

## **St Helens Bus Station**

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### **Location**

St Helens Bus Station is situated on Corporation St opposite the Theatre Royal and adjacent to the Hardshaw Shopping Centre on Bickerstaffe St and the Millennium Centre on Hall St. It consists of three sets of three bus stands. Merseytravel Centre is located at the end of the bus station nearest to Hardshaw Shopping Centre and can be accessed by pedestrian crossing from the Hardshaw Centre. St Helens Central Rail station is situated a short walk away across a minor road at the end of the bus station nearest to Hall St.

### **General Description**

St Helens Bus Station is rectangular in shape with bus stands situated on three separate islands lying parallel to each other in the centre of the rectangle. There are three stops on each island. In between each island there is a roadway which is only used by buses. There are crossing points at both ends of each island. Buses enter the station from Corporation St and from Hall Street. The majority leave via an exit nearest to Hardshaw Shopping Centre close to the Merseytravel Centre.

All of the bus stands are under cover with floor to ceiling glass walls and openings to access the bus. There are yellow markings along the glass walls approximately 1 metre from the floor.

Footpaths run along the outside of the stands with tactile directional paving at right angles to indicate the opening to access the bus shelters. These footpaths have a roof covering but are open on the road side.

There are railings along the edge of the pavement adjacent to the footpath protecting pedestrians from the bus ways and perimeter roads.

There is a small pedestrian crossing point nearest to Hardshaw Shopping centre and Merseytravel centre. This is where most of the buses leave the bus station.

### **Layout**

For the purposes of this guide Merseytravel Centre is the starting point for the description of the layout.

Merseytravel Centre is situated on the side of the bus station nearest to Hardshaw Shopping Centre and the pedestrian crossing at the bus exit lane.

With your back to Merseytravel Centre and the Hardshaw shopping Centre on your right, you will be facing the pedestrian crossing to access the bus stands numbered 7-9.

Turn left from here and follow the path along to the next opening on the right. There is tactile paving and a gap in the railings to indicate a crossing point to access the bus stands numbered 4-6.

Stands 1-3 can be accessed by continuing as far as you can go to the junction with Corporation St. Turn right to access a crossing point indicated by tactile paving. This will lead to bus stands 1-3.

### **Stands 1-3**

Bus stands 1-3 are located on the island furthest away from Merseytravel Centre. With your back to Merseytravel Centre, turn left and follow the footpath to the junction with Corporation Street. Along this route there are a couple of shops on the left hand side which are under cover and the footpath turns slightly to the left. Continue to follow it to reach Corporation Street. There are railings along the right hand side of the footpath to protect pedestrians from bus traffic. Once at the tactile paving at Corporation St, turn to the right to face the busway. Stands 1-3 are across this busway. Traffic approaches from the left off Corporation St and there are yellow parallel lines on the road to indicate the suggested crossing route.

Once across the busway there is tactile paving on the up kerb. Several paces ahead and slightly to the right there is an information stand providing timetable information. The position of this stand is indicated by a square of cushion floor immediately in front of the stand. This is red coloured against a grey tarmac background.

The bus stands can be located by following the tactile paving straight ahead from the up kerb until you come to the main building of the bus shelters. Slightly to the left of the building there is a narrow tactile strip of directional paving that runs the whole length of the outside of the bus stands to aid orientation. The bus stands are to the right of this strip and there is a railing along the left hand side nearest the road. There are tactile strips at right angles to the main strip to indicate the access points to bus stands. The stands consist of glass panels on both sides and all three bus stands can be accessed once inside.

The first stand you come to on the right is stand 1 increasing in number to stand 3. There are openings to enable access to each of the bus stands. The buses are boarded on the side of the stand opposite to these openings. Each stand has a large sign above at ceiling height indicating the number of the stop. These are black against yellow. If you enter the bus stands at these openings there are also large number signs at ceiling height near to the point of access for the buses and a small TV screen giving timetable information. The waiting area for each bus stop is in this general location. There are bright yellow seating areas at various points along the length of the covered bus stands.

## **Stands 4-6**

Stands 4-6 are located on the middle of the three islands that make up St Helens bus station. To access these, stand with your back to Merseytravel Centre and turn left. Follow the footpath to an opening in the railings on the right hand side of the footpath. Tactile paving indicates the crossing point. Buses leave the bus station via this road and will approach from in front and slightly to the left of the crossing point. There is a contrasting colour on busway for suggested crossing route.

Once across the busway there is tactile paving on the up kerb. Several paces ahead and slightly to the left there is an information stand providing timetable information. The position of this stand is indicated by a square of cushion floor immediately in front of the stand. This is red coloured against a grey tarmac background. Ahead and to the right of the main building of the bus shelters there is a footpath that runs the length of the outside of the bus stands. The entrances to the bus stands are on the left hand side with a railing protecting pedestrians from the bus lanes on the right. There are narrow strips of tactile paving across the footpath to indicate access points to bus stands. The stands consist of glass panels on both sides and all three bus stands can be accessed once inside.

The first stand on the left is number 6 and they decrease to number 4 as you continue down the footpath.

There are openings to enable access to each of the bus stands. The buses are boarded on the opposite side of the stand to these openings. Each stand has a large sign above at ceiling height indicating the number of the stop. These are black against yellow. If you enter the bus stands at these openings there are also large number signs at ceiling height near to the point of access for the buses and a small TV screen giving timetable information. The waiting area for each bus stop is in this general location. There are bright yellow seating areas at various points along the length of the covered bus stands.

## **Stands 7-9**

Stands 7-9 are located on the island closest to Merseytravel centre. To access these, stand with your back to the Merseytravel centre, slightly to the left of the door, and the Hardshaw Shopping centre on your right. Move ahead to the pedestrian crossing point. This is pedestrian controlled and is the main route out of the bus station for most of the buses. When at this point the traffic should be coming from the left.

Once across the busway there is tactile paving on the up kerb. Several paces ahead and slightly to the left there is an information stand providing timetable information. The position of this stand is indicated by a square of cushion floor immediately in front of the stand. This is red coloured against a grey tarmac background. Ahead and to the right of the main building of the bus shelters there is a footpath that runs the length of the outside of the bus stands. The entrances to the

bus stands are on the left hand side with a railing protecting pedestrians from the road on the right. There are narrow strips of tactile paving across the footpath to indicate access points to bus the stands. The stands consist of glass panels on both sides and all three bus stands can be accessed once inside.

The first stand you come to on the left is number 9 and they decrease in number to number 7.

There are openings to enable access to each of the bus stands. The buses are boarded on the opposite side of the stand to these openings. Each stand has a large sign above at ceiling height indicating the number of the stop. These are black against yellow. If you enter the bus stands at these openings there are also large number signs at ceiling height near to the point of access for the buses and a small TV screen giving timetable information. The waiting area for each bus stop is in this general location. There are bright yellow seating areas at various points along the length of the covered bus stands.

At the end of each island furthest away from the Merseytravel centre there are crossing points indicated by tactile paving to allow pedestrians to cross busways to access all of the bus stands. These are not controlled crossings. Traffic on them should only be buses entering, manoeuvring around and leaving the bus station.