

Conservation Week Travel Information



At Trees for Life, we are making an effort to reduce our overall carbon footprint and we encourage our volunteers to use land based, public transport to reach Inverness, wherever possible.

Bus and Train

There are a number of bus and train options available and if you shop around and book early, it's possible to get discounted fares. Good places to start looking for information and booking tickets are www.thetrainline.com, www.nationalexpress.com and www.megabus.com. It's a good idea to contact the travel providers directly too (i.e., National Express, FirstScotrail etc) as it's quite often possible to get cheaper tickets this way and websites like *thetrainline* charge a booking fee.

If possible, start looking for train tickets 12 weeks in advance – this is generally when cheaper tickets start being released. Sign up to *thetrainline*'s ticket alert system, which will email you the moment cheap advance tickets for a specific journey are on sale. If you haven't got that long before the start of your week, it's still worth calling to check if advance tickets are still available, as they can sometimes still be bought as late as the night before travelling.

If advance tickets aren't available, experiment with altering the route slightly. Look in to getting two singles instead of a return and try varying the route or breaking up the journey. This can quite often reduce the cost substantially while having very little impact on your journey.

If you are under 25, over 60 or a full time student of any age, you qualify for a railcard. This will save you a third of the cost of your train ticket, and is valid for a whole year. These can be bought either direct from a train station or from www.railcard.co.uk.

The National Rail website (www.nationalrail.co.uk) is another good one to visit as it has a page listing all current special offers.

Accommodation in Inverness

Many volunteers find that it's easier and cheaper to travel to Inverness on the Friday before their Conservation Week starts. If this is the case for you, the Bazpackers Hostel (www.bazpackershostel.co.uk, 01463 717663) offers a 10 % discount to all Trees for Life volunteers.

We appreciate that sometimes, for various reasons, it's not possible to use public transport. If you have to bring your own vehicle, please try and share a lift with other volunteers by registering at www.tflvolunteer.org and posting a note on the car-sharing forum.

Please inform Trees for Life staff if you are planning on bringing your own transport, as this option is not possible for all locations.

Remember, we are here to help. If you have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to call us on 01309 691292.