

A GUIDE TO LOCAL TRANSPORT OPTIONS

Bus and coach travel

General

There are many bus and coach operators in Glasgow. The main bus operator in Glasgow is *FirstGroup*.



There are several stops near the university campus, the bus routes and network can be found here - <https://www.firstgroup.com/greater-glasgow/routes-and-maps/network-maps>

FirstGroup gives student pricing on tickets. Full details can be found at -

<https://www.firstgroup.com/greater-glasgow/tickets/ticket-types/student-bus-travel>

The main terminal for buses in Glasgow is Buchanan Bus Station. Buses that travel to areas outside of Glasgow City Centre start and end their journeys here. You will also be able to find services that travel to cities all over Scotland and to some cities in other parts of the UK. *Citylink* takes you north of Glasgow with more information in the following link - <http://www.citylink.co.uk/> There are two coach operators that take you to the south; *Megabus* and *National Express*, details can be found in the following links - <https://uk.megabus.com/> <https://www.nationalexpress.com/en>

Local travel

Bus stops in Glasgow City Centre are generally very busy and it is likely that a bus stop will have several buses arriving at the same time due to the regular flow of buses.

To make sure the bus you want to travel on stops for you, it is important to note that you are required to “hail” your bus as it approaches your stop, otherwise the driver may assume that you are waiting for another bus that also services the stop. It is also true that the bus may stop anyway, due to passengers getting off the bus, but it is better to always signal the driver with your hand to make sure that you do not miss your bus.

To identify the correct bus; the bus route and terminal station of the bus is indicated on the front (and sometimes side) of the bus, with another visible route number on the back of the bus too.

There are also many ticket types available ranging from twelve week tickets to single journey tickets. Ticket prices for *First Bus* can be found at -

<https://www.firstgroup.com/greater-glasgow/tickets/ticket-prices>

Train travel

There are two main train stations located in Glasgow – Glasgow Central (GLC) and Glasgow Queen Street (GLQ).



Glasgow Central station provides rail links to Southern Scotland. Here you can board trains that travel to towns and cities south of Glasgow, such as Kilmarnock, Ayr, and further south and over the border to England. These longer journey trains are mostly operated by *Virgin Trains*. Ticket prices and travel information for *Virgin Trains* can be found at - <https://www.virgintrains.co.uk/tickets/your-ticket>

Queen Street station on the other hand leads you to Central and Northern Scotland. The trains here will link you to destinations like Edinburgh, Dundee, and Aberdeen.

At both of these stations, there are billboards indicating train times and travel destinations. Furthermore, announcements of departures are made as trains approach their departure time.

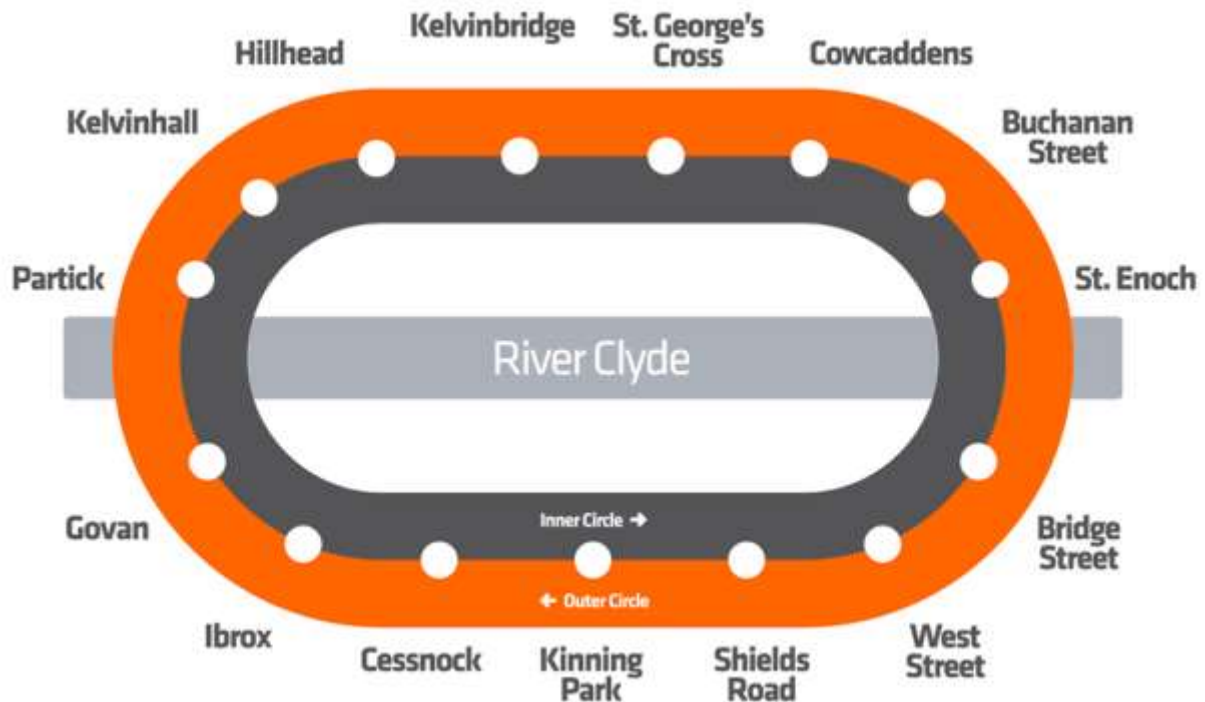
Tickets can be bought at the station, and even on the train itself. However, Glasgow Central and Queen Street stations both have barriers before the train platforms to scan your ticket, therefore, you must buy your ticket before you board the train when travelling from these stations. People buy tickets on the train as there are stations in Scotland where there are no barriers preventing them from entering the platform and boarding the train.

Ticket prices will depend on where you want to travel to from your current location. Here is a link to the main operator of Scotland's trains *Scotrail* which is currently owned by *Abellio* - <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/tickets/commuter>

Subway (underground train)

Glasgow's subway network, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT), runs in a circle around the city centre with the River Clyde separating the two halves of the circle. The route is very simple and is made up of fifteen stops; it has two lines – the Inner Circle and the Outer Circle, with the Outer Circle travelling clockwise and the Inner Circle heading anti-clockwise. Here is a link showing the subway map -

<http://www.spt.co.uk/subway/>



Tickets can be bought at the subway stations. A single journey ticket is priced at £1.70, a return costs £3.20, and an all-day ticket is £4.10. A single ticket will get you from one station to another of your choice, and is a fixed price (that is the price does not change regardless of how far you are travelling). A return ticket is the same as a

single ticket, but you can use the ticket twice. It is also a fixed price. The all-day ticket allows you to travel unlimited on the subway for one day, this is a good option if you want to see some of the sights slightly further away from the City Centre such as the West End where there are great parks, museums, cafes and bars. More information on tickets can be found at - <http://www.spt.co.uk/subway/tickets/>

At each of the stations, there are entry and exit barriers you simply scan the ticket on the barrier to enter or leave the station.

Cycling

Glasgow offers public cycle hires around the city. Currently, there are 31 bike locations across the city with 400 bikes for hire. To hire the bikes, you can register as a member or you can use it as a casual user by visiting the Nextbike website or by telephone, details can be found at - <http://www.nextbike.co.uk/en/glasgow/>



There are two fare types, the regular fare and the annual subscription which requires you to pay £60 annually. The regular fare consists of £1 for the first 30 min per ride, with every additional 30 min set at £1. There is a price cap set at £10. The annual subscription price is set for the first 30 min per ride to be free of charge with every additional 30 min to cost 50p, while having a price cap at £5.

More information can be found at - <http://www.nextbike.co.uk/en/glasgow/prices/>

Taxis

Taxis are widely used throughout Glasgow.

There are two types of taxis and you should consider your own personal safety when thinking about using this mode of transport.



Black taxi



Private taxi

Black taxis

Taxis come in different shapes and sizes, but the bigger taxis (commonly known as cabs) tend to be black and have a clearly visible “taxi” sign on the vehicle. If the light is illuminated, you can put out your hand to hail one. Alternatively, taxi ranks are easily sighted throughout Glasgow and can hire a taxi there. It is also possible to book a taxi from one of the operators such as *Glasgow Taxis*. Further details can be found at - <http://www.glasgowtaxis.co.uk/>

Glasgow Taxis also have set prices for journeys from the city centre to locations such as Glasgow Airport and other cities such as Edinburgh and Ayr. Set prices and be found here - <http://www.glasgowtaxis.co.uk/price-promise/>

Private taxis

There are many private taxi companies in Glasgow which are regulated by the local council. All employees of the company, and their cars, should be licenced to carry passengers and are required to display their licence at the rear of the car and inside the taxi. Private taxis are not permitted to pick people up on the street unless they have been pre-booked. Do not take a taxi that you have not booked and check that the driver is able to give you details of your name, destination etc before you volunteer that information to them.

Personal Safety

Regardless of how you intend to travel around the city, it is important to keep your own safety and security in mind. Read our useful information at <http://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/strathlife/yoursafetysecurity/>