

TRIPS TO PORTLAND VIA PARK 'N RIDE

If Shaw's Plaza is the closest place for you to park, the Metro #7, Falmouth Flyer, is your ticket to go anywhere in Portland—or literally anywhere in the world, with transfers at the transportation center and airport—without the expense and trouble of driving. (If you live in West Falmouth, the Metro #6, which stops at Hannaford Plaza, may be your closest Metro into Portland). Transfer at Metro Pulse, on Elm St. just opposite the newly renovated Portland Library, to connect to the Portland area and beyond.

To use Park 'N Ride, park between green signs in front of old Shaws. If you bike, there are bike racks at Shaws, and an easy-to-use rack is mounted on the front of the bus. The driver is happy to help if needed). The bus leaves Shaws for Oceanview at 10 minutes before the hour, returns to Shaw's, and heads for Portland 5 min. after each hour. Kids under 5 ride free (more fare info. on reverse).

TIMES ending in :05 are from Shaws Plaza; adjust by a few minutes to find the time from the nearest stop along (marked by yellow /red Metro sign). Stop not listed on the schedule? Ask your driver, who will be happy to tell you the return time.

Obviously there are thousands of wonderful Portland excursions you can plan or enjoy spontaneously; here are just a few ideas to get you started.

Park 'N Ride to Portland and Return Anytime, All Day. With Park 'N Ride (or Bike 'N Ride) you have schedule flexibility. Park between green Park 'N Ride signs in front of the old Shaws, or use the two bike racks. Catch the bus into Portland at five minutes after the hour (9:05, 10:05, etc), and return from Monument Square every hour on the half hour (11:30, 12:30, etc.).

Portland Public Library, Maine Historical Society, Old Port. The Flyer runs straight from the Foreside to the newly-renovated Portland Public Library and is convenient to everything in the Old Port and to Congress St..

Portland Library Story Time. Kids LOVE riding the bus, and excursions are so much more enjoyable with no downtown parking hassles. Enjoy the breathtaking views as you show your kids how to care about the earth! Ride the 10:05 to Tuesday's 10:30 AM Story Hour (the 9:05 leaves time for muffins beforehand at one of the shops in Monument Square).

Family Restaurant Outing in the Old Port. Take the 4:05 or 5:05 and enjoy quality time with your family as you enjoy the beautiful views on the way into

Portland. Deboard at Exchange St.. Enjoy a local restaurant and a stroll in the Old Port without worrying about parking. Take the 6:30 home from Monument Square.

Downtown Lunch Date. Take the 11:05 or 12:05 to Monument Square for lunch and a bookstore browse before taking the 2:30 home.

Fun on Munjoy Hill/East End. Take any bus to the creative East End Shopping District and savor some of the coolest spots in Southern Maine. Catch the 6:35 home (adjust any time by approximately the time it takes the bus to get from Monument Square; the driver will be happy to confirm the return time for you).

Late Afternoon Stress-free Portland Date. Take the 4:05 to Monument Square, arrive at 4:30 and enjoy one of the cafes, bars, or tea shops around Monument Square for a relaxing, driving-free date before taking the 6:30 home.

Local Shopping Day: Portland Farmers Market and Italian Grocery. Take the 8:05 or 9:05 AM on a Wednesday to Monument Square's Public Market café, then shop the Farmer's Market ("one of America's best"—*Travel & Leisure*). Catch the 12:30 Flyer back towards Falmouth, getting off at Congress and India. Lunch on pizza and shop for Italian goodies in the historic Italian district, then stroll back to Congress with your purchases for the 2:40 or 3:40 home.

Summer Beach Adventure. Grab your hat and flip-flops and catch any bus to Monument Square. Transfer at Metro Pulse, Elm St. just opposite the newly renovated Portland Library, for Metro #1 to East End Beach or South Portland #1 to Willard Beach.

Peaks Island Getaway. Deboard from any bus at Congress and India for a brief walk to Casco Bay Lines. Enjoy Peaks at your leisure; forget about parking costs!

Bike 'N Ride Adventures. If you enjoy biking but not *too* many miles, put your bike on any bus from Shaws to Mackworth or Audubon, enjoy exploring, then bike home, or bus to Shaws and bike home.