



Glasgow Public Transportation

OutlandishScotland.com

A Novel Holiday Travel Guidebook

Outlandish Scotland Journey Glasgow Public Transportation

This file is a directory of public transportation links to help you find information specific to your preferred method of travel. Since not everyone will need them, our descriptions of Glasgow public transportation options have been kept as brief as possible.

If you'll be using public transportation during the entirety of your Outlandish Scotland Journey, be sure to read our **UK Public Transportation** PDF, freely posted on the **Outlandish Extras** directory of our website. You'll find info about discounted travel passes there.

<http://www.outlandishscotland.com/UKpublicTrans.pdf>



Glasgow Airports

Glasgow is served by two local airports: Glasgow International Airport and Glasgow Prestwick International Airport. Because the **Edinburgh Airport (EDI)** is only about 40 miles from Glasgow, some travelers book an “open-jaw” flight: arriving Scotland in Edinburgh, but flying home from Glasgow — or vice-versa.

Glasgow International Airport (GLA)

<https://www.glasgowairport.com/>

“Located 8 miles west of the centre of Glasgow ... [GLA] is the city’s principal airport, and the main direct long haul and transatlantic entry airport into Scotland. There are regular scheduled UK and European destinations, holiday charters, and the airport is the hub for the Scottish island network operated by Loganair.

“United Airlines operate a daily service from New York (Newark) [EWR], while Emirates operate 2 daily flights from Dubai. If you are entering the United Kingdom via London, British Airways operates frequent shuttle flights to Glasgow Airport throughout the day from both Heathrow and Gatwick. ... KLM flies regularly to Glasgow from Amsterdam-Schiphol, which connects with a wide range of international destinations. EasyJet flies from Luton, Stansted and

Gatwick, and Ryanair flies from Dublin, Stansted and a number of Eastern European destinations. ...

“Glasgow International Airport has 2 terminals. All passengers arrive in the first terminal arrivals hall. ... Terminal 2 is only used for check in for Thomas Cook, Aer Lingus, Canadian Affair and Virgin.”

<https://wikitravel.org/en/Glasgow>

The GLA Shuttle Bus

“Glasgow Airport Express service 500 is Glasgow Airport’s official bus service connecting the airport and the city centre in just 15 minutes.

“Departing up to every 10 minutes from Glasgow Airport (stance 1) and Buchanan Bus Station (stance 46), the Glasgow Airport Express service operates 24/7 around flight times—every day of the year except Christmas Day.”

<https://www.firstgroup.com/greater-glasgow/routes-and-maps/glasgow-airport-express>

Open Return Glasgow Airport Express ticket prices in January, 2019:

Adult £13.50, Child £6, Family (2 adults/2 children) £24.

Single Trip Glasgow Airport Express ticket prices in January, 2019 (for those with “open jaw” flights):

Adult £8, Child £4, Family (2 adults/2 children) £16.

Taxi from GLA

GLA is actually outside the Glasgow city boundary. The local company, Renfrewshire Cabs, is the official airport taxi company and theirs are the only cabs allowed to rank in front of the terminal doors. They are *white* van-type models with a taxi light on top. The approximate fare from GLA to Glasgow City Centre in January of 2019: £15.10.

<https://www.renfrewshirecabco.co.uk/airport-transfers/>

Taxi to GLA

Glasgow Taxis—the legitimate Glasgow cab company—are best for travel from the city to the airport. You’ll learn more about them in the Taxi section at the end of this PDF. The approximate fare from Glasgow City Centre to GLA in January of 2019: £23.70.

<https://www.glasgowtaxis.co.uk/price-promise/>

Glasgow Prestwick International Airport (PIK)

<https://www.glasgowprestwick.com/>

The city’s secondary airport, Glasgow Prestwick International, is about 50 km (32 miles) southwest of Glasgow on the Ayrshire coast. It is a hub for Ryanair, which flies into PIK from a variety of Mediterranean resorts, on a seasonal basis.



[Glasgow Central Station Panoramic (segment) ©2009 Robinson3048]

Glasgow Train Stations

“Glasgow has two main line railway stations. Trains from the south of Scotland, the city’s southern suburbs, and all long distance trains from England arrive at **Central Station** (officially known as **Glasgow Central [GLC]**), while shuttle trains from Edinburgh and anywhere north of Glasgow arrive at **Queen Street Station [GLQ]**.

“Both stations are divided into a ‘High Level’ (for main line inter-city services) and a subterranean ‘Low Level’ (for local suburban services)—you will see this distinction being mentioned in timetables.

“Both Central and Queen Street stations have left luggage lockers.

“The stations are an easy ten minute walk apart and the route is well signposted. Or, there’s a frequent shuttle bus between them, which is free if you are holding a through railway ticket, otherwise a fare of 50p is charged if you don’t.”

<https://wikitravel.org/en/Glasgow>

Glasgow Train Station Websites:

- Glasgow Central (GLC):
<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/stations-and-facilities/glc>
<https://www.thetrainline.com/stations/glasgow-central>
- Queen Street Station (GLQ):
<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/stations-and-facilities/glc>
<https://www.thetrainline.com/stations/glasgow-queen-street>

Reaching Glasgow from Edinburgh by Train

“Confusingly, there are four rail routes between the capital [(Edinburgh)] and Glasgow’s two main line terminals. An off-peak return is around £11.50, regardless which route you use, a peak return is around £20. In summary the four routes are as follows—all depart from both Waverley and Haymarket stations:

- **Fastest:** The ScotRail Shuttle via Falkirk High into Queen Street (High Level)—every 15 min on weekdays and Saturdays until 19:15, half hourly outside these times. Journey time 50 min.
- **Faster:** CrossCountry or Virgin Trains East Coast trains via Motherwell into Central (High Level)—trains originating from Penzance, Plymouth, Bristol, Birmingham or London King’s Cross make the journey at sporadic intervals throughout the day—journey time approx 1

hour. CrossCountry services have the cheapest walk-up one way fare between the two cities, of £7.50 for an Anytime single.

- **Slow:** ScotRail services via Bathgate and Airdrie into Queen Street (Low Level) en route to Milngavie or Helensburgh Central—4 trains per hour on weekdays & Saturdays until 18:30, half hourly outside these times. Journey time between 60-80 minutes. ScotRail normally recommend that travelers use this route if there is major disruption to the main shuttle service or to relieve pressure on it if large passenger numbers are expected due to events being held in either city.
- **Very Slow:** ScotRail services via Shotts or Carstairs and Motherwell into Central (High Level)—every hour, journey time between 65-90min.”

<https://wikitravel.org/en/Glasgow>

Edinburgh Train Station Websites:

- Edinburgh Waverly Station (EDB):
<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/passengers/our-stations/edinburgh-waverley/>
- Edinburgh Haymarket Station (HYM):
<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/stations-and-facilities/hym>

Train travel during “Off-Peak” hours is significantly cheaper than during the morning and evening commute peak hours. Off-Peak Hours:

- Weekdays: 9:30am to 3:30pm
7:15pm to 11pm
- All trains, all day, on weekends and public holidays



Traveline Scotland

<https://www.travelinescotland.com/>

In addition to being the best public transportation journey planning resource available, Traveline Scotland’s app is extremely helpful in Glasgow.

Traveline Scotland's App is available for iPads, as well as all types of smartphones.

[The Kindle Fire app was disabled in 2017, but may reappear in future.]



<https://www.travelinescotland.com/apps>

This award-winning app includes:

- A journey planner for public transport options between any two locations in Scotland, featuring all bus, coach, rail, Glasgow Subway, tram and ferry routes.
- Departure boards showing next scheduled buses at every stop in Great Britain.
- Live bus times are shown in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Angus, Ayrshire, Fife, Lothians, Scottish Borders, Inverness area, and Orkney where available.
- Live train departure times for all rail stations in Scotland.
- Departure times for Scottish Ferry terminals, Edinburgh Trams, and Glasgow Subway stations.
- Local taxi details relevant to your location.
- Notices affecting public transport services, and contact details for all Scottish public transport operators.
- Cycle journey planner powered by CycleStreets.
- Regularly updated weather and planned events info.

The Glasgow Subway

“The **Glasgow Subway** is an underground metro line in Glasgow, Scotland. Opened on 14 December 1896, it is the third-oldest underground metro system in the world after the London Underground and the Budapest Metro. ... The line was originally known as the **Glasgow District Subway**, but was later renamed Glasgow Subway Railway ... in 1936. Despite this rebranding, many Glaswegians continued to refer to the network as ‘the Subway.’ In 2003 the name ‘Subway’ was officially readopted by its operator, the **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)** ...

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glasgow_Subway

Please Note: When it comes to enjoying our *Outlander* Glasgow City Center tour (Site #58) and Glasgow West End tour (Site #59), the subway is not helpful. It won't even save you walk time between our West Sauchiehall Street lodgings area and the City Center.

That said, those who lodge elsewhere, or spend additional days doing other things in Glasgow, may find the subway convenient.



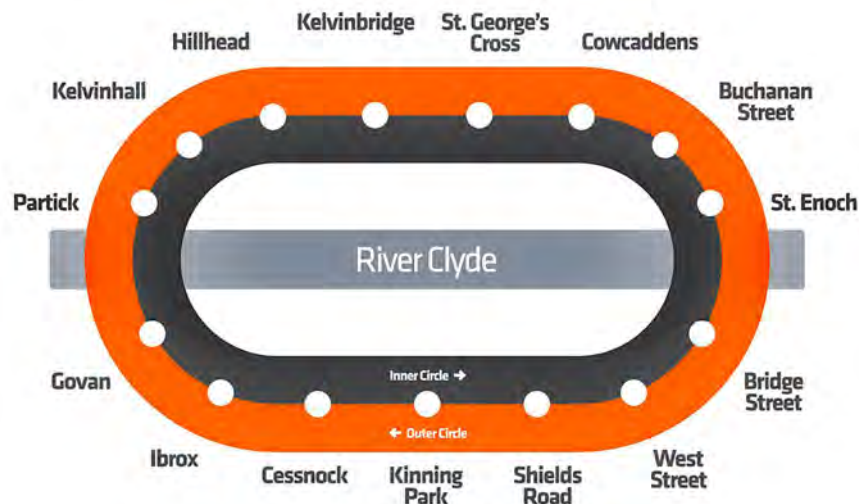
[©2018 Google Street View image segment (enhanced)]



Glasgow’s 15 Subway stations are easily recognized by the SPT Subway logo prominently displayed above the entrance. On Google maps, however, a “U” in a circle is used to identify a subway station—aka Underground station. (Bing maps use a generic streetcar/train icon.)

And, yes, don’t be surprised to find a Subway sandwich shop next door to the Subway entrance! There are 43 Subway sandwich shops in the city of Glasgow, and the company seems to enjoy situating their shops near an actual Subway Station entrance whenever possible.

“The route is a loop almost 6.5 miles (10.5 km) long and extends both north and south of the River Clyde. The tracks have the unusual narrow gauge of 4 ft (1,219 mm), and a nominal tunnel diameter of 11 feet (3.35 m), even smaller than that of the deep-level lines of the London Underground (11 feet 8 1/4 inches or 3.56 metres at their smallest); the [subway trains are] considerably smaller.

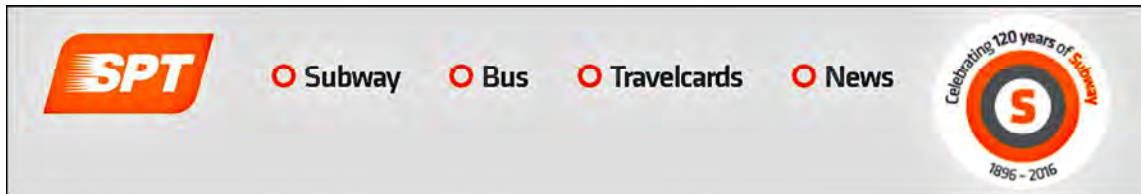


“The system describes itself as two lines, the Outer Circle and Inner Circle, but this simply refers to the double track, having trains running clockwise and anticlockwise respectively around the same route although in separate tunnels. Stations use a variety of platform layouts including

single island platforms, opposing side platforms and in some stations such as Hillhead [which is near the Dowanhill Street film site] one side and one island platform.”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glasgow_Subway

The Subway runs from 6:30am to 11:40pm, Monday to Saturday. On Sundays, service doesn't begin until 10am and closes at 6:12pm. Trains arrive every four minutes at peak times, every six-to-eight minutes during off-peak times.



The Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) Website

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

On its main page, the SPT has a Journey Planner that *connects* with Traveline Scotland. Do not use it! Information doesn't seem to transfer well—especially the time specified for travel. If you need a travel planner, go directly to Traveline Scotland's website (or the app) and fill in your info once.

The most helpful page on the SPT website is the Subway Tickets page.

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

Glasgow Busses

The main terminal for buses in Glasgow is Buchanan Bus Station, located one block north of Buchanan Street, on Killermont Street, *behind* the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall building. Buses traveling to areas outside of the city centre start and end their journeys there. Coach services—buses that travel to cities all over Scotland, and to other parts of the UK—also use Buchanan Bus Station.

- **Citylink** covers travel north of Glasgow. <https://www.citylink.co.uk/>
- Two coach operators offer travel to the south:
Megabus (part of the Stagecoach Group). <https://uk.megabus.com/>
National Express <https://www.nationalexpress.com/en>

Citylink and Megabus also offer coach travel between Glasgow and Edinburgh.

<https://www.citylink.co.uk/service900.php>

<https://uk.megabus.com/route-guides/glasgow-to-edinburgh>



“Buses go everywhere. **First Glasgow** is the main operator within the city boundary. There is a bus at least every 10min [at stops] on main routes during the day, making it easy to get into the centre of town, though getting out to a specific destination less easy. ...

“Other bus operators within the city are **McGill’s** and **Stagecoach West Scotland** which operate services out to the outlying towns in Renfrewshire and Ayrshire respectively. ...

“One of the current scourges of Glasgow, however (in the opinion of locals, at least), is the myriad of private bus operators that supposedly ‘complement’ the core services operated by First, McGill’s and Stagecoach. In reality, many merely duplicate the routes that already exist: the net result has been the city centre being clogged up with empty (and often badly maintained) buses, and for the visitor the key thing to remember is that some of these operators do not accept any of the SPT day passes. On the flip side, they keep the somewhat extortionate prices of First Glasgow in check. The situation is currently a political hot potato among locals.”

<https://wikitravel.org/en/Glasgow>



First Glasgow busses may be single- or double-decker and have many “liveries” — color schemes.



The First Glasgow logo, however, is always seen on the front, sides, and back of the bus. You'll have no difficulty recognizing a First bus.



Important Glasgow Bus Tips

- Bus stops in Glasgow City Centre are generally very busy and it is likely that a stop will have several buses arriving at the same time due to the regular flow of buses.
- Bus stop signs are clearly marked with the services and bus numbers that stop there.
- The bus number and its final destination are displayed on the front.
- In the city centre, buses do not always pull over at every stop along their route. To make sure the bus you want to travel on stops, you must "hail" it as it approaches the stop. If you don't, the driver may assume that you are waiting for another bus that also services the stop and continue on. The bus may stop anyway, due to passengers getting off at the stop, but it is better to always signal the driver with your hand to make sure that your bus doesn't pass by.
- Pay your fare to the driver as you board. If you are unsure how much it will be, tell the driver where you wish to go and she/he will tell you.
- First bus drivers do not provide change, so make sure that you have plenty of change before you board. (Info about special tickets and mTickets is below.)
- If paying in cash, you put your money in a slot that checks the amount and deposits it in a storage box.

Ticket Prices

- The price for one adult bus ticket for one bus ride within the city zone is £1.65.
- A “First Day” ticket is good for unlimited bus journeys within city zones 1 *and* 2 over one day. (BTW: the bus stop for Pollok House is within city zone 2.)

The adult First Day ticket price is £4.60 if purchased from the bus driver—£4.40 if purchased as an mTicket.

For Glasgow stays less than a week, buy a First Day ticket on each day you’ll be using the bus.

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

- A “First Week” ticket is good for unlimited journeys within city zones 1 and 2 over one week. The adult price is £17.50 if purchased from the driver or at a pay point—£16.50 if purchased as an mTicket

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

What is an mTicket?

We’re glad you asked!



The term, “**mTicket**,” stands for “mobile phone” ticket. The First bus group offers this free smartphone app online, at the link below. The page includes a short video that provides excellent directions for how to buy it, how to use it. The fact that you can pay for mTickets using PayPal makes this app handy for everyone.

<https://www.firstgroup.com/greater-glasgow/tickets/mtickets-0>

Be sure to read the mTicket FAQs found on this page:

<https://www.firstgroup.com/tech-bus/mtickets-app>

Below are a few examples of what you’ll find there.

- Once a ticket is purchased and downloaded, it will appear in the “purchased” section of the Ticket Wallet in your app. Tickets in this section are listed from the oldest at the top to the newest at the bottom.
- When you want to use a ticket, select the one you want and then select “Activate Now.” You’ll then be informed of how long the ticket will be active, before confirming that you want to want to activate this ticket. We advise reading this carefully to avoid activating unwanted tickets.

- Once activated, the app will generate a moving ticket image on your phone’s screen and a QR code. This will stay active for the remainder of the ticket’s validity and will include the time and a four letter “word of the day.”
- You’ll need to scan the QR code when you board the bus, or show the ticket to the driver.
- You will need an active and valid ticket to travel on the bus. If the mTicket is no longer valid, you will need to activate another, or pay to travel by cash.
- It is your responsibility to ensure your phone has enough battery power to show a valid mTicket to the driver, or to any ticket inspector throughout your journey. If your phone goes dead, you will need to buy a ticket from the driver.



If you enjoy bike riding and the weather is sunny and dry, check out Nextbike Glasgow!

<https://www.nextbike.co.uk/en/glasgow/>

“With 500 bikes and 62 stations across the city, it has never been easier to get around Glasgow by bike. The high quality and great for value bikes are situated across the city, catering to locals as much as tourists. We will be expanding over the next 5 years to create a larger network across Glasgow. Discover how to rent a nextbike and get cycling today.”



Taxis in Glasgow

The basic information about taxis and private hire cars in our Edinburgh Taxis PDF is also applicable in Glasgow. If you have questions after reading our Glasgow taxi highlights, read that PDF.

<http://OutlandishScotland.com/EdinburghTaxis.pdf>

Glasgow Taxi Highlights

- The traditional London-style taxis are also called Hackney cabs/carriages, “Hacks,” and Black Cabs. These cabs can comfortably seat up to 5 people, with room to stow at least one piece of luggage per person.
- Not all Black Cabs are black from top to tires. While they all have the same iconic shape, any color is possible, including the ruby-colored *People Make Glasgow* cabs. Some have colorful advertising on them, known as the cab’s “livery.”
- Legitimate taxis are easily identified by the Taxi sign (aka, “For Hire” sign) on the roof of the vehicle.

When the Taxi sign is illuminated, the taxi is available—put your hand up and wave at it. If the sign is not lit up, the driver has a passenger on board or is en route to a job.

- Only legitimate taxis are allowed to queue in taxi ranks (aka, taxi “stances”), and only taxis can be hailed from the sidewalk of streets without ranks.
- Some taxis are “Van” designs made by Ford, Peugeot, Mercedes, etc. These are 6 seaters. Primarily intended for pre-booking, these vehicles are legitimate taxis. They can queue in a taxi rank, and can be hailed from the sidewalk of a street without a rank if their sign is illuminated.

Private Hire Cars

- Sometimes called “Saloon cars” or “Mini-Cabs,” private hire cars can be almost any make or model.
- They are not permitted to display any signage indicating that they are a taxi.
- They should have yellow and green plates affixed to the front, back, and sides of the vehicle; have stickers on the driver and front passenger doors identifying the vehicle as a licensed private hire car; have a sign (called a “flashback”) on the rear window identifying the private hire company the vehicle is attached to.
- Private hire cars can only be pre-booked through a booking office or smartphone app, and charge fares set by the private hire company.
- Private hire cars are not allowed to queue in a taxi rank and cannot be hailed from the sidewalk. If you hail one and the driver stops for you, the driver is committing an offence and may be dangerous to ride with.

“By entering a private hire car without [having pre-booked it] you invalidate the vehicle’s insurance and put yourself at risk. Pre-booking, you are making a record of your journey and are ensuring that you are traveling in a vehicle that’s fully licensed.”

<https://www.citycabs.co.uk/news/general/taxis-and-private-hire/>



Glasgow Taxis

<https://www.glasgowtaxi.co.uk/>

0141 429 7070

This is the legitimate cab company in Glasgow. In addition to finding them in taxi ranks and being able to hail them elsewhere from the sidewalk, you can call them or download their free app and book using your smartphone.

<https://www.glasgowtaxi.co.uk/passenger-services/smartphone-apps/>



Glasgow Taxi Ranks

The *People Make Glasgow* organization created a Free City Map for visitors. On one side is the whole city, on the other is a close up of the city centre. The map identifies the Visit Scotland iCentre, the very few Public Toilets, and the Taxi Rank locations.

Key to symbols			
	Bus Station		Post Office
	Rail Station		Parking
	Subway Station		Cycle Hire
	Buses to Glasgow Airport		Public Toilets
	Buses to Edinburgh Airport		Taxi Rank
	VisitScotland iCentre		Marshalled Taxi Ranks 11pm – 5am Fri / Sat
	City Sightseeing Tours departure point		

You can find these free maps at most City Center Hotels (you can visit any hotel's lobby even if not lodging there), at any Glasgow Life attraction or Glasgow museum, and at the St Enoch Centre info desk. The Visit Scotland iCentre on Buchanan Street also offers them.



*As of October, 2019, *none* of the Gett UK links work! We are unsure if Gett is still offered in the UK. We are leaving the Gett links in, however, in case they repopulate.

Gett

<https://gett.com/uk/glasgow/>

Previously known as “GetTaxi,” Gett is a global company that connects customers with taxi transportation on-demand, via an app. The main differences between Gett and Uber:

- The Gett app hails only taxis—no private hire cars.
- The fares are fixed and locked-in, and are cheaper than metered fares.

Basically, with the Gett app you get a professional driver and a real taxi with lots of room, for a fare far cheaper than what a metered journey would cost you. Because the driver is charged every time she/he picks up a Gett discounted fare customer, however, the service is only advantageous to taxi drivers during low demand periods when even *half* a normal fare is better than nothing.

“It turns out that when there is peak demand for taxis—when it’s raining or rush hour—then cab drivers are happy to take riders who hail them in the street [or are queued at a taxi rank]. They don’t respond to calls from Gett ...

“With Uber, when peak demand kicks in, the app sets a price surge. Uber users hate the surge because it makes rides more expensive. But [private hire] drivers love it because they know they will get more money. The Uber app’s price surge alerts more drivers, and more of them hit the street. That is why Uber is so reliable: there are always more Uber cars.”

<https://www.businessinsider.com/gett-v-uber-which-is-better-2015-9>

Uber

<https://www.uber.com/global/en/cities/glasgow-uk/>

“Uber is a ride referral service. Unlike cab companies, Uber drivers use their personal cars and pay for their gas and expenses. ... Uber’s smartphone app connects riders with drivers using GPS technology. The company processes payments, which are made by passengers via the credit card they added to Uber’s platform at signup. Uber takes a cut from each fare and direct deposits the rest of the money into the driver’s account.

“Uber rides are usually considerably cheaper than a standard cab fare. Savings drop when you use the service during peak times when surge pricing is in effect. At such times, which include rush hour traffic hours, you can expect to pay much higher rates than usual. ...

“Bottom Line

“Uber is affordable! But it stays affordable by cutting corners, minimizing safety checks, and underpaying their drivers.

“Of course, traveling always involves some level of risk. Riding with (or being) a licensed taxi driver cannot guarantee your safety, either. Whether you’re a driver or a passenger, you should keep your wits about you, do your research, and stay safe out there.”

<https://www.supermoney.com/2016/05/5-reasons-uber-can-risky-choice-drivers-passengers/>

[Article updated 10/15/2018]

Outlandish Scotland Journey's Taxi vs. Gett vs. Uber Recommendations

- We prefer supporting the long-standing Black Cab company and legitimate drivers in Glasgow.
 - Use the Glasgow Taxis app when pre-booking or summoning a cab with your smartphone.
 - Those of us with dumbphones politely ask our lodgings host to call a Glasgow Taxi to pick us up. (This saves us from having to figure out how to dial the international number.)
 - When heading to a taxi rank, stay alert! You may be able to hail a cab from the sidewalk of a street without a rank.
- For Outlanderites who want a discounted taxi fare, we suggest using Gett rather than Uber. If a legitimate taxi doesn't respond it is a high demand period, which means that the Uber private hire surge price may cost you more than a metered fare for your journey. When that is the case, head to a taxi rank, or use the Glasgow Taxis app to summon a cab.



A website you'll find helpful when planning your holiday budget for Glasgow is the Taxi Fare Finder. Although the results are estimates, you'll obtain amounts to consider when deciding whether to use a bus or a taxi.

<https://www.taxifarefinder.com/main.php?city=Glasgow-UK-United-Kingdom>

Taxi Safety Tips

On the weekends there are Marshals at many Glasgow taxi ranks.

These individuals wear a reflective, highly visible jacket and are tasked with the responsibility of protecting the public and managing the taxi queue. They are linked by radio to the Glasgow CCTV Control Room and can quickly summon law enforcement.

Please Note: “Some taxi drivers will refuse to let you on with food, and if you look in a very bad state (excessively drunk) they won’t risk having you in the cab. Should you be sick in the taxi there is a clean up charge of [£50] pounds.”

<https://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g186525-s304/Edinburgh:United-Kingdom:Taxis.And.Rental.Cars.html>

Safety Tips for All Taxis

- If traveling alone and getting into a hailed cab—or one from a taxi rank—snap a pic of the vehicle’s license plate.
Send the photo to a family member or friend, letting them know you’ll text them when you arrive at your destination. (Don’t forget to do this!)
- If you’re riding alone, sit in the backseat.
This ensures you can safely exit on either side of the vehicle to avoid moving traffic, and it gives you and your driver some personal space.
- Buckle up.
- Do not fall asleep in the taxi.
This is especially important if you’re a woman. Male taxi drivers can’t go in the back to wake a woman up. If you fall asleep, you could find yourself awakened by a police officer. Stay awake by chatting with your driver.
- Chat with your driver but do *not* share any **personal information!**
The driver doesn’t need to know your full name.
Certainly do *not* share your phone number or address, for any reason.
- Be kind and respectful.
Driving a cab is often a thankless, stressful job. Please respect your driver and her/his car.

BTW: Tipping the driver isn’t required, but if you’re happy with the ride it is polite to do so.

If it is a low fare (an in-city trip), rounding it up to the nearest pound is fine. For longer journeys—such as a ride to the airport—or if you have a lot of luggage and the driver helps you, a couple pounds is appropriate.

Additional Safety Tips for Taxis Booked by App

- When booking by app the price of the fare is confirmed.
The driver should not charge you any more than the confirmed fare. The app also should allow you to tip (or not) *after* the ride.
- Wait inside the establishment where you are being picked up.
Once a vehicle is booked and dispatched, a smartphone app user can monitor the taxi’s progress while waiting inside their pickup point. This allows you to avoid standing on the sidewalk with your phone out, which may attract thieves or pickpockets.
- **Get in the correct car!**
 - Before you get in, check that license plate, driver photo, and driver name all match what’s listed in the app.

- Before you get in, ask the driver for the name of the passenger she/he is picking up. **Never say *your name first!*** This way, you can be 100 percent sure that the person is your driver, and not some scammer or pirate.
- Share your trip details with a friend.
Most taxi apps have the ability to share your driver's name, photo, license plate, and location with a friend or family member. With some apps they can even track your trip and see your ETA without downloading the app.
- While en route, follow along in your own maps app.
Enter your destination and observe your taxi's progress, noting any odd route shifts.
- **Give feedback on your trip.**
If the app allows you to make comments about the ride when it's over, your feedback will help the company to improve their service. The Uber app allows you to rate your driver—and allows your driver to rate you!

Final Universal Taxi Tip

- Trust your gut!
If something about the cab seems fishy, or you have *any* sense of discomfort when meeting the driver, **do not get in the taxi.**
- If already on the road and something untoward or frightening occurs, call 999 (the UK's version of 911) immediately!