

# **HOW TO RIDE THE TRAIN**





There are several options for getting around by train in Mercer County. This section will cover available routes, fares, and timetables.

# TRAIN SERVICE IN MERCER COUNTY

NJ TRANSIT provides rail service along the **Northeast Corridor rail line** between Trenton and New York City. The following stations are located in Mercer County:

Trenton Transit Center	72 South Clinton Ave., Trenton
Hamilton Station	Sloan Ave. near I-295, Hamilton
Princeton Junction	2 Wallace Rd., West Windsor



NJ TRANSIT provides train shuttle service called the **Princeton Shuttle (Dinky) between Princeton Borough (Alexander Rd.) and Princeton Junction.** 



Additionally, the NJ TRANSIT light rail service on the **River LINE from Trenton to Camden** has three stops located in Mercer County, all within Trenton: Cass Street, Hamilton Avenue, and Trenton Transit Center.



**SEPTA** provides regional train service between Mercer County and Philadelphia. There are stops in Trenton and West Trenton.



**Amtrak** operates two train stations in Mercer County, one in Trenton and the other at Princeton Junction.



# **NJ TRANSIT**

NJ TRANSIT provides train service along the **Northeast Corridor (NEC) train line** between New York City and Trenton. Check the **NJ TRANSIT website** for timetables or call **973-275-5555** for more information. Physical timetables can be found at most rail stations. You can see which stations are origins and destinations for each train on that particular route. Remember, not all trains stop at each station on a given run.



To learn how to read a timetable, follow the instructions below and practice with the table on the next page.

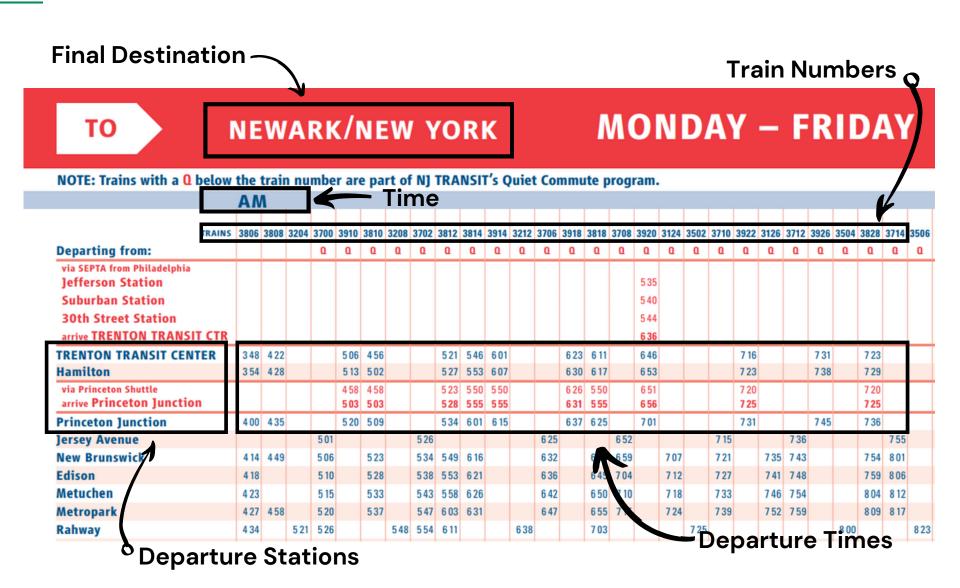
- Once you know which two rail stations you will be traveling between, using train timetables is a snap.

  First, identify the section for the direction in which you would like to travel (AM or PM, weekday or weekend.)
- **Next**, find your desired station by reading down on the list and follow the line to the right until you get to your desired departure time. It's that easy!
- To find out **when you will arrive**, start at the departure time you just found and follow the column down until you reach the time across from your arrival location.

If you are unsure of which stations you need, the NJ TRANSIT website can assist you by allowing you to use a landmark or street to find the appropriate station. As always, call Greater Mercer TMA at **609-452-1491** for assistance.



## $\equiv$ TIMETABLES





# **BUYING THE TRAIN TICKET**

Fares are based on the locations between which the trip occurs. Individuals with disabilities and seniors 62 and older with valid I.D. will receive reduced fares on all train trips.



### Ticket Offices or Ticket Vending Machines (TVM)

Most rail stations have Ticket Offices or Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs). TVMs are easy to use. Simply follow the on-screen instructions. TVMs accept cash, debit cards and credit cards.

The NJ TRANSIT Station and Parking Guide, which is available at the NJ Transit website, provides additional details about Ticket Office hours and TVM locations.

## MyTix on the NJ Transit Mobile App

Train tickets and passes can now be purchased with your mobile phone through **MyTix** using a credit or debit card, a prepaid credit card. or Apple Pay, Google Pay and PayPal.





## **NJ TRANSIT RIVERLINE**

The River LINE is a light rail train that operates from Trenton to Camden with stations at three Trenton locations: Trenton Transit Center, Hamilton Avenue, and Cass Street. You can find the schedules **online** or on the NJ TRANSIT app.





## Buying tickets

Tickets must be purchased from the **station or Ticket Vending Machine (TVM)** before boarding. When you ride light rail, your one-way ticket must be time stamped at the time of purchase through a TVM or at a **validator box** before boarding, or you will be subject to a fine. You can also purchase daily light rail tickets in the **NJ TRANSIT Mobile App**. Monthly passes, transfers, and trip ticket receipts do not need to be time stamped.

Validator boxes are usually bright orange.

## Riding the Riverline

Once on board, sit and enjoy the ride to your destination. When the train comes to a complete stop upon your arrival, push the green button to open the doors.

## Real-time Updates

Now you can find out when the next train is arriving through MYLIGHTRAIL. Simply call 973–275–5555 or text the light rail Station ID to 69287 and you will get the next scheduled train to arrive at your station.

#### Reduced Fares

Senior Citizens 62 and older and passengers with disabilities can travel at a reduced fare of one-half the regular one-way fare or less at all times. You will need a valid ID to obtain the reduced fare. To learn more, visit the **Reduced Fare Program** website.



## **AMTRAK**

Amtrak operates two train stations in Mercer County, one in <u>Trenton</u> and the other at <u>Princeton Junction</u>. Amtrak also runs a high speed train, the <u>Acela Express</u>, from Boston to Washington D.C. To start planning your trip, visit the <u>Trip Planner</u> and view the available schedules and routes. Travelers 65 years of age and over are eligible to receive a **10% discount** on most rail fares on most Amtrak trains.. Visit their **website** to find out more.









<u>SEPTA</u> has two regional train lines that serve Mercer County. The <u>Trenton</u>
<u>Line</u> terminates at the Trenton Transit Center. The <u>West Trenton Line</u>
terminates in West Trenton, Ewing Township. Both lines provide service to
Center City Philadelphia with local stops in Bucks County.

To ride the regional train lines, tickets must be purchased at the train station or a penalty is applied to the fare. For stations that do not have a building with a ticket vendor, a penalty is not applied for tickets purchased on board.



# **BIKES ON THE TRAIN**

It's easy to take your bicycle with you on the bus or train. Greater Mercer TMA also provides bike lockers at NJ TRANSIT Hamilton and Princeton Junction stations.

#### On the Train

Bikes are allowed on **all NJ Transit trains** except peak-hour trains to Newark, Hoboken and New York City (6:00–10:00 AM) and peak-hour trains from those stations (4:00–7:00 PM). Bikes must be stowed in the **accessible areas of the train** but priority for those spaces is given to persons with disabilities. The River LINE light rail allows bicycles at any time but they must be stowed in the low vestibule section or on hanging racks.





#### Rail Station Bike Lockers

Greater Mercer TMA is NJ TRANSIT's agent for bicycle locker rentals at Hamilton, Princeton Junction. The enclosed lockers easily fit a bike, helmet and some gear. Lockers can be rented in six-month or one-year periods for \$7.50 per month with a \$50 deposit refunded upon return of the key. Call GMTMA at 609-452-1491 for more information.