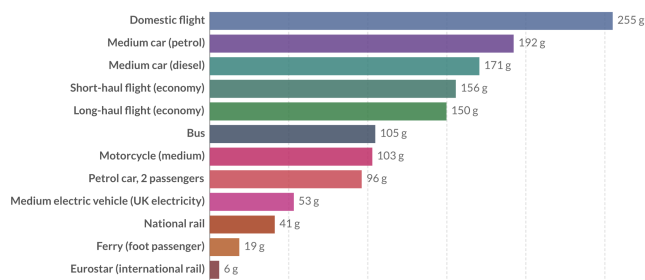


The Carbon footprint of travel

Transport accounts for around one-fifth of global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions [24% if we only consider CO₂ emissions from energy]. In some countries – often richer countries with populations that travel often – transport can be one of the largest segments of an individual's carbon footprint.



Carbon footprint of travel per kilometre-

Source: UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2019.

Using a bike or walking instead of a car for short trips would reduce your travel emissions by ~75%. Taking a train instead of a car for medium distances would cut your emissions by ~80%. Using a train instead of a domestic flight would reduce your emissions by ~84%.

Public transport is good for YOU too!

If you use public rather than private transport to get around, not only are you helping CO₂, but you're also helping to reduce congestion and the need to build more roads, you can relax, phone, work, chat while you are not driving, and you don't need a "designated driver"

Public Transport routes from Melksham

Trains to Chippenham and Swindon - 7 days a week, about every 2 hours into the early evening

Trains to Trowbridge and Westbury - 7 days a week, about every 2 hours into the early evening

271/2/3 bus to Bath - 7 days a week, every 30 minutes on Monday to Saturday and every 2 hours on Sunday. Some evening services except on Sunday.

272/3 bus to Devizes - 7 days a week, every hour on Monday to Saturday and every 2 hours on Sunday. Some evening services except on Sunday.

x34 bus to Chippenham - daytime, Monday to Saturday, one or two buses an hour.

x34 bus to Trowbridge and Frome - daytime, Monday to Saturday, one or two buses an hour.

68 and 69 bus to Corsham - four times daily, Monday to Saturday

69 and x69 bus to Bradford-on-Avon - four times daily, Monday to Saturday

Town bus services on routes 14 and 15 - serving Melksham Forest and Queensway regularly, with some services to north and east Melksham and to Berryfield, Monday to Saturday daytime.

Using public transportation

Of course.



<http://option247.uk/>



Option 24/7



Melksham Transport User Group

<http://mtug.org.uk>

Next Meeting - 9th Nov 2022 – All Welcome

This leaflet prepared for ClimateFest, 2nd October 2022, looking at climate and environment issues.

Who's who and where to find out more

Faresaver run most of the buses between Melksham and other towns



<https://www.faresaver.co.uk>
01249 444444

FromeBus run the town bus service



<http://www.fromebus.co.uk>
01373 471474

Great Western Railway run the train services



<https://www.gwr.com>
0345 700 0125

Wiltshire Council specify and fund supported bus services, and oversee the Enhanced Partnership and encourage public transport use. They also look after statutory school buses, senior and disabled bus cards.

Option 24/7 is The County-wide community group (reps in all 18 areas) working with Wiltshire Council under "Bus Back Better" and the local Bus Service Improvement Plan and with the Passenger Charter

Melksham Transport User Group. We were key in rail service improvements in Melksham and in working with partners for continuing and improving bus service.



Buses

* Even a diesel bus with a moderate number of passengers makes a significant saving over those same passengers travelling by private car or taxi

* Savings with an electric bus are greater, though the question comes as to where the electricity comes from.

* Solar panels on the bus depot roof, battery storage for power generated during the day to then charge buses overnight - the model being used by The Big Lemon from Brighton



* A Big Lemon bus demonstrated a route from the Railway Station to the Town Centre, residential areas, sports and medical facilities and business and industrial areas on 17th September

* Parties are working together to establish the demonstration route as an all day, every day, sustainable (climate-wise, operationally and financially) service in the future

Trains

Melksham has a train departure about once an hour, all day every day until mid evening.

Alternate trains run

- **to Chippenham** (change for Bath and Bristol) **and Swindon** (change for London, for South Wales, and Cheltenham Spa)
- **to Trowbridge** (change for Bath and Bristol) **and Westbury** (change for Salisbury, Frome, Yeovil the South West and the South Coast)

* Our trains are diesel powered at present, but it's much more efficient to travel medium or longer distances that way than by any other mode (including flying)

* When you change at Swindon for connecting trains to London or South Wales, they will be electric powered and even more climate friendly. And there is a rolling program proposed for further electrification, including the line through Melksham.

* The line through Melksham is part of a long single track. Capacity improvements are needed to enable the train service to be doubled from the current poor one to a service appropriate for the town.

* Melksham Station is a 10 minute walk from the Town Bridge and has cycle and car parking (chargeable) available. Buses do not run to the station at present, as the bus routes were last updated when there were no daytime trains at all.

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