

accompanied by an English-speaking driver and guide. Destinations in continental Europe include Paris, Amsterdam, Cologne, Prague, Munich, Venice, Rome, and Milan. As with rail passes, passengers get on and off at their leisure.<sup>20</sup> As researchers studied intercity bus travel in the United States and Germany, they determined that the spatial distribution (distances) between cities was a key determinant in the supply of intercity bus services.<sup>21</sup>

In most major tourism active metropolitan areas, such as Paris, London, Sydney, and Shanghai, city tour buses are available to take visitors around major tourist attractions within the city. Passengers can purchase a single day or multi-day pass and “hop on, hop off” as often as they wish. These bus tours are often known as loop tours; because the buses drive around town in a loop, provide a quick and convenient way to get an overview of a city.

## Important Transportation Links

The final link in the surface transportation system is composed of many modes such as subways, trolleys, intracity buses, water taxis, and light-rail systems. Although each of these forms of transportation is important to the overall transportation system, we will not examine them in this book because they are used primarily for daily commuting to and from work and do not fall within our definition of tourism. However, they do fill an important transportation need for many individuals who do not want to be burdened with automobiles as they travel.

If short distances are involved and/or individuals do not need a car while at their destination, then they may rely on taxi, limousine, ride-sharing, or shuttle services. Taxis fill an important transportation function by efficiently moving large numbers of people within cities, especially in crowded urban areas, as well as to and from airports and railway stations. One of the most significant changes in the tourism industry has been the intermodal tour that combines motorcoach, air travel, railroad, and water travel.<sup>22</sup>

### FYI CONSIDER YOUR OPTIONS

Traveling from Boston to New York? Your options are numerous!

<b>Luxury bus</b>	Called the LimoLiner, this luxury bus costs about \$178 round-trip, takes 4 hours, and features such amenities as reclining leather seats, free sandwiches, and movies.
<b>Bus</b>	Greyhound offers round-trip express service for \$70 with a trip time of about 4 hours and 20 minutes. Standard motorcoach amenities are offered.
<b>Train</b>	Amtrak provides round-trip service for around \$140, and the rail journey takes about 4 hours and 15 minutes. Seats offer more legroom and you can get up and walk around. Café cars sell snacks and drinks. No reservations are required. Just show up and buy a ticket.
<b>High-speed train</b>	Amtrak’s Acela is priced between \$220 and \$280 round-trip, and the special train shaves nearly an hour from the duration of the regular train’s trip. Amenities include extra legroom in comfy seats and power outlets for computers, phones, and DVD players. Foods offered are also a cut above its traditional counterpart.
<b>Airplane</b>	Several airlines offer shuttles between cities. Advance-purchase tickets can often be had for about \$120, whereas walk-up fares may be as high as \$360. But the flight is short (about 1 hour). U.S. Airways even offers a special expedited security check so passengers can arrive just 20 minutes before take-off.

Sources: Based on Limoliner. <http://www.limoliner.com/>  
 Greyhound. <https://www.greyhound.com/farefinder/step2.aspx?>  
 Amtrak’s Acela. <http://tickets.amtrak.com/itd/amtrak#>  
 Expedia. <http://www.expedia.com/Flights-Search>