, definitely.
- Nope, not at all.
- Almost, we were very close.
- This doesn't apply.

Were you able to finance your WordCamp without help of Community Support?

Yes, definitely.

Did you get positive feedback > 75% in the post-WordCamp survey?

Almost, we were very close.

Did you reach gender parity in your speaker lineup?

Yes, definitely.

Did you sell more than 50% of available tickets?

Yes, definitely.

Main Event Venue & Budget

This section covers your venue choice for the main event. All fields are required.

Name of the venue

Manchester Central Convention Complex

Venue website link

<https://www.manchestercentral.co.uk/>

Venue map link

Venue on Google Maps:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Manchester+Central+Convention+Complex/@53.4765668,-2.2639507,14z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x487bb1e9d9e22d15:0xc8ad0e5dc81139ca!8m2!3d53.4765664!4d-2.2464412>

Map of the venue itself:

<https://www.manchestercentral.co.uk/explore-the-venue>

There is also a PDF copy of the venue attached to this submission.

Select the dates at which this venue is available

You have select one option at least, but you can select two or the three.

☒ June 5/6, 2020

☒ June 12/13, 2020

☐ June 19/20, 2020

Budget: Cost of Venue

This is the rental cost for the main event venue for the two days (excluding catering, staff, and audio-video equipment).

£280,949.00

This is for the spaces marked:

- Central Foyer : This would be the registration.
- Central Hall : 2000 people theatre style, noise buffer zone, and space for sponsorship area. Please note that the breakdown of space can be adjusted but it will mean the costs will change due to the furniture needs changing.
- Central 3-4 Combined : 54 people classroom style.
- Central 5-7 Combined : 87 people classroom style. Please note that this room can be broken down.
- Central 8 : 30 people classroom style. Please note that this room can be broken down.
- Cobden 1-4 combined : 126 people classroom style. Please note that this space can be split into 4 separate smaller rooms.
- Central Organiser room 1
- Central Organiser room 3
- Central Organiser room 4

With access times as follows:

04/06/2020 07:00 - 22:00 - Build day

05/06/2020 07:00 - 22:00 - Day 1

06/06/2020 07:00 - 22:00 - Day 2

AND for the spaces marked:

- Charter 1, 2, 3 Combined : 950 people theatre style.
- Charter 4 : 190 people theatre style.
- Exchange Room 8 : 24 people classroom style.
- Exchange Room 9 : 135 people classroom style.
- Exchange Room 10 : 54 people classroom style.

- Please note that Exchange Room 8,9,10 can be combined to create a classroom with the capacity for 192 people.
- Exchange Room 11: 66 people classroom style.
- The Gallery : This space would be used as a large corridor.
- Central Organiser room 2

With access times as follows:

05/06/2020 07:00 - 22:00 - Day 1

06/06/2020 07:00 - 22:00 - Day 2

Price Inclusions:

- Meeting room hire
- Full steward, security and traffic management
- Auditorium build in Central Hall x 2,000 guests
- Conference AV included in Charter Rooms 1-3 combined, including set up and technician support x 800 guests
- Complimentary high speed Wi-Fi
- Fully carpeted sponsor and catering area
- Access to all branding sites in proposed footprint
- Dedicated Events/Operations Team
- Dedicated concierge during tenancy period

The price has been broken down by the venue so that it is clear and transparent how the costs have been calculated.

Hire fee for venue spaces	£196,827.00
Creation of Plenary in Central Hall for 2,000 seats : full AV included here	£52,464.00
Carpet for sponsor and catering area	£18,850.00
Conference AV included in Charter Rooms 1-3	£5,428.00
Stewarding / security	£7,380.00

If we need more space, Exchange rooms 1-7 can be hired at the below daily hire rates:

Room	Daily hire fee
Exchange Room 1 (36 people classroom style)	£776.25 - ex VAT
Exchange Room 2,3,4,5,6,7 These rooms have a capacity of 12 people classroom style each OR the ability to combine two rooms together to get a classroom style of 36 per pair of rooms.	£456.75 - ex VAT per room.

Budget: Catering

This is a sample package based on catering for 2,000 people. We have attached the venue's Hospitality Menu as a PDF to this application and this can be negotiated further down the road to accommodate our attendee's exact allergy and dietary requirements. This means we will be able to add dietary options such as gluten free as required.

They do allow for external catering but it would mean paying a coverage fee. The problem with the coverage fee, is that it basically is the same as taking their catering so we would effectively paying for catering twice.

Day 1	
Arrival	<i>Fresh pastries, apples and bananas</i>
AM break	<i>Handcrafted biscuits</i>
Lunch	<i>Buffet lunch: option 3</i>
PM break	<i>Homemade orange and cranberry scones, whipped cream and strawberry jam</i>
Drinks	<i>Rolling tea / coffee and filtered water across the day</i>
Day 2	

Arrival	<i>Fresh pastries, apples and bananas</i>
AM break	<i>Handcrafted biscuits</i>
Lunch	<i>Bowl food</i>
PM break	<i>Chocolate and walnut brownies</i>
Drinks	<i>Rolling tea / coffee and filtered water across the day</i>
Total for 2,000 guests:	£161,600 ex VAT
Per head, per day	£40.40 ex VAT

Budget: Audio/Video costs

Includes all technical and staff costs related to the stages, audio system, lights, slides projections. Does not include close captioning or live translation.

The cost of A/V for the Central Hall and Charter Rooms 1-3 are included in the cost above. Blitz, (A/V company) have provided a rough cost of £3,250 ex VAT for live streaming the two rooms. Once we know exact requirements wanted in each room, we would be able to get a better budget cost.

Blitz are the preferred A/V team as they have keys to the building which means they can work overnight to get the A/V ready for us. If we went with another A/V company, then we would need to pay for access time cost.

We are waiting for information from the venue regarding what the full kit list of the Central Hall's auditorium so we know exactly what is included. We are also waiting for information if the price will include a copy of the video recordings and post production.

Budget: Venue Staff costs

Includes all venue staff that is not already counted in catering or AV costs: setup, security, maintenance, administrative, etc.

Please see above. The venue staff costs are included fully in the venue costs.

Contributor Day Venue & Budget

This section covers your venue choice for contributor day. All fields are required.

Name of the venue

The Midland, Manchester

Venue website link

<https://www.themidlandhotel.co.uk/>

Venue map link

<https://goo.gl/maps/HZQ6yC5vw162>

Contributor Day venue capacity (people)

The quote has been obtained for a capacity of 500 people in banquet style, but the venue has multiple rooms we could extend into with a max capacity of roughly 800 people.

Contributor Day venue rooms

<https://www.themidlandhotel.co.uk/floorplans>

Main event in The Alexandra Suite, with space and power for 500 contributors and their laptops.

The quote includes access to the Stanley and Victoria suites, which can each accommodate 90 and 70 people respectively in banquet style. This will allow smaller, more focussed groups some breakout space away from the busy main room. Please note that the Stanley Suite does not have wheelchair access, but there are other rooms we could choose to use instead.

Select the dates at which this venue is available

You have select one option at least, but you can select two or the three.

☒ June 4

☒ June 11

☐ June 18

Budget: Cost of Contributor Day Venue

This is the rental cost for the contributor day venue for one day (including audio-video equipment).

£18,083

This is calculated from a delegate rate of £36.17 per person.

Budget: Contributor Day Catering

This is total cost for catering at contributor day, which must include: breakfast, lunch, as well as water / coffee / tea / light snacks all day long.

£1,667 for additional space (two rooms) as catering for 500 doesn't fit in the same room as the main contributor day activities.

Includes:

- Coffee, tea, and pastries for breakfast on arrival
 - Bacon and egg rolls can be substituted for a supplement of £3.33 per person
- Mid-morning warm cookies
- Lunch
- Cakes and fruit skewers in the afternoon
- Unlimited coffee, tea, and bottled water availability all day

As the Midland is a hotel, the catering can be negotiated and curated to suit our needs when we know we have won the bid. We are also aware this will mean that lunch may potentially be in an area which is not accessible for some attendees. If we win the bid, we plan to pick different rooms if possible.

Afterparty Venue & Budget

This section covers your venue choice for contributor day. All fields are required.

Name of the venue

The Midland, Manchester

Venue website link

<https://www.themidlandhotel.co.uk/>

Venue map link

<https://goo.gl/maps/HZQ6yC5vw162>

Afterparty venue capacity (people)

1500 (with a maximum capacity of 1780 across multiple rooms in reception style)

Select the dates at which this venue is available

You have select one option at least, but you can select two or the three.

June 6

June 13

Budget: Cost of Afterparty Venue

This is the rental cost for the contributor day venue for one day (excluding catering).

£0 - room hire waived with catering cost

Budget: Afterparty Catering

This is total cost for catering at contributor day, which must include: breakfast, lunch, as well as water / coffee / tea / light snacks all day long.

£56,250 (£37.50 per head)

Staying in your city

To answer all questions related to cost of traveling, living, or eating in your city, please consider a stay from June 20th to June 22th, 2019 (the dates of WCEU 2019).

Average cost of accommodation

Prices are to be checked per room, per night. Room occupancy can be one or two people. Within one mile from the venue.

Answer Options:

1. Less than 30€
2. 30€ to 60€
3. 60€ to 100€
4. 100€ to 150€
5. More than 150€

- [2] Average cost of a ** hotel room per night
- [4] Average cost of a *** hotel room per night
- [4] Average cost of a **** hotel room per night
- [2] Average cost per room of Airbnb with one room
- [2] Average cost per room of Airbnb with two rooms
- [3] Average cost per room of Airbnb with three rooms

Hotel price source

Please provide the link to the site you used to price hotels.

[Booking.com](#)

Average cost of meals

"Reasonable" below indicates something not fancy, but that a local would eat without hesitation. Within one mile from the venue.

Answer options:

1. Less than 5€

2. 5€ to 10€
3. 10€ to 15€
4. 15€ to 20€
5. More than 20€

[2] Reasonable cost for fast food lunch

[3] Reasonable cost for seated lunch

[4] Reasonable cost for dinner

Cost of a four day pass for the public transportation network

A seven day Any Bus & Tram is £38 (€42 as at 8 January 2019)

<https://www.systemonetravelcards.co.uk/travelcards/details/smart-7-day-adult-any-bus-and-tram>

Fastest possible Airport transfer, cost and duration

Please indicate how long and expensive is the fastest way to reach the venue from the airport.

Train: £5.40 direct train from Manchester Airport to Deansgate (26 mins)

Cheapest possible Airport transfer, cost and duration

Please indicate how long and expensive is the cheapest way to reach the venue from the airport.

The cheapest way to get from Manchester Airport to the venue is via bus. It costs £3.50 on a Stagecoach bus number 103 from Manchester Airport to Portland Street. It takes 1hr 13mins on a bus and 10 minute walking.

Coach: £4 National Express O61 from Manchester Airport to Manchester Coach Station. It takes 30 minutes on the coach and 11 minutes walking.

Metrolink (tram): £4.40 for Metrolink from Manchester Airport to Deansgate Castlefield Stop. It takes 49 minutes on a tram and 8 minutes walking.

Train: £5.40 direct train from Manchester Airport to Deansgate. It takes 26 minutes on a train and 9 minutes walking.

Taxi: £26.95 Arrow Private Hire from Manchester Airport to Manchester Central Convention Complex.

About your city

Tell us about your city

Please explain here why you think your city is the best choice for WCEU 2020. Tell us about your community, but also the city itself. You can either type a reply below, or insert a link, or upload documents using the **ADD FILE function** below.

Why Manchester

Manchester and WordPress

Manchester embodies the spirit and soul of WordPress. It has a thriving open source scene and many tech communities(1), and decades of being at the centre of innovation. Four noteworthy things that are related to WordPress itself include (in chronological order):

- The John Rylands library(2) special collection includes a copy of the Gutenberg Bible(3), which marked the start of the 'Gutenberg Revolution' and the era of printed books in the West.
- The city is the adopted home of Alan Turing(4), the inventor of the Turing machine and whose history was documented in the 2014 film The Imitation Game.
- Manchester is the home of the world's first electronic stored computer called Baby(5) that you can visit at the Museum of Science & Industry, otherwise known as MOSI.

- Another unique feature of Manchester is that it is the home city of WordPress co-founder, Mike Little 🙌.

Manchester & Culture

Manchester is a diverse, progressive city with a major international culture, showcased in such events as the biannual Manchester International Festival(6). The city was featured on Lonely Planet's top cities to visit in 2016(7). It has held numerous international events such as the Commonwealth Games in 2002, Rugby World Cup matches in 2015, as well as other major sporting and cultural events.

Arts and culture wise Manchester is home to the world famous BBC Philharmonic and the Hallé Orchestra. It boasts cultural exhibitions, theatre shows and art from London, including at the famous Whitworth Gallery. Manchester Art Gallery(8) has one of the largest art collections in Britain outside of London, and attracts overseas visitors to see its major international and English collections(9).

The UNESCO's Cities of Literature(10) includes Manchester, celebrating all of the things that make the city a dynamic, diverse and inspiring place for the written and spoken word.

In terms of cuisine, every diet is catered for. There are a number of excellent vegetarian and vegan restaurants, and a wide range of eateries can be found in the third largest Chinatown in Europe(11) and The Curry Mile(12).

Manchester & Innovation

Manchester has a long history of inclusiveness, openness and technological innovation. It is home to Chetham's Library, the oldest free public reference library in the English speaking world. It was part of the first Passenger Railway(13) and thus became the world's first steam train railway destination.

In more recent years, it's where Graphene(14) was invented and there has been the development of a international hub of technology, innovation and creativity called MediaCityUK. It is the home to many major tech companies, including 250 digital and

media businesses such as The BBC, ao.com, AutoTrader, Boohoo, laterooms.com, Missguided, On The Beach & TheLadBible.

Equality and Diversity

Tolerance, cross-cultural understanding, equality and diversity are an important part of the WordPress' community and their active encouragement helps to make WordCamps more inclusive and accessible for all. This aligns with both the vision of the Manchester bid team and the city's history.

The city is well known for its warm welcome, openness and a long history of promoting and championing inclusion and collaboration. Many different cultures hold annual festivals, to name but a few: the Caribbean Carnival, Chinese and Indian new year celebrations, Manchester Irish Festival, Spanish and Latin American Festival, and the Transylvanian and Hungarian Folk Festival. These all contribute to the diversity and vibrant communities that is Manchester.

It has been home to many significant historical events. St Peter's Square marks the place where in 1819, a crowd of 60,000–80,000 gathered to demand the reform of parliamentary representation. The protest led to the start of what later became The Guardian national newspaper, first known as the Manchester Guardian. The Suffragette Movement was also borned from Manchester, a movement which with the Suffragists, led to women and more men in the UK given the right to vote.

The city's Gay Village is home to the LGBTQ+ community and based around Canal Street(15). Manchester hosts one of the longest running Pride parades annually with a 10 day fringe festival which sees events run throughout the city. The village became world famous when it was featured in the 1990s Queer as Folk TV series and is home to a statue to iconic gay hero Alan Turing.

Rochdale in Greater Manchester is the birthplace of the modern co-operative movement. In 1844, the Rochdale Pioneers designed and openly published the Rochdale Principles. These Principles survived largely unchanged, and today more than one billion people across the world own and control around three million co-operative businesses on a one member, one vote basis. You could say they are working together to democratise the global economy and create an open-source society.

WordCamps in Manchester

To expand on the response on gender parity in speakers at WordCamp Manchester 2018, the team used a blind speaker selection process commonly used by WordCamps. All speaker submissions were received by one member of the organising team. They were then anonymised and voted on by the team based on talk titles and descriptions. Although this seemed a fair way of choosing speakers, it did not achieve gender parity. In order to promote diversity, the team therefore sought out female MCs for the conference day and has made notes to review the speaker selection process for future WordCamps.

If this bid is successful to host WCEU, we will seek to learn from recent host cities to continue encouraging inclusivity and diversity in the speaker selection process.

Transport and Accommodation

Manchester is a small city with a big heart. It is a location frequently chosen by filmmakers due to its good flight links, reasonable travel costs, architecture, and international flavour, from blockbuster films to period dramas which recently included Marvel's Captain America.

From an international standpoint, Manchester is not only served by Manchester Airport, but also by Liverpool John Lennon Airport and Leeds-Bradford Airport too. Getting to Manchester is incredibly easy, using Manchester Airport alone will give you direct flights from 57 countries. It is as easy to get flights directly from China and America as it is from Sofia and Seville. Transport from Manchester Airport to the city centre costs a maximum of £6 at any time of the day when using public transport.

At a national level, the city is well connected to the rest of the country. It has strong road links, with motorways leading to all parts of the country, as well as two national train terminals within a 15 minute walk from the proposed WCEU venue. The train stations serve both cross-country train routes and local routes. It is as simple to get to Manchester from Edinburgh as it is from London.

With the WCEU venue located in the heart of the city centre, next to two dedicated tram stops (Deansgate-Castlefield & St Peter's Square), it means attendees will never be

more than one change away in accessing the venue from anywhere on the tram system. With the centre of the city being so small, it means that all city centre attractions are no more than 20 minutes walk away from the venue. Furthermore, with three free bus routes looping the city, those with more accessibility needs will not miss out. Trams and taxis are also available.

For attendees preferring to drive to the venue, Manchester Central Convention Complex is situated at the end of the A5103, and is one of Manchester's principle radial routes. It is also minutes away from the A57, another major artery crossing the city for drivers. Directly below the venue, there is an NCP (National Car Park) that is open 24 hours a day, all year round. It has 720 spaces including 18 disabled parking bays and there is direct access to the venue by lift, stairs and escalators.

The city has a large range of bars, restaurants and accommodation options to suit all budgets. There are more than 20 hotels ranging from hostels to 5 star hotels within 15 minutes walk of the venue, six surrounding the venue directly.

Popular short term holiday rentals, such as Airbnb, and taxi and car services, such as Uber, are available within Manchester.

The Venue Choices & Accessibility

Each one of the venue locations for the event has been chosen not only because of their capacity and capabilities to host WordCamp Europe, but also to share the city's history and culture.

Manchester Central was originally one of Manchester's main railway terminals that went to London. It was closed in 1969 and in 1986 it opened as the major international convention centre it is today. It hosts numerous conferences and events ranging from the small to the large which gives us confidence in its ability to support and service WordCamp Europe.

The venue has been designed for maximum accessibility, with the majority of the space on the ground level. For spaces not on the ground floor/street level, access options include elevators and stairwells. The venue welcomes assistance dogs, have Induction loop facilities in the large theatre spaces, and has a multi-faith room for WordCamp

attendees. Another commitment of the venue is to minimising its impact on the environment through sustainability.

The Midland Hotel, the venue proposed for the Contributor Day, was first opened in 1903 to serve railway passengers coming from London via Manchester Central station. It is famous for being the location where Charles Rolls met Henry Royce leading to the formation of the car brand, Rolls-Royce Limited in 1904.

Logistics

For logistics of swag supplies, sponsor booths and anything else we require to be posted ahead of time, the venue has recommended some companies who they know operate well in the area of event logistics.

If we win the bid, we will be using the suggested companies below to get quotes for a experienced company to handle logistics, customs, and storage before the event.

- CEVA <https://www.cevalogistics.com/>
- Cameron Logistics <https://www.cameronlogistics.co.uk/>
- GES <https://www.ges.com/eu/exhibitions/exhibition-services/exhibition-logistics>

After Party Options

We have added one option to the After party on the form, but we actually found two great options. When looking at After Party options, we decided to understand what has worked for WCEU and what have been the pain points. From our experiences of attending WordCamp Europe, we recognised that some of the previous editions have suffered from venue spaces that did not have enough break out spaces for people to do different things.

Option 1

As listed as part of the form, is a good choice as The Midland Hotel is also the proposed Contributor Day venue. This means some of the after-party attendees will already be familiar with the venue. It is also available to host the After Party on the 6th which means the party would be able to be at the end of the event. With this proposed venue for the After Party, we would have multiple rooms which means we could kit them out

with different furniture formats including seating area in banquet style, standing areas with bar tables and a dance floor.

Option 2

Option 2 is a combination of two venues next door to each other - The Albert Hall and Peaky Blinders Manchester. The reason why we are excited by this option is that the two venues allow us to share a great party and a great networking experience. With the Albert Hall having a capacity up to 2,000 standing guests, it is the perfect location for a nightclub or band style event. In fact, the Albert Hall continues to host many music concerts for international music artists, and with its five bars, is designed to handle WCEU's maximum capacity. The Peaky Blinders Manchester is a bar with a total capacity for 500 people. Being next door to the Albert Hall, is the perfect venue to give a dedicated space for attendees who prefer to sit and chat to do exactly that. In total, it would give us a maximum capacity of 2,500 people.

The downside, and why it is our second option, is the available date. The Albert Hall is being used as a wedding venue on the 6th, so we would only be able to hire out the space on the 5th June.

You can find the venue websites at <https://www.alberthallmanchester.com/> and <https://peakyblindersmanchester.com/>. The venues can be found on Google Maps at <https://goo.gl/maps/YN7xVDrLJpm>.

In terms of budget, the venue hire at the Albert Hall is £10,000 exclusive of VAT and requires a food and drinks minimum spend of £20,000 inclusive of VAT. This would give us exclusive use of the venue for the whole day, furniture package, a production, technical and security team, event staff, an event manager and cloakroom facilities.

For Peaky Blinders, there is an £8,000 venue hire cost as well as a £22,000 food and drinks minimum spend. This includes full access all day from 12pm - 4am, wristbands when our event badges are shown, live music, DJ and door men.

Combined, the two venue hires would come in at a total of £60,000.

Organisers

The organising team gains its strength and experience from a number of WordCamps, including Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Brighton and Belfast, and UK MeetUps.

Some members have been at the forefront of improving accessibility in WordCamps across the world, and want to further improve the 2020 edition of WordCamp Europe working alongside the Attendee Services and other teams. Accessible features, such as child care, hearing loops, and closed captioning will be part of the provision, with team members experienced at bringing such features to other events.

A number of the bid team are actively involved in supporting MakeWordPress teams, working on documentation and materials to help WordCamp organisers and to support Contributor events globally.

Why we want to bring WordCamp Europe to Manchester

WordCamp Europe is about WordPress in Europe. We are keen to make the 2020 edition of WordCamp Europe about Manchester, the UK and its place in Europe.

We want to help attendees learn about WordPress, but also discover our city as well.

The city is also supporting the bid and we have support from both Manchester Central and Marketing Manchester, a dedicated marketing team which works with event organisers to help showcase the city internationally.

We are keen to showcase the city and understand many people come to WordCamp Europe as a longer stay with remote teams or a holiday. London is two hours away by train, Edinburgh is three hours away by train.

We understand fringe events are popular with WordCamps and it is something we're keen to cultivate, similar to The Greater Manchester Fringe (16), an arts and cultural festival that takes place in Manchester each year.

If the bid is successful, Marketing Manchester have offered their support to WordCamp Europe to help sponsors and our team plan social events and activities around the city. Furthermore, Marketing Manchester has offered to put together a booking portal for hotels and accommodation in the area (17). However, should delegates not wish to go through that portal, there is plenty of accommodation in the city to suit all budgets.

Brexit

Whilst at the time of writing we're not sure what the outcome of Brexit will be, we are aware that we may need to provide extra support to help our attendees apply for visas. and will incorporate learnings from other WordCamps.

We want our peers in the global WordPress community to know they continue to be welcome in Manchester and we want them to visit, enjoy and discover more about this wonderful and fascinating city.

Facts Overview

Manchester - Welcoming, Accessible, Global, Innovative, Fun.

- International and vibrant cultural city
- Dynamic and historic location
- Easy transport links, good international direct flights
- Walkable city centre for all event venues, with regular tram & bus access
- City of firsts, where mankind first split the atom, home of the first electronic stored computer,
- Rich history - literature greats, including author Charles Dickens, who visited and spoke often in the city.

Create a memorable, exciting and inclusive WCEU 2020. Join us in Manchester.

Reference Links

1. <https://technw.uk/calendar.html>
2. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Rylands_Library

3. https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gutenberg_Bible
4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Turing
5. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manchester_Baby
6. <https://mif.co.uk/>
7. <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/travel-tips-and-articles/best-in-travel-2016-top-10-cities/>
8. <http://manchesterartgallery.org>
9. <https://www.visitmanchester.com/ideas-and-inspiration/arts-and-culture>
10. <http://www.manchestercityofliterature.com/>
11. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinatown,_Manchester
12. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curry_Mile
13. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manchester_Liverpool_Road_railway_station
14. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphene>
15. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canal_Street_\(Manchester\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canal_Street_(Manchester))
16. <https://www.greatermanchesterfringe.co.uk/>
17. <https://book.passkey.com/e/49680577>

Resources

- Manchester Central's venue video
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2m7_fBUgqO8
- The New York Times featured Manchester as a top destination and ran a piece on 36 hours in Manchester:
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/12/21/travel/what-to-do-36-hours-in-manchester-england.html>
- Guide to Manchester and its significance, Expedia
https://youtu.be/o_TKIM1vUEs
- <https://youtu.be/D4mLvqSDDdM>
- Video commissioned to promote the city to business visitors and events.
<https://vimeo.com/181503699>
- 10 Things You Didn't Know Manchester Gave The World:
<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/england/articles/10-things-you-didnt-know-manchester-gave-the-world/>