



# How To Get Around Anaheim/Orange County

by Doreen S. Smith

**M**ost of the Southern California area is quite spread out, with Orange County alone encompassing over 790 square miles. This can make getting around rather tricky. This article will address some of the options that will be available to you to help you make the most of your visit.

First off is to get from the **airport to your hotel**. The two main airports that service the Anaheim/O.C. area are the John Wayne/Orange County Airport, and the Los Angeles International Airport, each serviced by all of the major airlines. Most major hotels have airport shuttles that will deliver you to and from the airport for little or no fee. There are also several private shuttle services that provide door-to-door service. The major companies that service this area include The Airport Bus, Best Airport Shuttle, L.A. Xpress Airport Shuttle, Prime Time Shuttle and SuperShuttle. The average one-way fare from John Wayne/Orange County Airport or Los Angeles International to the various Anaheim hotels is \$12.00. Be sure to call ahead to check prices and availability.

Once you are at your hotel, how do you get around the area? One option, of course, is to **rent a car**. The major car rental agencies have offices at all airports and most major hotels. Some things to remember when driving in California: a valid driver's license and liability insurance are required, child seats are required for children weighing less than 40 pounds (seats are available from most car rental agencies), and seat belts are required on all passengers.

If you don't feel like tackling Southern California's freeways, however, there are still lots of options available to get you around town. **Public transportation** comes in two forms: the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA) operates buses in Orange County, and Amtrak offers train service. OCTA provides local and express bus service. Fifty-three local routes provide service on Orange County's major arterial streets with stops every quarter mile. Eight express routes are freeway based, and offer limited stop services between park and rides and major retail centers. Fare is \$1.00 and transfers are free. For more information on the OCTA routes check out its Web site: [www.octa.net](http://www.octa.net). Another great way to get around the Southland is by train. An Amtrak station is located at Anaheim Stadium, just two miles from the Anaheim Convention Center. Amtrak has four other train stations located throughout Orange County in the cities of Santa Ana, Fullerton, San Juan Capistrano, and Irvine. There are 26 "San Diegan" trains that travel daily from Los Angeles to San Diego, passing right through Anaheim. It is a two-hour ride from Anaheim to San Diego, and only about 50 minutes by train from Anaheim to Los Angeles' Union Station. For fare and schedule information go to Amtrak's Web site: [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com).

Your best bet for transportation during the conference may be Orange County's newest **shuttle service**, the Orange County Connection. This bus service, operated by Pacific Coast Sightseeing, links Disneyland-area hotels, South Coast Plaza, Fashion Island, Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, San Juan Capistrano and John Wayne Airport-area hotels. Three shuttles run every 90 minutes from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily. Fares range from a one-stop round-trip pass of \$12 for adults and \$8 for children, to a five-day pass of \$30 for adults and \$20 for children. Major hotels in the area will have detailed informational maps and brochures, or contact Pacific Coast Sightseeing at 714/978-8855.

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