<u>The Capernwray London Coach: How to get from the London Airports to London Victoria Coach</u> Station

At the airport

Remember to allow plenty of time to get through immigration. Don't forget to have all the documentation listed in your **Welcome Pack checklist** printed out and ready to show on landing.

Once you're through immigration you're heading for **Victoria Coach Station** (post code SW1W 9TP) where the Capernwray coach is going to leave from. Aim to be there by 12 noon on arrival day, the coach cannot stay longer than 13.00 (Please note that there is also a Victoria Train Station and Victoria Bus Station, which are close but not the same place - so be careful!)

By coach

This is the easiest and cheapest (but not quickest) way from the London airports to Victoria Coach Station. The biggest providers are <u>National Express</u> and <u>Easy Bus</u> and their websites give details of where to catch the coach depending on which terminal you come in on, timings, and costs, and the chance to buy your ticket in advance. The advantages are that the coach will take you to the same place the Capernwray coach is leaving from, and it's cheap: fares are from about £10. The disadvantage is it can be a little slow. Depending on the time of day it can take up to two hours from Gatwick and 90 mins from Heathrow.

By train or tube

It's normally a little quicker but more expensive to get the train into London from both airports. The **Heathrow Express** goes to Paddington Station, which would then mean a tube journey over to Victoria Train Station, which with luggage isn't always easy and will take in total about 90 mins. Probably more simple to get the coach. The **Gatwick Express** is easier, going direct to London Victoria Train Station, and takes about 35 minutes. Victoria Train Station is then about a 7-minute walk from Victoria Coach Station (directions below).

You can buy rail tickets at the stations or at the rail information desks located in arrivals at the airport terminals. Or you could buy one before you leave home using the <u>Trainline</u> website, which will also give you the journey times.

There are many different tube lines you could use. Best option would probably be the Piccadilly Line to Hammersmith, then change to District line and continue to Victoria Station, and then walk to the Coach station. (see below)

If you're using the train and come into London Victoria Train station, head for Terminus Place, and emerge onto Buckingham Palace Road. Turn left, and walk for about a third of a mile. Victoria Coach Station is on the intersection with Elizabeth Street. (Make sure you head for Victoria Coach Station, not Victoria Bus station, which is in the opposite direction.) If you're using postcodes (zip codes) in a walking app or similar, Victoria Coach Station is SW1W 9TP.

Taxi

Your easiest but also most expensive option would be to get a taxi from the airport to London Victoria Coach station. This might still be an option for you, especially if you're travelling together with someone and can split the cost.

At Victoria Coach Station

The Capernwray coach will be in one of the coach bays at Victoria Coach Station; unfortunately we won't be told in advance which one. It's normally a 'Traveller's Choice' coach, but there'll be people wearing Capernwray hoodies and T-shirts hanging around with a 'Capernwray' sign. Aim to get to the coach station at 12 noon.

If you miss the Capernwray Coach

Don't panic: it happens to somebody every year!

Walk to Victoria Train station and buy a train ticket to **Carnforth** (which is the nearest station to Capernwray). Fares vary, but it should be between about £50 & £100. Then using that ticket take the tube (London Underground) to **Euston Station**, where the train north will leave from. You'll then need to change once more at either Manchester Piccadilly or Lancaster stations (your ticket will say which) to get the train for Carnforth. Depending on the train, the journey will take between 3.5 to 4 hours.

If a train to Carnforth isn't possible, aim for Lancaster.

Once you're on your train ring Capernwray (+44 (0)1524 733908) and tell us where you're heading for, and the departure time of the train you're on. We'll come and pick you up from either Carnforth or Lancaster stations.

Bon Voyage!