

Visual guide to using Reading Buses

By The Student Local Guides



New to Reading or need extra help to access the Buses?

This guide will show you how to:

- Get a ticket
- What to expect when using a bus
- Where to go for help



Express service between
Whiteknights campus
and town

Also stops at Christchurch
Green and Reading
Train Station

Up to **every 15 minutes**
during semester time

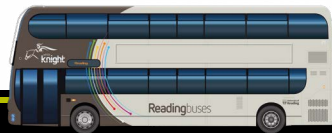
The service runs during
semester-time only

Stopper service between
Whiteknights campus
and town

Including London Road,
Kendrick Road, Christchurch
Road and Lower Earley

24-hour service, up to **every 15 minutes** throughout the year

**The service runs
all-year round**



Buying a ticket using the Reading Buses App

1. Buy mobile tickets, track buses, and plan your route using the Bus app.
2. Access SimplyUni and Boost bus tickets, cheaper tickets for approved students.
3. Verify using your University ID to access SimplyUni passes and Boost bus tickets for cheaper rates!
4. Find your bus stop and check live timetables.
5. Track your contactless journeys and plan future trips.



Remember!
Boost tickets
require verification
in the app; only
adult tickets
sold onboard.



Scan the QR code to download
the Reading Buses app



Other ways to buy a ticket



Use contactless to tap on tap off your journey. Tap your card on the card reader on the way in and remember to tap off again on your way out. You can also ask the bus driver for a ticket and pay by card.



Take the printed ticket! Check prices on the side of the bus! Scan your Reading Buses App ticket. Hold your phone ticket with the QR code upright and rest it on the card scanner.

Mobility Support



If you need access to a ramp to use the buses, ask the Bus driver to deploy the ramp.



Using a wheelchair? There is a wheelchair priority space with a wheelchair bell to inform the driver you are getting off and need ramp support.



Bus Journey

What to expect from passengers

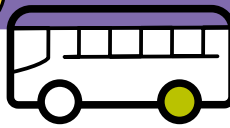
Most passengers will keep to themselves. You can sit next to another passenger, and you can ask a passenger to kindly move their bags if their bags are in your way while there is nowhere else to sit.

What to expect from bus drivers

Bus Drivers will be focused on following their route on time. If you need any help, bus drivers can support you, as long as they are not distracted while driving. Your driver is always happy to be thanked!

Bus Journey Recipe

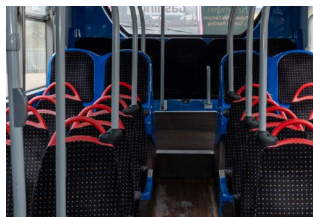
1. Find your bus stop, wait for the correct bus.
2. Wait for other passengers to get off the bus and join the queue to get on.
3. Buy your ticket by either asking for an all day or single ticket.
4. Or you can scan your pre-bought ticket or use tap on tap off
5. Find your seat and wait for your stop following using the bus stop names or GPS.
6. Press the bell and get off the bus when the bus has stopped.



Getting on the Bus



This bus goes straight to Whiteknights campus.



Once you are on the bus, you can take a seat downstairs, or go up the stairs.

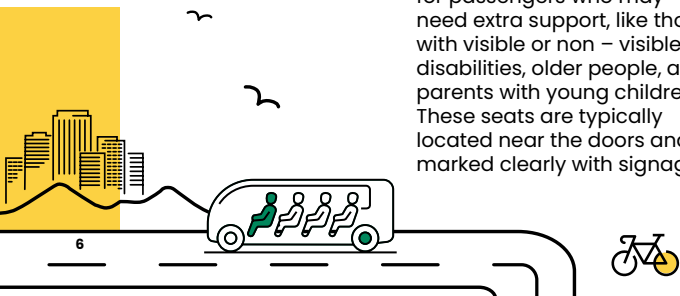


To sit on the top floor, with a view.



If you need it, you can take a priority seat.

Priority seats are designed for passengers who may need extra support, like those with visible or non – visible disabilities, older people, and parents with young children. These seats are typically located near the doors and marked clearly with signage

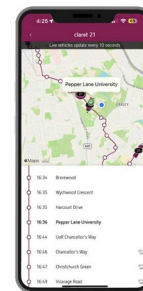


Getting off the Bus

Follow the location of your Bus using the App and turning on Bus locations Picking the Buses you'd like to track.

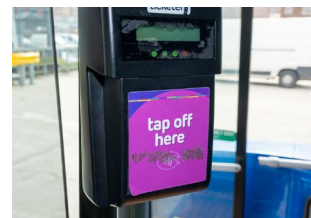
Keep track of your location to know when to get off, or follow the announcements on the speakers or the screen.

To find the Whiteknights bus stop, use What3Words: **pump.dozen.serve**



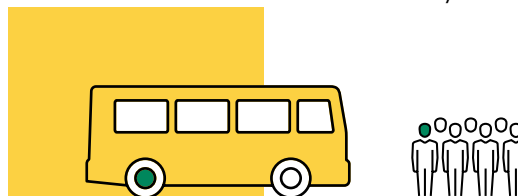
Time to get off

Press the **STOP** bell before your bus stop to let the driver know you plan to get off – give the driver enough time to prepare.



Buy your ticket using Tap on Tap off

Make sure to tap your card/phone on the exit card scanner to complete your journey. Grab a bus timetable on board to keep track of bus routes at any time.



Bus stops on Whiteknights campus



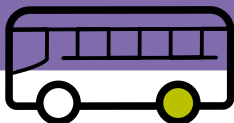
If you are travelling towards the town centre from Whiteknights campus, head to the Chancellors Way stop. Located outside the Chancellors Building. You can catch the 20 and 21 bus from this stop.



If you are travelling to campus from the town centre or train station, your stop when you arrive on campus is located outside Whiteknights House.

Top tips for getting on and off the bus

1. When the bus you are waiting to board is approaching your bus stop, put one arm out to signal to the driver you would like the bus to stop for you.
2. When you are on the bus, press the bell when you are approaching your stop so the driver knows to stop. **Don't forget to tap on /tap off the bus!**



Alternate Sustainable Travel

Cycling:

Into Reading town centre from Whiteknights campus takes 13 minutes – just remember to bring a bike lock to keep your bike safe!

Walking:

from Whiteknights campus to Reading town centre takes about 39 minutes, but the walk can be really enjoyable. There are plenty of shops to pop into and things to see along the route.



Getting around by Train

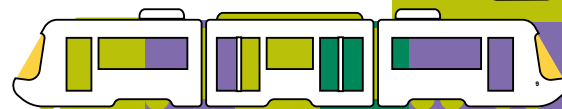
While cycling and walking is free, you will need a ticket to use the trains.

Buying a ticket for a train is easy:

Most stations have ticket machines where you can buy tickets. Not every station has one so make sure to check. Train Apps (like Train line) are handy for checking train times, delays, and buying tickets. They usually accept card, Apple Pay, and Google Pay.

Railcards

Railcards offer a discount on train tickets. 16–25 and 26–30 railcards cost £35 annually or £80 for three years. Railcards can be stored on the Trainline app, eliminating the need for a physical card.





Train Stations in Reading

Reading Station:

Station Hill, Reading RG1 8AG. There are escalators and lifts providing step-free access to all platforms. From Reading Station you can get regular direct trains to London Paddington in approximately 24 minutes.

Earley Station:

Station Road, Earley, Berkshire, RG6 7DY. Local to Whiteknights campus, easy trips into Reading or direct to London Waterloo and Gatwick Airport. Get to Reading in 5 minutes!

Tilehurst Station:

Oxford Road, Tilehurst, Berkshire, RG31 6TH. Located in Tilehurst, near great parks like Arthur Newbery and McIlroy. Go one stop further to Pangbourne for a riverside walk back to Reading (about 2.5 hours).

Winnersh Triangle Station:

Wharfdale Road, Winnersh, Berkshire, RG41 5TS. Offers services connecting London Waterloo and Reading.

Reading West Station:

Oxford Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 7PY. A central location on Oxford Road with handy links to Basingstoke and Newbury.

Theale Station:

Station Road, Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4AA. In the village of Theale, close to cosy pubs and the Street Food Shack (Mexican inspired street food).

Readingbuses

This guide was made in July 2026.
All information is accurate at the
time of publication.

This guide was created by Students
Local Guide Georgie Griffiths at the
University of Reading.

With special help from Alanna Shrubb,
Kevin Kempton, and Sam Walkden.

Lost Property at
Head Office
Monday to Friday
8:30am to 5:30pm

24 Great Knollys Street,
RG1 7HH

