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:**

- Ensure that you are aware of the current travel restrictions and requirements for *travelling to the UK*.

- 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 *face covering* to use during your onward journey, where required.

- If booking onward travel in advance, you may wish to consider a flexible ticket in case of any travel delays, disruptions, or cancellations.

- All prices mentioned in this guide are indicative and may increase the closer you book to the date of travel.

- 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 5I on the map.

It is advisable to check the times and availability of coaches and book online with National Express 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 or a contactless payment card 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 2hr 25 mins, depending on traffic.
Price: A single ticket costs approximately £12.

FROM GATWICK AIRPORT
Catch the National Express Coach from the North Terminal coach /bus station.

How to get to the central bus station: follow the signs to the bus stop. It is located on the lower level outside international arrivals.

Journey time: Approximately 3 hr 45mins, depending on traffic.
Price: A single ticket costs approximately £22.

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.

COVID-19 Safety:
✓ Prior to boarding the coach, a driver may take your temperature using a contactless thermometer.
✓ Passengers are expected to wear a face covering when in coach stations and on board the coach, unless exempt.
✓ Regular Aerosol based disinfection with a high performance anti-viral solution is in place along with an improved air filtration system.
✓ Full information about the additional measures in place can be found on the National Express website.
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 on the Heathrow Express website or on arrival at the station. A single Heathrow Express ticket 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. 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 for approximately £3, or purchase a London Underground ticket on arrival for approximately £5.

**Option 2 - Using only the London Underground:** 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 on the Transport for London website.

**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 £27.

**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 prices start from approximately £38.

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 on the Stansted Airport website. 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:
✓ You are expected to wear a face covering on public transport. There are exemptions as outlined in the hyperlink.
✓ Trains and stations are being regularly cleaned.
✓ Most stations are equipped with hand sanitiser points.
Taxi

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
⇒ A1 Cabco Taxis - www.a1cabco.co.uk
⇒ Panther Taxis - 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 £120.
Gatwick—prices range from £115 to £145.
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.
If you wish to pay by cash, please check with the taxi company whether they are accepting cash payments. You may have to phone or email to confirm.

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:
- Drivers may wear a face covering while driving.
- Some drivers will not usually 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 may be asked to wear a face covering when using taxis or private hire vehicles.
Map for Prospective Students

Visiting the University
Details of open days and booking instructions can be found on the Undergraduate Study website (www.cam.ac.uk/opendays). The Colleges and some departments are open to prospective applicants at other times of the year but there are restrictions so you should check with the relevant College/department in advance (www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk).

If you’re an applicant with a disability, specific learning difficulty or long-term health condition, the Building Access Guide (www.cam.ac.uk/accessguide) provides information about facilities and accessibility. If you require further guidance, please contact the Disability Resource Centre (G5, telephone: 01223 332301; email: disability@admin.cam.ac.uk).

Travelling to Cambridge
Cambridge is a small and busy city – the roads in and around the city centre often get congested and parking is very limited. Therefore, it’s best to travel into the city by public transport.

By car: We advise that visitors arriving by car use the Park and Ride services (www.cambridgeparkandride.info). Visitors from the north can also use the Guided Busway P&R – follow the signs for Longstanton P&R from Junction 29 of the A14 (www.thebusway.info).

Disabled parking is available in the city’s car parks and on some streets. Please check details in advance with the Tourist Information Centre (G5, www.visitcambridge.org) and visit www.cambridge.gov.uk/parking.

By train: Cambridge (CBG) railway station (J7) is approximately a mile/20 minutes’ walk from the city centre. There are bus stops and a taxi rank in front of the main entrance – buses run every 10–20 minutes to St Andrew’s Street (returning to the station from Emmanuel Street (H5) or Silver Street (G5), see below). Cambridge North (CMB) railway station (not on map) is approximately three miles north-east of the city centre. Buses run from Cambridge North to the centre every 10–20 minutes.

By bus: National bus services stop on Parkside, Parker’s Piece (I5).

Getting around Cambridge
The University’s faculties/departments and the Colleges are situated across Cambridge, though most are within walking distance of the city centre.

As Cambridge is fairly compact and better suited to pedestrians and cyclists than vehicles, wherever practical and possible we recommend getting around the city on foot or by bike – these are often the quickest means of transport and also are best for getting a sense of the city.

The ‘U’ Universal bus service runs from Eddington, next to the Madingley Road P&R site (B2), through to our Biomedical Campus from Monday to Saturday, and from Eddington to Cambridge Railway Station on Sundays. For information about the Universal and other local bus services, see www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/buses.