

V International Congress of the John Gower Society

“Gower in Contexts: His Words, His Books, His Heritage”

Getting to St. Andrews

Air travel

Edinburgh Airport

Around 50 miles from St Andrews, Edinburgh Airport is home to many domestic and international airlines. It has good connections to the city of Edinburgh, including both a tram line and 24-hour bus link (the Airlink bus service) to the centre of the city. There are a number of shuttle services that offer transfers directly to St Andrews from the airport by road, as well as a selection of car hire companies found within the airport.

Taxis to and from the airport cost upwards of £100. The St Andrews Shuttle offers private transfers and shared transfers (where possible) and is often cheaper than individual taxis.
<https://www.standrewsshuttle.com/>

Recommended public transport options include:

747 Bus from Edinburgh Airport to Halbeath park and ride (first bus from the airport 02:10, last bus 00:40) X59 bus from Halbeath park and ride to St Andrews bus station (first bus from Halbeath 07:45, last bus 19:05). Tickets for these services can be purchased from the bus drivers using card or cash.

Airport tram to Edinburgh Gateway, Scotrail service to Leuchars, 99 bus from Leuchars to St Andrews. However the first tram from the Airport in the morning is 06:18 (06:20 weekends) and the last tram at night is 22:48. First Scotrail service from Gateway is 06:10 and the last service 23:12. First bus from Leuchars is 06:21 and the last bus from Leuchars is at 00:23. Tickets for the tram can be purchased online in advance or on the platforms by cash and card. Scotrail tickets can be purchased in advance on their website. Bus tickets can be purchased from the bus drivers using card or cash.

Glasgow airports

Glasgow is home to two international airports: Glasgow Airport and Glasgow Prestwick. Most international visitors arrive at Glasgow Airport, which is around 90 miles from St Andrews, while Glasgow Prestwick is slightly further from the city. Both airports offer a number of bus routes into Glasgow, which connect with onward transport options to St Andrews.

Recommended public transport options include:

500 airport express to Glasgow Buchanan street bus station (24 hrs) then x24 bus from Buchanan street bus station to St Andrews (first bus from Glasgow 06:45 weekdays, 07:45 Saturday, 09:45 Sunday. Last bus from Glasgow 17:45)

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Train travel

Train to Leuchars

The nearest railway station to St Andrews is Leuchars, situated around six miles from the town. The station facilities include 24-hour parking, a waiting room and taxi rank.

Those travelling to St Andrews by train should take the Edinburgh to Dundee or Edinburgh to Aberdeen line to Leuchars. For those travelling from south of Edinburgh, the Edinburgh to Aberdeen line links up with the London North Eastern Railway (LNER) line from London to Edinburgh, which allows visitors to travel from London to Leuchars on a direct route. The LNER line also calls at stops including York, Darlington, Newcastle, and Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Alternatively, the Edinburgh Gateway station links Edinburgh Airport to Leuchars on the rail network. Those flying into Edinburgh may travel to the Edinburgh Gateway station and join a train for Leuchars.

Visitors also have the option of taking the Caledonian Sleeper service, which runs between London Euston and Leuchars overnight.

Leuchars to St Andrews

The Stagecoach in Fife 99 service runs from St Andrews to Dundee via Leuchars approximately every 15 minutes during the day. The bus journey from St Andrews to Leuchars takes around 15 minutes. First bus from Leuchars during the week is 06:21 with the last bus departing at 00:23, Sat 06:56 - 00:23, Sun 07:20- 23:50)

Bus Travel

Travelling within Scotland

Visitors looking to travel to or from Edinburgh should look out for the X58, X59 and X60 Stagecoach services, which take around two hours. Stagecoach also offers bus services to Glasgow, via the X24, X26 and X27 services, which take around two and a half hours.

Travelling within the UK and Europe

For bus travel to other destinations within the UK or Europe, visitors may wish to investigate the Megabus or National Express services. Both depart from a number of locations, including the Seagate bus station in Dundee, and services depart for destinations including London, Newcastle, Paris and Amsterdam.

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Car Travel

Driving to St Andrews is relatively simple, with the town signposted from Edinburgh and within Fife. Driving from Edinburgh takes approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes. Driving from Glasgow takes around 1 hour and 45 minutes. Driving from Dundee takes around half an hour.

Car hire

Most major airports in the UK have car hire services available within the arrivals lounge. There are also nearby car hire companies in Dundee and Cupar for visitors looking to hire a car during their visit.

Taxis

St Andrews is home to a number of taxi and shuttle firms. They can offer a range of services, from airport transfers to collection from Leuchars station. You can find taxi ranks in St Andrews on Bell Street, on South Street, and at the bus station.

Parking

St Andrews is a small town, and a car is not always necessary to get around. If you do decide to drive around St Andrews, please be aware that parking is limited and that it can be difficult to find a space at certain times of year. Much of the on-street parking in the centre of town is metered, with payment taken either with coins at the machine or through RingGo, the online payment portal.

There are a number of options for free parking in St Andrews, including the car park close to the Petheram Bridge roundabout, and car parks along the East and West Sands beaches. Some streets in the centre of St Andrews can also have free spaces, although these are usually quickly filled.

Travel around St Andrews

As a certified Cycle Friendly Campus, an e-car hub and a car share provider, the University of St Andrews is committed to promoting sustainable modes of transport at every stage of your journey.

Accessibility

St Andrews is a very walkable town, with most journeys within the centre under 20 mins. The main town centre is very flat, for those who use mobility aids, but many streets are cobbled and so can be uneven. Leuchars train station is fully wheelchair accessible, with all trains operating to and from offering accessibility assistance (Scotrail - <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/accessible-travel> LNER - <https://www.lner.co.uk/the-east-coast-experience/travel-tips/assisted-travel/>) Local bus services also have full accessibility policies.

Bus travel within St Andrews

There are a number of bus services that serve St Andrews and the local area. Stagecoach in Fife offer a number of routes around the town via the 99 services, as well as routes that go through nearby towns and villages. Bus tickets can be bought from the ticket office within the bus station (Mon-Sat 07:00-22:00, Sun 07:00- 20:30) or from the bus driver themselves using card or cash.