

Transport in Sydney

(This information written in March 2016. The writer uses public transport in Sydney regularly. The information will be updated in June 2017.)

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:

There is a railway line servicing Sydney airport, with stations at the Domestic Terminal and the International Terminal. Tickets can be bought at both stations. To travel to the congress venue of 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.

The cost of train travel from the airport to Penrith varies between \$4.50 and \$6.50 depending if you travel in peak or off-peak times. Sunday rates are even cheaper. However, there is an additional airport access fee of \$13.40 if using one of the airport stations. (This fee is to assist in paying for the cost of building the airport railway service.)

From Penrith station, you can access Panthers by:

- Bus, close to the railway station, Belmore Street, Stand 15. It's less than a 10 minute bus ride to Panthers and the cost is about \$2.00 per ticket.
- Taxi. Cost is about \$12.00 and the trip takes about two minutes.
- Walk. It will take you about 20 minutes.

The only accommodation associated with the ICS that is immediate to Panthers is the Mercure. The other venues are about a further 10 minute walk from Panthers.

For more details, including map, re accessing Panthers from Penrith station:

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/dir/Penrith+Interchange+-+Stand+15/Penrith+Panthers+Leagues+Club,+Penrith,+New+South+Wales/@-33.7542825,150.6863108,16z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1s0x6b1285f323838aa5:0xeacb4c021c6ef409!2m2!1d150.6970708!2d-33.7505105!1m5!1m1!1s0x6b128f57053f36a1:0xa7bf10a6c5e7fbcc!2m2!1d150.6843056!2d-33.7575075!3e2>

(see image next page)

Tickets:

You need a valid ticket to travel on public transport in Sydney. Ticket inspectors board the trains and passengers without a valid ticket will be fined. You can buy a ticket to Penrith from the airport railway stations. For one-off visitors to Sydney using just a couple of train services, buying a day ticket is the easiest option.

Opal cards:

Opal cards are 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 required on some bus routes where daily tickets are not sold. (The route from Penrith station to Panthers does not require an Opal card.)

The draw-back with an Opal card if you are only in Sydney for a limited time is that you will likely 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’.

Security on trains:

Trains are fitted with security alarms and cameras and security officers also regularly board the trains. For those wanting to read and relax there are ‘quiet carriages’. Conversations are not permitted in quiet carriages and phones cannot be used. If you find yourself in the wrong carriage, then it’s easy to move to an adjacent one.

