

*Caltech Transit
Guide*

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Introduction

With gas prices, parking fees, and traffic congestion on the rise, more people at Caltech are exploring public transit to save money and time.

This transit guide is intended especially for the Caltech community. Whether you commute to Caltech or want to take a day-trip off campus, you will find Caltech-specific information on everything from transit subsidies to bus routes to make your trip cheaper and faster on public transit.

You don't need a car to get around Los Angeles, despite what you may have heard. Los Angeles' public transit system, Metro, is the second largest in the nation with four rail lines and over 200 bus lines that can take you just about anywhere in Los Angeles county. The Metro Gold line in Pasadena has never been easier for the Caltech community to travel around Los Angeles using public transit.

Quick Guide To Public Transit

The Metro Rail System is comprised of the Metro Gold, Red, Purple, Blue, and Green Lines. See sight navigation for a systems map. www.Metro.net

- The Metro Gold Line connects Pasadena to Union Station, a major transit hub in downtown Los Angeles, where you can catch Amtrak, Metrolink, Greyhound, and the Metro Red Line.
- The Metro Red Line subway provides service between Union Station, Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley, and intersects the Metro Blue Line.
- The Metro Purple Line subway provides service between Union Station, the Mid-Wilshire area, and intersects the Metro Blue Line.
- The Metro Blue Line runs north and south between Long Beach and Los Angeles and connects to Metro Green Line.
- The Metro Green Line crosses the Blue Line running east and west between Norwalk and Redondo Beach, curving south near LAX, the Los Angeles International Airport.
- The Metro Orange Line is a dedicated busway that functions very much like an urban light rail system. The Metro Orange Line runs east and west through the San Fernando Valley and intersects the Metro Redline.

The Metro Bus System operates over 200 bus lines, which offer a variety of services such as Local Rapid, and Express. To help riders identify which type of service a bus provides, Metro uses both color coding and numbering systems.

Metro Local buses are painted in California poppy orange, and have bus numbers between 1-300.

1-99: Local buses to and from downtown Los Angeles
100-199: East and West Local buses
200-299: North and South Local buses

Metro Limited Stop and Metro Express buses have bus numbers between 300-599.

300-399: Limited Stop Buses
400-499: Express buses to and from downtown Los Angeles
500-599: Crosstown freeway express buses

Metro Rapid buses are the fastest and most frequent, and come every 3-10 minutes during peak hours. Unlike regular buses, Rapid buses have special sensors to change traffic signals. You'll recognize Metro Rapid buses and stops by their distinctive red color, and Rapid bus numbers are always in the 700's. Metro Rapid 780 links Pasadena to Hollywood. Complete information about Metro Rail and bus service can be found online at www.metro.net.

Pasadena Area Rapid Transit System (ARTS) has seven routes that connect Pasadena. The route 10 ARTS bus services Caltech at three stops: Del Mar Gold Line stations for only \$0.75. For Gold Line commuters, the 10 ARTS bus can get you to Caltech in six minutes, and has the most reliable and frequent service. www.cityofpasadena.net/ArtsBus

Foothill Transit serves the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys. Bus lines 187 and 690 link Pasadena to Pomona and Claremont via Arcadia, Azusa, Duarte, and Glendora. Travel as far East as Claremont and as far west as Downtown Los Angeles. For more information visit www.foothilltransit.org or call 800.RIDE.INFO (743-3463)

MetroLink is a commuter rail service that is cheaper and has more frequent service to Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura Counties. You can catch MetroLink at Union Station. www.metrolinktrains.com

How to Get There

Experience Los Angeles: If you're going to a popular Los Angeles destination, use Experience LA, an online resource for exploring Los Angeles's attractions via public transit. With searchable destinations and events directories, Experience LA is especially useful for the Techer who wants to go somewhere but doesn't know what Los Angeles has to offer. The incorporation of public transit information into its maps and itineraries differentiates Experience LA from other LA guides, and makes it a good choice for transit users. www.experiencela.com

Metro also offers a number of tools to help the Techer who knows where to go but needs to find a way to get there.

Metro's Trip Planner produces public transit itineraries to anywhere in Los Angeles. Although Metro's Trip Planner will produce an itinerary that will get you to your destination. www.metro.net

TranStar: If your destination is in Southern California, but outside LA County, use the TranStar Trip Planner instead. TranStar includes all bus, rail, and Amtrak schedules for Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties, as well as connecting service between lines. www.latranstar.tann.com

BikeMetro: Bicyclists should trip plan with BikeMetro. BikeMetro is like Mapquest, but geared for bikes: it understands that bicyclists look for different qualities in a route than automobile drivers. BikeMetro's itineraries, for example, avoid hills and traffic, and consider road quality and the existence of bike lanes and routes. BikeMetro, and Riverside counties. www.bikemetro.com

The Metro System Map is a great resource in planning your trip. You can pick one up for free on campus at the Rideshare Office at 515 South Wilson or at Metro's Customer Service Center in Union Station. The System Map can also be downloaded from the Riding Metro section of the Metro's website, but it's easier to work with a hard copy. An additional advantage of using a Metro Systems Map is that it presents you with all your transit options whereas Metro Trip Planner gives at most two. Consequently, if you've missed your bus connection, check the Systems Map to see whether you can catch an alternative bus at a bus stop nearby. Metro System Maps are posted at Metro Rail stations.

The City of Pasadena Transit Map shows the routes of all transit service providers with stops in Pasadena, including Metro, Pasadena ARTS, Foothill Transit, Glendale Beeline, and many more. You can pick up a copy for free at the Rideshare Office at 515 South Wilson.

The City of Pasadena Bicycle Map is the definitive guide to bicycling in Pasadena, and shows all of the bike lanes and bike routes in Pasadena. You can find this free map in convenient pocket size form at the Rideshare Office at 515 South Wilson. You can also contact Rich Dilluvio for a hard copy via mail at (626) 744-7254 or at Rdilluvio@cityofpasadena.net

What's FARE for Me?

Metro offers a variety of options for paying your fare. If you don't use Metro frequently, your best choices are base fare, day pass, or tokens. If you use Metro to commute, Metro monthly passes are an even sweeter deal with Caltech's \$25.00 monthly subsidy.

Quick Overview

Base Fare Required for each boarding	\$1.25
Day Pass Good for unlimited travel all day.	\$5.00
Bag of Tokens (10) Available at Union Station. Good for base fare on Metro	\$12.50
Student Monthly Pass Available at Union Station, apply online. Price includes Caltech subsidy	\$11.00
Monthly Pass Available at the Caltech Bookstore. Price includes Caltech subsidy	\$37.00
EZ Transit Pass Available at the Caltech Bookstore. Good on Metro and 17 other transit providers. Price includes Caltech Subsidy.	\$45.00

Monthly Pass Subsidies: To encourage Caltech students, faculty, and staff to commute via public transit, Caltech's Rideshare office offers a \$25.00 monthly subsidy on a monthly pass from any transit provider. To buy a subsidized Metro monthly pass, simply show your Caltech ID to the cashier at the Caltech Bookstore. If you did not buy your pass at the Caltech bookstore or have a student monthly pass, contact Kristina Valenzuela at x4729 or Jose Navarrete at x8877 to receive your subsidy. You may only collect the subsidy on one pass per month. Metro weekly and semi-monthly passes are not eligible for the subsidy.

Metro Student Monthly Pass: With Caltech's \$25.00 monthly subsidy, the Metro Student Monthly Pass costs only \$11.00 per month! Obtaining this pass, however, requires some effort. Complete an application for a student monthly pass and submit it with the required documentation to the Metro Customer Center at Union Station. Go to www.metro.net and click on Reduce fares.

Caltech Train Subsidy: Caltech's Rideshare Office also offers a \$10.00 monthly subsidy on 10-trip Metrolink tickets, and a \$50.00 monthly subsidy for a Metrolink monthly pass, which is also good on Amtrak under the Rail 2 Rail Program. A valid Metrolink ticket or pass also acts as a transfer on connecting transit away from the station. Contact Kristina Valenzuela at x 4729 to receive your subsidy

Money-Saving Tips	
Buying a pass is often less expensive than paying the \$1.25 base fare. The chart below can help you find the best pass value for your needs.	
If you buy a:	You save:
Day Pass (\$6.00)	after 4 boarding's per day
Weekly Pass (\$14.00)	After 13 boarding's per week
Monthly Pass (\$37.00)	After 49 boarding's per month

Getting to the Gold Line

The Gold line provides service from Pasadena to Union Station in downtown Los Angeles, where you have a variety of transit options including Amtrak, Metrolink, Greyhound, and the Metro Red line.

The Closest Gold Line stations to Caltech are Fillmore, Del Mar, and Allen which are all about one mile from campus. Below are the addresses of each of the stations as well as the buses that connect them to Caltech/JPL

Fillmore: 95 Fillmore St.

Del Mar: 230 S. Raymond Ave

ARTS: 10 (Caltech)

ARTS 51/52 (JPL)

Metro: 177 (Caltech/JPL)

Allen: 395 N. Allen Ave. ARTS: 10 Metro: 177

Biking: Bicycle is the most convenient mode of travel between the Gold Line and Caltech, especially at night and on weekends when bus service is less frequent. Bikemetro.com can map a bike route between Caltech and any Gold Line station. Inverted U bicycle racks are available at all the Gold Line Stations.

Night Routes: The best bus route to take between Caltech and the Gold Line on weekend nights is Metro 485 southbound from the Lake station. Metro 485 runs until 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. At your request, Metro buses will stop at any safe intersection along the route between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m.

Commuting: If you commute to Caltech or JPL via the Gold Line, the Pasadena ARTS 10 can take you from the Del Mar or Allen stations to Caltech in under 6 minutes! Moreover, the ARTS 10 runs frequently, every 15 minutes.

From the Del Mar station, take the ARTS Route 10 east from Green/Raymond to Caltech.

From the Allen station, take the ARTS route 10 from Allen/Corson to Caltech ARTS route 51/52 has limited service to Del Mar to JPL. You can also use Metro 177 to commute to Caltech or JPL from the Del Mar or Allen stations. Bikes are allowed on all ARTS buses.

Gold Line schedule: www.metro.net/images/804.pdf

ARTS bus: www.cityofpasadena.net/ARTSbus

Limited Stop Gold Line Schedule:

www.metro.net/images/goldline_limited.pdf

Getting to LAX Airport

The LAX Flyaway bus service that takes passengers nonstop between Union Station in downtown Los Angeles and LAX for only \$7.00! The Flyaway buses use freeway carpool lanes and have end-to-end travel times of less than 45 minutes during peak traffic.

You can take the Gold Line to Union Station to connect to Flyaway. Depending on how much luggage you have and when you are traveling, you may find it convenient to take a taxi or have a friend drive you to the Del Mar Gold Line station. A taxi from Caltech to the Del Mar Gold line station, which is about a mile away, will cost around \$5.00. The website below lists fares and contact info for several local taxi companies:

http://www.sgtransit.com/taxi_service.php

If you have light luggage, you can take the ARTS route 10 to the Del Mar Gold line station in under six minutes.

While the Gold Line does not have luggage bays, the train's cars do have areas for heavy items like suitcases and bikes.

For more information on the LAX-Union Station Flyaway buses, visit the LAWA website:

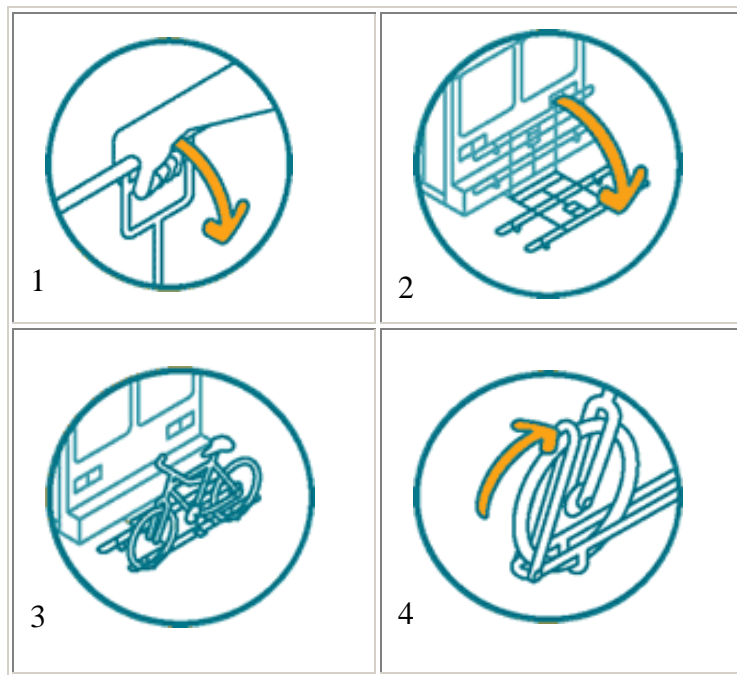
<http://www.lawa.org/flyAway>

Bikes on Public Transit

You can take your bike with you on all Metro, ARTS, Foothill buses, and Metro rail lines.

Bikes on Metro Buses

Most Metro Buses have bike racks that hold two bikes. The following diagram shows you how to load your bicycle onto the rack. Remember to make your bike “rack ready” by removing any loose items.



Loading

1. Squeeze handle to lower the rack
 2. Load your bike in an empty slot
 3. Raise the support arm up and over the front tire
- Board the bus and pay your fare

Unloading

As you near your stop, tell the driver you will be removing your bike.

1. Lift support arm up and off the tire.
2. Lift your bike out of the rack
3. Squeeze the handle and lift rack to its upright position

Bike on Metro Rail

Bicycles may be carried onto the Metro Rail except during rush hour in the following directions:

Weekdays: 6:30-8:30 a.m.

Gold Line: Sierra Madre to Union Station

Red Line: Union Station to Wilshire/Vermont (both directions)

Blue Line: Long Beach to 7th/Metro

Green Line: Norwalk to Marine

Weekdays: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Gold Line: Sierra Madre to Union Station

Red Line: Union Station to Wilshire/Vermont (both directions)

Blue Line: 7th/Metro to Long Beach

Green Line: Marine to Norwalk

There are no restrictions on bikes during weekends and holidays. To avoid crowding, Metro Rail requests that bicyclists board the last car. For more information, see the Riding Metro section of Metro's website.

Bicycle Parking

Inverted U bicycle racks are available at most Metro Rail Stations. The bike racks are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. You must supply your own lock to secure your bike to the rack.

Your Personal Security

Security Tips

Don't forget to take your personal belongings with you when leaving a bus or a train. When you forget a backpack or a briefcase, that same item could be mistaken as a suspicious package, and delay thousands of passengers.

If you see a rider forget an item, kindly remind them to take it.

Report suspicious packages or activity to the Sheriff's Hot Line at 888-950-SAFE

In Event of Emergency

En Caso de Emergencia



1 Use intercom at doors near end of car to contact train operator.
Use el intercomunicador al lado de las puertas cerca del fin del coche para comunicar con el conductor.



2 Do not evacuate train unless instructed by train operator.
No trate de evacuar el tren a no ser que lo ordene el conductor.



3 Emergency door releases are located above each door; release and open doors manually.
Para abrir la puerta, tire la manija de emergencia que se encuentra arriba de cada puerta. Suelte la manija y abra las puertas con sus manos.

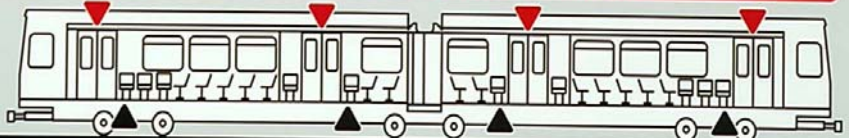


4 Assist those in need of help to evacuate train. Do not take wheelchairs or other bulky items.
Ayude evacuar a las personas que necesitan auxilio. No lleve sillas de ruedas o otras cosas abultadas.

On bridges or elevated structures, stay between the tracks.
Si el tren está sobre un puente o una estructura elevada, quédese en el espacio entre las vías.

In tunnel, wait for instructions before evacuating. Si el tren está en un túnel, espere recibir instrucciones antes de desocupar el vagón.

Emergency door releases Manija de emergencia para las puertas



Intercoms Intercomunicadores



Metro

Other Resources

Metro Complete Rider's Guide is a comprehensive guide to riding Metro. While it does not have a Caltech focus, as this transit guide does, it offers more detailed information about Metro service.

www.metro.net/riding_metro

Southern California Transit Advocates publishes a transit guide with all the basic information (routes, hours of operation, fares etc.) for each transit agency in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and Kern counties.

www.socata.net

Los Angeles County Bike Coalition Publishes a bicycle resource guide and advocates for better bike policies in Los Angeles County.

www.labikecoalition.org

The Bicycle Kitchen is a cooperatively-run bicycle repair space. The friendly and hip staff will show you how to fix your bike for a nominal donation.

www.bicyclekitchen.com