

London vs Manchester

Cheaper: Manchester
Better Weather: London
Lifestyle: Tie
Overall: Manchester

Cost of Living

	London	Manchester
Average Rent	£2,286	£1,347
Average House Price	£542,304	£251,461
Average Monthly Energy Bill	£163.60	£88.60
Average Monthly Food Cost	£63.50	£64.20
Average Salary	£4,641	£3,293

The cost of living in Manchester is materially lower than in London across most major categories including rent, food and household bills. It is worth noting that average salaries in London are around 34% higher, which partially offsets the difference in living costs. For many people, this level of difference would be a significant factor in deciding where to live.

Weather

	London	Manchester
Sunshine Hours	1533	1374
Rainfall	604mm	812mm
Average Temperature	15.00°C	13.09°C

Climate is one area where London clearly pulls ahead of Manchester. London receives around 159 more hours of sunshine per year and it is also drier, with roughly 208 mm less rainfall annually. The combination of more sunshine, less rain and more comfortable temperatures makes London one of the more weather-blessed options for UK city living.

Lifestyle & Location

In lifestyle terms, London and Manchester are very evenly matched. Both cities share attributes such as Strong Rail Links, Large City, so you would enjoy a similar lifestyle in either. Neither city has a standout advantage, so personal preferences – rather than objective differences – are likely to determine which feels like a better fit.

London

- Within close distance of a major airport (transport)
- Good rail connectivity to major cities (transport)
- Above average salaries (economic)
- Major UK city (size)

Manchester

- Good rail connectivity to major cities (transport)
- Active nightlife and entertainment scene (lifestyle)
- Large student population (lifestyle)
- Major UK city (size)

Who Should Choose Each?

London vs Manchester

Choose London if:

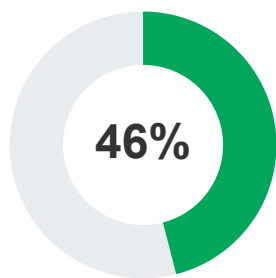
- Higher average salaries
- More sunshine
- Less rainfall
- Warmer average temperature
- Major Airport Nearby
- High Salaries

Choose Manchester if:

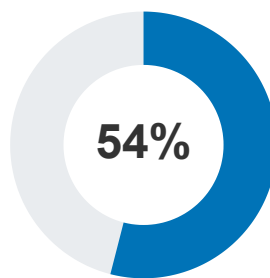
- More affordable overall (salary-adjusted)
- Lower rent costs
- More affordable house prices
- Vibrant Nightlife
- Student Population

Overall Score

London



Manchester



Final Verdict

Manchester comes out ahead overall.

Taking everything into account, Manchester has a clear but not overwhelming advantage over London. The biggest factor is affordability, supported by a positive showing in weather. London remains a perfectly viable option, particularly if your personal priorities differ from the weighted criteria used here.