

FC United of Manchester

Information for visiting supporters

Gigg Lane, Bury



Ground

Most* FC United home games take place at the home of Bury FC, Gigg Lane, BL9 9HR.

Gigg Lane is an 11,000 capacity all seater stadium - although standing is permitted in all seating areas. The ground is developed and covered on all four sides – although typically for FC United home games only the Main Stand and the Manchester Road End are open and no transfers are allowed between the two.

Ground regulations at Gigg Lane unfortunately require segregation and for this reason visiting fans are invited to use the section at the left of the Main Stand, accessible through turnstiles 8 and 9.

Visiting teams are kindly requested to deposit 3 points with FC United on leaving the ground although this rule is not rigorously enforced.

*Note – FC United are due to play at least two home games at Stalybridge this season so some arrangements will be different. Please check the website for more details.

Admission

FC United do not generally issue tickets in advance (only for second round replays against Brighton!) and there is no need to buy a ticket on arrival at the ground. Simply walk up to turnstile 8 or 9 and pay on the gate.

Prices have been frozen again for 2011/12 are as follows:

£8 Adults

£5 Over 60s and students

£2 Under 18s

Travel - public transport

Bury is approximately 9 miles north of Manchester, and is well served by both bus and tram. The tram runs from Manchester Victoria and Manchester Piccadilly railway stations, and Bury is the last stop on the line. The journey takes approximately 25 minutes (£3.60 return for adults). The tram station is in the centre of Bury; about 15 minutes walk from the ground.

Alternatively the 135 bus from Manchester takes about 40 minutes and stops close to Gigg Lane (£4.20 for an adult Day Saver). For further information about public transport see www.tfgm.com

Travel - by car

The ground is only 3.5 miles from junction 17 of the M60. Exit the M60 at junction 17 and keep following signs for Bury A56. After a third of a mile, go through the double traffic lights passing McDonalds on the left hand side. Just after the Bull's Head pub, bear right at the traffic lights. Continue straight on for 2 miles, and then turn right just after the Swan and Cemetery pub into Gigg Lane (signposted Football Ground). The ground is on the right hand side.

Parking

Limited parking is available at the ground for a charge of £3. Additional parking is available at St Luke's Primary School (Morley Street, Bury BL9 9JQ) for £3. All monies raised at both car parks will go to FC United club funds.

There is also plenty of free on street parking within easy walking distance but please note *there are parking restrictions on some streets around the ground with a residents parking scheme in effect*. It's best to check carefully before leaving your car.

If you're bringing a coach please contact the FC United Office to organise parking.

Programme

The club produces a full colour match day programme for most home games. The price is £2 and programmes are available from volunteers both inside the ground and on the approach. For some re-arranged matches, a smaller black and white programme is produced at a lower price.

The club also runs a back issues programme stall outside the ground at most home games.

The "MegaCabin"

The *MegaCabin*, otherwise known as the club shop, is situated on the forecourt outside the ground, and is a tongue in cheek reference to the Manchester United Megastore at Old Trafford. Call in for a scarf, badge or other FC United items, or just to say hello.

Food and drink

Away supporters are kindly invited to use the Bury FC social club situated on the road outside the ground. There will usually be some form of entertainment before the game as part of the new "Saturday Social", e.g. Q & A with players/board members, quiz and Sky Sports football on the big screen. FC United operate a £1 admission charge pre-match which goes to club funds. You are welcome to take your own food into the social club, from either the burger vans outside, or from the variety of shops and takeaways near the ground (Parkhills Road).

New for this season, after the match, the players and officials from both teams will be in the social club, where the man of the match will be announced. Again, away fans are very welcome!

There are also various other pubs in the town centre and around Gigg Lane, including Trackside at the East Lancashire Steam Railway station and the Staff of Life, Waterloo and Swan and Cemetery all on Manchester Road close to the ground. There are a number of shops near the ground on Parkhills Road, including a Co-op with a free cash machine, and Post Office.

Please note that FC United do not benefit from any sales of food and drink within the ground.

FCUM Radio and TV

FCUM Radio broadcasts free live commentary via the internet at every FC United match, for those supporters unable to make the game - www.fcumradio.co.uk

The commentary team is friendly and try not to be too biased (although they do generally fail on this last point!). FCUM radio is also more than happy to read texts and emails from supporters of opposing teams. If you can't physically make it to Gigg Lane but you do have internet access then you are more than welcome to tune in.

TV highlights are also available after home games - www.fcum.tv

Other things to look out for

Pound for the ground – half time draw

Like most other football clubs FC United run a half time draw. Our 'Pound for the Ground' draw does exactly what it says – tickets cost £1 with all proceeds going towards the FC United ground development fund that will hopefully help us to build a new football ground in North Manchester.

The prize is up to £200 and the draw is made on the pitch at half time. Numbers are announced over the tannoy, on the scoreboard and on a pitch side board carried by young volunteers. If you still, somehow, manage to miss the winning numbers, the details are always added onto the FC United website within a few days.

Development Fund Barrels

You will probably notice green and brown barrels located at various places on the forecourt outside the ground. These are for supporters to donate any loose change to the FC United Development Fund.

Membership stall

The membership stall is open before and after every match and also doubles as an information stall. Visiting supporters are very welcome to come and say hello, shake a hand or two and maybe ask those things you've always wondered about 'that breakaway club'. There are lots of leaflets to pick up and you can even sign up as a member!

Past programme stall

Alongside the membership stall is the past programme stall, where you can browse a selection of programmes from FC United's previous 6 seasons. There are often also programmes from the visiting team as well so do stop by and have a look.

All information correct at time of writing

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