Transportation from
RJD – San Diego

Directions to the Bay Area, Central California (Sacramento to Bakersfield), and Southern California (LA and San Diego)

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Getting home from prison can be difficult and expensive, and you may have no more than $200 to pay for the return trip. This guide is intended to provide information on transportation options from prison.
**LEAVING PRISON:**
On the day of your release, you will be taken to Receiving and Release, where you will be provided clothing, identification, and gate money.

**Clothing:** The prison will provide you clothes for your release. There are some clothes that have been donated, and you also may purchase clothes from PIA using your gate money.

If someone has sent dressouts, they will be waiting for you at Receiving and Release. An individual must send the items thirty days prior to your release, write “dressouts” as well as the person they are being delivered to.

**Identification:** You may keep your CDCR-issued identification, and this will likely be the only identification available. However, recent legislation has required CDCR and DMV to supply individuals leaving prison with identification. Starting January 1st, 2015, AB 2308 requires the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Department of Motor Vehicles to ensure that inmates released from state prisons have valid identification cards (pictured right).

If you are leaving prison, and you meet all the following requirements:
1. Previously held a CA driver’s license or ID card.
2. Have a usable photo on file with the DMV that is not more than 10 years old.
3. No outstanding fees due for a prior CA identification card.
4. DMV verified your name, date of birth, social security number, and legal presence in the US.

Then, you should get an identification card. **Prior to release, speak with your counselor about getting your CA ID.** Identification is important to get public benefits, housing, and other important necessities.

**Gate Money:** Deuel Vocational Institution started issuing debit cards as gate money (pictured left) instead of cash. This debit card should have your $200 gate money, in addition to the money in your trust account.

**Asking for help:** “My advice would be to ask for help. I asked for directions from anybody I could once I got to San Francisco. I actually asked directions from three police officers. I left with another guy, and he was freaking when I approached the police. I told him, ‘Relax we’re not doing anything – we’re free.’” – Mark Self, released from Solano 2015.

**Electronic Tellers:** Americans now purchase many items from electronic tellers. “The weirdest experience I had was going to a store and there were no tellers – just go in and check yourself out. That was crazy,” recalled Daron Jones, who served thirty years and was released in 2015. Electronic tellers are discussed extensively in this packet.
**Beyer Boulevard Trolley Station at San Ysidro:** If you do not have someone scheduled to pick you up, you will likely be taken to the Beyer Boulevard Trolley Station It looks like this:

It is the Southernmost station on local San Diego public transport. Purchase a ticket in the same way you would purchase a ticket. The process for purchasing a ticket is very similar to the Metrolink, described below. You will take the train to Santa Fe Depot, the last stop on the BLUE line.

**Santa Fe Depot:** Located in downtown San Diego, the Amtrak and Greyhound stations are run from the same building, which looks like this:
PURCHASING GREYHOUND TICKETS FROM AN AGENT
At the Greyhound station there will likely be a uniformed ticket agent at the counter (see right). They will help you buy a ticket to wherever you are going. You may have to get off the bus and onto other buses on your trip. If possible make sure you buy all tickets needed for your Greyhound trip at your first Greyhound station, rather than purchasing separate tickets at each stop, however do what the ticket agent instructs.

PURCHASING TICKETS USING THE GREYHOUND KIOSK MACHINE
If the Bus/Greyhound station you are at does not have a ticket office/agent, you can purchase bus and train tickets at the Greyhound kiosk machine as shown to the left. You may have to get off the bus and onto other buses on your trip. If possible make sure you buy all tickets needed for your Greyhound trip at your first Greyhound station, rather than purchasing separate tickets at each station you stop at.

The Greyhound kiosk machine uses a touch screen. To purchase tickets using the Greyhound kiosk machine, follow these instructions:

Press the Purchase Tickets button

Press the One Way button.
Press the **first three letters of your destination**, the press the **Continue** button in the bottom right corner.

Press your **destination** on the screen and then press the **Continue** button in the bottom right corner.

Press your **departure date** (probably today’s date) and then press the **Continue** button.
Press the &gt; (arrow) button next to the type of ticket you would like to buy. Then press the **Continue** button.

Press the least expensive price of the trip you would like to take. When the machine asks “Would you like to accept this fare?” press **Accept**.

Type your first and last name into the machine. Then press the **Continue** button. It will then ask you to “Review your Itinerary and Charges.” Make sure everything is as you want it to be then press the Continue button. It will then take you to “Terms and Conditions.” Press the Accept button in the bottom right corner.
Swipe your card in the slot on the right of the machine the way shown in the picture. Your ticket should print and be delivered below the screen.

Congratulations! You're on your way.

Press the way you would like to pay. This likely with “credit card” unless you have cash. You can use the card CDCR provided upon release.
PURCHASING TICKETS AT AN AMTRAK STATION USING A TICKET MACHINE

The Bus/Amtrak station does not have a ticket office. Instead, there is an electronic kiosk where you can purchase bus and train tickets (pictured left). Make sure you buy a ticket all the way to your final destination, rather than purchasing separate tickets for each leg of the journey.

The Quik-Trak machine uses a touch screen. To purchase tickets using the Quick-Trak Machine, follow these instructions:

**Step 1:**
Insert your credit card into the slot and then remove it quickly. Inserting your card into the Quik-Trak machine just activates the machine. Your card will not be billed.

**Step 2:** Touch “Create Reservation” and select the location where you would like to go, and when.
### Step 3:

**Review Your Itinerary and Select “Print Tickets”**.

If this is not your itinerary, select “Enter Reservation Number”.

You can enter your Amtrak Guest Rewards number before ticketing.

**Total:** $68.00

- **Enter Amtrak Guest Rewards**
- **Change First Train**
- **Enter Reservation Number**
- **Cancel Reservation**

**Print Tickets**

Review the information displayed on the Review Your Itinerary screen. Select the **Print Tickets** button. Your printed ticket will appear in Ticket Dispenser after processing.

### Step 4:

Once your ticket has been dispensed, sign your name after the "X" on the top left side. You are now ready to board.
UNDERSTANDING YOUR AMTRAK TICKET AND TRIP

Your Amtrak ticket should look like one of the following shown below. They list your name, departure and arrival location, departure and arrival time. To find the boarding gate where your train is leaving ask an Amtrak employee or look for a monitor that lists it. These monitors will usually list the boarding gate 15 minutes before the departure time of the train. Make sure to get on your train as soon as possible - some trains will not let you on if you don’t board 10 minutes before the departure time. You may have to get on multiple trains to get to your destination. For part of your Amtrak trip you may have to take a Thruway Bus. If you cannot find something make sure to talk to people. Try to find someone who works at Amtrak, but you can always ask for help from a stranger.
**Trains from Santa Fe Depot to Los Angeles and Bakersfield:**
To get from San Diego to Los Angeles, take the Pacific Surfliner, which leaves at 6:06am, 6:57am, 8:23am, 9:18am, 10:41am, 11:57am, and at other times. It will cost approximately $40. For a more expensive ticket, you can get all the way to San Luis Obispo this way. Here is a limited listing of the schedule:

To get to Bakersfield, take the train to Los Angeles, and then transfer to a bus at Los Angeles Union Station. This should cost approximately $66. Be sure to purchase tickets all the way to Bakersfield from Santa Fe Station.
TRAVEL AROUND LOS ANGELES AREA USING METROLINK:

Once you make it to Los Angeles, you can get around the area using MetroLink:
**Purchasing Metrolink Tickets with Ticketing Machine:**

Metrolink tickets are not sold onboard the train, and must be purchased prior to boarding the train. Ticket vending machines (pictured right) are located on Metrolink train platforms. To purchase a ticket, follow these instructions:

**Step 1:** Using the buttons surrounding this screen, select “Buy Ticket From Los Angeles”

**Step 2:** Select the first letter of your

**Step 3:** Select your destination.

**Step 4:** Select One Way trip.

**Step 5:** Select the ticket type. If you are over 65 or disabled, be sure to get a reduced fee ticket.

**Step 6:** Select “Credit” as your payment type and put your gate money card into the machine.
**TRAINS TO BAY AREA AND SACRAMENTO**
To get from San Diego to the Bay Area, take the Pacific Surfliner to Los Angeles, described above. Once you are at Union Station, there are a few options.

**LA AMTRAK STATION (UNION STATION) TO BAY AREA**
At 10:10 am, you can take the Coast Starlight directly to Oakland. It costs $81 and take approximately eleven hours.

At 6:00am, 9:40am, 12:35pm, 1:40pm, 4:15pm, and 10:00pm, you can take a Greyhound bus to Oakland. It costs approximately $65 and takes between eight and ten hours.

You can also take a Megabus from Los Angeles directly to Oakland. It leaves at 9:40am, 1:40pm, 4:50pm, and takes approximately eight hours, and costs approximately $40. Megabus stops are located outside of Union Station, and may be difficult to find.

**LA AMTRAK STATION (UNION STATION) TO SACRAMENTO**
At 10:10 am, the Coast Starlight will take you to Sacramento. It costs $91.

If you cannot make the 10:10, you will have to take a bus to Bakersfield, then transfer to a train, which you will take to Stockton, and transfer to a bus for Sacramento. It costs $59. If you decide to do this, purchase the tickets ALL THE WAY through to Sacramento, instead of each individual leg of the journey.

At 9:50am, 12:15pm, 1:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:40pm, and 10pm, you can get a Greyhound bus directly to Sacramento. It costs approximately $80 and takes between eight and ten hours.
**TRAVEL IN THE BAY AREA USING BART:** Once you are in Richmond, you can transfer to Bart. BART stands for Bay Area Rapid Transit. BART operates five routes on 104 miles (167 km) of line, with 44 stations in four counties. With an average of 373,945 weekday passengers, Saturday passengers, and 119,247 Sunday passengers in January 2013. The BART logo looks like this:

**BART CARD:** This is a BART card (pictured right). Insert it into the turnstile (pictured below) on both entry and exit.

Once you exit, the funds are removed based on the length of your travel. You can know how much money remains on your card by looking next to the arrow, where the remaining amount is printed.

The BART system is complicated, but you can get to most destinations in the Bay Area.
**EMERGENCY SERVICES**
These service providers can help you in the event of a problem:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SACRAMENTO:</th>
<th>OAKLAND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For all services, dial 2-1-1 on any phone.</td>
<td><strong>Food:</strong> Alameda County Community Food Bank Call 510-635-3663 to get registered to pick up food. Their address is 7900 Edgewater Drive Oakland, CA 94621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emergency Shelters for men:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shelters:</strong> Dial 2-1-1 on any phone, and someone will direct you to a shelter. Also try:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Union Gospel Mission</strong> 400 North Bannon Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph. (916) 447-3268 Provides a seven 7-night stay for single men. Be there at the black metal gate by 5:30 p.m. for a <em>first come/first serve</em> basis. You can have 7 nights in, then stay out for three nights, and come back for 7 more days. Preference usually given to &quot;first timers&quot; or new people, so let the staff know if this is your first time.</td>
<td>City Team 722 Washington St., Oakland, CA 510.452.3758 and wait to dial 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salvation Army</strong> 200 North B Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph. (916) 442-0331 x0 Emergency shelter provided for single men or women only. You must be at their B street lobby at 1:00 p.m. for placement onto the waiting list. Offers a 30 to 60 day shelter assisting in employment and housing independence.</td>
<td><strong>Healthcare:</strong> Dial 9-1-1 if it is an emergency. 1411 E 31st St, Oakland, CA (510) 437-4800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adult Shelter VOA</strong> 1400 North A Street, Building B, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph. (916) 448-5507 You must show up the first time to have your name placed on the waiting list. Check in each day 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Intake is at 1:00 p.m. Call in each day for check-in after your name is on the list. When your name is close to the top, then show up or if you call in the staff will tell you to show up if you may receive a bed space.</td>
<td><strong>SAN FRANCISCO</strong> <strong>Food:</strong> Glide serves over 1,000 meals daily. Glide Memorial Church 330 Ellis St. 415-674-6000</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>LOS ANGELES:</strong> For all services, dial 2-1-1 on any phone.</td>
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<td><strong>Shelters:</strong> Year Round Emergency Shelter (800) 548-6047, TTY: (800) 660-4026</td>
<td><strong>Healthcare:</strong> Dial 9-1-1 if it is an emergency. San Francisco General Hospital 1001 Portrero Ave. San Francisco, CA 94110 415-206-8000</td>
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<td><strong>BAKERSFIELD:</strong> For all services, dial 2-1-1 on any phone.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shelter and Food:</strong> Bakersfield Homeless Center 1600 East Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA (661) 322-9199</td>
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