

#### GETTING AROUND IN AUSTIN

# <u>Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS)</u>

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) is a state-of-the-art airport with 25 gates, full customs facilities ready for the international traveler, and two parallel runways including a 12,250 foot runway. Easy to get to (only seven and a half miles from the Austin Convention Center), the airport saw an all-time passenger record of nearly 11.9 million passengers in 2015, up 11% from 2014. In operation since 1999, the airport has roughly 300 daily flights with nonstop service to 45+ destinations including international flights to London, Cancun, San Jose Del Cabo and Toronto, and seasonal summer flights to Frankfurt, Germany. Austin is one of only seven airports with year-round service to all United Airlines hubs. Live music has been a distinguishing feature of the airport since its Music in the Air program launched in June 1999, just one month after the airport opened. What started as two performances per week has grown to 23 shows per week in six different venues throughout the airport: Ray Benson's Roadhouse, the Saxon Pub, Annie's Café & Bar, Earl Campbell's Sports Bar, Austin City Limits/Waterloo Records & Video, and Ruta Maya. ABIA participates in the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Pre-Check and Customs and Border Protection's Global Entry program.

- Construction begins in 2016 on a nine-gate terminal expansion.
- ABIA reported 1,190 live music performances, 65.5 tons of brisket and 693,375 breakfast tacos were enjoyed by its passengers in 2015.
- ABIA ranked third among airports in North America for Airport Service Quality (ASQ) in 2015.

### **Austin Amtrak Station**

The Austin Amtrak station is located on North Lamar Boulevard. Servicing the Texas Eagle route, trains run daily between Chicago and San Antonio and three times per week between Chicago and Los Angeles. The station is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

#### **Capital Metro Bus Line**

Austin's public bus system is part of a 500 square-mile Central Texas system of more than 3,000 bus stops and 53 routes. Austin is serviced by 19 local bus routes, 13 limited stop/flyer routes, eight express routes, and 20 University of Texas shuttle routes. The fleet of approximately 400 buses services 130,000 riders each day. The Austin-Bergstrom International Airport is serviced by the Route 100 Airport Flyer route, which connects the downtown area to the airport lower level for only \$1.75 each way. The Austin Convention Center is serviced by the 17 Cesar Chavez Route, which stops just a few blocks away from the center. All express buses offer free wireless internet service, while the entire bus fleet is widely known for being clean and efficient. In June 2014, Capital Metro was selected to receive the Best Mobile/Wireless Project award by the Center for Digital Government's 2014 Best in Texas. The CapMetro App is free to download in the Apple, Android and Windows app stores.

During SXSW 2015, Capital Metro hit <u>record-breaking ridership</u> on its buses and trains with an additional 1,700 hours of service offered and more than 100,000 rides during the event.

### **Capital MetroRail**

Austin's Capital MetroRail service runs on 32 miles of existing freight tracks between Leander and downtown Austin. The Red Line services nine stations, including a stop in front of the Austin Convention Center. Each of the six vehicles holds 200 passengers and offers free wireless internet service. MetroRail runs weekdays every 30 minutes during morning and evening rush hours, with expanded service times on weekends. MetroRail fares are \$1 for one zone and \$1.50 for two zones. In 2013, Capital Metro was awarded \$11.3 million federal TIGER grant. The grant is set to improve the existing red line which currently runs service from downtown Austin to Leander. The improvements are said to increase ridership capacity by over 15% and reduce commute times to extended areas.

#### **Rental Cars**

Several rental car agencies, including ACE Car Rental of Austin, Advantage, Alamo, National, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, Silvercar and Thrifty, are represented at the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. Agency counters are located outside of the baggage claim on the terminal ground floor. On October 1, 2015, CONRAC (Consolidated Rent-A-Car Facility) opened its doors, providing a single complex for 11 car rental agencies.

#### **Taxis**

In the city, taxis can be hailed on the street throughout the downtown region or found at hotel taxi stands. Taxis are also readily available outside the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport's baggage claim area on the ground floor. Visitors should expect to pay about \$25-30 in taxi fare from the airport to downtown Austin.

- Austin Cab
- Yellow Cab (Hail a Cab Austin App can be download to your mobile phone)
- Lone Star Cab
- Capital City Taxi Cab
- Austin Express Cab

#### Car2Go

Car2go is another transportation rental option. Users pay a one-time membership fee and have access to 350 vehicles around town for \$0.41 per minute. Reserve a car ahead of time using the mobile app, or pick one up spontaneously at dozens of convenient locations all over Austin, then just drop it off at the nearest Car2Go parking spot when you're finished.

#### **Pedicabs**

Austin is home to several pedicab companies. These bike chauffeurs can be seen cycling all over downtown, transporting visitors and locals alike to their next destinations. Most drivers work for tips only.

#### **Bike Rentals**

With dozens of bike shops, rental companies and tour facilities to choose from, both Austinites and visitors can get from point A to B and while staying fit at the same time. The <u>Austin B-Cycle Program</u> set a North American bikeshare record during SXSW 2014, with 2,158 total checkouts and 7.8 checkouts per bike. Please see our <u>bike rental listings</u> for more information and availabilities:

- Barton Springs Bike Rental
- Rocket Electrics
- Austin Bike Tours & Rentals
- <u>Austin B-Cycle Pr</u>ogram

## **Ridescout**

Ridescout is a free mobile app that provides real-time information on how to get around in Austin. It allows you to search and compare multiple transportation options, including bus, rail, taxi, bike, walking, driving, bikeshare, car2go, Austin B-cycle and CapMetro.

## **Uber** and **Lyft**

The Austin area supports Uber and Lyft, 24-hour on-demand ride services. Payment is automatic through the app and fares are evaluated based on local demand.

#### Maps

Whether you prefer to ride a bike, ride the bus or drive yourself, find your way around Austin with these helpful maps.