SINGAPORE
PUBLIC TRANSPORT
AT A GLANCE

General information

- Land area: 715.8km²
- Total Population: 5.312M
  - Singapore Residents: 3.818M
  - Labour Force: 3.362M
- Total Visitor Arrivals: 14.423M
- GDP (Current price): S$345.6 billion
- Per Capita GDP ($) S$65,048

Key Transport Statistics

- Total Motorized Vehicle Population: 969,910
  - No. of Private Cars: 535,233
  - No. of Taxis: 28,210
  - No. of Buses: 17,162
  - No. of Motorcycles: 144,110
- Length of Expressway (km): 161
- Length of Local Access Roads (km): 2,051
- Length of Rail (MRT, LRT) (km): 177.7
- No. of Fatalities: 99,714
- Average Bus Fleet: 3,516
- No. of Bus Routes in Operation: 348

Singapore is known for its free trade economy, excellent transport system, and sound business infrastructure. Its highly penetrative public transport system consists of three main modes of transport: Mass Rapid Transit (MRT), buses, and taxis.

The Land Transport Authority (LTA) was established in 1995, after the merger of four public sectors entities:
- Registry of Vehicles
- Mass Rapid Transit Corporation
- Roads & Transportation Division of the Public Works Department
- Land Transportation Division of the Ministry of Communications

Since the 2008 Land Transport Master Plan was published, numerous initiatives have been made to enhance Public Transport services. At this stage, the Land Transport Authority continues to aim to make public transport a choice mode of travel. They are:
- More rails and trains - the length of rail network increased from 138km to 178km (MRT 149km, LRT 29km) with 99 MRT stations and 34 LRT stations in 2012. As a result, average daily ridership of rapid transit system increased from 1.81 million (MRT 1.72 million, LRT 89,000) to 2.65 million (MRT 2.53 million, LRT 124,000).
- Improved of bus services – The average bus fleet in operation has increased from 3,268 to 3,516. Together LTA and bus operators (SBST and SMRTB) have tightened the bus Quality of Service (QoS) standards to reduce waiting time; a minimum of four in five bus service run every 10 minutes or less during weekday peak hours.

In addition to the 35km of normal bus lanes and 16km of full bus lanes, LTA implemented the Mandatory Give-Way to Buses scheme at 218 busy bays island-wide to ensure quicker travel for commuters. The average daily bus ridership increased from 3.09 million to 3.48 million.
- More convenient taxi travel – a common taxi booking number was launched in 2008 to assist commuters to have access to all taxi companies using one booking system.

Singapore’s success in driving public transport is also due to the tight control on road usage and system, and reduce reliance on private transportation. Since the launch of Electronic Road Pricing (ERP) in 1998, Singapore has successfully controlled traffic volume within the city area. Together with Certificate of Entitlement (COE) system, LTA has gradually reduced vehicle growth rate from 3 percent in 1990 to 0.5 per cent in 2013.

Source: Land Transport Authority – all data is as of 2012 unless stated otherwise