

# Transport

*With so many ways to get to and around London, doing business here has never been easier*



Greater London & airport locations

This section details the various types of transport available in London, providing information on how to get to the city from the airports, and how to get around once in town. There are also listings for transport companies, whether travelling by road, rail, river, or even by bike or on foot. See the Transport & Sightseeing listings on page 86 for details of transport companies.

Our website [visitlondon.com](http://visitlondon.com) is also a valuable source of information. Just click on Travel to read about the public transport system and use the route planner to organise your journey to particular areas or attractions.

And don't forget London's waterways and vast public transport network allow easy access to visitor attractions across the capital and a variety of sightseeing options.

## Getting here *On arrival*

### London City Airport

T: +44 (0)20 7646 0088  
[londoncityairport.com](http://londoncityairport.com)

The airport is on the **Docklands Light Railway**. Fares from £1.60; journey time around 22 mins to Bank station.

### London Gatwick Airport

T: +44 (0)844 335 1802  
[baa.com](http://baa.com)

#### To London by rail

**Gatwick Express** runs four trains an hour to Victoria station. Fares from £16.90 single; journey time 30 mins. As with all airport transport services, check the website for departure times.  
[gatwickexpress.com](http://gatwickexpress.com)

**Southern** operates three trains hourly to Victoria station. Fares from £11.90 single; journey time around 40 mins.  
[southernrailway.com](http://southernrailway.com)

**First Capital Connect** runs up to four trains an hour to Blackfriars/London Bridge. Fares from £8.90 single; journey time 35 mins. [firstcapitalconnect.co.uk](http://firstcapitalconnect.co.uk)

#### To London by coach

There is an hourly coach service to Victoria Coach Station run by National Express Airport. Fares from £7.30 single; journey time 1 hour 20 mins. [nationalexpress.com](http://nationalexpress.com)

### London Heathrow Airport

T: +44 (0)844 335 1801  
[baa.com](http://baa.com)

#### To London by Tube

The **Piccadilly line** connects all five terminals with central London. Fares from £4 single (from £2.20 with an Oyster card); journey time about an hour.  
[tfl.gov.uk/tube](http://tfl.gov.uk/tube)

#### To London by rail

The **Heathrow Express** runs four non-stop trains an hour to and from London Paddington station. Fares from £16.50 single; journey time 15-20 mins. Transport for London (TfL) Travelcards are not valid on this service.  
[heathrowexpress.com](http://heathrowexpress.com)

**Heathrow Connect** runs between Heathrow and Paddington via five stations in west London. Fares from £7.40 single. Trains run every 30 mins; journey time around 25 mins. [heathrowconnect.com](http://heathrowconnect.com)

#### To London by coach

**Dot2Dot** runs a 24-hour door-to-door service between central London and Heathrow airport. Prices start from £21.50.  
[dot2.com](http://dot2.com)

#### To London by bus

There are no direct bus services to/from central London by day, however **Night bus N9** runs to Aldwych via High Street Kensington and Trafalgar Square. Services every 30 mins; fare £2 single; journey time around 65 mins.  
[tfl.gov.uk/buses](http://tfl.gov.uk/buses)

### London Luton Airport

T: +44 (0)1582 405 100  
Luton Airport Parkway railway station is near the airport, and a regular shuttle bus service connects them. Fare £1.50, journey time 10 mins.  
[london-luton.com](http://london-luton.com)

## To London by rail

**First Capital Connect** operates up to eight trains an hour to St Pancras International, Farringdon, City Thameslink, Blackfriars and London Bridge stations. Fares from £11 single; journey time from 27 mins. [firstcapitalconnect.co.uk](http://firstcapitalconnect.co.uk)

**East Midlands Trains** operates a regular rail service to St Pancras International. Fares from £11.50 single; journey time from 23 mins. [eastmidlandstrains.co.uk](http://eastmidlandstrains.co.uk)

## To London by coach

**Green Line** operates three coaches an hour to Baker Street, Marble Arch and Victoria. Fares from £11 single; journey time from 75 mins. [greenline.co.uk](http://greenline.co.uk)

**easyBus** operates up to three coaches an hour to Baker Street and Victoria. Fares from £6 single; journey time from 75 mins. [easybus.co.uk](http://easybus.co.uk)

## London Stansted Airport

T: +44 (0)844 335 1803  
[baa.com](http://baa.com)

## To London by rail

Stansted Express operates up to four trains an hour to Liverpool Street station. Fares from £18 single; journey time from 45 mins. [stanstedexpress.com](http://stanstedexpress.com)

## To London by coach

**National Express** runs three coaches an hour to Victoria. Fares from £10 single; journey time from 1 hour 18 mins. [nationalexpress.com](http://nationalexpress.com)

**Terravision Express Shuttle** operates two coaches per hour to Victoria Coach Station and Liverpool Street train station, with good onward travel connections. Fares from £9 single; journey time around 75 mins. [terravision.eu](http://terravision.eu)



## Arriving by Eurostar

T: +44 (0)870 518 6186  
[eurostar.com](http://eurostar.com)

There are frequent services from Paris and Brussels to London daily. The Paris journey takes 2 hours 15 mins; from Brussels it is 1 hour 51 mins. The trains arrive at St Pancras International station, bringing travellers straight into the national rail network at King's Cross and the Transport for London bus and Underground systems.

## Getting around Travel information

Transport for London (TfL) has an extensive website providing up-to-the-minute information on all modes of London transport. TfL also has a network of Travel Information Centres located in stations throughout the city, including Euston, Piccadilly Circus, Heathrow Airport, Victoria, Liverpool Street and King's Cross area.

## London Travel Information Helpline

T: +44 (0)20 7222 1234 (24 hour)

[tfl.gov.uk](http://tfl.gov.uk)

Travel tickets and information are also available at the Britain & London Visitor Centre at 1 Regent Street, near Piccadilly Circus.

Journey Planner is a useful website telling you the best routes to and from locations, by rail, Tube, bus or on foot. It is available in 19 languages. [tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner](http://tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner)

For detailed information on travel in London see [visitlondon.com/travel](http://visitlondon.com/travel) For further information on London's attractions, and to plan your own itineraries online, go to [visitlondon.com/explorer](http://visitlondon.com/explorer)

## Tickets to travel

Single fares are generally available for any journey, although it is better value to purchase a Travelcard if you will be making several journeys. Travelcards can be used on the Tube, buses, DLR, trams and national rail. For cheaper fares on single journeys, pick up an Oyster Card. As well as being able to use them as Travelcards, you can put up to £90 of credit on your card to be used to 'pay as you go'. For a short visit, try a Visitor Oyster Card, for 'pay as you go' journeys only. The cards cost £2, and you buy them with an initial credit of £10 or £15. To purchase one, see [visitlondon.com/oyster](http://visitlondon.com/oyster)

## Underground

There are 11 colour-coded London Underground lines (also known as the Tube). Most operate from 0500-0030 Mon-Sat, and from 0730-2330 on Sun. It is cheaper and less crowded to avoid the rush hour and travel after 0930. The network is divided into six concentric zones – Zone 1 is the central area.

## Buses

Some routes are especially good for sightseeing, such as routes 8 and 11, and services 9 and 15 use heritage Routemasters (old-fashioned double-deckers) during the day. Most bus services operate from 0500-0030 daily, with many routes now operating 24-hour services. Tickets must be purchased before boarding a bus in Zone 1, and are available from ticket machines at bus stops – although visitors may find it easier and cheaper to buy a bus pass or Travelcard.

## Docklands Light Railway

The DLR connects the City and the Underground network with Docklands, and offers a great way of exploring this rapidly changing area of London. It also forms a useful link to Maritime Greenwich. Services operate from 0530-0030 and tickets must be purchased before boarding a train.

## Green London

The most environmentally friendly way to travel around the city is on foot or by bike. It's also a good idea to offset the carbon emissions created by a flight here. For more ideas on travelling green, go to [visitlondon.com/green](http://visitlondon.com/green)

## National Rail

Trains are useful for reaching places not served by the Underground. Mainline stations include: Waterloo and Victoria, serving the south of England; Paddington, the south-west; Euston, the north; King's Cross and St Pancras International, the north-east; and Liverpool Street, the east. Various annual discount cards are available. [nationalrail.co.uk](http://nationalrail.co.uk) or [thetrainline.com](http://thetrainline.com)

## Coaches

Coaches are a quick and inexpensive way of making a day trip out of London. Victoria Coach Station is a major hub for various bus companies. [nationalexpress.com](http://nationalexpress.com) or [tfl.gov.uk/coaches](http://tfl.gov.uk/coaches)

## The River

A great way to get around by day or night is on a boat on the Thames. There are several piers for boarding, and services head east towards Greenwich and west to Richmond. Get tickets on the pier or, in some cases, on the boat. Travelcard holders get a discount. [tfl.gov.uk/river](http://tfl.gov.uk/river) or [visitlondon.com/river](http://visitlondon.com/river)

## Taxis

London's famous Black Cabs offer a safe and reliable door-to-door service. Taxis can be hailed on the street when the yellow light is on, or at designated taxi ranks. Fares are regulated and all drivers and vehicles are licensed by the Public Carriage Office.

## Minicabs

Private-hire companies or 'minicabs' cannot be hailed on the street; they must be booked by telephone or in person at the operator's base. To check if an operator is licensed, call +44 (0)20 7222 1234 or go to [tfl.gov.uk/pco](http://tfl.gov.uk/pco) – do not get into a vehicle that is not licensed, or if the driver approaches you in the street. Text HOME to 60835 to get the phone numbers of three local, licensed minicab operators sent to your mobile phone.

## Cycling

For information on cycling in London, see [tfl.gov.uk/cycles](http://tfl.gov.uk/cycles)

## Congestion Charge

If you are driving in central London Mon-Fri from 0700-1800 (except public holidays), you will need to pay the Congestion Charge. The charge is £8 per day, which must be paid either in advance or on the day of travel. If you pay by midnight the following day, the charge is £10. Payment can be made, without registering, by calling +44 (0)845 900 1234. For more information and to register for SMS and online payment, visit [cclondon.com](http://cclondon.com)

**All prices correct at time of going to print (September 2009), but are subject to change.**