The information in this guide provides an overview of how to get to Cambridge from the main London airports usually used by students at the University when travelling to the UK. It is intended as a guide to help inform you about the options available for travel from Heathrow, Gatwick, and Stansted. It is possible to travel via other international airports in the UK and the modes of transport available to get to Cambridge are likely to be similar.

General Information:

- Your flight details will confirm which terminal you will arrive into at the airport.

- The time it can take to go through Border Control and collect your luggage at the airport can vary, especially in peak periods. You may wish to take this into consideration when planning your onward travel.

- A map of the local Cambridge area has been included with this guidance which includes the location of the train station and coach stop as well as the Colleges.

- You may wish to use local taxi services to travel to your final destination after arriving in Cambridge depending on where you are staying. There are usually taxis available at the train station or coach stop.

- It is advisable to carry with you hand sanitiser and a mask or face covering to use during your onward journey.

- Public transport networks continue to operate across the UK but in accordance with Government guidance, it is not advisable to use public transport if there are other options available to you.

- The information may be subject to change and the University is not responsible for services provided by external transport providers.
The coach stop in Cambridge is located at Parkside in the city centre, location 51 on the map.

Book online with National Express in advance of arrival using the following link: [www.nationalexpress.com/en/offers/partners/cambridge-uni-transfers](http://www.nationalexpress.com/en/offers/partners/cambridge-uni-transfers)

It is advisable to check the times and availability of coaches and pre-book a ticket in advance. You can also purchase a ticket at the airport on arrival subject to availability at the coach stations, at National Express Ticket offices or at some ticket machines.

**FROM HEATHROW AIRPORT**

Catch the National Express Coach from the central bus station.

**How to get to the central bus station:**

**Terminal 2 and 3:** follow the signs to the central bus station which is a short walk from the terminals.

**Terminal 5:** follow the signs for the free shuttle train between Terminal 5 and Heathrow Central Station (Terminal 2 and 3).

To travel on the shuttle trains, you can get a free Inter-Terminal Transfer ticket from the machines in the station. You can also use a [Transport for London Oyster card](https://tfl.gov.uk) or a [contactless payment card](https://www.nationalexpress.com) if you have one of these and will not be charged when travelling between terminals.

*You can also catch the coach from outside arrivals at Terminal 4 and 5. Please follow the signs to the bus stops. However, you may find more frequent services available from the central bus station at Terminal 2 and 3.*

**Journey time:** Approximately 2hr25m, depending on traffic.

**Price:** A single ticket costs approximately £22.

*Prices vary and are subject to change and tend to increase the closer you book to the date of travel.*

**FROM GATWICK AIRPORT**

There are no direct coaches from Gatwick to Cambridge. If you opt for coach travel, you will need to change coaches at Victoria Coach Station in London and the journey time would be approximately 6-7 hours. There are more convenient transport options available from Gatwick Airport to Cambridge.

**Price:** A single ticket costs approximately £22.

*Prices vary and are subject to change and tend to increase the closer you book to the date of travel.*

**FROM STANSTED AIRPORT**

Catch the National Express Coach from the central coach station.

**How to get to the coach station**

Follow signs to the coach station which is a 2-minute walk from the airport terminal. The coach station is opposite the main terminal entrance.

**Journey time:** Approximately 1 hour, depending on traffic.

**Price:** A single ticket costs approximately £5.

*Prices vary and are subject to change and tend to increase the closer you book to the date of travel.*

**COVID-19 Safety:**

- The maximum capacity of all coaches will be limited to help maintain social distancing. Only window seats will be available.
- Prior to boarding the coach, a driver may take your temperature using a contactless infrared thermometer.
- Please be aware that passengers are required to wear a face covering when in coach stations and on board the coach.
The Cambridge train station is located in J7 on the map. Please ensure you get off the train at Cambridge Station rather than Cambridge North Station.

FROM HEATHROW AIRPORT

There are no direct trains from Heathrow to Cambridge so there will be two parts to the journey: travel into central London to King’s Cross station and then a train to Cambridge.

Part One: From Heathrow Airport to King’s Cross St Pancras Station

There are two options to get to King’s Cross Station:

Option 1 - Using the Heathrow Express and the London Underground: Follow the signs to the trains/Heathrow Express at the airport. Take the Heathrow Express to Paddington Station, a journey time of 15 minutes. You can book online in advance at www.heathrowexpress.com or on arrival at the station. A single Heathrow Express tickets costs approximately £22. Prices are subject to change and tend to increase the closer you book to the date of travel.

At London Paddington follow the signs to the London Underground. You’ll need to take the London Underground from London Paddington to King’s Cross St Pancras using the Hammersmith and City line, or the Circle line. You can add your ticket to your Heathrow Express booking or pay on arrival. If you add your underground ticket to the Heathrow Express booking, you can expect an increase of approximately £3. Purchasing the London Underground ticket on arrival will cost approximately £5.

Option 2 - Using only the London Underground: You can use the London Underground to travel from Heathrow Airport to King’s Cross St Pancras on the Piccadilly line. At the airport, follow the signs to the London Underground. It takes about 30 minutes longer than using the Heathrow Express but is more cost effective with a single journey costing approximately £6. Information about buying tickets can be found here: https://tfl.gov.uk/fares/how-to-pay-and-where-to-buy-tickets-and-oyster

Part Two: From Central London to Cambridge

From London King’s Cross take the overground train to Cambridge. The platform number will be shown on the departure boards at London King’s Cross. Ticket prices can vary depending on when you book but start from around £25.

Booking: There are three ways to purchase your ticket:

1. In advance using www.thetrainline.com
2. Using the self-service ticket machine at London King’s Cross.
3. From the ticket office at London Kings Cross.

Please note that the ticket offices may be operating reduced opening hours so may not be open at the time you arrive.

Journey time: The journey from London King’s Cross to Cambridge takes approximately 50 minutes to 1 hr 30 depending on train and how many stops it makes.
FROM GATWICK AIRPORT
Take the train direct from London Gatwick to Cambridge using the Thameslink. Tickets are approximately £25, but prices can vary and tend to increase the closer you book to the date of travel.

Where: The railway station is located at the South Terminal, just a short walk from both departures and arrivals. The station is easily accessible from the North Terminal by a free shuttle which runs every few minutes.

Booking: There are three ways to purchase your ticket:
1. In advance using www.thetrainline.com
Direct and indirect options will appear so check your selection carefully when booking your ticket.
2. At the station using self-service ticket machine.
3. If your flight arrives at the South Terminal, from the rail ticket desk in the ‘Onward Travel’ area.

Journey time: Approximately 1 hr 55 mins.

FROM STANSTED AIRPORT
Information about travelling to Cambridge is available at www.stanstedairport.com/getting-to-and-from/cambridge
Direct trains are available between London Stansted and Cambridge. Tickets are approximately £12, but prices can vary and tend to increase the closer you book to the date of travel.

Where: On arrival, follow the signs to the train station. The train station is a two-minute walk from the terminal.

Booking: There are three ways to purchase your ticket:
1. In advance using www.thetrainline.com
Direct and indirect options will appear so check your selection carefully when booking your ticket.
2. At the train station using self-service ticket machines.
3. From the rail information desk at the train station (if open).

Journey time: Approximately 30-45 minutes.

COVID-19 Safety:
✓ Wear a face covering or mask that covers your nose and mouth. There are exemptions as outlined in the hyperlink.
✓ You are advised to stay 2 metres apart from other people, where possible.
✓ If you have coronavirus symptoms, you should not travel by public transport.
✓ It is recommended to bring your own hand sanitiser as not all train stations or trains will have this available.
Taxi services are available on arrival at the airport, or can be booked in advance. Local taxi services will usually be more cost-effective than using taxis based at the airport. There are a number of taxi services local to Cambridge that offer airport pick-ups, including:

⇒ CamCab Ltd - [www.camcab.co.uk](http://www.camcab.co.uk)
⇒ A1 Cabco Taxis - [www.a1cabco.co.uk](http://www.a1cabco.co.uk)
⇒ Panther Taxis - [www.panthertaxis.co.uk](http://www.panthertaxis.co.uk)

**Where:** If you pre-book a taxi, a representative from the company will usually be waiting for you at arrivals, or at a pre-determined meeting place.

**Prices using services local to Cambridge:**
Heathrow—prices range from £94 to £110.
Gatwick—prices range from £115 to £140.
Stansted—price range from £55-60.

*Please note that there may be additional charges for car parking fees, additional waiting time and, from Gatwick, toll fees.*

**Booking:** You can book in advance online, choosing to pay on arrival or in advance.

*Please note:*
- CamCab Ltd will not accept cash payments.
- If you wish to pay in cash or on arrival using A1Cabco, you will need to contact them directly by telephone or using the online contact form as the online booking form only accepts card payments upon booking.

**Please ensure you provide the taxi company with the following details:**
- Flight number and flight arrival time
- Number of suitcases
- Number of passengers

**Airport Taxi Ranks or Taxi apps:**
There are usually taxi services based at the airport. These normally charge considerably more than local taxi companies. There is also the option of using an app such as Uber or Lyft but services will be subject to availability on arrival.

**COVID-19 Safety:**
- Taxis are being cleaned after every passenger.
- Drivers will regularly be using sanitiser and some may wear a face covering while driving but this is not required by law.
- Some drivers will not allow passengers to sit up front next to the driver, so it’s important that you indicate the number of travellers so the correct sized vehicle is allocated.
- You must wear a face covering when using taxis or private hire vehicles. You may be refused service if you do not do so.
- It is not permitted to share a taxi with someone from outside your household or support bubble, aside from the driver.