IAALD 2013
XIV World Congress
Getting to Ithaca

July 21-24, 2013

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Getting to Ithaca

Ithaca is located in Tompkins County at the southern tip of Cayuga Lake, in the heart of the beautiful Finger Lakes region of central New York State. Ithaca is accessible by air or bus and is within a 1 to 3 hour drive of larger cities, including Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo.

By Air

The closest airport is Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport (ITH), a short 15 minute drive from Cornell’s campus. The following airlines are currently offering direct service to/from the Ithaca Airport:

- US Airways to/from: Philadelphia International Airport
- Delta to/from: Detroit Metro International Airport
- United to/from: Newark Liberty International Airport

For international travel, we recommend flying to the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport via Philadelphia, Newark or Detroit. If you are flying first to Kennedy International Airport (JFK), you can take ground transportation to Newark airport and then get on a direct flight to Ithaca. For tips on how to get from JFK to Newark, see the section below on Ground Transportation.

Once you have arrived at the Ithaca airport, transportation to your hotel or other lodging can be arranged via Ithaca Dispatch at (607) 277-TAXI.

Another option is to fly to Syracuse Hancock International Airport (SYR) and then take ground transportation to Ithaca. The Syracuse airport is located north of Ithaca, about a 1 hour 20-minute drive away, and receives direct flights from cities all over the eastern United States and connecting flights internationally. See below for details on ground transportation.

Ground Transportation

From Syracuse Airport

Passengers requiring ground transportation from Syracuse airport have several options.

1) Passengers can register with Syracuse Regional Airport Taxi, Inc. at one of the dispatch areas located near each baggage claim location. Contact their office at (315) 437-5555.

2) The Ithaca Airline Limousine also offers transportation service from the Syracuse airport to Ithaca. Contact their office at (607) 273-3030.

3) Finally, travelers can also take a taxi from the Syracuse airport to the Greyhound bus station downtown and then take a bus to Ithaca.
From JFK to Newark Liberty International Airport

There are several options for getting from JFK to Newark. Review the options below to find the one that works best for you in terms of time, fare, and convenience.

1) **State Shuttle** (approx. 90 minutes)
   - JFK to Newark: $30 per passenger
   - Offers economical transfers between Newark and JFK airports with hourly departures between 6am and 10pm. Visit the website for a detailed transfer shuttle timetable.
   - Reservation Desk: 1-800-822-9797 (within the U.S.); (732) 938-6666 (outside the U.S.)
   - To make reservations online, visit [http://olympic-limo.com/](http://olympic-limo.com/)

2) **Ellis Transportation Service (ETS) Air Shuttle of New York** (approx. 60 minutes)
   - JFK to Newark: $29 per passenger
   - Courtesy phones are located in the baggage claim area of JFK, LaGuardia and Newark Airports, and are connected directly to ETS Air Shuttle of New York dispatch system. Just pick up the courtesy phones, dial 14 to speak directly with the reservation department, tell them where you want to go and one of the ETS drivers will come inside to help you.
   - Telephone: (718) 221-5341
   - Fax: (718) 221-8636
   - E-mail: info@etsairportshuttle.com

3) **NYC Airporter**—Newark Shuttle (up to 2 ½ hours, due to connection in Port Authority Bus terminal)
   - JFK to Newark: $24 per passenger
   - Look for the NYC Airporter’s Uniformed Sales Agents wearing green blazers or coats at the desk located in the Ground Transportation Welcome Center and also outside of the baggage claim area.
   - Newark Airport Transfers to and from JFK and LaGuardia Airports will require a bus transfer at the Port Authority Bus Terminal to the Newark Airport Express' Bus Service partner. The bus departs approximately every 30 minutes from each airport between the hours of 5:00 A.M. and 11:30 P.M.
• Customer Care: (718) 777-5111 or Dial 46 from the Welcome Center Phone; International toll-free, please call: (855) 269-2247; (855-2NYCAIR)
• Purchase tickets online at http://www.nycairporter.com/

4) **AirTrain JFK** in combination with mass transit (Travel times vary)
   • (877) JFK-AIRTrain (535-2478)

5) Taxi (metered, 75-90 minutes)
   • Go to Uniformed Taxi Dispatcher outside of baggage claim

6) Private Limousine/Van Service (75-90 minutes)
   • Go to Ground Transportation Information Counter in Airport Baggage Claim area

**Bus Options from NYC**

There are three options for travel by bus from New York City to Ithaca, including the **Greyhound**, the **Shortline** (Coach USA), and the **Campus to Campus** (C2C) Executive Coach Service. The Shortline and the Greyhound both depart from the **Port Authority Bus Terminal** in New York City, while the Campus to Campus has stops at the Weill Cornell Medical Center and the Cornell Club. See notes below on getting from JFK to the Port Authority Bus Terminal and the Cornell Club.

1) The Shortline is a regional bus line with service to the Cornell campus and downtown Ithaca. One-way fare from NYC to Ithaca is $53.50, and round-trip fare is $107.00. The bus schedule for NYC to Ithaca is available online [here](http://www.coachusa.com/shortline/), and tickets can be purchased online [here](http://www.coachusa.com/shortline/).

   **Shortline**
   4 Leisure Lane
   Mahwah, NJ 07430
   *Phone:* 1-800-631-8405
   *Day Trips:* 201-529-3666
   *Email:* shortline@coachusa.com

2) The Greyhound is a national bus line with service to the station at 710 W. State St. in downtown Ithaca. One-way fare from NYC to Ithaca is $52.50, and round-trip fare is $105.00. Tickets can be purchased online, over the phone, at the terminal, or at agent locations. More information about ticket purchase options is available [here](http://www.coachusa.com/shortline/).
Greyhound
710 W State St
Ithaca, NY 14850
Phone: 1-800-231-2222
Ithaca specific phone: 607-272-7930
Email: ifsr@greyhound.com
Website: http://www.greyhound.com/

3) An additional option is the Cornell Campus to Campus (C2C) Executive Coach Service, which operates between the Ithaca and New York City Cornell campuses. C2C buses depart from two locations in New York City, including the Weill Cornell Medical College on the Upper East Side of Manhattan and the Cornell Club in Midtown Manhattan. One-way fare to Ithaca is $82.50, and round-trip fare is $165. The C2C schedule is available online here as a one-page PDF.

Campus-to-Campus
Check availability, book a trip, or cancel or modify a reservation at https://c2cbus.fs.cornell.edu:8485/
Campus-to-campus staff or an answering service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 607-254-TRIP (8747). Please call this number for immediate assistance.

Getting from JFK to the Port Authority Bus Terminal

Given that taxi cabs can be quite expensive, you may consider using one of the more economical means of getting from JFK to the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Midtown Manhattan. These include the NYC Airporter shuttle or the AirTrain JFK from any terminal in combination with either the New York City subway or the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR). If you choose the AirTrain JFK, be advised that the subway is the less expensive option, while the train is the faster option.

1) NYC Airporter—(approx. 90 minutes)
   • JFK to Port Authority: $16 per passenger
   • The Express Bus runs every 20 – 30 minutes, 7 days a week between 5:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m
   • Look for the NYC Airporter's Uniformed Sales Agents wearing green blazers or coats at the desk located in the Ground Transportation Welcome Center and also outside of the baggage claim area.
   • Customer Care: (718) 777-5111 or Dial 46 from the Welcome Center Phone International toll-free, please call: (855) 269-2247; (855-2NYCAIR)
   • Purchase tickets online at http://www.nycairporter.com/
2) **AirTrain JFK & subway**—(approx. 50 minutes)
   - JFK to Port Authority: estimated **$7.50** per passenger
   - First, take the Jamaica Station AirTrain from JFK to Jamaica Station in Queens ($5.00). Go below Jamaica Station to the subway stop called Sutphin Boulevard/Archer Ave. and take the NYC Transit **E Train** (8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Local) to the Port Authority Bus Terminal ($2.50).
   - Note: To board the subway, you must get a **MetroCard** at a vending machine or from merchants near the subway station entrances. A new MetroCard costs $1.00, and it can be re-charged depending on how many rides you plan to take. The current base fare is $2.50 per ride, and a single ride ticket is $2.75. Visit the MTA website for more information on **subway fares**.

3) **AirTrain JFK & LIRR**—(approx. 35 minutes)
   - JFK to Port Authority: estimated **$15.50** per passenger
   - First, take the Jamaica Station AirTrain from JFK to Jamaica Station in Queens ($5.00), and then ride the LIRR to Penn Station ($10.50 peak time). Once you arrive at Penn Station, you must walk or take a taxi about 8 city blocks north to the Port Authority Bus Terminal on 42<sup>nd</sup> St. & 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
   - Note: To board the train, you must have a ticket. The best way to buy train tickets is by purchasing them from a kiosk before getting on a train, since purchasing your ticket on board the train is a cash-only transaction and the most expensive option. You can buy tickets online using **WebTicket**. Visit the MTA website for more information on **schedules and fares**.

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**Getting from JFK to the Cornell Club**

1) To get from JFK Airport to the Cornell Club, you must take the Jamaica Station AirTrain from JFK to Jamaica Station in Queens ($5.00). Then, ride the NYC Transit **E Train** (8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Local) to 23 St. & Ely Ave., walk to 45 Rd & Court House Sq., and ride the NYC Transit **7 Train** (Flushing Local) to 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Walk from 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. to the Cornell Club on 6 E 44<sup>th</sup> St. (between 5<sup>th</sup> and Madison Ave).
Amtrak Train

The Amtrak Train also departs Penn Station, although the nearest station to Ithaca is in Syracuse, which is located about a 1 hour 20 minute drive north of Ithaca. Ithaca Airline Limousine can provide shuttle transportation from the Syracuse train station to Ithaca. For more information about trains, see the Amtrak website or call 1-800-872-7245.

You’re here! Tips for getting around Ithaca

1) The Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, better known as TCAT, is the local bus system serving Ithaca and the surrounding area. Route 20 connects the campus to the bus station in downtown Ithaca, and routes 32 and 72 connect the campus to the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport. More detailed route and schedule information is available at http://www.tcatbus.com/.

2) Taxi service is also available around Ithaca. Ithaca Dispatch (toll free 1-888-321-1149) handles dispatch for the following companies:

   Cayuga Taxi: 607 277-TAXI (8294)
   University Taxi: 607 277-7777
   Yellow Cab: 607 277-CABS (2227)
   Collegetown Cab: 607-588-8888 / 607-592-1478

Where to Stay

On-Campus Housing

There are a limited number of on-campus housing units available for reservation. If you would like to stay on-campus, please choose from the options below and email us with your room preference and the name of a roommate if you choose to share your accommodations.

   Air Conditioned Rates – Mews Hall
   Single: $69.00 per night
   Double: $49.00 per person per night

   Townhouses
   Single: $83.00 per night
   Double: $54.00 per person per night
   Family Style: $168.00

Downtown Hotels

The Holiday Inn and the Hilton Garden are located in downtown Ithaca close to the Commons, a pedestrian-friendly business district with many shops and restaurants, and near several bus lines serving Cornell campus and the surrounding areas. Reservations can be made through the Holiday Inn Ithaca website or the Hilton Garden website.