

# Public Transportation in Southern California

There are many suppliers of bus and train service. It is important to not get them confused. Here are a few tips:

**FOOTHILL TRANSIT:** bus service covering eastern Los Angeles County, from Downtown Los Angeles and Pasadena to San Bernardino County. Foothill supplies the bus service in Claremont.

**OMNITRANS:** bus service in San Bernardino County. OmniTrans supplies bus service to the Ontario Airport area and connects to Foothill and Metrolink.

**METROLINK:** commuter train service. The San Bernardino Line connects Claremont to Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles and to Fontana Station, which is used in traveling to Ontario Airport. Do not confuse Metrolink with Metro Rail.

**FLYAWAY:** bus service to LAX from different locations. It is used to travel between LAX and Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles.

**LAX SHUTTLES:** free bus service between the terminals at LAX, and the terminals and the parking lots, the LAX City Bus Center, and the Green Line.

**METRO:** major supplier of bus and rail service in Los Angeles County. Metro operates Metro Rail, a trolley and subway system, and most of the area buses. The same pass can be used on the buses and the trains. If you are attending only the conference, you will not need to take Metro.

**TAP CARD:** a plastic card upon which fare and transfers can be stored. A cash value can be placed on the card and the fare deducted from the stored value whenever the card is tapped on the fare box on a bus, or the validator or turnstile at a rail station.

Cash can be used on buses, but transfers from one bus to another within the same company requires the use of a TAP card. Those staying at Knights Inn or Claremont Lodge may want to buy a TAP card to allow the use of transfers. Also, remember that no change is given on the local buses: you need to have the correct fare.

TAP cards are used on Foothill buses and Metro buses and trains. TAP cards are **not** used on Metrolink, FlyAway, or OmniTrans.

Getting a TAP card may not be practical. However, if you are traveling during the week through the Pomona Transit Center (Foothill Transit Store) or Union Station (Metro Customer Service, you may be able to buy one at that time (\$2). The Metro Gold Line at Union Station, located near the Metrolink tracks, has TAP card ticket vending machines that can be used at any time to buy a TAP card (\$1). There is also a TAP card ticket vending machine in Union Station near Metro Customer Service, near the entrance to the Patsaouras Transit Plaza.

*Note: There is no refund for unused stored value; and adding to the stored value requires finding a convenient vendor. However, a transfer is loaded onto the card on the bus.*

## **FARES**

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*Check the company websites for any changes.*

### **FOOTHILL:**

Adult Local	\$1.25
Transfers on a TAP card	\$0.50
Adult - Silver Streak	\$2.45

**Cash fare:** exact change only. Pennies are not accepted. The fare box has separate slots for paper currency and coins.

**Transfers:** transfers are bought when boarding and cost \$0.50 for those paying the full fare. Tell the bus driver that you would like a transfer before inserting any money and follow his instructions.

A transfer is good for two hours from the time of purchase and can be used only once.

**Interagency Transfers:** used to transfer to a bus belonging to another company, such as OmniTrans. These are paper transfers.

**Metrolink:** a Metrolink ticket can be used once to board a bus leaving a Metrolink station or going to a Metrolink station.

### **OMNITRANS:**

Adult Full Fare	\$1.75
Senior ( <i>age 62 or older with government-issued photo ID or Medicare card</i> )	\$0.75
Veterans ( <i>Department of Veterans Affairs ID card or similar proof</i> )	\$0.75

**Cash fare:** exact change only.

**Transfers:** OmniTrans does not issue transfers.

Interagency paper transfers are accepted from Foothill Transit for passengers with TAP cards. The Pomona Transit Center is one place where a transfer from Foothill to OmniTrans can be made.

**Metrolink:** a one-way Metrolink ticket can be used once to board a bus leaving a Metrolink station. A round-trip Metrolink ticket, valid for the day of travel, can be used once on a bus going to or away from a Metrolink station.

### **METROLINK:**

The fare depends upon the distance traveled. A senior discount is available.

Buy a ticket from a ticket vending machine. Be patient: the machine can be slow. Do not push a particular button a second time. Read the instructions carefully. If in doubt, you can go back as long as the purchase has not been completed.

Tickets can be bought with cash or credit/debit cards at ticket vending machines at the stations. Union Station also has a ticket window available near the center of the station, in the vicinity of Amtrak information.

On the train, keep your ticket and proof of age for seniors available in case the conductor asks to see them.

You are on your own on the train. There are announcements when approaching a station. It is up to you to get off at the right location.

### **FLYAWAY:**

Fare: \$9 one-way.

LAX: buy a ticket on the bus using a credit or debit card.

Union Station: buy a ticket at the kiosk using a credit or debit card; or buy a ticket from a Metrolink ticket vending machine using cash or credit/debit card.

The trip is direct with no intermediate stops.

Going to LAX: the bus will stop at each terminal.

Leaving LAX: make sure you are on the bus that goes to Union Station.

### **LAX SHUTTLES:**

Fare: free

Bus G (Green Line): free from LAX to Aviation Station with no restrictions.

This bus is for those taking public transit: therefore, anyone boarding at Aviation Station should have proof of travel (TAP card) with them.

**METRO:**

1-Way Base Fare Regular ( <i>transfers within two hours included - TAP card</i> )	\$1.75
1-Ride Base Fare Regular ( <i>no transfers - cash fare</i> )	\$1.75
1-Ride Base Fare Senior ( <i>age 62 or older with government-issued photo ID or Medicare card - no transfers - cash fare</i> )	\$0.75 Peak \$0.35 Off-peak
Metro-to-Muni Transfer Regular	\$0.50
Metro-to-Muni Transfer Senior	\$0.25
1-Day Pass ( <i>TAP card</i> )	\$7.00

**Transfers:** Except for interagency transfers (Metro-to-Muni Transfer), transfers are not available for those paying cash.

Those using a TAP card are able to continue riding on any number of Metro lines for two hours from the first time the card is tapped.

**Seniors** without a Senior TAP card, requiring a special application, will have to pay either the regular fare on a regular TAP card, which includes transfers, or pay cash for each bus or train.

## Riding a Bus

Check both the head-sign on the bus and the bus stop sign for the correct bus number and final destination. Make sure you are going in the right direction. Sometimes, the bus head-sign may be incorrect.

### **When in doubt, ask the bus driver.**

Be near the bus stop sign when the bus is coming. If several buses stop at the same stop or if the bus doesn't look like it is coming to the curb, wave at the bus driver. If he waves back, you are at the wrong bus stop or the bus is out-of-service.

Enter through the front door and pay the fare. If paying senior fare or needing a transfer, tell the bus driver before placing money in the fare box.

Stand behind the yellow line so that you do not obstruct the driver's view. Sit down if there is a seat available.

Announcements of the coming stops can normally be heard and/or read on Foothill and Metro buses. Check a major intersection to make sure the announcement is properly timed.

If unfamiliar with the area or if it is dark, you can ask the bus driver to help you get off at the right stop.

When the stop has been announced, signal that you want that stop by pulling the cord along the windows, pushing a yellow tape between the windows, or pushing a button on one of the poles, whatever is available on that particular bus. Try to signal the driver about one block before the stop.

There may be panhandlers at the bus stops near Knights Inn and Claremont Lodge.

## Websites for More Information:

<b>Foothill Transit:</b>	<a href="http://foothilltransit.org/">http://foothilltransit.org/</a>
<b>OmniTrans:</b>	<a href="http://www.omnitrans.org/">http://www.omnitrans.org/</a>
<b>Metrolink:</b>	<a href="http://www.metrolinktrains.com/">http://www.metrolinktrains.com/</a>
<b>FlyAway:</b>	<a href="http://www.lawa.org/FlyAway/content.aspx?id=10152">http://www.lawa.org/FlyAway/content.aspx?id=10152</a>
<b>Metro:</b>	<a href="https://www.metro.net/">https://www.metro.net/</a>
<b>LAX:</b>	<a href="http://www.lawa.org/welcomeLAX.aspx">http://www.lawa.org/welcomeLAX.aspx</a>
<b>LAX Shuttles:</b>	<a href="http://www.lawa.org/welcome_lax.aspx?id=1878">http://www.lawa.org/welcome_lax.aspx?id=1878</a>
<b>Ontario Airport:</b>	<a href="http://www.lawa.org/welcomeONT.aspx">http://www.lawa.org/welcomeONT.aspx</a>
<b>TAP card:</b>	<a href="https://www.taptogo.net/">https://www.taptogo.net/</a>