

Information about Transportation, Shopping, and Recreational Activities in the Area

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The following information may be of interest to you. Please note that we are simply providing you with information and are neither endorsing the companies nor taking responsibility for the quality of their products and services. **Please note that you received the full version of this document at orientation and should refer to it for more detailed information.**

Transportation

Public transportation in our area is not nearly as widely available as it is in your country. This is true of most small cities in the US. For travel to St. Louis or anywhere outside the Edwardsville area, car rental or Uber is recommended.

Please note

- Visitors staying less than one year are not required to obtain an Illinois driving license.
 - If your license from your home country is not printed in English, you must carry an international driver's license to drive in Missouri: <http://www.idlservice.com/index.php>
 - If you drive in other states (besides Illinois and Missouri), please visit their Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) website to check their regulations. Not all states have the same laws about driving on a foreign license.
- All drivers in the US are required to carry automobile insurance.
- If you have automobile insurance in your home country AND you are sure you are covered by that policy when driving a rented vehicle in the US, you may be able to save money on insurance for the rented car if you bring proof of that insurance to the car rental office.
- If your license is from another country, please check with the car rental company to be sure they will rent you a vehicle if you decide to rent.

<https://www.enterprise.com/en/home.html> – Enterprise Car Rental – Enterprise has a location in Glen Carbon and also one near the airport in St. Louis.

- Enterprise (Glen Carbon location) - Phone: (618)288-8812
4251 S. State Rt. 159, Glen Carbon, IL 62034

<http://www.avis.com/car-rental/avisHome/home.ac> - Avis Car Rental – Avis has a location near the airport in St. Louis.

<http://www.mct.org/busServices/SchedulesAndMaps.aspx> – Provides local bus transportation around Edwardsville. Please be aware that getting to St. Louis via public transportation is inconvenient and time consuming, taking approximately 2 hours each way.

For support with transportation -

1. **Grocery delivery service offered by Schnucks**

<https://schnucksdelivers.com/>

There is a delivery fee of \$15.50 per order, so you may want to place your order with a few friends and split the fee. They will deliver alcohol but not tobacco.

2. **If you need a ride to the airport or train station or another location** at some time during your stay, you may want to call one of these services.

Excel Transportation: Phone: (618) 251-9410 or Email: transportationexcellence@gmail.com
Website: www.excelstl.com

Uber: www.uber.com or download the mobile phone app

Town Car Limo: Phone: (618) 398-3300

Reservations should be made in advance. It is a good idea to call in your reservation one week in advance, if possible. If you call less than one week in advance, they will work you in if they are able.

3. **Local Bus Service:** The Madison County Transit website is

<http://www.mct.org/busServices/SchedulesAndMaps.aspx>

Number 16 is the most useful route for your immediate needs.

4. If you **travel to Chicago...**

- You may want to use the Megabus from St. Louis to Chicago:
 - <http://www.megabus.com/us/> - about 5 hours, about \$25 each way (best deal)
- or the train from Alton, IL, to Chicago:
 - www.amtrak.com – about 5 hours, about \$62 or less each way
- And, you may consider staying at Hi-Chicago, a hostel near Union Station:
 - www.hichicago.org; phone 312-360-0300

For those interested in driving -

1. To learn about **driving, registering a car, or getting a license in IL:**

[http://www.dmv-department-of-motor-vehicles.com/IL Illinois dmv department of motor vehicles.htm](http://www.dmv-department-of-motor-vehicles.com/IL%20Illinois%20dmv%20department%20of%20motor%20vehicles.htm)

Info regarding **buying a used car in IL:** <http://www.dmv.org/autos/buying-used-cars.php>

2. For those who purchase a car in the US:

You must have **automobile insurance**. It may be helpful for you to know that this agency will insure international students. (Not all US insurance companies will.)

Augustine Insurance - Andrew Augustine, Principal Phone: 618-377-0767
220 N. Prairie St.; Bethalto, IL 62010

3. If you need **driving directions**, these sites may be helpful:

<http://www.mapquest.com/directions/main.adp?bCTsettings=1#>

<http://earth.google.com/>

Shopping and Recreational Activities in the Area

The following information may be of interest to you. Please note that we are simply providing you with information and are neither endorsing the companies nor taking responsibility for the quality of their products and services.

Edwardsville

<http://www.edwardsvilleonline.com> – a listing of local entertainment venues and restaurants

<http://www.goshenmarket.org/> – Goshen Farmer’s Market in Downtown Edwardsville - Takes place on Saturday mornings from mid May through mid October.

Other Attractions in Illinois

www.enjoyillinois.com/Brochures/ - Promotes travel all across the state of Illinois.

<http://www.alplm.org> – Area attractions in Springfield, IL. (about 75 mins. from Edwardsville, by car)

Shopping and Fun Activities in the St. Louis Area

We recommend that you rent a car or use Uber for travel to St. Louis.

Shopping for Food

Local grocery stores include Aldi, Wal-Mart, Schnuck’s, Dierberg’s, Shop ‘n Save. Other specialty food stores are listed below:

<http://soulardmarket.com/> - Soulard Farmer’s Market (about 25 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/> - Whole Foods Market (about 35 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

International grocery stores in the area:

1. Global Foods Market - <http://www.globalfoodsmarket.com/> - Kirkwood, MO (about 45 mins. from Edwardsville by car)
2. John Viviano & Sons Grocers - <http://shopviviano.com/> (30 minutes by car from Edwardsville), 5139 Shaw Ave., St Louis, MO 63110
3. Worldwide International - <http://www.worldwideint.com/> (30 mins. by car from Edwardsville), 8430 Olive Blvd, St. Louis, MO Phone: (314) 994-0229
4. Jay International Food Co. (25 mins. by car from Edwardsville), St Louis, MO 3172 South Grand Blvd, St Louis, MO Phone: (314) 772-2552

Shopping Malls

<http://www.stlouisoutletmall.com/> – St. Louis Outlet Shopping Mall (about 30 mins. by car from Edwardsville)

<http://www.saintlouisgalleria.com/html/index2.asp> - St. Louis Galleria Mall (about 35 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.plazafrontenac.com/> - Plaza Frontenac (about 40 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.explorestlouis.com/visitors/shop.asp> - Shopping info in and around St. Louis

Museums, Nightlife, and Other Recreational Activities in the St. Louis Area

<http://www.explorestlouis.com/> – Tourist information about St. Louis (most places of interest in St. Louis are 30 to 45 minutes from Edwardsville by car.)

<http://www.mainstreetstcharles.com/> – Tourist information for visiting St. Charles, MO (about 45 mins. by car from Edwardsville)

<http://www.lacledeslanding.com/> - Laclede's Landing – Dining and Entertainment in St. Louis

<http://www.mobot.org/> – Missouri Botanical Garden – about 35 mins. from Edwardsville by car
Free outdoor concerts on Wednesdays in the summer: <http://www.mobot.org/events/whitaker/>

<http://www.citymuseum.org> – The St Louis City Museum (25 mins. from Edwardsville by car)
has lots of fun activities and is kind of like a giant playhouse. It is not a typical museum.

<https://www.slsc.org/> - St Louis Science Center (Museum) – near Forest Park (30 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.slam.org/> - St Louis Art Museum – in Forest Park (30 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.stlzoo.org/> – St Louis Zoo – in Forest Park (30 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<https://www.forestparkforever.org/> - Information about Forest Park (30 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.towergrovepark.org/> - Tower Grove Park, St. Louis, MO

<http://www.mohistory.org/> - Missouri History Museum - in Forest Park (30 mins. from Edwardsville by car)
Free outdoor concerts in the Forest Park on Tuesdays from late April-early June:

<http://www.mohistory.org/education-and-events/series-list/twilight-tuesdays>

Hours: 10:00am-5:00pm, Tuesday 10:00am-8:00pm

Admission: General admission is free everyday, costs for featured exhibits vary.

<http://www.sixflags.com/stLouis/index.aspx> - Six Flags Amusement & Water Park (75 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.budweisertours.com/> - Budweiser Brewery Tours (25 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://schlafly.com/tours/> - Schlafly Brewery Tours (45 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://gatewayarch.com/> - Gateway Arch (25 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://gatewayarch.com/experience/other-activities/helicopter-tours.aspx> - for information about helicopter rides in Downtown St. Louis (25 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://www.americascave.com/index.php> - Meramec Caverns – tours of a cave (1 hour and 45 mins. from Edwardsville by car)

<http://stlouis.cardinals.mlb.com/stl/ballpark/index.jsp> – St. Louis Cardinals Baseball (about 30 mins. from Edwardsville by car)