

Travelling to and from Bovington

Rail

The nearest railway station is **Wool** (2 miles) on the main line between London Waterloo and Weymouth. The Waterloo-Weymouth service is operated by South West Trains www.southwesttrains.co.uk. Trains in each direction call at Wool at hourly intervals throughout the day and at similar intervals in the evening, seven days a week.

All London-bound trains call at Poole, Bournemouth, Southampton Central and Southampton Airport Parkway. **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 www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk
- Bournemouth-Southampton-Reading-Birmingham-Manchester services operated by CrossCountry www.crosscountrytrains.co.uk
- Southampton-Chichester-Brighton and Southampton-Chichester-Gatwick-London (Victoria) services operated by Southern www.southernrailway.com
- Local services to Romsey, Eastleigh, Fareham and Portsmouth.

All Weymouth-bound trains call at **Dorchester South**. From here, there is a well-signposted 10-minute walk to **Dorchester West** for train services to Westbury and Bristol operated by First Great Western www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk

You can plan your rail journey by using the National Rail journey planner at www.nationalrail.co.uk. Information about stations, fares and any current or planned service disruptions can also be found from the National Rail website.

You can also plan your journey from door to door by any mode using the Traveline journey planner at www.traveline.org.uk (tel 0871 200 22 33).

Tickets can be purchased in advance, often at discount prices, from The Train Line www.thetrainline.com. Tickets can also be purchased in advance via the South West Trains website www.southwesttrains.co.uk. Alternatively, you can purchase tickets at the start of your journey from the booking office at Wool station (when manned) or from the ticket vending machine on the platform.

Up-to-the-minute information about train departures from Wool station can be viewed online at <http://www.livedepartureboards.co.uk/ldb/sumdep.aspx?T=WOO>

Fares by rail to London for as little as £1 (+50p booking fee) can be obtained by booking via www.megatrain.com. The nearest Megatrain station is **Poole** (xx miles). You will need to buy a separate rail ticket for travel between Wool and Poole, and you must change trains at Poole.

Members of HM Forces and their spouses & children can get 1/3rd off most rail fares with an HM Forces Railcard; for details, see www.hmforces-railcard.co.uk. Similar discounts can be obtained with other railcards; for details see www.railcard.co.uk

Coach

Scheduled coach services are provided by Megabus www.magabus.com and National Express www.nationalexpress.com

The nearest Megabus pick-up point is Talbot Campus, **Bournemouth University** (xx miles). Megabus offers fares to London, the Midlands and the North for as little as £1 (+50p booking fee). Book online at www.magabus.com

The nearest National Express pick-up point is North Street, **Wareham** (xx miles). Coaches operating via Wareham are:

- 035, Swanage-**Wareham**-London, one journey each way daily.
- 315 (Winter)/316 (Summer), Eastbourne-Southampton-**Wareham**-Exeter-Helston, one journey each way daily.
- 333, Bournemouth-**Wareham**-Bristol-Blackpool, one journey each way daily.

Note: Services 315/316 run via Wool; the driver may agree to set down in Wool on your return journey.

Frequent National Express coaches also operate from **Poole** bus station (10 mins walk from railway station) and **Bournemouth Interchange** (just outside the railway station) to London Central/Heathrow, Gatwick, Birmingham and other destinations.

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Bus

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

- Damory Coaches www.damorycoaches.co.uk
- First Hampshire and Dorset www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/southwest/dorset
- Sureline www.surelinebuses.co.uk
- Wilts and Dorset www.wdbus.co.uk
- Yellow Buses www.bybus.co.uk

Note: For a full list of bus operators see www.dorsetforyou.com/index.jsp?articleid=387255

The main inter-urban bus services in the Bovington area run via the railway station bus stop at **Wool** (2 miles) or the Drax Arms in **Bere Regis** (5 miles). These services are:

- X53 Jurassic Coast Express (Poole-Wareham-**Wool**-Weymouth-Lyme Regis-Exeter), about every 2 hours Mon-Sat daytime and about every 3 hours Sun

daytime, operated by First Hampshire and Dorset

www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/southwest/dorset.

- 387 (Poole-**Bere Regis**-Dorchester), about every 2 hours, Mon-Sat daytime, operated by Damory Coaches www.damorycoaches.co.uk.

Local, rural bus services in the Bovington/Wool area operate under subsidy contracts let by Dorset County Council. Some rural services operate on a “ring-and-ride” basis under the *Door-to-Dorset* banner (see www.dorsetforyou.com/index.jsp?articleid=358024), including...

- 103 (**Bovington**-Wool-Lulworth-Dorchester), from about 0730 to 1830, Mon-Sat.
- 103A (Wareham-**Bovington**-Wool-Lulworth), from about 0730 to about 1530, Mon-Sat. *Note: Call 0845 6024547 to register with Door-to-Dorset and to book your journey.*

Shuttle bus services provide handy connections with airports and ferries in the South:

- “Route One” from **Poole** railway station to the town, hospital and quay.
- “Service A1” from **Bournemouth** railway station to Bournemouth Airport.
- “City Link” from **Southampton Central** railway station to the shops and Town Quay ferry terminal.
- “Railair” coach from **Woking** railway station to Heathrow Airport.

The operator, route and timetable of bus services can change frequently, so you should check before travelling.

Bus routes and timetables can be viewed online on the relevant operator’s website (see above).

Bus maps and timetable booklets are available from libraries, post offices and tourist information offices. Bus timetables for Dorset can also be viewed online in .pdf format on the Dorset County Council website: www.dorsetforyou.com/index.jsp?articleid=387271

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