



# ALL ABOUT AIRPORT RAILWAYS

## What sorts are there?

1. **High speed network:** airports with stations on the national or international network (like Frankfurt, Charles de Gaulle, Amsterdam Schiphol).
2. **High speed dedicated railways – the Airport Express:** There are around 20 of these.
3. **Airports served by regional railways** (Manchester, Southampton).
4. **Airports served by commuter, suburban or metro lines** (Southend, Chicago O'Hare, Prestwick).
5. **Airports on a light rail or tram system** (Newcastle, Salt Lake City).
6. **Airports with cargo links** (for building materials, fuel or – coming – air cargo).

Some airports have more than one link: some have a connection to the nearest station by automated people mover (Newark, New York JFK) or bus shuttle (Cardiff, Glasgow).

## Airport Expresses

- **Fastest:** Shanghai Pudong 225km/h (a cheat – this uses maglev technology) or Flytoget at Oslo Gardemoen (152 km/h).
- **Slowest:** Moscow Sheremetyevo (45 km/h)
- **Longest:** Narita Express, Tokyo, 66km
- **Shortest:** CAT Vienna, 18km
- **Most expensive** (absolute fare): Arlanda Express Stockholm £25.78
- **Most expensive** (cost/km): Heathrow Express £0.88/km
- **Cheapest** (absolute fare): Bangkok Airport Express £1.86
- **Cheapest (cost/km):** Bangkok Airport Express £0.06/km

## Code-shares (or integrated booking of some kind)

- Paris Charles de Gaulle (high speed network)
- Frankfurt (high speed network)
- Amsterdam Schiphol (high speed network)
- Heathrow Express (high speed dedicated)
- Montreal Trudeau (regional)
- Zürich (regional)
- Newark Liberty International Airport (regional)
- China (high speed network) – Tianjin, Shanghai (both airports), Hainan, Chengdu, Changchun

## **In-town check-in (all high speed dedicated)**

- Vienna
- Kuala Lumpur
- Hong Kong (2 stations)

## **Highest rail mode shares**

- Copenhagen Kastrup 53% (regional, suburban, Metro)
- London City Airport 51% (light rail)
- Osaka Kansai 50.1% (regional, suburban)

## **Good and bad**

The UK is relatively good for airport railways.

North America - and the US in particular - is not. Most airport rail connections are multi-stop low-quality urban transit systems or require a bus or automated people mover or both. Washington National has the highest mode share, at 16%.

## **Useful IARO reports**

- 10.07 Check-in on airport railways
- 8.03 The role of the Airport Express
- 15.11 A Guide to IARO's database and statistics (needs updating)