

Thirty one ROCHDALE TOWN CENTRE.

Take a look at the architecture and shops of Rochdale - the origin of the Co-operative movement.

Take the train from Eccles Station to Manchester Victoria. Change onto a train that stops at Rochdale (there are plenty). Alight at Rochdale.

Leave the front entrance of the station and cross the road towards the garage. *Rochdale seems lacking in pedestrian crossings.*

Walk down between the basilica church of St John and the fire station. *Both are notable buildings.*

At Drake street cross the road (*Rochdale seems lacking in pedestrian crossings*) go right and then left onto Moire Street. *Notice the 1829 school on your right.*

Bear left and go up the steps into St Chad's churchyard. *A very fine parish church.*

Walk past the East end of the church and descend the fearsome set of steps down to the town. The town hall is to your left and the Flying Horse (real ale) on your right.

Go left in front of the town hall. *This is an impressive gothic structure. You can tour the building at 14.15 on the last Friday of each month. There is no charge for this very worthwhile look around.*

Cross the road in front of the town hall and go to the War Memorial.

[OPTION: Facing the war memorial go left to visit the art gallery and museum *This is an attractive building and well worth the visit.*

Then retrace your steps to the war memorial. *This walk is in fact on a great bridge over the river Roach.]*

Facing the memorial turn right to the circle and then left up the main shopping street, which is Yorkshire Street.

At the top U turn back down the street. Notice the Wheatsheaf centre. *The Wheatsheaf is the old Co-op logo and brand.*

There are pubs and shops down the narrow alleys left and right off this street. Back at the main road to your left you can see the Regent Moon which is a Wetherspoon's House.

Cross the road and ascend Drake Street. *Notice the jewellery shop on the*

right.

On your left is the Cask and Feather (*real ales*) and further up on the right is The Navigation (*Joseph Holt*) – *you are near the Rochdale Canal.*

Turn left onto Railway Street and back to the railway station.

CLASSIFICATION: MEDIUM LENGTH, EASY,
ARCHITECTURE, SHOPS, MUSEUM, PUBS

RAIL FARE – category one

Maps: OS 1:50 000 sheet 109 Manchester A-Z