

# TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR WOOL

updated Oct 2024

**Walk / Bike / Taxi / Community Transport / Bus / Rail / Coach:** *all the information you need!*

Compiled by Friends of Wool Station. Feedback welcome via [woolfarer@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:woolfarer@tiscali.co.uk)

## Walking and Cycling

Cycle route **NCN 2** along the south coast of England, passes through Wool via East Burton Road, Wool level crossing and Bindon Lane. This route is part of the [Sustrans National Cycle Network](#).

An international cycle route called [Le Tour de Manche](#) also passes through Wool; it links Devon and Dorset with Normandy and Brittany via connecting ferries.

There is a signposted, off-road cycle/footpath from Wool Station to Bovington, passing the [Tank Museum](#) entrance.

There is another signposted cycle route connecting the station with [Dorset Innovation Park](#) and the Dorset Police HQ to the west of the village. The first part follows quiet back roads (Breach Field and Colliers Lane), and the last part uses the cycle/footpath along Dorchester Road.

Several leisure cycle rides in Purbeck are shown on Dorset Council's website [here](#). There are dozens of walks in Dorset which you can download [here](#).



*Cycle-route sign facing the station exit* ←

We don't recommend walking to [Monkey World](#) (just to the north of Wool) because part of the route would be along a roadway in the path of fast-moving traffic.

## Taxi

**These taxi companies operate from Wool Station forecourt:**

<b>Garrison Cars</b>	Tel: 01929 463395
<b>Silver Cars</b>	Tel: 01929 400409
<b>Jurassic Cabs</b>	Tel: 01929 558119
<b>EZ Riders Taxis</b>	Tel: 01929 556575
<b>Capital Cars</b>	Tel: 07507600461
<b>Durdle Door Cabs</b>	Tel: 01929 444546

<b>Purbeck Cabs</b>	Tel: 01929 500604
<b>A1 Taxis</b>	Tel: 07758130281
<b>Wool Station Taxi</b>	Tel: 01929 788007

**A few other taxi companies operate in and around Wool:**

<b>Celtic Cabs</b>	Tel: 01929 463311
<b>County Taxis</b>	Tel: 07595 439288
<b>Wool Taxi Co.</b>	Tel: 01929 558119

## Community Transport

The **Share and Care** car service is run by volunteers, and covers Wool and surrounding villages. The service provides transport to medical appointments (doctor, dentist, optician, hospital etc.) if no other means of getting there are available. A donation is requested based on mileage covered.

For details or to make bookings, ring [Share and Care](tel:07751968944) on 07751 968 944 and leave a message stating **your name, phone number and a brief summary of your need**. Please give at least 3 days' notice if possible. Someone will get back to you quite quickly (messages are picked up regularly between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday).

The **Wareham Hopper** wheelchair-accessible minibus provides shopping trips for Purbeck residents and visitors to Purbeck, including Wool. The service is for anyone who is unable to use normal public transport for whatever reason, frailty or inability to get the bus stop. On every other Wednesday morning you can travel to Tower Park Tesco and on every Thursday morning to Wareham.

For details about the Hopper service and to make bookings, contact Nordcat on 01258 473154 or email [info@nordcat.org.uk](mailto:info@nordcat.org.uk).

The **Dorchester Market Bus** ("PlusBus Route A") is operated by Dorset Community Transport and is available to local residents unable to access public transport easily. It is not restricted to the elderly or those with limited mobility. To use PlusBus, simply register your details with DCT initially



and then pre-book your seat whenever you wish to join the bus. The DCT registration and booking line is open from approximately 9:30am to 2:30pm, Mon-Fri: *tel* 01258 287987 or *email* [dorset@ectcharity.co.uk](mailto:dorset@ectcharity.co.uk). The general enquiry number is 01258 287980.

Where possible, DCT can offer a "door-to-door" service and, with advance notice, can also accommodate passengers travelling in wheelchairs.

[PlusBus Route "Dorchester A"](#) picks up in the Wool area on **Wednesdays** at around 9:30am. The return bus leaves Dorchester Trinity Street at 1:15pm. The fare for the return trip to Dorchester is £6. Concessionary-fare bus passes are accepted for travel on this service.

## Bus


An electronic departure board giving up-to-the-minute bus times is located on Platform 2 at Wool Station. The information is also displayed electronically at the nearby bus stop.

Bus services in south Dorset are operated by a number of companies, principally:

- [Damory](#) - including school buses for Purbeck School
- [Dorset Community Transport](#) - including the Dorchester Market PlusBus
- [First Wessex](#) - including the X54 and summer bus X50
- [moreBus](#) - including summer buses: Jurassic Breezer 30 & 31
- [Discover Dorset](#) sightseeing - Jurassic Coast tours from Bournemouth & Poole
- [Dorset Tours](#) sightseeing - Jurassic Coast tours from Weymouth
- [South West Coaches](#) - in West Dorset

A full list of bus operators in Dorset is given [here](#).

**General information about buses:** The operator, route and timetable of bus services can change frequently, so you should check before travelling. Timetables can be viewed online on the relevant operator's website or via the Traveline website – *see below...*



**Plan your journey from door to door by bus,  
coach or train using the [Traveline journey planner](#)**

**or you can telephone 0871 200 22 33.**

Bus maps and timetable booklets are usually available from libraries, post offices and tourist information offices.

**Shuttle bus services** provide handy connections with airports, ferries and some of the tourist attractions in the South, for example:

- [routeONE](#) from **Poole** railway station to the town, hospital and quay.
- [Quay Connect](#) from **Southampton Central** railway station to the shops and Town Quay ferry terminal. Free for Red Funnel & Red Jet ferry passengers.
- [RailAir](#) coaches from **Reading, Guildford** and **Woking** railway stations to Heathrow Airport.
- [Flightline 730/731](#) from **Basingstoke** railway station to Heathrow Airport
- [2RN](#) from Wareham Station to **RSPB Arne** nature reserve (summer only)
- [Shuttle bus 52](#) from Wool Station to the **Tank Museum** (special event days only)

**Getting to Dorset County Hospital:** These bus services operate between Dorchester South railway station and Dorset County Hospital...

- [Damory](#) services 6 (to/from Poundbury), and CR8/CR9 (to/from Blandford)
- [First](#) service X51 (Dorchester-Axminster)
- [South West Coaches](#) service 5 (Dorchester-Yeovil)

In addition, [First](#) service 10 (Weymouth-Dorchester-Poundbury) runs at frequent intervals from the main road bus stop (near the covered market) to the hospital.

The bus departure screen on the side wall of Dorchester South station shows the next bus service from the station bus stop. There's a plan to install lifts at Dorchester South station which will make it much easier to get over to the bus stop.

## Winter Bus Service for Wool and Lulworth

Only one bus service operates in our area during the autumn/winter period:

**Jurassic Coaster X54 Mon-Fri only**

*See below for details*

*Note: There is no bus service on Saturdays, Sundays or Bank Holidays.*

Summer bus services (operating daily) are expected to return in the spring of 2025.



**X54** Weymouth – Winfrith – West Lulworth – Wool – [Wareham]

*Operates Monday-Friday only* from 20/10/24 until further notice

[First Wessex](#)

<i>Note:</i>	Sch	SH			
Weymouth	0715	0733	1100	1333	1645
Winfrith Post Office	0746	0802	1129	1402	1714
Lulworth Cove	0759	0815	1142	1415	1727
<b>Wool Station</b>	<b>0818</b>	<b>0830</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>1432</b>	<b>1742</b>
Wareham Red Lion	0834	0844	-	1446	-
Wareham Station	0838	0848	-	1450	-

<i>Note:</i>			Sch	SH	
Wareham Station	0900	-	1457	1524	-
Wareham Post Office	0904	-	1501	1528	-
<b>Wool Station</b>	<b>0920</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>1527</b>	<b>1542</b>	<b>1750</b>
Lulworth Cove	0935	1215	1544	1557	1805
Winfrith Red Lion	0946	1226	1555	1608	1816
Weymouth	1017	1257	1626	1639	1847

*Notes:*

Sch = school days only (bus runs via Purbeck School, Wareham)

SH = non schooldays only (ie Mon-Fri during school holidays)

## Rail

**Wool Station** is on the main line between London Waterloo and Weymouth.

The Waterloo-Weymouth rail service is operated by [South Western Railway](#) (SWR).

Trains in each direction call at Wool at hourly intervals throughout the day and at similar intervals in the evening, seven days a week. Some additional trains call at Wool during Mon-Fri peak hours. Up-to-the-minute information about train arrivals/departures at Wool Station can be viewed [here](#).



You can plan your rail journey using the [National Rail journey planner](#). Information about stations, fares and any current or planned service disruptions can also be found on the [National Rail](#) website. Information about planned service disruptions is displayed in advance on the side wall of the station building at Wool Station.

All London-bound trains from Wool call at Wareham, Poole, Bournemouth, Southampton Central and Southampton Airport Parkway (and other stations). **Southampton Central** is the main interchange point for a number of other rail services, namely:

- Portsmouth-Southampton-Salisbury-Bristol-Cardiff services operated by [First Great Western](#).
- Bournemouth-Southampton-Reading-Birmingham-Manchester operated by [CrossCountry](#).
- Southampton-Chichester-Brighton services operated by [Southern](#).
- Local services to Romsey, Eastleigh, Fareham and Portsmouth.

All Weymouth-bound trains call at **Dorchester South**. From here, there is a signposted 10-minute walk to **Dorchester West** for train services to Yeovil, Westbury, Bath and Bristol operated by [First Great Western](#). Alternatively, you can change between the two services at Upwey Station.

### Station Facilities

Wool Station has two platforms: **Platform 1** (for London) and **Platform 2** (for Weymouth). The main exit from the station is alongside the station building on Platform 2.

You can cross between platforms 1 and 2 using the **footbridge**. Alternatively, you can avoid steps by crossing the railway using the **level crossing**. You can lock up your bicycle at the **bike racks** on Platform 2. The **Onward Travel** information poster is on Platform 2 near the footbridge.

A **bus departure screen** is located alongside the exit from Platform 2. All bus services call at the **bus stop** on the south side of the station (between the station building and the level crossing). The bus stop flag has its own electronic bus departure screen. Timetables are displayed on the bus stop pole and in the nearby bus shelter.

The **car park** adjacent to the station exit is for railway patrons only. The nine parking spaces opposite the bus shelter, not on railway land, are for general use. All these parking spaces are free of charge, but they do fill up quickly at the start of the day.

Taxi company business cards are normally displayed on the front door of Wool Station waiting room. Near the exit from Platform 2, you will find a **taxi rank** and a **Local Information** point.





The LOCAL INFORMATION point on the outside wall of the station building comprises a village map and leaflet dispenser.

The leaflet dispenser is stocked with the Welcome to Wool information leaflet.

*The map, literature racks & village leaflet are all provided & maintained by Friends of Wool Station.*

### **Notes about Rail Tickets**

Tickets can be purchased in advance, often at discount prices, on the [South Western Railway](#) website, on the websites of other train operators or on independent ticket websites such as [Red Spotted Hanky](#) (beware: some independent sites may charge you a fee).

You can purchase tickets at the start of your journey from the booking office at Wool Station (when staffed) or from the ticket vending machine on Platform 2.

Other options for ticket purchase include carrying e-tickets on your mobile phone, and signing up for a Touch Smartcard which automatically debits your account each time you travel.

*Split fare option:* You can save money on some journeys by buying two sets of tickets instead of one, eg instead of buying a Wool-London return, buy a Wool-Basingstoke return plus a Basingstoke-London return. Ticket office staff at Wool can sell you both sets of tickets but are not allowed to advise you about the split fare option. The trains you catch must call at the intermediate station, but there is no need to get out and rebook. Use a split ticketing website such as [www.traintickets.com](http://www.traintickets.com) to reveal the best ticket combination.

The Flexi Season ticket offers 8 days of travel in 28 days – any time between two stations. It is available for adults and Standard Class travel only and can be purchased up to 14 days in advance. You will have 28 days from the start date selected to use up all 8 day passes. After 28 days, any unused day passes will expire.

Members of HM Forces (including Reservists) and their spouses and children can get a third off most rail fares with an [HM Forces Railcard](#). Similar discounts can be obtained with nine other [national railcards](#) – there's one for almost everyone! Also, anyone can now get a third off fares on the Swanage Railway's scheduled services with the [Swanage Railway railcard](#).

**Rail Rover** and **Ranger** tickets are available for unlimited travel in a specified area for one day or several days. The two available in our area are:

- **Freedom of the Severn & Solent Rover** gives unlimited off-peak travel for either any 3 days in a 7 day period (adult: £76, child: £38) or any 8 days in a 15 day period (adult: £102.50, child £51.25). The area extends from Great Malvern and Worcester in the north to Weymouth and Portsmouth in the south and from Cardiff, Tiverton Parkway and Axminster in the west to Swindon in the east and includes Bristol, Salisbury and Southampton.
- **Heart of Wessex Day Ranger** gives unlimited off-peak travel for one day on the Heart of Wessex Line between Bristol/Swindon and Weymouth. Cost, adult: £26.00, child: £13.00. You will need a separate ticket to get between Wool and Dorchester West or Upwey.

*Notes:* Some time restrictions apply. Further discounts for railcard holders. There are also Rover tickets for the whole South West, or the whole of Britain. You can buy all these tickets from Wool Station booking office. More details on the [Railrover](#) website.

## Coach

Scheduled coach services in the South are provided by [National Express](#).

The nearest **National Express** pick-up point is North Street in **Wareham** town centre (6 miles from Wool). The service operating via Wareham is as follows:

035 Swanage-**Wareham**-London, one journey each way daily.

A wider selection of **National Express** coaches operate from **Poole** bus station (10 mins walk from railway station) and **Bournemouth Interchange** (just outside the railway station). Services run to central London, Heathrow, Gatwick, Birmingham and other destinations. You can usually get the cheapest advance fares on the more popular routes, eg: Bournemouth-London.

**The station and bus stop in Wool have been adopted by Friends of Wool Station.**

**We have access to Community Rail funding and we want to make sure Wool Station gets its fair share. *Can you spare some time to lend a hand now and then?***

**FoWS enjoys the support of the [Purbeck Community Rail Partnership](#)**

**Please consider joining us! Contact t: 01929 462116 e: [woofarer@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:woofarer@tiscali.co.uk)**