

Glasgow Rootschaters meeting October 13/14 2007



Travel Information

By plane

Glasgow is served by two main airports close to the city:

- Glasgow International Airport [Glasgow International Airport](#) (GLA) at Paisley is the main airport for domestic and European flights and a few transatlantic routes. There's a frequent shuttle bus from outside the terminal building to the city centre, dropping off near both main railway stations (the journey takes about 20 minutes).
- [Glasgow Prestwick International Airport](#) (PIK), about 50 km away on the Ayrshire coast, is the Scottish base for Ryanair. The airport has its own railway station with two trains per hour to Glasgow Central (the journey takes around 50 minutes).

By train

Trains from England and south west Scotland arrive at [Central Station](#), while trains from Edinburgh and anywhere north of Glasgow arrive at [Queen Street Station](#). There are four trains per hour between Edinburgh and Glasgow during the day; the journey takes 50 minutes. Both Central and Queen Street stations have left luggage lockers. The stations are an easy ten minute walk apart, or there's a frequent shuttle bus between them.

Most trains within Scotland, and sleeper services from London, are run by First ScotRail. Other trains from England are run by Virgin Trains and GNER. Rail Journey Planner - <http://ojp2.nationalrail.co.uk/en/pj/jp>

By car

The main approaches to [Glasgow](#) are:

- from England on the M74 motorway; Glasgow is about 95m/150 km north of the border
- from Edinburgh (east) or Glasgow Airport (west) on the M8 motorway
- from Stirling and all points north and east on the M80 motorway
- from the West Highlands on the A82 dual carriageway.

All routes converge on the M8 which carves through the city centre. Glasgow has no credible park-and-ride system, but some of the underground and suburban railway stations do have small car parks. There are several expensive multi-story car parks near the motorway in the city centre. Driving into the centre of Glasgow is inadvisable if you don't know your way around.

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By bus

Long-distance bus services arrive at [Buchanan Bus Station](#) (in the city centre, close to Buchanan Street Underground / Queen Street train stations). The main operator is Scottish [Citylink](#), but Stagecoach also run a budget inter-city bus service called [Megabus](#).

By boat

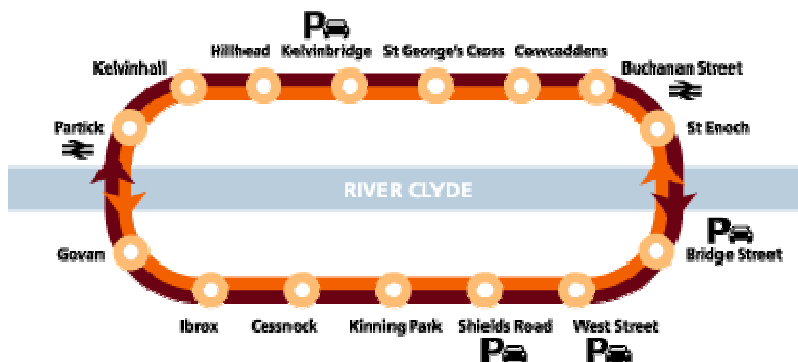
For travellers arriving from outside Scotland, the nearest ferry ports are [Troon](#) (near Prestwick Airport), for ferries from Belfast in Northern Ireland, or [Rosyth](#) (near Edinburgh), for ferries from Zeebrugge in Belgium. Each is about an hour's drive from Glasgow. Aberdeen, several hours' drive away, is served by ferries from Norway. [Stranraer](#) is an alternative route in from Northern Ireland (Belfast) as is nearby [Cairnryan](#) (from Larne).

Getting around in Glasgow

There are no integrated tickets for single local journeys, although you can buy a one-day [Roundabout](#) ticket for local surface and subway trains. If you are in Glasgow for a week or more then SPT's [ZoneCard](#) might be useful. It can be used on suburban trains, buses, and the subway. Prices vary depending on how long you want it for (1 week - 1 year) and how many "zones" you want it to cover. If you buy a three or more zones you can travel in the whole Glasgow area (zones 1 - 8) for free.

By Subway (The Clockwork Orange)

[Subway](#) trains run in a double circle around the Glasgow city centre and some inner suburbs. There are interchanges with surface trains at Buchanan Street/Queen Street and Partick stations. 06:30-23:30 (Sunday 11:00-18:00). £1 flat fare, or £1.90 for unlimited daily use after 09:30 or all day at the weekend. No bikes.



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By train

Suburban trains radiate from Central and Queen Street stations to the suburbs and surrounding towns. <http://www.spt.co.uk/rail/railnetwork.html>. There are only two trains per hour on many routes. Bikes go free, although many trains have no bike spaces. Scotland Travel Planner - <http://www.travelinescotland.com/>

By bus

Buses go everywhere. First Glasgow is the main operator. There's a bus every ten minutes on main routes during the day, making it easy to get into the centre of town, though getting out to a specific destination isn't so easy. So many buses go through the town centre that each bus stops only at every third stop, so check that you are waiting in the right place. The drivers are unlikely to wait for you to chase after them. Find out more through [Scotland Travel Planner](#) or [Travel Centres](#) .

By foot

The centre of Glasgow is very pedestrian friendly with major shopping streets given over to foot traffic. As you move out of the city centre all areas have proper pavements and most major junctions have pedestrian crossings. The river Clyde also has several foot bridge crossings. The main difficulty with walking out of the centre of town is finding where the crossings over / under the M8 are. Heading west, some roads appear to go over Charing X only for the pavement to disappear. Heading North, the underpasses at Cowcaddens can sometimes feel unwelcoming.

Maps

A useful selection of maps to look at:

<http://www.glasgowguide.co.uk/maps.html>

Most streets can be found on [Google Maps](#).

Postscript

[I Belong to Glasgow](#)

[adapted from http://www.findthelinks.com/Tourism_Info/Glasgow.html]

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