

Manchester is undeniably a proud city — a place that is both ceaselessly celebrating its rich industrial and cultural history, and at the same time, forever looking forward and embracing innovation. It is the birthplace of countless cultural movements — in everything from music and fashion to science, industry, politics, and beyond. And you would be hard-pressed to find a hotel that embodies the city's idiosyncrasies better than LEVEN Manchester.

Starting with its location, LEVEN is centrally situated in the heart of one of Manchester's most vibrant neighbourhoods — The Village. Boasting a dizzying array of cafés, bars, clubs, independent shops, and a thriving LGBTQ+ community, you're perfectly placed to experience all that genuine northern hospitality has to offer.

As well as this, you are just a 10-minute walk from the hospitality mecca that is Manchester's Northern Quarter — arguably the best concentration of bars in the whole of the UK's North West. Likewise, you are just a short stroll from Market Street, Manchester's central shopping district, where you can lose an afternoon wandering through the mix of big-brand stores and quirky independent boutiques.

Now to the hotel itself. LEVEN Manchester is a place that encapsulates that typically Mancunian celebration of both the past and present, all at once. Housed in an early 20th-century warehouse and recalling Manchester's industrial past, LEVEN retains many of the property's original and iconic features — from the exposed red-brick façade to the vaulted ceilings, to the cast iron beams that line the walls throughout the impressive 33,000 sq ft space.

In the main hotel entrance and Lobby, you are invited to bask in the coalescence of past and present. Sleek interior elements — like the brass-topped bar, vibrant emerald-green wall tiling, rich brown leather armchairs, and gold light fittings — simultaneously recall 1920s Art Deco elegance and 2020s chic design. Edgy, contemporary works by the likes of Lillie Bernie adorn the Lobby and Lounge walls, continuing this pleasingly jarring juxtaposition of décor.

The 42-key luxury hotel offers four different accommodation types, catering to a range of guests and types of stay. Guests can choose from "Life Size" (standard bedroom), "Living Space" (one-bedroom suite), "Living Large" (one-bedroom duplex penthouse suite), and "Living the Dream" (two-bedroom duplex penthouse suite).

The rooms and suites boast oak parquet floors, high ceilings, and bespoke furniture. The suite that TLTB stayed in featured a full kitchen equipped with a hob, oven, washing machine, and dishwasher — offering you all the benefits of a self-contained flat, but with the added luxuries of a boutique hotel. These luxuries included a freestanding bathtub positioned beneath the magnificent steel windows, a king-size bed with a 100% natural mattress provided by Naturalmat, and Grown Alchemist bathroom products.

LEVEN's Lounge and Lobby has the feeling of a private members' club — but one you'd actually want to be a member of. Think less stuffy old fellas drinking scotch, and more trendy millennials coiffing cocktails. With the friendly staff pulling dual shifts as both receptionists and cocktail mixologists, LEVEN really does embody the relaxed nature of honest northern conviviality.

A joint venture by Manchester-born entrepreneurs Joshua and Ben Senior and industry innovators Wellbrook Hospitality, LEVEN Manchester is the first in what will be a series of hotels under the LEVEN brand. This will also include the LEVEN Lifestyle concept, which will encompass co-working, co-living, and retail spaces — as well as a line of merchandise. Every guest is gifted a complimentary pair of limited-edition LEVEN socks!

The hotel in its current incarnation is only Phase 1 of Team LEVEN's plans, with Phase 2 launching later this year. This next stage will see the opening of a 1,700 sq ft subterranean cocktail bar and a 4,000 sq ft restaurant across the ground and basement floors.

The space is cool yet effortless. It feels contemporary, but at the same time, entirely unique. One of the most intoxicating examples of this is LEVEN's brand-new cocktail menu. Designed entirely by head bartender Jasmine, the menu features recognizable but reimagined drinks that reflect the spirit of the city. The *L'Herbe Royal* is their take on a classic Mexican Mule, with a fresh herby twist of tequila, basil, and ginger beer. And then there's the beautifully extra *Steep In Thought*: a fruity rum number served in a teapot, with a separate glass milk jug full of strawberry foam and a spoonful of freeze-dried raspberry as a garnish. You're tasked with assembling the cocktail however you see fit, a fun, interactive drink that perfectly captures the playful vibe of the entire menu.

LEVEN offers everything Manchester prides itself on: a contemporary space, a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere, and hospitality that makes you never want to leave. There's a reason why Mancunians argue, rather convincingly, that Manchester is the centre of the universe. And if LEVEN is anything to go by, they just might be right.

It's all about being in the moment. That's LEVEN's entire ethos — and it's easy to see why. Everything about LEVEN invites you to be present and engage with the place you're in. This isn't just a hotel. It's a cocktail bar. It's a co-working space. It's a destination for visitors and locals alike. It's a place to stay, a place to work, a place to unwind. To quote Manchester's poet laureate Tony Walsh: "This is the place."