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Manchesterâ€™s many museums house collections of national importance and the city boasts a vibrant contemporary art scene. With over 90 museums and just as many art galleries, if you are looking for a relaxing but interesting way to spend a few days in Manchester, than have a wander through some of Manchesterâ€™s top museums and art galleries.

The Manchester Museum

This extraordinary museum is for lovers of natural history and the social sciences. With exhibitions devoted to Egyptology, zoology, archaeology, botany, ethnology, numismatics, archery and geology, there is something for all the family at this museum. Be sure to check out the impressive collection of mummies and the exhibition on Dr Richard Neave, and his work rebuilding faces of people who have been dead for over 3000 years.

The Lowry Arts Centre

The relatively new landmark waterside building at Salford Quays could easily keep everyone in the family occupied all day. With the worldâ€™s largest collection of LS Lowryâ€™s art, alongside a changing exhibition of painting, sculpture and photography works, plus two theatres, a restaurant and a terrace, a trip to the Lowry is absolutely worth it. There is also the Imperial War Museum North nearby, making the trip to Salford Quays doubly worthwhile.

Manchester Art Gallery

The Manchester Art Gallery is the cities top art gallery, with a magnificent collection of British art, alongside European masters as well. Highlights of the gallery include the UKâ€™s best collection of Pre-Raphaelite art and the display of 37 Turner watercolours.

Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI)

The city of Manchester is deeply connected with science, technology and industry and this fascinating and interactive museum allows you to explore the past, present and future of Manchesterâ€™s relationship with them. The museum is the cityâ€™s largest, covering a massive 2.8 hectares, part of which is in the worldâ€™s oldest surviving passenger railway station.

The Whitworth Art Gallery

Part of the University of Manchester, the Whitworth Art Gallery is amongst the cityâ€™s most-visited art galleries. The museum houses over 510,000 objects, including some of the UKâ€™s finest collections of art and design, fine art, watercolours, textiles, prints, and wallpapers.

The Bury Art Gallery, Museum and Archives

The grand Edwardian building of the Bury Art Gallery houses the Wrigley collection â€“ more than 200 oil paintings, prints, watercolours and ceramics collected by Thomas Wrigley, a local paper manufacturer. The collection was donated to the town of Bury in 1897 and includes world-famous paintings such as Turnerâ€™s â€˜Calais Sandsâ€™ and Constableâ€™s â€˜Hampstead Heath.â€™ The

contains a changing contemporary exhibition, with works by international and local artists.

Peopleâ€™s History Museum

This fascinating museum is set in an old Edwardian pumping station and charts the history of the struggle for equality and democracy in the UK. It is the only one of itâ€™s kind in Britain. For a true insight into the working life and history of the people of Britain, this unique museum is a must-visit.

With plenty of city-centre hotels in Manchester and good public transport links to the rest of the UK, a few days spent exploring the cities past and itâ€™s cultural highlights, makes for a great city break.

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