

Tram tickets to cost the same as buses



Edinburgh City Council has just revealed that the cost of getting on a tram will be the same as getting on a bus, with the exception of the fare to the airport and Ingliston Park and Ride.

A ticket for the tram be the same price as a bus ticket. The initial price will be £1.50 for a single adult journey and 70p for a child.

A return ticket to the airport will be £7.50 (£4 child fare) and drivers will be able to take the tram from Ingliston Park & Ride for £2.50 with a £1.50 child fare. The return fare on the Airlink bus is already different as it costs £6 return from Waverley to Edinburgh Airport.

Day tickets will be usable across both tram and bus and Ridacards will be valid throughout the entire route. The bus day ticket is £3.50 which will now include tram journeys too. If you pay £8 then you will be able to get on the tram at the airport and use trams and buses all day long.

Transport Convener Lesley Hinds said: -“The tram will offer a fast, comfortable, convenient and reliable transport option at a very good price. With Lothian Buses, we’ve ensured that the bus and tram ticketing systems are fully integrated for ease of use and to keep costs low.

“Ridacards and day tickets will be usable across bus and tram while a single ticket will be the same price across both. Like most cities there’s an airport supplement and this is part of the business model to ensure the service is cost effective in

operation. ”

“With the end of tram works nearing and a passenger service in sight, this is the perfect time to develop a new approach to transport in our city. With their existing knowledge and expertise Lothian Buses is ideally positioned to thrive with the tram and I’m very pleased that we’re working in partnership with them.”

Users of the National Entitlement Card will be able to use their cards on the tram through a Council funded scheme. Earlier this year Councillor Hinds said: “We are determined that Edinburgh residents who are eligible for free travel across the country should be able to use the tram on the same basis. The tram needs to be wholly integrated into the national transport network and, for me, this means that over 60s and people with disabilities should have free use of the service.”

The tram service is now forecast to be up and running for passengers in May 2014, two months ahead of the revised target of July 2014. Plans have been set out for the handover of a section of the tram route between Gogar depot and Edinburgh Park Station for testing in early October with full route testing to take place in December.

The city centre will be clear of tram civil engineering works by October with Haymarket (Dalry Road to Manor Place) now set to reopen to traffic around 12 October and Shandwick Place crescents to open around 19 October.

Last month the Council set out plans to create a new organisation, Transport for Edinburgh, to integrate transport services in the Capital. Transport for Edinburgh will be set up initially to integrate the tram and bus services, with Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Trams confirmed as the operators.

The project remains in line with the revised budget (£776m) approved by the Council in September 2011, with work either

ahead of schedule or in line with the revised timescale reported in December 2011.

Fares

City single

Adult – £1.50 Child – £0.70

Park & Ride single

Adult £2.50 Child – £1.50

Airport single

Adult – £4.50 Child – £2.50

Airport return (to/from airport only)

Adult £7.50 Child – £4.00

Tram & Bus day ticket – city only

Adult £3.50 Child £2.00

Tram & Bus day ticket – Park & Ride & city

Adult £5.00 Child £3.00

Tram & Bus day ticket – network wide including airport

Adult £8.00 Child £4.50