

Transport in Sydney

Sydney is serviced by an extensive system of public transport that includes trains, buses, ferries and light rail. For complete details re Sydney public transport, please visit:

www.transportnsw.info

Airport to Penrith:

We encourage ICS registrants to use the train to travel to Penrith. It's environmentally friendly and affordable compared to a taxi at over \$150AUD.

There is a railway line servicing Sydney airport, with stations at the Domestic Terminal and the International Terminal. Opal single trip train tickets can be bought at both stations using credit card or \$AUD cash money, or you can purchase a prepaid multi-trip Opal Card.

Opal cards:

Opal cards are prepaid tap on and tap off, multi-trip cards that can be bought and 'topped-up' by pre-set amounts automatically via a link to your credit card. Opal cards can be used on trains (including the airport line) ferries, light rail and government buses. They are useful if the user is going to be in Sydney for a week or more. They are also necessary on some bus routes where daily tickets cannot be purchased with cash money. You can use an Opal card on the bus route from Penrith station to Panthers (17th ICS venue) or purchase an Opal ticket from the driver.

The problem with an Opal card if you are only in Sydney for a limited time is that you may end up with credit on your card. However, you might find that this is off-set by overall savings and convenience. For further details, please visit:

www.opal.com.au then go to 'Opal for Visitors'.

To travel to the congress venue at Penrith:

- Go to platform 1 at either of the airport stations for a train to Central.
- Change at Central and go to platform 18 (Western Line). It will take about 1 hour and 17 minutes to travel from the airport to Penrith station. There are lifts at the platforms so you don't have to use the stairs with luggage.

The cost of train travel from the airport to Penrith varies depending if you travel in peak or off-peak times. Sunday rates are even cheaper. However, expect to pay about \$20AUD.

If you need assistance, please ask the railway staff as they are very helpful.

From Penrith station, you can travel to the Congress venue at Panthers by:

- Bus, close to the railway station, Belmore Street, Stand 15/16. It's less than a 10 minute bus ride to Panthers and the cost is about \$2.00 per ticket. If you need assistance, just ask a driver. (You can use your Opal Card or you will need cash to buy the bus ticket)
- Taxi. Cost is about \$12.00 and the trip takes about five minutes. (You can use cash or credit card.)

- Walk. It will take you about 20 minutes.

For registrants staying at the Mercure Hotel accommodation, this is located next to the Panthers venue to the left.

Opal Single Trip Tickets:

If you do not have an Opal card you need a valid Opal ticket to travel on public transport in Sydney. Ticket inspectors board the trains and passengers without a valid Opal ticket will be fined. You can purchase an Opal ticket to Penrith station from the airport railway stations using cash or credit card to purchase.

You will then need to buy an Opal bus ticket if you get onto a bus at Penrith station. You can buy the ticket from the bus driver (cash only).

For one-off visitors to Sydney using just a couple of train services, buying a day ticket is the easiest option. However, if you are planning to use public transport in Sydney for a week, then you could consider an Opal card.

Security on trains:

Trains are fitted with security alarms and cameras and security officers also regularly board the trains.

Taxis in Sydney:

Taxis can readily be found at Sydney airport and Penrith Station. In Australia, it is illegal for taxi drivers to approach potential customers. Taxis combined services phone: 13 33 00. Alternatively, 131008 is an Australia wide phone number for taxis.

Uber in Sydney:

Uber is a ride-share system where you connect to a driver via a phone app. There is no timetable or advance bookings. You connect via the app when you need a driver. Payment is by card only. The app can be downloaded to android or i-phones.

<https://www.uber.com/cities/sydney/>

No Smoking:

Smoking is not permitted on public transport or in taxis in Australia.

Tipping:

As elsewhere in Australia, wages, taxes and fees are built into transport charges and tipping is not required.