

# Enjoy Your Journey!

## Tips for Travelling to South West England

### 1. Weigh up the Options

Transport Direct's [Door to Door Journey Planner](#) provides directions, timings and cost comparisons for both car and public transport options.

### 2. It's all in the Timing

Avoid peak times and you'll enjoy a much easier (and, on trains, cheaper) journey.

**Travelling by car** – Delaying or bringing your journey forward by a few hours can make a big difference. The Highways Agency (HA) [Traffic Forecaster](#) allows you to enter your date of travel and watch an animation of predicted traffic. [Roadworks](#) are generally lifted for holiday times.

**Travelling by train**– Book ahead to bag a bargain *and* a guaranteed seat (especially important if you have to travel on Friday pm). The best value *Advance* tickets usually go on sale 12 weeks in advance (use Trainline's [Ticket Alert](#) service to receive a reminder). Like budget airlines the best prices are for the first to book. Trainline's [Best Fare Finder](#) allows you to price comparison for the same journey over a week for a selection of popular journeys. Check to avoid [engineering works](#).

### 3. Booking the Best Train Journey – Top Tips

1) Go Direct - Once you've chosen [your journey](#), go direct to the relevant train operator's website to book: you'll avoid booking fees and access any exclusive fares and features.

2) Got Luggage? If you're travelling on [Cross Country Trains](#) (services from the North/ Midlands) choose 'Select a Seat' when booking and you can choose carriage D with its extra luggage space and to sit near your luggage.

3) Want Entertainment? Many First Great Western services to/from London offer an '[Entertainment Carriage](#)'. Choose "At Seat TV/Movies" when booking for less than the price of a coffee.

4) Great Views – Travelling beyond Exeter? Sit on the left hand side of the carriage (as you face the direction of travel) for the best views of one of the most spectacular stretches of railway in the country which hugs the Devon coastline.

5) Onward travel – If travelling on by bus to your destination check whether [Plusbus](#) is offered from that station. [Traintaxi](#) will help you identify taxi companies.

### 4. Avoiding Trouble on the Move

Not all travel conditions can be predicted so stay in touch with the latest news on the move using these great tools:

**Travelling by car:** HA provides updates in a variety of formats: [smartphone website](#), [iphone app](#), [digital radio](#), [Twitter](#), and a phonenumber (0300 123 5000).

**Travelling by train:** [Traintracker](#) provides updates on your train service via a phonenumber or text service.

### 5. Cut Fuel Costs

Rising fuel prices make [eco-driving tips](#) all the more valuable. These can save around 10% - around £4 for the average journey to/from the SW.

Click [here](#) for more travel information, tips and spectacular journeys in the South West