



Welcome

Hello everyone! We are the Hospitality Committee and we're here to make sure your experience in New York City is as great as possible. We are so excited to welcome you to our home! Here are some travel tips that we hope will come in handy for you. See you at Columbia!



Columbia University

Columbia University is located at 116th St and Broadway. Traveling here is no hassle at all! We're right on Broadway so taxis and shuttles come and go quick. There's a subway station and a bus station right at the main entrance too. The subway station is on the 1 (Red) line and although there are a few bus lines available to you, you'll probably find the M60 most useful.

The competition will take place in Roone Arledge Auditorium in Lerner Hall. Lerner Hall is located on the Broadway side of main campus. It is most easily identified by its large glass wall which reveals its extensive ramp system. Because of the ramps, the building has an unorthodox floor system. However, because Roone is located on the bottom floor, it is easy to find.

[Map of Morningside Campus](#)
[Map of Lerner Hall](#)





Taxi

In most of Manhattan, taxis are yellow and have a metal seal on the hood (“medallion”). If you are in Northern Manhattan (above West 110th St or East 96th St), the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, or Staten Island, they are light green.

To hail a cab, stand visibly near the street and hold your hand straight out above your head. If the numbers on top of the cab are illuminated, the cab is available. If they are turned off, the cab is occupied.

Fares start at \$2.50 plus a \$0.50 state tax. Fares increase \$0.50 per every 1/5 mile (about four blocks) and for every 60 seconds in slow traffic or when the car is stopped. If you ride between the hours of 8pm and 6am, there is a \$0.50 surcharge. Additionally, there is a \$1 surcharge between 4pm and 8pm on weekdays. Passengers must pay all tolls. There is no charge for extra passengers or bags. However, there is a 4- passenger maximum per car. All yellow cabs accept Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. Tips are expected.

Columbia University- 116 Street Station

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Subway and Bus

You’ll probably be using the subway and bus systems all the time during your stay because they’re cheap, fast, and comfortable! The best way to go about this is to go to your nearest subway and buy a MetroCard. There are many different MetroCard plans, but because you’ll most likely be staying for only a few days, pay-per-ride is most economical. The fare is \$2.75 and you can use the MetroCard on both the subway and the bus.



Before entering a subway station, please take a look at the sign. Make sure the line and direction are correct. Uptown and downtown will probably be the most common directions you’ll see during your trip. If the direction is wrong, just cross the street and use the station on the other side. When you are in

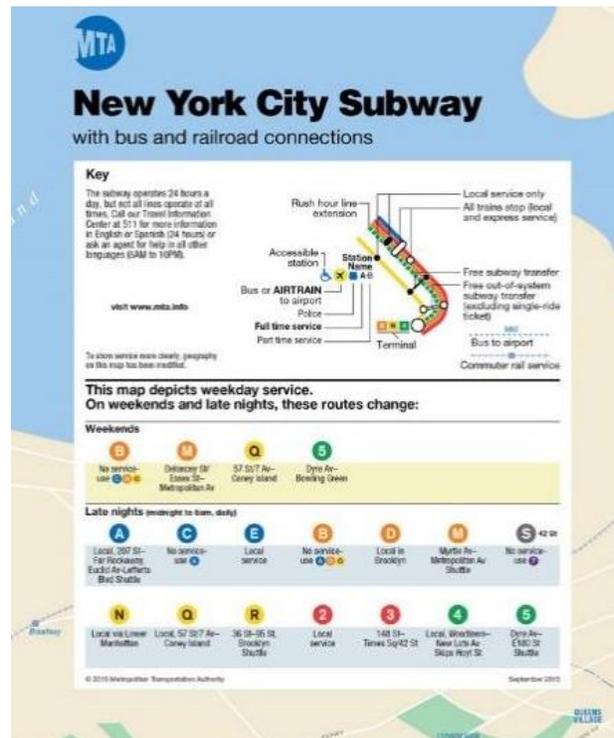
the station and about to board a subway, make sure the line is correct and, if you are planning to take the local train, make sure you're not on the express! If you are planning on taking the express train, make sure the station you're at is an express stop or else you'll end up spending years waiting for a train that'll never come. To find out where the express stops are, take out an MTA subway map and look for the white circles. The local stops are the black circles, and the local train will also stop at the express stops. The best way to utilize the express train is to take a local train to an express stop, take an express train on the same line, stop just before your local stop, switch to a local train, and finally get off at your stop. For example, if you are at the Time Square 42nd Street station and you would like to go to Columbia University, you can take a 2, or 3 express train uptown to 96th street, switch to a 1 local train and then ride three stops to 116th street and Broadway where Columbia is.

The buses are harder to use than the subway because direction and route are not obviously clear. You can tell a bus's end destination and route from the bus sign. However, it's harder to plan out more extensive bus trips, or at least at the bus stop, unless you do it beforehand with a full map on hand.

We recommend you to download a transportation app to help you around the city. Citymapper is highly recommended.

[Citymapper for Apple](#)
[Citymapper for Android](#)

For more information about the public transportation system: <http://www.mta.info/>





LaGuardia Airport (LGA) to Manhattan

Taxi: There are taxis available outside every terminal. Just look for a taxi stand!

Shuttle Bus: Using a shuttle is a cheap and easy way to get directly to the middle of the city. The NYC Airporter is always available at the airport from 5:00AM to 11:30PM. One-way fare is \$13 and round-trip fare is \$23. You can choose to disembark at Grand Central, Port Authority, or Penn Station, so before you leave, please take some time to find out which stop is closest to your hotel. Please note that there is also complimentary hotel shuttle service between 23rd and 63rd street from Grand Central. You can also hire private shuttles if you are traveling with multiple people.

Public Bus: The M60 will actually stop at Columbia University and just across the street, you'll find a subway station on the 1 line too! If you wanted to take an early sneak peek at our campus, this is the way! The bus and subway fare is \$2.75 each. Please note that the M60 is SBS, which stands for "Select Bus Service", which means you need to pay for the fare at the bus stop before riding.



Helpful links about transportation from LaGuardia Airport:
http://gonyc.about.com/cs/airlinesairports/a/getto_lga.htm
<http://www.panynj.gov/airports/lga-public-transportation.html>

John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) to Manhattan

Taxi: The taxis charge a \$52 flat rate (plus tolls) to any Manhattan location. Just like the other airports, there are taxis at every terminal. Just look for the taxi stand.

Shuttle Bus: The NYC Airporter shuttle is available too, as long as it's within the hours of 5:00AM to 11:30PM. One-way fare is \$16 and round-trip fare is \$29. They will stop at Grand Central, Port Authority, and Penn Station, so before you leave, find out which stop is closest to your hotel. Again, please note that there is also complimentary hotel shuttle service between 23rd and 63rd street from Grand Central.

AirTrain: If you are planning to take AirTrain, you will most likely stop at Jamaica Station. At Jamaica Station there will be many subways and Q line buses that can take you throughout midtown Manhattan.

Helpful links about transportation from JFK:
http://gonyc.about.com/cs/airlinesairports/a/getto_jfk.htm
<http://www.panynj.gov/airports/jfk-public-transportation.html>

Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) to Manhattan

Taxi: With metered fare (plus tolls), taxis will charge you approximately \$50-\$75 to any Manhattan location.

Shuttle Bus: The NYC Airporter shuttle is available from 5:30AM to 11:30PM like at the other airports. The biggest difference is that the shuttle will not take you directly to Manhattan. Instead it will take you to LGA or JFK. There, you can take another NYC Airporter shuttle that will take you Manhattan or any other method of transportation. The transfer between the airports will cost you \$24.

AirTrain and NJ Transit: Take the AirTrain from any terminal to the NJ Transit station. The NJ Transit train will take you to New York Penn Station (**not Newark Penn Station**). Cost is around \$12.50 and will take rough 30 minutes.

Other: You can also take a train like the Amtrak or the Path Authority Trans-Hudson (PATH) that can take you to Manhattan.

Helpful links about transportation from Newark:
http://gonyc.about.com/cs/airlinesairports/a/getto_ewr.htm
<http://www.panynj.gov/airports/ewr-to-from.html>

If you have other questions about traveling in NYC, feel free to send us an email at columbiawushu@gmail.com.

We're here to help you. Good luck and jiayou!