Local Train Travel Guide

A guide for international students

The University is well-served by public transport and many students use either buses or trains to travel to campus and the local area. The bus is generally cheaper and more convenient if you are frequently travelling to campus, however if you live far away from the campus, and especially if you live near a train station, it might be quicker for you to travel by train.

**Which train should I get?**

Falmer train station is situated opposite the Sussex campus on the other side of the main road (A27). It lies on the train line between Brighton and destinations east of Brighton, including Lewes, Eastbourne and Hastings. Falmer is the third stop upon leaving Brighton Station after London Road and Moulsecoomb. Remember to check that your train stops at Falmer before you board the train as not all trains do. A list of destinations are usually listed on the electronic display boards on train platforms.

If you live near train stations to the west of Brighton, such as Hove, Portslade or Worthing, or stations north of Brighton (including if you are travelling from London), you will need to take a train to Brighton station first and then change to another train to continue to Falmer.

**How frequently do the trains run?**

Trains on the Brighton—Falmer line run approximately every 10-20 minutes throughout the day on weekdays, and stop running between approximately 11:30-00:30 at night. Trains between Brighton and Hove run approximately every 10-15 minutes during the day on weekdays. At weekends the frequency of train services is usually reduced. Often there are also engineering works being carried out on some train lines at weekends, which may disrupt the journey. Before travelling, please visit www.southernrailway.com to check for any disruptions.

**How long does the journey take?**

The journey time between Brighton Station and Falmer is approximately 9 minutes. Between Lewes and Falmer it takes 6-7 minutes. The journey between Hove and Brighton Station takes 4-5 minutes.
Where should I buy a ticket?

Most train stations will have one or more automatic ticket machines where you can buy a ticket or collect a ticket purchased online. You can also buy tickets from the ticket office in the train station. It is important that you purchase a valid ticket for travel before boarding the train, as ticket inspectors operate on trains and you will need to pay a fine if you are found travelling without a valid ticket.

If you are travelling during peak times (usually before 10am, but this may vary) you will need to buy a ticket that allows you to travel during this period. If you have a 16-25 railcard (see below) you will need to have your railcard on you at all times. Speak to a member of staff if you’re unsure of what ticket you need to buy.

What type of ticket should I buy?

Occasional train travel

If you’re using the train infrequently then you’ll just need to buy a regular ticket. A single journey between Brighton Station and Falmer costs £2.90, and an off-peak day return ticket costs £3.60. A single journey between Hove Station and Falmer costs £3.60, and an off-peak day return ticket costs £3.70.

Regular train travel: Unizone Brighton

If you are going to be using the train on a regular basis to get to and from campus it is worth investing in a Brighton Unizone ticket. This is a discounted student ticket that allows you unlimited train travel around Brighton, Shoreham-by-Sea, Lewes and Eastbourne. You can buy a Brighton Unizone ticket from a member of staff in a ticket office at any of the stations in the Unizone area. You will need to show your valid student card and a rail photo identity card to purchase a Unizone ticket.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brighton Unizone tickets*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>£17.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>£68.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarterly**</td>
<td>£206.30</td>
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*Prices correct as of Jan 2019
**Valid for a 13-week term

Season tickets

If you regularly commute to and from the campus by train, but you live outside the Brighton Unizone area, you can save money on train travel by purchasing a Season Ticket. Season tickets are a great product for anyone travelling a specific journey several times per week, and can save you money compared to buying several day tickets. With season tickets you can travel at any time of day and however many times you like while the ticket is valid.

Find out how much a season ticket for your journey would cost at the National Rail Season Ticket Calculator: http://ojp.nationalrail.co.uk/service/seasonticket/search

16-25 Railcard

If you are aged 16-25 or a full-time student aged 26 or older you can apply for a 16-25 Railcard, which costs £30 for one year and can save you 1/3 off most rail fares across Britain. There is a £12 minimum fare on all journeys before 10am Mon-Fri, which means the 16-25 railcard is not suitable for most regular commutes to the campus. However, there is no minimum fare on weekends, Public Holidays and during July and August, so it is great to use for weekend trips to London and other places across Britain.

For further information on local and national train travel please visit

www.southernrailway.com and www.nationalrail.co.uk