TRAVELING TO ALBANY, NEW YORK, USA

Flying to the U.S.

The best way to travel by airplane to Albany (ALB) is to book your trip through Chicago (ORD), Detroit (DTT), Philadelphia (PHL), Atlanta (ATL), Newark (EWR), or other airports with good connections to Albany.

If you arrive in the U.S. at John F. Kennedy (JFK) International Airport in New York City or Newark (EWR) International Airport in New Jersey, you will need to travel another 150 miles (240 kilometers) to Albany. See the sections below on “Traveling by Shuttle,” “Traveling by Train,” and “Traveling by Bus” for information on how to get from New York City to Albany.

U.S. Customs – You must present your passport, non-immigrant visa, and I-20/DS-2019 upon arrival. Carry these items on your person, along with your UAAlbany letter of admission and proof of funding. You will not receive a paper copy of your I-94 form (arrival-departure record for immigration). Wherever you arrive in the U.S., you will need to claim your luggage and walk with it through U.S. Customs. If you will be continuing by airplane to Albany, you will need to recheck your luggage before boarding the next flight.

Traveling by Taxi or Lyft from the Albany Airport or Train Station to your New Home

After you arrive at the airport, train, or bus station in Albany, you will need to take a taxi to your local address. The cab fare will be $20–30, depending on the address. You must pay in cash. Tip the driver $1 to $3. Have your address written down in English to give to the driver. The Lyft ride-sharing service also operates in Albany and may cost less than a taxi. Download the Lyft mobile app, create an account, and pay using your phone.

Traveling by Shuttle from New York City to Albany

To travel from New York City to Albany, you can take a shuttle van. Premier Transportation Group offers an Express Shuttle Van (www.premierlimo.com) daily. The van departs at 6:30 pm from JFK and Newark Airports.

The JFK van arrives at the Albany International Airport at 11:00 pm, the fare is $65, and reservations are required. The Newark Van arrives at Albany International Airport at 9:00 pm, and the fare is $60. Call 518-459-6123 (outside U.S.) or 800-515-6123 (inside U.S.). Then you will need to take a taxi to your address in Albany.

Traveling by Train from New York City to Albany

To travel from New York City to Albany, you can take the train. Penn Station is located on 8th Avenue between 31st and 33rd Streets under Madison Square Garden in NYC.

Amtrak trains leave Penn Station daily from 7:00 am–7:00 pm. It is about a 3-hour trip to Albany. You will arrive at Albany-Rensselaer Station. Then you will need to take a taxi to your address in Albany. The cost is $40-$70. Most credit cards are accepted. Tickets can be purchased online, by phone, or at the station.

Two pieces of luggage may be checked at no charge, with a weight of 50 lbs. total. Up to three additional pieces of luggage may be checked for $20 per piece. For more information, please visit www.amtrak.com.

Traveling by Bus from New York City to Albany

To travel from New York City to Albany, you can also take a bus. The Port Authority Bus Terminal is located at 625 8th Avenue, between 40th and 42nd Streets in NYC. Two bus companies, Adirondack Trailways (www.trailways.com) and Greyhound (www.greyhound.com), provide direct service to Albany.

The trip takes about 3 hours and costs about $20. There are 2 convenient stops in Albany: the downtown Albany bus terminal and the University at Albany (listed as “Albany SUNY”).

Students should make their own travel arrangements well in advance of the start of their term.
Traveling by Car from New York City to Albany

If you will be traveling to Albany by car, we suggest you take advantage of a good Internet map (e.g., www.googlemaps.com).

Travel Tips

- Before you depart, photocopy all your important documents (passport, visa, I-20). Put copies in a different place (your carry-on or checked luggage).
- For your safety and convenience, do not book a flight into the U.S. that arrives late at night.
- Never leave bags unattended or carry anything given to you by a stranger. While in an airport, train or bus terminal, ignore non-uniformed persons offering help with baggage or transportation. Go to ground transportation information counters, bus stops, and taxi stands for safe and legitimate transportation.
- Trust yourself! If something doesn’t feel right, avoid it. Be aware of your surroundings and stay alert.

Hotels (within ½ mile of UAlbany campus)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Website Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best Western Sovereign</td>
<td>1228 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203</td>
<td>518-489-2981</td>
<td><a href="http://bit.ly/2oul5Xu">Link</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days Inn Albany</td>
<td>1230 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203</td>
<td>518-489-4423</td>
<td><a href="http://bit.ly/1MoEsJ1">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hampton Inn Albany</td>
<td>1442 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203</td>
<td>518-438-0001</td>
<td><a href="http://bit.ly/1MoEsJ1">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended StayAmerica</td>
<td>1395 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12206</td>
<td>518-446-0680</td>
<td><a href="http://bit.ly/2nBgG1w">Link</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Northeastern United States

Driving time to:
- Boston: 3 hours
- New York City: 3 hours
- Philadelphia: 4 hours

Flight time to:
- Philadelphia: 1 hour
- Detroit: 2 hours
- Chicago: 2.5 hours

*IELP provides this hotel information as a resource for students. IELP and University at Albany do not endorse any specific hotel service provider and are not responsible for acts, errors, or omissions of service providers.

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