

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Bike & Ride



MAY 2002

www.transitchicago.com

cta
take it.™

Your bicycle rides free on the train & bus!

Like to bike?

To make cycling even more convenient, the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) allows bicycles on trains and select bus routes through our year-round "Bike & Ride" Program.

Our network of buses and trains offers many travel possibilities that can get you and your bicycle to the lakefront, parks or many other destinations in Chicagoland, including the City of Chicago's many bike paths.

Getting around is easy! Simply follow the steps outlined in this brochure, and you'll be on your way to cycling fun and great exercise. In addition, you'll help reduce air pollution.

Boarding Trains

Bicycles are permitted on trains every weekday except from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, bicycles are allowed on trains all day. If trains are crowded, the use of trains by cyclists may be restricted as appropriate. Bicycles are not permitted on trains on July 3.

1. When entering a rail station, notify the Customer Assistant or security guard that you are there with your bicycle. When available, use the accessible turnstile with the swing gate to pay your fare and enter with your bicycle. If a swing gate is not available, CTA staff will open an access gate to allow you to enter. Please ride your bicycle to the next rail station if no one is available to assist you.
2. Do not attempt to carry your bicycle through one of the tall steel barrier gates. It will get caught! Note: *For this reason, bicycles may not exit at the King Drive (Green Line) station. Please ride to the Cottage Grove station.*
3. To reach the platform level, use elevators whenever they are available. Otherwise, carry your bicycle on ramps and stairways, allowing other customers to clear before you go up or down the stairs. Bicycles are not allowed on escalators.
4. When a train is approaching or leaving, stand clear of the platform edge. If the train is too crowded, please wait for the next one.

5. Before boarding, check to see if other cyclists are present on the train car. Only two (2) bicycles are allowed per car. Only board train cars with sliding doors. Note: *On the Blue Line, do not board cars with folding doors. Each Blue Line train has at least two cars with sliding doors.*
6. Once on a train, stand near either end of the train car. Stand by your bicycle and hold on to it at all times. Never put your bicycle where it would block the aisle or doors. Also, do not use your bicycle kickstand inside stations or on train cars.

Boarding Buses

Bicycle racks are available on the front exteriors of buses serving the #63 63rd &, #65 Grand, #72 North Avenue & and #75 75th & routes. Bicycles can be placed on the bicycle racks during the normal hours of operation for each route. Racks accommodate two bicycles at a time.

1. Remove large baskets from your bike and place on the sidewalk. If you are concerned about the security of your bicycle, lock your bicycle's front wheel to your bicycle's frame before the bus arrives.
2. Alert the bus operator that you need to lower the rack. Lower the rack by squeezing the handle as shown in Photo A. If another bicycle is in position, the rack will already be lowered. If the bicycle rack is full, please wait for the next bus. **Photo A**
3. Lift your bicycle so it sits in the empty wheel well. If yours is the first bicycle to be loaded, place it in the position nearest the bus, with the front wheel facing the curb. If yours is the second bicycle to be loaded, place it with the rear wheel facing the curb. **Photo B**
4. Swing the bicycle support arm over the front tire to hold the bicycle in place. Locks may not be used to secure bicycles to the racks. **Photo C**
5. Board the bus and pay your fare. Your bicycle rides free!
6. When you come to your stop, get off the bus at the front and tell the operator that you'll be taking your bicycle off. The operator will make sure you're clear of the bus before leaving the stop. Never step into traffic. **Photo D**



A



B



C



D

Things You Should Know

- Anyone 18 years of age or older may bring their bicycles on CTA trains and rack-equipped buses. Customers ages 12 through 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Children under age 12 are not permitted to bring bicycles on CTA trains or buses.
- Let other passengers board the train first. This reduces the chance of someone tripping over your bicycle. Priority seating is intended for seniors and passengers with disabilities.
- If there is a train or station evacuation, leave your bicycle behind to ensure a swift and safe exit for you and all other customers. Store your bicycle on top of or in between seats and out of the aisles.
- To ensure proper safety of all passengers, Chicago Police and CTA personnel may restrict bicycles from being brought on trains. This may happen if your bicycle is obstructing customer movement, or there are already two cyclists in one car. Please follow their instructions.
- There is CTA bicycle parking at many CTA rail stations. If trains are too crowded, or you don't want to bring your bicycle on the system, park your bicycle in the approved parking area and ride the train.
- Cyclists assume all responsibility for any damage and/or injury that occurs as a result of their bicycle being on CTA property. This includes injury to the cyclist, or other customers. A sudden stop by the transit vehicle does not remove responsibility from the bicycle owner for damages or injuries to other customers or themselves.
- Folding bikes are allowed on all CTA vehicles during all hours.
- Motor-powered bikes of any kind are not permitted on the CTA.

Bike Racks at CTA Rail Stations

Bike racks are located at many CTA rail stations. For improved security, indoor racks are provided at the following 20 stations.

- **Brown Line:**
Wellington
Western &
- **Blue Line:**
Addison
Belmont
Harlem & (O'Hare branch)
Jefferson Park &
UIC-Halsted &
Western (Forest Park branch)
- **Green Line:**
Cicero &
Halsted &
51st &
- **Red Line:**
Clark/Division
Granville &
Lawrence
Loyola &
Sox-35th &
95th/Dan Ryan &
- **Orange Line:**
Midway &
Pulaski &
Western &

Lost and Found

If you forget your bicycle and leave it on the bus:

1. Call (312) 836-7000 and press 0.
2. Tell the agent the bus route on which you left the bicycle.
3. Ask for the Lost and Found phone number and address of the bus garage for that route.
4. Call the garage and confirm that the CTA has your bicycle.
5. Go to the garage and pick up your bicycle.

Paying Your Fare

- **Cash Fare** – \$1.50 for full-fare customers (exact fare only). When full fare is paid, a transfer card (30¢) can be purchased for two or more rides in two hours on CTA or Pace.



- **Transit Cards** – Deduct full fares and transfers on CTA and Pace.

Full-fare Transit Cards can be purchased from vending machines at CTA rail stations. Put in the exact amount you want on the card (\$1.50 to \$91). Cards are also available at Currency Exchanges, Jewel, Dominick's and select Cub Foods stores, and CTA's website at

www.transitchicago.com. Up to seven full-fare customers can share a Transit Card.



- **Visitor Passes** – Our 1-day (\$5) pass offers 24 hours of unlimited CTA riding from the first use. This pass cannot be shared, recharged, or used on Pace. You can also buy 2-day (\$9), 3-day (\$12) and 5-day (\$18) passes.



For advance sales and sales locations, call 1-888-YOUR-CTA or visit CTA's website at www.transitchicago.com. Passes are sold at Visitor Centers, select museums, Sears Tower, Navy Pier, and at CTA rail stations at O'Hare and Midway airports.

Helpful Phone Numbers

Do you know your route and stop? For schedule information call 836-7000 from any local area code, or visit CTA's website: www.transitchicago.com

For maps and other CTA information, call

CTA Customer Service:

1-888-YOUR-CTA (1-888-968-7282)



City of Chicago Bike Information Hotline:

(312) 742-BIKE (2453)

Free publications are available, including a map showing the best streets for cycling in Chicago.

www.cityofchicago.org/Transportation/BikeInfo



Chicagoland Bicycle Federation:

(312) 427-3325

www.biketraffic.org