

## GUIDE TO SALE SHARKS MATCHDAY AT THE AJ BELL

### MATCHDAY TRAVEL PLAN

This is published on the Sale Sharks website the Monday before the match and is updated for every game. It is located on the right hand side of the [www.salesharks.com](http://www.salesharks.com) home page

### LOCAL HOTELS

There are several hotels near the Trafford Centre, mainly Premier Inns, and the nearest to the stadium is the Travelodge Trafford Park, which is located between the stadium and Trafford Centre and around a 10-15min walk to the AJ Bell using the new road and bridge.

### What time should I arrive?

We recommend that fans get to the ground as early as possible to avoid any delays and extra traffic. The Sharquee will be open two hours before kick-off with a bar, real ale and live entertainment starting around this time and you can also access the stadium bars.

### GETTING TO THE STADIUM

#### Can I park at the ground?

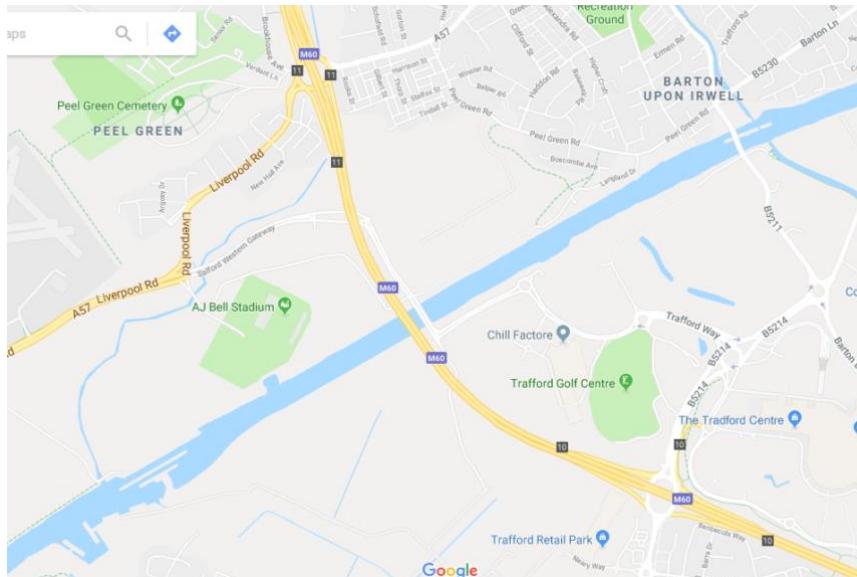
There is parking available at the stadium and it costs £8 but it must be booked in advance online via this link <https://www.eticketing.co.uk/salesharksrugby/Events/Index> or by calling 0161 786 1574 then Option 2.

Disabled Parking: Please contact the AJ Bell Stadium direct to book this - 0161 786 1574

Motorcycles: These can be parked at the stadium for free

Coaches and Mini-buses: Parking is free, but please contact the stadium in advance to let them know that you will be coming in a large vehicle so you can be allocated a space – 0161 786 1574

There is no on-street parking near the stadium, and parking at City Airport (Barton) is available but limited for a fee. Do NOT park in the layby near the airport as it blocks access for emergency vehicles and you will get a parking ticket.



The road, called the Salford Western Gateway, is the new section of the A57, which connects the A57 Liverpool Road with Trafford Way and crosses the Manchester Ship Canal using the new lifting bridge. You can park for free at the Trafford Centre and the walk to the stadium takes around 20 minutes.

#### How do I get to the AJ Bell?

Postcode for sat nav - M30 7LJ

There may be occasions when car park access and egress is disrupted or delayed by circumstances beyond control of the Stadium Company, such as busy trading days at the Intu (Trafford) Centre and localised heavy traffic due to roadworks or road traffic accidents. Please be assured that the car park staff are doing their utmost to minimise delays.

### **Using the Trafford Centre Free Shuttle Buses**

We run a free shuttle bus service from the Trafford Centre where there is also free parking available. It leaves from Stand 1 of the Trafford Centre bus station and the times are published on the Travel Plan. The shuttle buses will receive priority exit ahead of cars after the final whistle.

There is also a free shuttle bus from the Ladywell tram stop to the AJ Bell (Metrolink line Manchester to Eccles) and timings for this service are available on the Travel Plan.

### **By Car**

From the North

M6 then at Jcn 21 take the A57

M61 then us the 2 right lanes to merge onto the M60 signposted M60/Ring Road W/Ring Road S/Mcr Airport/Trafford Park/L'pool/B'ham. Leave the M60 at Jcn 11 and take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit off the roundabout on to the A57 (follow the brown 'rugby ball' signs).

From the East

M62 then merge onto the M60. Leave the M60 at Jcn 11 and take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit off the roundabout on to the A57 (follow the brown 'rugby ball' signs).

From the West

Liverpool – M62 then join the M60 at Jcn 12. Leave the M60 at Jcn 11 and take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit off the roundabout on to the A57 (follow the brown 'rugby ball' signs).

Chester – M56 to Jcn 9 then take the M6, then at Jcn 21 take the A57

From the South

M5 to the M6, then at Jcn 21 take the A57.

Alternatively, if you come on the M6 then use the M56/M60, please note that the A556 has been re-routed between M6 Jcn 19 to the M56, making the journey much smoother as it now flows from one into the other without using the roundabout.

You can avoid delays on the clockwise M60 or at Junction 11 by using the new bridge which connects the Trafford Centre to the AJ Bell Stadium. Sometimes it is quicker to go past Jcn 11 and continue to Jcn 10, then come off here and use the new road to the stadium.

We suggest that you use the Google Maps app with traffic notifications to check the status of the M5/M6/A57/A556/M56/M60 as you are travelling to avoid any hold ups. As of yet the new section isn't 'live' on Google traffic updates but this should be updated in the future.

Please do not use this unless you have someone with you; it is against the law to drive and use a mobile phone at the same time

### **By Bus**

Manchester City Centre and Eccles take the 67 to Liverpool Road, Irlam. Please be aware that for evening matches there can be congestion on Liverpool Road and so the bus can be caught up in this. Alternatively you can get a bus to the Trafford Centre then the free shuttle – [www.gmpte.com](http://www.gmpte.com)

### **By Train**

The nearest train stations are Irlam and Patricroft but each are at least 1½ mile from the stadium. From both stations walk to Liverpool Road A57 and take the number 67 bus (as above).

#### **By Tram**

The nearest Metrolink tram stop is Eccles. From here, the stadium is approximately 40 minutes' walk or take the number 67 bus along Liverpool Road as above, or get a taxi. There is also a free shuttle bus from the Ladywell tram stop to the AJ Bell (Metrolink line Manchester to Eccles) and timings for this service are available on the Travel Plan.

### **AT THE STADIUM**

#### **Ticket Office**

This is located to the right of the glass-fronted Main Reception in the West Stand. There is usually at least one COLLECTIONS window along with several SALES windows where staff will be able to advise you on locations of seats and sell you tickets. Card and cash payments accepted (not Amex).

#### **Sale Sharks Shop**

Selling everything from player replica shirts to rugby balls to dog leads, we have something for everyone. The shop is open 4 hours before kick-off and re-opens at the final whistle for around an hour, or subject to demand. It is located to the left of the glass-fronted Main Reception in the West Stand.

#### **Food and Drink**

There are a number of hot food outlets around the outside of the stadium, and inside there are kiosks in each stand selling pies, hot dogs, hot and cold drinks and alcoholic drinks.

#### **Real Ale**

Real ale is available pre- and post-match in the Sharquee and pre- and during the match in the Printerland Stand, and movement between stands is allowed so you can access the bar (you cannot cross the West Stand team areas).

#### **Lost Property**

If you find, or lose something, please contact the nearest steward, or contact Main Reception on 0161 786 1574.

### **LEAVING THE STADIUM**

We use a traffic management company to control vehicles leaving the stadium car parks and to allow pedestrians to leave safely too.

At final whistle the car parks are 'locked down' for around 15 minutes to allow pedestrians to leave, then once it is deemed safe cars are released from the car parks.

If you need a taxi please go to Main Reception for local taxi information.

#### **Time Saving Tips –**

- Arrive Early - we can't stress this enough and we want supporters to enjoy the matchday experience as much as possible and avoid any traffic issues
- Pre-book your parking
- Print tickets at home if possible to avoid box office queues