Bolton (/ˈbɒltən/ ( listen) or locally [ˈbɜytn̩][2]) is a town in Greater Manchester in North West England. A former mill town, Bolton has been a production centre for textiles since Flemish weavers settled in the area in the 14th century, introducing a wool and cotton-weaving tradition. The urbanisation and development of the town largely coincided with the introduction of textile manufacture during the Industrial Revolution. Bolton was a 19th-century boomtown, and at its zenith in 1929 its 216 cotton mills and 26 bleaching and dyeing works made it one of the largest and most productive centres of cotton spinning in the world. The British cotton industry declined sharply after the First World War, and by the 1980s cotton manufacture had virtually ceased in Bolton.

Close to the <u>West Pennine Moors</u>, Bolton is 10 miles (16 km) northwest of <u>Manchester</u>. It is surrounded by several smaller towns and villages that together form the <u>Metropolitan Borough of Bolton</u>, of which Bolton is the <u>administrative centre</u>. The town of Bolton has a population of 139,403, whilst the wider metropolitan borough has a population of 262,400. <u>Historically part of Lancashire</u>, Bolton originated as a small settlement in the moorland known as <u>Bolton le Moors</u>. In the <u>English Civil War</u>, the town was a <u>Parliamentarian</u> outpost in a staunchly <u>Royalist</u> region, and as a result was stormed by 3,000 Royalist troops led by <u>Prince Rupert of the Rhine</u> in 1644. In what became known as the <u>Bolton Massacre</u>, 1,600 residents were killed and 700 were taken prisoner.

## The Pubs

- 1. Spinning Mule, Unit 2 Nelson Square, Bolton BL1 1JT. Wetherspoons (off Bradshaw Gate) Leave 1100
- 2. Great Ale at The Market, Stalls F14 to F16 Ashburner Street Lifestyle Hall, Bolton. BL1 1TJ. 3 changing beers mainly from the North West. Opens 0900 stay until 1200. There are plenty of food outlets in and around the market. Make our way back to Spinning Mule and turn left into Bradshaw Gate. The next four pubs are very close together so not giving leaving times.
- 3. Elephant and Castle, 4/10 Deansgate, Bolton, BL1 1BR. Opens 1000. Pub serves 5 changing beers. Member discount scheme. Food. Go down the road opposite entrance to 4 is through an archway on the left hand side.
- 4. Barristers Bar, 2-4 Churchgate, Bolton, BL1 1HJ. Barristers Bar is part of the Swan Hotel, a Grade II listed building dating from 1845, though no longer offering accommodation. The wood-panelled interior of the bar has been retained and tastefully decorated to successfully recreate a traditional pub atmosphere. Opens 1200. Pub serves 6 changing beers. Food
- 5. Old Man and Scythe, 6-8 Churchgate, Bolton, BL1 1HL. The pub is reputedly the 4th oldest in the country and sits near the Parish Church on the historic Churchgate, site of a famous Civil War execution. Opens 1100. Regular beers Bank Top Flat Cap, Hopback Summer Lightning, 2 changing beers. Members discount.
- 6. Churchgate, (formerly Brass Cat, Bears Paw, Golden Lion), 11-13 Churchgate, Bolton, BL1 1HU. Opens 1100. Serves 4 changing beers beware house beer (Churchgate Blonde) is Greene King sourced. Food.

http://streetmap.co.uk/prf.srf?x=371611&y=409056&z=110&sv=371

