

PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN EDINBURGH

BUSES AND TAXIS



Edinburgh doesn't have a **metro system**, but it does have a comprehensive **bus network** covering the whole city; there are also many **taxis** for hire. This leaflet aims to give general guidance on getting around our city by bus or taxi; it is *not* a substitute for a bus timetable!

BUSES: GENERAL INFORMATION

- Two companies, **Lothian Buses** and **First Edinburgh**, operate **regular bus services** throughout the city.
- Most buses run at **intervals** of between 10 and 20 minutes during the day, but are **less frequent** in the **evenings** (after 1900hrs) and on **Sundays**. After midnight, a skeletal **night service** operates.
- **Bus stops** have information on the **bus companies** and **route numbers** that serve them. Most bus stops also have detailed **timetable information**. A real-time electronic information system – **Bustracker** – is now in use at bus stops on many routes, including those running past Pollock Halls. **Bustracker** screens display the route number, destination and predicted arrival time of the next few buses due at the stop.
- Just wait at the appropriate **bus stop** for your bus to arrive. It helps if you **signal to the driver** that you wish the bus to stop for you!

BUSES: COST OF TRAVEL

- For adults, single (one-way) journeys cost **£1** whatever the distance travelled; children (5 to 15 years inclusive) pay **60 pence**, and under-5's travel **free**. [*Lothian Buses fares quoted; First Edinburgh's are similar*].
- Pay your fare to the driver when you get on the bus. Make sure you have the **correct money**: virtually all buses running within Edinburgh do **not** give change, so it's best to carry a number of £1 coins with you.
- However, you can save hassle, time and a lot of money by buying a **DAY TICKET**.

BUSES: DAY TICKETS

- Both bus companies have **DAY TICKETS** providing **unlimited travel on their own buses on the day of purchase**.
- They are **NOT** interchangeable; you can't use a **Lothian Buses DAY TICKET** on a **First Edinburgh** bus, or vice-versa.
- **Lothian Buses DAY TICKETS** cost £2.30 for adults; **First Edinburgh's** cost £2.30 (£1.80 after 0930hrs). Both companies offer cheaper **DAY TICKETS** for children.
- Buy your **DAY TICKET** on the first bus you get on. **Remember to keep it safe with you, as you'll need to show it to the bus driver on any subsequent journeys.**

BUSES: GETTING FURTHER INFORMATION

- **Lothian Buses** operate a **Travelshop** at Waverley Bridge, near the railway station, (open Monday-Saturday 0830-1800 and Sunday 0930-1700hrs). There are other **Travelshops** (open Monday-Saturday 0830-1800hrs) at Shandwick Place and Hanover Street. Call **Lothian Buses' 24-hour Infoline** on **555 6363** or go to **www.lothianbuses.co.uk**
- Useful **Lothian Bus** route maps are available at the **Reception Centre** at Pollock Halls.
- **First Edinburgh** information leaflets are available from the **Scottish Citylink Desk** in the new **Bus Station** at St Andrew Square. Call **First Edinburgh's 24-hour Busline** on **0870 872 7271**.
- **Traveline** has impartial information on transport matters, including details of routes and timetables. Call **0870 608 2 608**.

BUSES: WHERE TO CATCH YOUR BUS

- From **Pollock Halls**, the nearest bus stop is at **Dalkeith Road** (at the **west** end of the site), but **Newington Road/Minto Street**, one block further west, has **many more bus routes**.
- Bus stops for routes going north (**towards** the city centre) are located on the far (**west**) side of each of these main streets.
- You may need to **change buses** to reach some destinations.
- You'll find it easier, cheaper and quicker to get around, especially if you need to change buses, if you buy a **DAY TICKET**.

BUSES: FAVOURITE TOURIST DESTINATIONS

Check at bus stops for actual route numbers and bus times. You may need to change buses to reach some destinations.

From Newington Road/Minto Street (west side) or Dalkeith Road (west side) buses run north, east and west to:

- **Royal Mile:** The Castle, Holyrood Palace, Dynamic Earth, Scottish Parliament **Princes Street:** City Centre, National Gallery, Waverley Station, Airport buses, City Tour buses, central New Town **Lothian Road:** Lyceum Theatre, Filmhouse, Usher Hall **Chambers Street:** Festival Theatre, Museums **Leith:** Britannia, Ocean Terminal **Corstorphine Road:** Murrayfield Stadium, Zoo **West End:** west New Town, Stockbridge, Gallery of Modern Art **Inverleith Row:** east New Town, Botanic Gardens

From Newington Road/Minto Street (east side) or Dalkeith Road (east side) buses run south to:

- **Cameron Toll** shopping centre, **Fort Kinnaird** retail park, **Butterfly World**, **IKEA**

BUSES: MAJOR CONFERENCE DESTINATIONS

Check at bus stops for actual route numbers and bus times. You may need to change buses to reach some destinations.

From Newington Road/Minto Street (west side) or Dalkeith Road (west side) buses run north and west to:

- **Lothian Road/West End:** for International Conference Centre at Morrison Street. Use **Lothian Buses** #2, 3, 3A, 31, 33 to Lothian Road/Shandwick Place
- **The Bridges:** for Edinburgh University's Old College and Holyrood campuses. Use **Lothian Buses** #2, 3, 3A, 5, 7, 8, 9, 31, 33, 37, 37A to South Bridge. For George Square campus, use the same routes, but get off at St Patrick Square instead
- **Princes Street:** for Waverley Station, other city centre conference venues and Airport buses. Use **Lothian Buses** #2, 3, 3A, 7, 8, 29, 31, 37, 33, 37A to Waverley Station and St James Centre

From Newington Road/Minto Street (east side) or Dalkeith Road (east side) buses run south to:

- **Cameron Toll:** for shopping centre and Edinburgh University's King's Buildings campus

TAXIS: GENERAL INFORMATION



- Hundreds of licensed **taxis** provide reliable transport, day and night, for **up to 5 persons per taxi**. Some taxis are adapted to carry **wheelchairs**. Fares are **metered** and strictly regulated.
- Taxis can be found at **designated taxi ranks** in the city, like those at Waverley Station or at Pollock, or you can simply **hail** taxis as they pass on the street... just signal to the driver that you wish the taxi to stop for you.
- Taxis can also be called by **phone**. For getting around the city in general, try **Central Taxis** on **229 2468** or **City Cabs** on **228 1211**. **Airport Taxis** on **344 3344** specialise in getting to... the airport!
- Taxi drivers know the city well, and will give advice if you're unsure about your destination. It's usual to give taxi drivers a **tip** of between 10 and 15% of the fare.