

Brisbane Bus and Train

130 (In)

As at 14:01

Alger Rd at Nottingham	13:27	13:42	13:57	14:12
Ridgewood Rd at Ridgewood Heig	13:28	13:43	13:58	14:13
Ridgewood Rd at Ridgewood Park	13:30	13:45	14:00	14:15
Ridgewood Rd at Algerster	13:32	13:47	14:02	14:17
Algerster Rd at Algerster East, stop	13:33	13:48	14:03	14:18
Algerster Rd at Beaudesert Road, st	13:34	13:49	14:04	14:19
Calam Rd near Lear St	13:37	13:52	14:07	14:22
Pinelands Rd at Sunnybank Hills St				

The Times

A journal of transport timetable history and analysis

RAIL MAP

STREET MAP

Updated at 8:58:57 AM

April 2018

Milsons Point
Circular Quay
Wynyard
Martin Place
St James
Town Hall

T3 Line
To Circular Quay

Museum Station, Liverpool St,...

Kensington bus stop changes near UNSW
Tap here to see details

MyBus 2.0

MyWay Real-time Timetable

Melbourne Av North of Somers Cr

- 300 Will arrive 5 mins from now
2 mins late To Tuggerah Interchange
- 312 Will arrive 21 mins from now
on time To City Interchange
- 315 Will arrive 40 mins from now
12 mins early To Belconnen Interchange

MAP DETAILS

1:41 PM
1:46 PM

Sydney

1:33pm 1:46pm 0:11 HR

0 AUD
0.0 KG/CO₂

Flinders Street

10 mins

16:48

1	394	09:09 p
1	373	09:10 p
4	311	09:11 p
5	380	09:13 p
5	396	09:14 p

1 min	394	09:09 p
1 min	373	09:10 p
4 mins	311	09:11 p
5 mins	380	09:13 p
5 mins	396	09:14 p

Realtime information provided by TNSW

Flinders Street

10 mins

7:16 PM to Alamein

7:16 pm

4:26 PM to Belgrave

7 mins

Risdon Vale

Risdon

Goodwood

Lutana

Geilston Bay

Lindisfarne

Rose Bay

Elizabeth St

Stop E

Distance of 0.4 km (approx. 5 mins)

11:03 AM

Stop R1 North Tce - South side
To
Stop 5 Port Rd - West side

07 mins ago	10:56 AM	11:12 AM
08 mins	11:11 AM	11:27 AM
23 mins	11:26 AM	11:41 AM
38 mins	11:41 AM	11:57 AM
53 mins	11:56 AM	12:12 PM
1hr 07m	12:11 PM	12:27 PM
1hr 23m	12:26 PM	12:42 PM

RRP \$4.95
Incl. GST

Inside the APRIL edition:
 Timetable apps for Seniors
 Modern Australian Transport Apps
 Australian Metro Maps
 Turkish Delight

The Times

A journal of the Australian Timetable Association Inc. (A0043673H)

Print Publication No: 349069/00070, ISSN 0813-6327

April 2018

Vol 35 No. 05, Issue No. 411

The Times

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[The Times](#) is posted to our website, two months after publication in paper.

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JAMES T WELLS	TURKISH DELIGHT	15



A long time ago—in 2011, barely three years after the first apps—New Zealand psychologists presented their research results on “[What Passengers do during travel time](#)”. They concluded that 65.3% were “looking out the window”, about 20% were reading and a mere 9.2% were “texting” This astonishing research may yet appear in [The Times](#).

Oh Brave New World! - The little girl rolling her eyes in this photo of a Buenos Aires subway train in 2017, seems to know what the adults are doing. She is NOT impressed.

[Research](#) has shown that about 45% of standing or seated smartphone users on Public Transport are browsing through their apps and that users of Transit Apps achieve more [satisfactory multi-modal](#) travel [strategies](#) with help from their apps. Read all ‘bout it, starting on page 4.

Brain circuit that helps us adapt to timetable change fades with age, study finds

ABC SCIENCE BY [ANNA SALLEH](#) Updated April 1, 2018

PEOPLE OFTEN FIND it harder to adapt to new situations as they age and now a new mouse study may have shed light on why.

Key points:

- ◆ Brain circuit called the striatum deteriorates with age;
- ◆ Decreased activity in this circuit reduces ability to develop new strategies to meet goals;
- ◆ Keeping brain active key to healthy ageing.

A study published today (1st April) in the journal *Neuron* has described for the first time, how activity in a key brain circuit that allows mammals to adapt to change fades with age. The circuit is critical to developing new strategies to meet goals, said senior author Dr J. Bertran-Gonzales, a neuroscientist at the Queensland Brain Institute. He and colleagues hypothesised that older mammals find it harder to adapt because of natural deterioration in this brain circuit called the striatum, which is located in the brain's core. To test their ideas, Dr Bertran-Gonzales and colleagues set up an experiment in which mice were trained to press levers to obtain food pellets. One lever gave them access to grain-tasting pellets, while the other gave them access to sweet pellets.

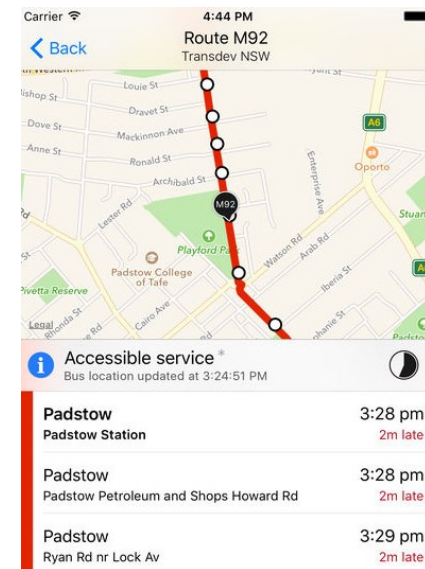
After training, the animals were then given just one type of pellet to eat, before again being given a choice of

pellets. Because mice prefer variety in their diet, after having gorged on one type of pellet they chose the lever that would give them the other type of pellet. But then the researchers switched the levers so the lever that used to deliver grain-flavoured pellets now delivered sweet pellets and vice versa.

The younger mice in the group quickly learned which lever to press to get the pellets they wanted, but the older mice repeatedly pressed both levers, apparently confused about what to do. Further experiments showed the brains of the older mice had less activity in the neurones of the striatum previously identified as being critical to the ability to adapt. Finally, the study found that young mice in which this brain circuit had been deactivated, were just as confused as the older normal mice when the levers were switched. This confirmed that deterioration in the striatum circuit was responsible for a failure to adapt to change.

The striatum is a very ancient part of the brain that is common to all mammals, so the findings could help explain problems with adapting in older humans, Dr Bertran-Gonzales said. For example, when a person experiences a big change in life such as acquiring a Seniors Card and an Opal Card, they must change the way they read timetables or to meet other everyday goals.

He said evidence shows that, on average, younger people find it easier than older people to cope with timetable apps, but if older people stop trying to adapt they run the risk of becoming pathetic, which has been shown in some cases to precede cognitive decline and dementia. "When an aged person is pathetic, their goal-directed action is reduced to zero," said Dr Bertran-Gonzales. "They simply do not fulfil any goals anymore. In other words—teaching yourself to use timetable apps can help prevent you from



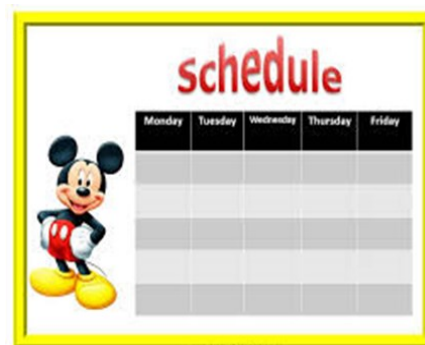
going mad."

"There is more and more evidence showing the brain is similar to a muscle. The more you work it the more it responds," said Dr Bertran-Gonzales, so get out there with your smart-phone apps and be like Elvis and "Go TripGo Man Go" to:

- [Sydney](#)
- [Melbourne](#)
- [Brisbane](#)
- [Perth](#)
- [Adelaide](#)

Comment on this article –[Letter to Editor](#), [Facebook](#)

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A potpourri of Australian Public Transport Timetable Apps

GEOFF LAMBERT

HEADS DOWN, BUMS UP, there they crouch, over their bat-phones, like the Hunchback of the [Motordrome](#). What do they see there on the bus, train, tram or ferry? Chances are that they see the timetable of the service that they have boarded. It's a type of transport narcissism. Maybe they are building an excuse to text to the boss? "Sorry—I had to sprint for the connection at Mungawallop. Sydney Buses has let me down again."

Only six years ago, the chances were that a DL-sized paper timetable, pulled out of a handbag or satchel, would have been the weapon of choice for these people. In a survey that I conducted for AATTC in 2012, I asked members, "Do you use a timetable app?"

25 said "No"

3 said "Yes"

3 said "err ... [what is an app?](#)"

Today, 88% of Australians own one or more smartphones; the average Australian uses 40 different apps per week. Australia is third-ranked globally on these statistics.

The most popular phone operating systems are:

- [Android](#) on phones such as [Samsung Galaxy](#) and whose apps come from [Google Play](#) and;
- [Apple's IOS](#) on [iPhones](#), whose apps come from the [App Store](#).

There is also a [Windows phone](#) system, but it is not very much used and transport timetable apps for it are as scarce as hens teeth.

Transport apps from transport providers are usually free, as are some "Lite" versions of commercial products. Full-featured commercial transport apps are priced in the lower half of the single-\$digit range.

The company "[AppAnnie](#)", a globally-based app survey company reports that, as at 3rd March 2018, the transit app "Tripview" was the most popular paid-for app on i-Phones in Sydney. The Lite version also seems to be near the top for Android phones. In our house, we have one of each. Something like 3.5 million people in and around Sydney have TripView. Is

this "market penetration"—or what?

I no longer carry any paper timetables when commuting in Sydney. Why would I? Who does? In a single app, on a device smaller than most paper timetables, I can find the current timetable for almost any public transport service on the planet. In Japan, I needed little else.

Some apps are specific for a single city, or a small number of cities. However, there are a number of apps that are configurable to a wide range of cities across the planet. In Australia, these include:

- [Google Transit](#): 5581 Transit agencies in 2108 cities
- [Moovit](#): 1,400 agencies;
- [Triptastic](#): ~20 agencies;
- [NextThere](#): 11 cities.

What apps can provide

No two apps are alike, and "lumping or splitting" them is a fraught business. Nearly all apps draw their base data from static or real-time GTFS feeds. The possible types of information that can appear in a static GTFS feed are shown in Table 1.

A quick snapshot of what a real-time GTFS feed can produce has been provided in an [international survey by NextThere](#), as follows:

- Schedule Info.;
- Real-time forecasts;
- Vehicle Tracking;
- Service alerts;
- Lateness.

Finally, Australian app vendors cobble all this together and combine it with material which they get from a myriad of other sources to produce a set of "features" which they use to spruik their products. Some of these features are shown in Table 2 on page 4.

In this article, I have analysed transport apps for the mainland State Capitals. The apps of other places will be analysed in the June issue.

A note on real-time data

Although many Australian transport

Table 1: Static GTFS Feed Specifications

Filename	Required	Defines
agency.txt	Required	One or more transit agencies that provide the data in this feed.
stops.txt	Required	Individual locations where vehicles pick up or drop off passengers.
routes.txt	Required	Transit routes. A route is a group of trips that are displayed to riders as a single service.
trips.txt	Required	Trips for each route. A trip is a sequence of two or more stops that occurs at specific time.
stop_times.txt	Required	Times that a vehicle arrives at and departs from individual stops for each trip.
calendar.txt	Required	Dates for service IDs using a weekly schedule. Specify when service starts and ends, as well as days of the week where service is available.
calendar_dates.txt	Optional	Exceptions for the service IDs defined in the calendar.txt file. If calendar.txt includes ALL dates of service, this file may be specified instead of calendar.txt.
fare_attributes.txt	Optional	Fare information for a transit organization's routes.
fare_rules.txt	Optional	Rules for applying fare information for a transit organization's routes.
shapes.txt	Optional	Rules for drawing lines on a map to represent a transit organization's routes.
frequencies.txt	Optional	Headway (time between trips) for routes with variable frequency of service.
transfers.txt	Optional	Rules for making connections at transfer points between routes.
feed_info.txt	Optional	Additional information about the feed itself, including publisher, version, and expiration information.

Table 2: Features and selling points of Transport apps in Australia

Accessibility	Large text	Short Trains
All trips from current location	Lift and escalator outages	Stop announcements
Best platform position	Live congestion info.	Stop countdowns
Best vehicle to board	Location search	Stop facilities
Cheapest	Map-based Options	Stop search
Cost comparisons	Most environmentally friendly	Stop timetables
Customer ratings	My present Service	System-wide snapshot maps
Cycling	Opal Fares	Taxis&Uber
Departure Boards	Personalized alerts	Time comparisons
Door-to-Door planning	Points of interest	Transit card management
Driving	Real-time	Travel alerts
Expected arrival time	Regional Services	Trip Planning
Fare estimates	Route maps	Trip receipts
Fares	Route search	Vehicle Tracking
Fastest	School bus	Voice over
Feedback	Seat availability	Walking
Heritage Buses	Short platforms	

agencies have had the ability to track the locations of their vehicles, it is relatively rare for them to provide this information to the phone app developers, although the practice is growing. This is generally achieved by turning their tracking data into a “real-time GTFS” feed that can be accessed by an app. Only Sydney has done this in any comprehensive way. Some other cities are gradually introducing it, but others show no sign of doing so.

Faves. If you own a timetable app, chances are that your favourite routes have been downloaded to your phone and reside there until revised by an update sent to your app provider by the transit agencies. In Sydney, this would be almost daily.

It is possible—but it usually does not happen—that ALL of the timetables from the transit agency reside on your phone. This would be far too expensive, so you, the user, pick and choose which services or routes you want to know about. I have about 100 on my iPhone. Live access is not required for this aspect of apps.

Some apps, however, do not store the information on your phone, but always “log on to the internet” whenever you use them. Apps that provide real-time

information will generally update themselves about once a minute in order to provide tracking information for your favourite routes and services.

Ratings

Both Google and Apple encourage users to rate the apps that they sell on a 1-5 scale. Where a developer provides apps for both operating systems, users generally agree on the ratings for each type. Paid-for apps by commercial developers rate higher (3.9) than free apps by Government providers (2.7). Ratings are shown on page 14.

The Survey

The data and the associated hyperlinks is presented in two parts:

1. Textual matter describing the notable features of each app;
2. A single summary table on page 14, for all apps surveyed.

NSW/Sydney

NSW has come a long way in a short time, from the days when CityRail threatened to sue the vendors of TripView for infringing on its turf. Now, NSW is streets ahead in the sophistication and comprehensiveness of its provision of timetable information to app companies. TfNSW holds an annual “App Olympics” for the year’s

best transit app. The NSW Government has embraced the concepts of “Open Data” and “[Big Data](#)” for all of its Departments and their agencies and TfNSW have fully embraced this. Sydney is the only Australian city that “ticks all the boxes” in the [international survey by NextThere](#).

All of the app developers get their data from TfNSW, which has a web-site [forum](#) devoted to the app developers, but publicly available. Sydney Trains has a separate desk in its Train Control Centre fully devoted to the app providers.

All app timetable information in NSW originates in static GTFS (General Transit Feed System) files, which are updated daily. Paper timetables are still produced in small numbers, but nearly every service that has a “print-ready” PDF timetable, this is constructed on the fly for you, out of the up-to-the-minute GTFS file whenever you ask for one. Thus you can print a timetable that has all the last-minute corrections.

TfNSW has also embraced the concept of “real-time” reporting on a minute-by-minute basis, so that passengers can keep tabs on how their service is running.

Information, in alphabetical order of the app name, has been taken from TfNSW's own app [summary site](#) and (sometimes) from the app developers' own sites.

ABILIO

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Travel alerts

If you have limited mobility, Abil.io can help you plan your trip on public transport using real-time data. It will also map your route with comfortable walking distances, avoiding stairs and significant uphill or downhill slopes.

It takes into account the elevation and gradients of ramps, numbers of foot-steps, internal routing in stations, proximity to accessible parking, ground surfaces and more.

Automatically updates if services are delayed or cancelled so customers can easily navigate around any issues.

Provides customised trip-plans for customers with limited mobility.

It was not well received, with a rating of 2 and comments such as "disgusting"; "rather useless"; "not bad".

Arrivo Sydney (Riverstone Labs)

Accessibility, Regional services, Travel alerts, School buses

Arrivo provides real-time departure and vehicle location information for trains, buses, ferries and light rail. You can automatically receive next departure times when you are near your favourite stops.

Switch on announcements for the next stop on your trip.

School bus information available.

Optimised for Google TalkBack and large text.

Displays wheelchair accessibility information for buses.

Rating: 4.2

AnyTrip (Jxeeno P/L)

Trip Planning, Regional services, School buses

AnyTrip is both a mobile-responsive web app and an Android app that you can use to share real-time arrival times and service alerts via Facebook Mes-

senger, WhatsApp, SMS or Twitter.

Check which service you are currently travelling on.

Check real-time departure information for buses, trains and ferry stops.

Get an at-a-glance, real-time view of every public transport vehicle in NSW.

Includes ALL freight trains present on RailCorp tracks.

Access [AnyTrip web app](#) through a web browser.

Citymapper (Citymapper Limited)

Trip Planning, Regional services, Travel alerts, School buses

Citymapper is the ultimate transit app, making cities easier to use. You can check nearby departures in real-time and find the fastest route combining train, bus, ferry, taxi, ride share, bike share and walking. Follow step-by-step directions, including the best station entrance to reach the platform, receive alerts when your favourite lines are disrupted and more.

Find the best travel option from A-to-B using multi-modal road and public transport real-time data.

'Where to get on the train': advises which section of the train to get on in order to be best positioned to exit/transfer when you get off.

Combines public transport and taxis or Uber to create new and faster route options.

Presents different cycling routes; three options (quiet, regular and fast).

Has a "nearby map view" to display points of interest, including local businesses.

Trip Receipts – shows the amount of calories, trees and money a user has saved through their journey using Citymapper.

Shows timetable information for all services to the destination.

Visit the Citymapper web app to use the application through a web browser.

Get live information about congestion and disruptions like accidents, road-works and weather events.

Receive disruption and traffic notifications outside of the app.

Commuter NSW (Somecat Studio)

Trip Planning, Driving

With Commuter NSW, you can compare public transport and driving times in a single view and see how travel times change based on different departure times. You can save trips and preferred modes.

Refine results and display a comparison chart based on mode of public transport or driving trip.

Estimate travelling time if departure time is within the next hour.

Record your daily trip data to be re-used each time you are planning to take the same trip. The data is used to predict the estimated duration based on current traffic conditions.

Feedback2Go (TfNSW app)

With the new Feedback2Go app, you can provide TfNSW feedback on public transport, roads and waterways.

A mobile channel that makes it easier for you to provide feedback on transport modes, e.g. train, bus, ferry and light rail, as well as roads and maritime.

Photos and location to assist with your feedback.

Icons that make it easy to select the service or mode to which the feedback relates.

Ability to describe the issue in your own words.

Allows you to track your feedback and its status in real time.

Feedback2Go is the only official Transport for NSW customer feedback app and it's free.

Accessibility information: Includes built-in support for TalkBack on Android and VoiceOver on iOS.

Metarove (Metarove)

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Regional services, Travel alerts

With Metarove, you can customise your personal walking speed and the maximum distance you want to walk.

It can sort results to show you accessible trips only.

Use real-time service information with

live updates.

Provides alternative travel options if services are delayed.

Select accessible routes to avoid buses, trains, stations and stops that are flagged as not wheelchair friendly, in real time.

Will provide trip plans to avoid steps and gravel.

Will provide an alert for [short train platforms](#) and tells you which train carriage to board so you can get off at your stop.

Works with Google TalkBack.

[Moovit](#) (Moovit).

Trip Planning, Travel alerts

Moovit combines real-time data from Transport for NSW with live information from the user community. It will give you the fastest route, announce stops along the way and alert you when your stop is approaching.

Live information received from customers provides more accurate estimates about arrival times.

You can send active reports about your travel experience, such as availability of seats on the bus, cleanliness and more.

Provides audio announcements when your selected stop is approaching.

Displays a countdown of stops along your route.

[NextThere](#) (AppJourney P/L)

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Regional services, Travel alerts, School buses, Seat availability

NextThere displays when the next public transport services are due to depart from your current location. It can show you which services will get you to your chosen destination most efficiently.

Displays your public transport options on an easy-to-read map.

School bus information available.

Shows available passenger space on the next bus service.

Provides information about platform length, facilities and accessibility at stations and wharves.

Compatible with VoiceOver on iOS.

[Opal Travel](#) (TfNSW)

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Opal fares, Regional services, Driving

With Opal Travel, top up your Opal card and see your Weekly Travel Reward information from wherever you are. You can plan a trip to and from anywhere in NSW and Opal fare estimates for many services.

Trip planning for trains, buses, ferries, light rail, regional trains and coaches.

Get Opal card fare estimates.

Receive alerts to notify you when you are approaching your stop.

Subscribe to travel disruption notifications specific to your trip.

See your Weekly Travel Reward journey count.

Top up, set auto top up or find nearby Opal retailers.

Personalised alerts, which will notify you of disruptions that may affect your trip.

Identifies wheelchair accessible services.

Compatible with TalkBack on Android and VoiceOver on iOS.

Android users: you can scan your Opal card with your phone to see your current Opal balance and recent journey information.

Opal Travel is the only official Opal app and is free.

[Transit](#) (Skedgo)

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Regional services, Travel alerts

With Transit, plan your trip with real-time data and see next departures from your current location. It will also locate nearby Uber drivers, give pick up time estimates for each car and allow you to book through the app.

Check timetables and departure times for all nearby services.

Favourite specific routes and services.

View route maps.

Set reminders and get notifications about changes to services.

Display features big text and bright colours.

Visual stop notifications are provided on a map view.

[TripGo](#)

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Opal fares, Driving, Travel alerts, School buses

TripGo shows door-to-door transport options across Greater Sydney as well as how to get to places in the fastest, cheapest and most environmentally friendly way.

Find the best travel option from A-to-B using road and public transport real-time data.

Shows timetable information for all services from a specific stop.

Use your calendar to automatically provide trip options between scheduled events.

Includes estimated cost of private vehicle trips including petrol, wear and tear, and carbon.

School bus information available.

Check available passenger space on the next bus service.

Shows wheelchair accessibility information and wheelchair friendly trip plans.

Provides lift and escalator outage alerts.

Available also through the [Tripgo web app](#)

[Triptastic](#) (AppJourney P/L)

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Travel alerts, School buses

Triptastic will show you all the places you can go from your current location on different services. Explore interactive detailed maps for routes, stops and service frequencies.

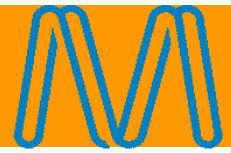
Provides accessibility information for bus, light rail and ferries.

Supports VoiceOver.

[see also the review on the [Brisbane page](#)]

(Continued on page 10)

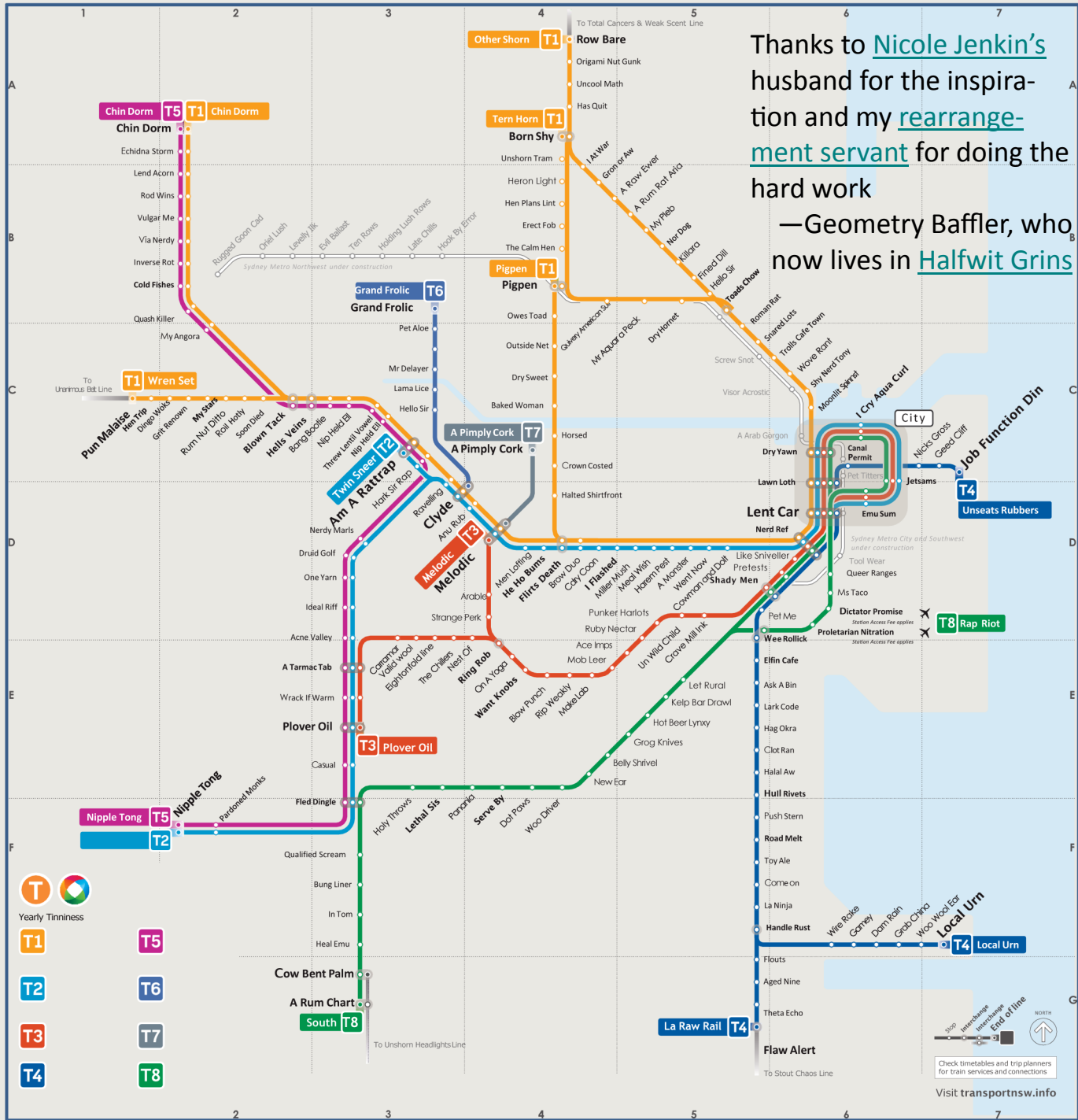
Purest Lamebrain Motormen



Thanks to [Nicole Jenkin's](#) husband and [Dead Vitals](#) for this new map of ... err ...
 —Geometry Baffler, who never quite grew up in [Church Sambas](#)



Knotty Nerdy Warieness



A monster	Casual	Evil Loser	Hello Sir	Lawn Loth	Nerd Ref	Push Stern	Sweet Dam
A Pimply Cork	Chin Dorm	Fined Dill	Hells Veins	Lend Acorn	Nerdy Marls	Qualified Scream	The Calm Hen
A Raw Ewer	Clot Ran	Flaw Alert	Hen Lint Plans	Lent Car	Nest Of	Queer Ranges	Theta Echo
A Rum Chart	Cold Fishes	Fled Dingle	Hen Trip	Let Rural	New Ear	Quiverry American Suit	Threw Lentil Vow
A Tarmac Tab	Costed Crown	Flirts Death	Heron Light	Like Sniveller	Nicks Gross	Ravelling	Toad Owes
Ace Imps	Cow Bent Palm	Flouts	Holy Throws	Local Urn	Nip Held Ell	Rip Weakly	Toads Chow
Acne Valley	Cowman And Dolt	Gamey	Horsed	Make Lab	Nipple Tong	Road Melt	Toy Ale
Aged Nine	Crave Ink Mill	Geed Cliff	Hot Beer Lynx	Me Vulgar	Nor Dog	Rob Ring	Trolls Café Town
Am A Rattrap	Dam Rain	Grab China	Hull Rivets	Meal Wish	On A Yoga	Rod Wings	Uncool Math
Anu Rub	Dictator Promise	Grand Frolic	I At War	Melodic	One Yarn	Roil Hotly	Unshorn Tram
Arable	Dingo Woks	Grit Renown	I Cry Aqua Curl	Men Lofting	Origami Nut Gunk	Roman Ract	Valid Wool
Ask a Nib	Dot Paws	Groan Or Aw	I Flashed	Miller Mush	Pardoned Monks	Ruby Nectar	Went Now
Baked Woman	Druid Golf	Grog Knives	Idler Riff	Mob Leer	Pet Aloe	Rum Nut Ditto	Wire Rake
Bang Bootie	Dry Coon	Hag Okra	In Tom	Mr Aquaria Peck	Pet Me	Rum Rat Rair	Woo Driver
Bare Row	Dry Hornet	Halal Aw	Inverse Rot	Moonlit Spins	Pigpen	Serve By	Woo Wool Ear
Belly Shrivel	Dry Sweet	Halat Shirtfront	Jetsam	Mr Delayer	Plover Oil	Shady Men	Wrack If Warm
Blown Tack	Dry Yawn	Handle Rust	Job Function Din	Ms Taco	Plow Bunch	Shy Nerd Tony	
Born Shy	Echidna Storm	Harem Pest	Kelp Bra Drawl	My Angora	Pretests	Snared Lots	
Brow Duo	Eightfold Line	Hark Sir Par	La Ninja	My Pleb	Proletarian Nitration	Soon Died	
Bung Liner	Elfin Café	He Ho Bums	Lama Lice	My Stars	Pun Malaise	Strange Perk	
Canal Permit	Emu Sum	Heal Emu	Lark Ail	Nerd Ref	Punker Harlots	Sweet Dam	
Casual	Erect Fob	Hello Sir	Lark Code				

(Continued from page 7)

[TripView](#) ([video](#))

Trip Planning, Accessibility, Regional services, Travel alerts, Seat availability

TripView creates trip plans for train, bus, ferry, light rail and coach services. Plan your trip based on stations, stops and wharves. For bus travel, you can search by route, suburb or stop. It will list all timetabled services with real-time data.

View summary of the next departures between stops.

View full timetables and track your service in real time.

See the expected arrival time at your destination.

Track your bus on a map in real time.

Check available passenger space on the next bus service.

Provides accessibility information for services.

Compatible with VoiceOver on iOS.

Heritage bus runs identified.

Can mimic Sydney [Departure Boards](#).

Victoria/Melbourne

If Sydney is Nirvana for Public Transport apps, Melbourne is the pits. I believe that this problem derives from the political level, where Ministerial and Departmental policies are oriented towards Public Transport apps being a Government monopoly—unlike the competitive market and Open Data regime which exists in Sydney. PTV still produces a fortnightly GTFS feed covering most transport in Victoria, but nothing much seems to come of it.

[GoMelbourne](#)

(see entry for GoBrisbane).

[PTV app](#)

PTV has its own app for both Android and iPhone users. The iPhone version describes itself thus:

The latest update of the app is now available! [October 2016—that's one

problem for a start!].

Features:

- Real time metropolitan train information shown in countdown mode
- Real time tram information (tramTRACKER®) shown in countdown mode
- Real time metropolitan bus information shown in countdown mode
- Real time cancellation information for metropolitan trains
- Real time platform information for metropolitan trains
- Journey reminders
- Detailed station facility information
- Quick access to your favourite stations and stops, journey planner and Next 5
- Disruption information, with links to operator Twitter feeds
- Transport network maps for metropolitan train and tram, V/Line and Night Network
- Location of myki retail outlets
- Ability to call PTV directly from the app
- Integration with your address book to plan a journey to your contacts
- Integration with Siri means you can use voice commands to plan your journey with Apple Maps
- Fully online – the app requires an internet connection.

The users, however, have very unkind things to say and the app rates only 2.2 out of 5, the lowest score of any app I have reviewed—more than 50% of customers rate it only as 1-star.

[Tramtracker](#)

A Yarra Trams copyrighted product, Tramtracker has the following features:

- tramTRACKER® is available for iPhone/iPad/iPod Touch or Android phones.
- You can download the free tramTRACKER app from the App Store or Google Play.
- Receive notifications when there are disruptions or service changes on your route
- Set alarms to alert you when your tram is arriving at your stop
- Scroll the tram arrival screen to view more predictions
- App widget to view tram arrival information for your favourites

- Automatic updates to routes, stops, points of interest and ticket outlet information
- View scheduled departures in the Timetables section
- Sort tram arrival predictions by route or minutes.

Tramtracker is said to be available via the PTV app (see above), but it is nigh on impossible to find there.

Users give it quite a low rating, the most frequent complaint is probably “inaccuracy of times”.

[TripGo](#)

Although TripGo (for features see the NSW entry on a [previous page](#)) is mentioned on the PTV sites, it is actually a stand-alone service, as described for the Sydney version. TripGo describes itself thus:

With TripGo you can plan your ride, check fares & times, bus and train tickets, transit directions, timetables and get live service alerts.

Connect your calendar to get automatic trips & leave alerts.

I have TripGo on my iPhone, but I have never been able to configure it to give Melbourne information, although this is easy on the [web version](#).

[Tripview](#), [Tripview Lite](#)

Until 11th March 2018, the fully-fledged version of Tripview, as seen in Sydney, had limited functionality in Melbourne and there was not much point in buying it, so the free equivalent Tripview Lite was often used. Since that date, PTV has provided a better feed— but on an unguaranteed “use as provided” basis. There is no ability to track trips via a map and real-time does not mean what it means in NSW.

TripView Lite displays Melbourne public transport timetable data on your phone. It features a summary view showing your next services, as well as a full timetable viewer. All timetable data is stored on your phone, so it can be used offline.

[V/Line](#)

The app is available for both [Android](#) and [iPhone](#) users. It describes itself thus:

The V/Line app is the perfect solution for all regular V/Line travellers.

It provides the most up-to-date service information, timetables and a journey planner. You can set up your profile to receive only relevant notifications. All you need to do is to nominate your favourite services in the set-up, and you'll always know about key changes and the next five departures.

With the V/Line app you can also:

- View V/Line timetables
- Plan your V/Line Journey
- Keep up-to-date with general V/Line news and information.

The V/Line app seems to be a creature created by V/Line as a stand-alone app, without reference to PTV.

Users register themselves for information on trains between two stations. I have the iPhone version, set up for the "Seymour Line" (Southern Cross to Wangaratta) and the "Ballarat Line". Users are presented with a "Next 5" list of impending departures, with an option of viewing the stop timetable.

It is said to be "real-time", but this is a Furphy— at best you can receive an "alert" showing how late your train is running and whether it IS running. Thus one has the anomalous situation where the "next departure" is listed as being five minutes away, at the same time that, elsewhere in the app, there is a "Train Cancelled" message for it. Users can register themselves to get text messages.

V/Line could easily have provided true real-time information because a good deal of its system is driven by [4TRAK software](#).

Queensland/Brisbane

Like NSW, Queensland has an Open Data policy and its transport agency, [Translink](#), is [part of that](#). Brisbane has 4 transit types, including Light Rail, Ferry, Train and Bus, operated by several transit agencies, including TransLink SEQ..

In a forum discussion headed [Best Brisbane Transport App](#), one user described the available Brisbane apps as "...varying degrees of shit."

The self-described attributes of each of the available apps is listed below.

[GoBrisbane \(Oak Systems\)](#)

Complete Brisbane Public Transport information in your hands!

GoBrisbane displays Brisbane Trains, Buses, Ferries and Trams timetable data on your iPhone or iPod touch. All timetable data is stored on your phone, so it does not require network access.

It scores 2.6, with 43 out of 85 people surveyed giving it a 1-star rating. Oak Systems have a GoCity app for all Australian cities except Sydney. What appears above is probably representative for all of them.

[Google Maps Transit](#)

This product, which is available for practically any city in the world, is not actually a phone app, it is a web-based product. I have reviewed it here, under "Brisbane", because some Brisbane users think it is a better product than local phone apps. Nevertheless, it can be accessed from any smart phone that has been set up to access the world-wide web. Phone users who use a web browser to access the product will be automatically taken to the nearest transit agency to their location, courtesy of the phone's position locator driven by its GPS or the position of the current phone tower used by the phone. Users can, of course, browse to any city in the world.

Not being an app, Google Transit does not get rated through Google Play or the App Store.

[Moovit](#)

Get around Brisbane by public transit! Traveling around Brisbane has never been so easy. See step-by-step directions as you travel to any attraction, street or major public transit station.

View bus and train schedules, arrival times, service alerts and detailed routes on a map, so you know exactly how to get to anywhere in Brisbane.

When traveling to any destination around Brisbane use Moovit's Live Directions with Get Off Notifications to know exactly where and how far to walk, how long to wait for your line, and how many stops are left. Moovit

will alert you when it's time to get off — no need to constantly re-check whether yours is the next stop.

Curious to know how the commute in Brisbane compares to cities across the world? The Moovit Public Transit Index shows facts and statistics about public transit usage in over 150 cities.

Find the average commute and wait time for riders, the distance people travel to get to work with public transit and the average distance people in Brisbane walk each day.

See which Light Rail, Ferry, Train, Bus and stations are the most popular in Brisbane, and more!

[MyTransLink](#) (free agency app)

The MyTransLink app makes accessing bus, train, ferry and tram information easy. The app's customisable features ensure you get the service updates that matter to you.

MyTransLink is available free from the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

MyTransLink features include:

Plan: Quickly find your closest stop timetables, or plan bus, train, ferry and tram journey using the search box.

Favourites: Add your Favourite stops, Services and Destinations for quick access to frequently used information.

Stop timetable: from your Favourites or Plan screens you can see the next services departing your stop with real-time information.

Find stops: Find nearby stops, stations or terminals by selecting them on the map.

Trip announcer: Follow your bus, train, ferry or tram trip while on-board to see upcoming stops and remaining journey time. Set an audio or visual stop alert for your destination stop. (Trip announcer and real-time information are not available for services in Mackay or Toowoomba.)

Get up-to-date information on your services by checking the app before you head out.

Save your regularly used Stops and Services by clicking the heart icon. When you have Favourites saved, the app will prioritise that information for your convenience.

Notifications and alerts. Change your notification preferences to suit your travel times. You can change the days and time that you receive notifications to suit your lifestyle. Turn on push notifications and service notice alerts to receive service information.

[Triptastic](#)

Get real-time arrival forecasts, vehicle tracking and service alerts for supported services in Sydney, San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles, Toronto, Portland, Adelaide, Brisbane and Christchurch.

Bookmark your home and work for automatic live transit directions - launch the app and you're ready to go. When multiple routes are available to your destination Triptastic knows which is fastest right now. Walking time and directions all factored in.

Hold a mobile encyclopedia covering 300,000 transit stops in your hand. Explore dynamic, interactive, transit maps and schedules of every transit service in your city, online or offline.

Route to a destination at a tap, or simply find out where you can go.

Contact and business search are a tap away to find your way easily.

[see also the review of the [Sydney version](#).]

Western Australia/Perth

Transport in Perth is overseen by [Transperth](#), which has its own app, but there are a number of others. All but one of them are i-Phone apps.

[Should iRun?](#)

[CoolappsPerth](#), says: *Should iRun* is one of those rare apps that proves that sometimes, as in great art, less is more. The concept is simple, press the app button and it uses GPS to determine your exact location and give you a list of the nearest bus or train services in that area and when the next one is coming past.

If you look like missing the next bus or train there is another tab you can press to see when the following one is coming. The latest update even gives you real time updates about whether the next train is running late. This can be a godsend and, as the name says, you can determine if it's worth running, or just relaxing and enjoying a leisurely walk to the station.

This app is brilliant and at Coolapps Perth, we use it every day. The icing on the cake is that it is absolutely free.

Self-description:

Should iRun provides fast access to the nearest public transport connections in Perth, Western Australia.

Created for use when out and about and you quickly want to know when the next train is, just take your iPhone/iPod out of your pocket, launch Should iRun and you will immediately be shown the next departures.

Rating 5.

[TransitTimes Perth](#)

[CoolappsPerth](#), says: *TransitTimes Perth* is a super-handy app that we use everyday for checking when the next bus, train or ferry is arriving. One of the best things about TransitTimes Perth is that you can plan a journey with the excellent search function and it will visually show you the fastest route, what connections you will have to make, how far you'll have to walk and what time you will arrive at your destination.

It also has an information service that gives you Transperth's latest updates about delays, scheduled track works or problems with the network. Perhaps the best thing about it is you can save your journeys and the bus stops that you use all the time as favourites for quick access.

The other great thing about it is it's available for both iPhone and for Android phones, so everyone can start reducing their car journeys, save money and reduce their carbon footprint.

This app is an absolutely must-have for anyone who lives in the Perth metro. area and who uses public transport, either regularly or even just occasionally.

Self description:

Complete bus/train/ferry timetables for Perth, Bunbury, Busselton, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie using latest Transperth data

– No Internet connection required for timetable browsing.

Rating: 4.5

[Transperth](#)

[CoolappsPerth](#), says: The *Transperth* app is an excellent app that has an awesome, quite innovative and intuitive user interface that allows you to easily find the next bus, train or ferry from any stop, plan your journey and view it on a map, 'Watch' your journey so you can countdown to when your service arrives and even save your favourite journeys for quick access to timetable information.

When planning a journey you will see the time it will take, the exact bus or train connections you need to make and fare information, with what it will cost you (either cash or SmartRider – 15% or 25% discount).

This is an awesome app, that works better on faster phones (e.g. iPhone 5 and upwards).

The app is free.

Transperth itself, says:

The official Transperth app for iOS and Android devices is now available for download. It will show up-to-date public transport information within the Perth metro area. With this app you can:

- Find the next services from any stop, station or jetty
- Plan your journey and view it on a map
- 'Watch' your journey so you can countdown to when your service arrives
- Save your favourite journeys for quick access to timetable information
- View disruption and fare information
- Get your SmartRider balance.

Rating: 4

[TripMate Perth](#)

Are you commuting on Perth public transport? Then TripMate Perth is your ideal companion. TripMate Perth is a powerful offline timetable app

which provides fast timetable access for Transperth, Trans Busselton, Trans Geraldton & Bunbury City Buses, Trains and Ferries.

With TripMate in your pocket, you have access to Perth's transit information anywhere and anytime. Unlike other transit applications, you do not need network access to check your timetable information. This means you get results fast.

TripMate makes your commute easy with a variety of benefits:

TripMate works anytime and anywhere. No data network connection required.

Immediately find the next departure for your Stop, by route, by Stop name or from your saved Favourites.

Save your favourite Routes & Stops for convenient access.

Check your SmartRider balance

Use predictive search from the action bar on the top of the app to quickly find your Route or Stop.

View next Departures for any transit Stop or Station in Perth.

View Trip details.

View the Stops for your Trip on the map.

All the timetable information is stored on your phone.

TripMate informs you when updated timetable information is available for download from the 'More' screen.

Don't worry, TripMate has the tiniest timetable files among all other transit apps out there. This saves you both bandwidth and storage space on your device. Check your notifications bar to download the most up-to-date timetable available.

All times displayed are local Perth times.

Rating: 4.7.

South Australia/Adelaide

Transport in the City of Churches operates under the aegis of [Adelaide Metro](#), formerly known as [Trans-Adelaide](#).

As with most states, Metro has its own app, but others are also available.

Adelaide Transit

This app is by [Lighthouse Software Australia](#) and describes itself as follows:

- Simple interface
- No network access required after initial download
- Small timetable download
- Search by stop or route
- Save favourite trips
- Departure reminder
- Use GPS to find nearest stops
- Real Time departure times where available.

This app works best if you find the trips you are interested in using in the published timetable or Google maps. Once you know the stops and route you are interested in, this application gives you a quick, easy and offline way of finding when the next service departs.

The data used by this application is available free of charge from Adelaide [Metro](#).

MetroMATE

The metroMATE app provides easily accessible real-time and personalised information for passengers to choose the best way to get to their destination.

The app is being released as a trial 'beta' version for testing and feedback before it's made ready for broad-scale release. It is available for Apple products and features:

Mobile friendly access to journey planning

Real-time arrivals based on current location and planned destination

Ability to save and monitor regular stops and journeys

Ability to set alerts and alarms for favourite journeys

Real-time map location showing next service

As with other apps, metroMATE will be regularly updated in response to feedback from users.

More information is available on the Adelaide Metro website.

whereDaBus?

Don't get stuck with out-of-date timetables, or last minute changes to routes, this data is always live and always up to date.

Accurate information even during during Clipsal, Fringe and Womadelaide, roadworks or other traffic restrictions.

Now with Google maps integration for locating nearby stops.

Never carry another timetable again.

It provides real-time information - live!

WhereDaBus is designed by someone who uses Adelaide metro public transport every day.

The idea behind whereDaBus is to only show the buses, train and trams YOU need when YOU need them.

You can set 2 default stops, morning and afternoon.

When you start whereDaBus it will automatically go to your default - before midday the morning default and after midday the afternoon default.

No clicking through options, just YOUR timetable YOUR way.

A clean and simple interface. Just hit the location icon to give you stops near you or enter the 5 digit stop code.

All stops are saved automatically for quick access anytime.

A tap and hold on the arrivals allows filtering route numbers - you can even set an alarm to alert you when your bus is near your stop!

A fast 30 second auto-refresh can also be set.

Home screen widget included.

** This only works in Adelaide, South Australia ** This is NOT a trip planner app.

Comment on this article - [Letter to Editor](#), [Facebook](#)



App	Supplier	Device										Plan					Modes					Rating		Notes, features, extras
		Android	iPhone	WinPhone	Web	Cities?	Regions?	Real Time?	Maps	Alerts	Stop Trip	Rail	Tram	Bus	Ferry	School	Android	iPhone						
Abilo	Sing Co	X				X	X	X	X									2.0	Disability					
Arrivo	Riverstone	X				X	X				X	X	X	X	X			4.2	Stop announcements					
Anytrip	Jxeeno				X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		5.0	5.0 Real-time map for NSW					
Citymapper	Citymapper	X	X		X	X					X	X	X	X				4.5	4.2 Taxis & Uber					
Commuter NSW	TfNSW	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			1.2	Driving times					
Feedback2Go	TfNSW	X			X	X					X	X	X	X				3.6	TfNSW Feedback APP					
Metarove	Metarove	X			X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X				3.8	Google talk back					
Moovit	Moovit	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			4.5	4.3 Accepts customer advice					
Next There	AppJourney	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			4.4	Map-based					
Opal Travel	TfNSW	X	X		X					X	X	X	X	X				3.2	2.7 Fare estimates					
Transit	SkedGo	X	X		X					X	X	X	X	X				3.8	4.2 Large text					
TripGo	SkedGo	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		4.6	4.2 Alternative costs					
TripTastic	App Journey	X			X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			1.6	VoiceOver					
Tripview	App Journey	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			4.6	4.7 Bus seating					
SYDNEY Total		8	11	2	3	14	7	6		1	9	13	13	13	13	6	4.2	3.5						
Go Melbourne	OAK		X			X				X	X	X	X					4.1						
PTV	PTV	X	X			X	X				X	X	X					3.5	2.2					
Tramtracker	Yarra Trams	X	X			X			X		X							3.6	2.1 Gives lateness estimates					
TripGo	SkedGo	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X					4.6	Alternative costs					
Tripview	App Journey	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				4.6	4.7					
Tripview Lite	App Journey	X			X		X			X	X	X						4.1						
V/Line	V/Line	X	X			X		X		X		X						1.6	3.5 Features "Next 5" departures					
MELBOURNE Total		6	6	1	1	6	3	0	3	3	2	2	6	6	6	1	0	3.3	3.6					
GoBrisbane	OAK Systems	X	X			X				X	X	X	X	X				3.1	2.6					
Moovit	Moovit	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			4.3	4.5 Accepts customer advice					
Triptastic	App Journey	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X					1.6						
My Translink	Translink	X	X			X	X				X		X	X				2.4	1.7					
Google Maps	Google				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					Hundreds of cities				
BRISBANE Total		3	4	1	1	5	3	2	1	3	1	4	5	4	5	5	0	3.3	2.6					
GoPerth	OAK Systems	X				X				X	X		X	X				4.4						
Should I Run	Dan Poltawski	X				X					X		X	X				5.0	Highest-rating app in Oz					
TripMate Perth	Arrivo	X	X			X	X			X		X	X					4.7						
TransPerth	TransPerth	X	X			X				X		X	X					2.0	3.7					
PERTH Total		3	3	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	4	4	0	3.7	4.4					
Adelaide Transit	Lighthouse	X				X				X	X	X						3.8						
GoAdelaide	OAK Systems	X								X	X	X	X					2.7						
MetroMate	Adelaide Metr	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X						2.6	2.2					
Moovit	Moovit	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				4.5	4.3 Accepts customer advice					
NextThere	NextThere	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				4.4	Map-based					
Where Da Bus?	Wizard Sleeve	X								X	X	X						3.8						
ADELAIDE Total		4	4	1	0	4	1	3	1	3	0	3	6	6	6	0	1	3.6	3.5					

Turkish Delight

JAMES T WELLS

THE AUSTRALIA – EUROPE airline market has been transformed over the last two decades by the impact of Middle Eastern airlines – Emirates, Etihad and Qatar.

If you don't like one of them the choice comes down to Qantas, British Airways or an eastern Asian airline. Other European airlines ceased to fly to Australia a long time ago. But there's an airline with a sizable presence in part of the route that could extend its wings to Australia. That airline is Turkish Airways based at Istanbul.

According to [Wiki](#): as of 2017, it operates scheduled services to 302 destinations in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas, making it the fourth-largest carrier in the world by number of destinations. It serves more destinations non-stop from a single airport than any other airline in Europe. Turkish Airlines flies to 120 countries, more than any other airline. These destinations range from Buenos Aires (South West, 12,244 km), Cape Town (South), San Francisco (West), to Tokyo and Jakarta (East).

So why not Australia, you ask? The reason almost certainly is that the airline doesn't have an aircraft in its fleet that can fly non-stop to Sydney (14,960 km) with an economic payload. Nor, for that matter, would any other airline. Airlines nowadays are very reluctant to have en route refueling stops.

But that may change soon. Qantas is all excited about the impending intro-

duction of Perth, WA to London, England non-stops (14,480 km), using B787 aircraft. Recently, Airbus flew a demonstrator A350-1000 to Australia and gave confidence to Qantas that development of the aircraft would mean that non stops from Sydney to London (17,020 km) and New York (15,988 km) would be possible.

This might be good for Qantas but would it be good for the long suffering economy ([cattle](#)) class passenger?

If this development takes place, Turkish Airlines could well acquire these aircraft to serve Australia. But there is an interesting timetable quandary for them, given that they would almost certainly want to cater for the Western Europe to Australia market.

Let's consider eastbound flights. The norm for many years has been to leave Europe mid-evening on day 1, transit an East Asian port early evening on day 2, to arrive Australia East Coast about dawn on day 3.

If Turkish Airlines were to do this, it would mean transfers at Istanbul around 2 am, which surely would not be attractive to the market. But their current timetable for East Asian ports suggests that they could do this. As of February 2018, Turkish Airlines departures from Istanbul for some East Asian ports are:

Singapore	2:25 am
Jakarta	2:35 am
Hong Kong	2:00 am
Tokyo	2:10 am

all arriving early evening. Goodness knows why they do this, if not for the West European market.

The airline has London to Singapore as 6.25 pm depart with a 1hr 20min

transit at Istanbul. Why would anyone bother, when Singapore is well served from London with non-stops?

Turkish would have a problem flying a non-stop from Istanbul to Sydney at 2 am, because the aircraft would arrive well before the airport curfew ends at 6 am next day. Leaving later would eliminate any chance of picking up passengers from Western Europe.

A better solution would be to aim to arrive Sydney around 9 pm—earlier if they want a quick turnaround, which would mean leaving Istanbul early evening the day before. This would work well for European connections.

Emirates has two flights a day into Sydney – one arriving in the evening (one night on the plane ex London) and one in the morning (two nights).

Westbound timetabling tends to be easier to implement as almost all flights run overnight.

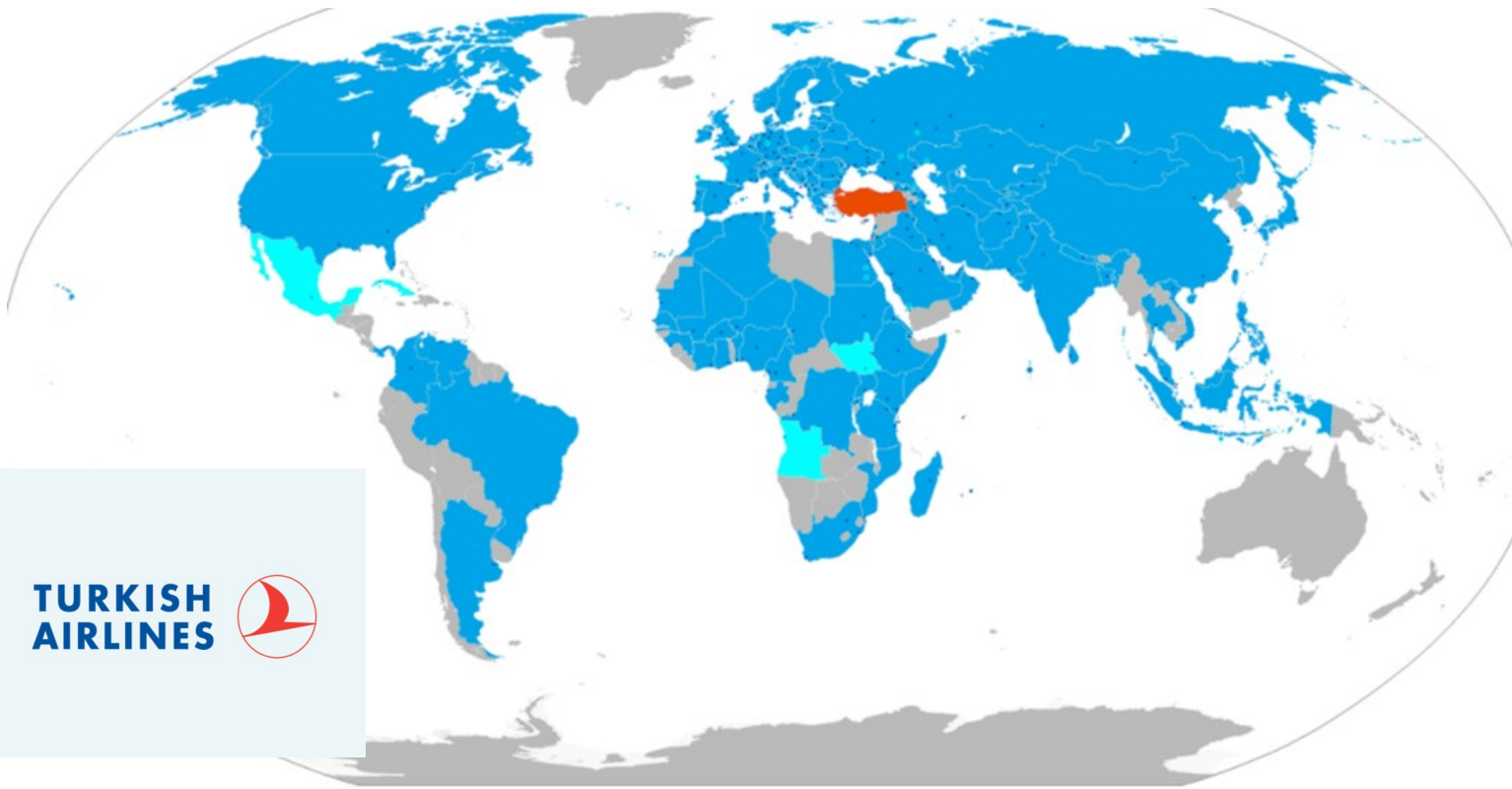
An interesting aspect of the market across South Asia from Australia, is the weakness of Air India. It only has a daily flight to Australia – four times a week to Sydney and three times to Melbourne. Qantas has three services a week to India (Mumbai). This is in marked contrast to the enormous growth in traffic to/from China.

“[Cattle class](#)” - a note from the Editor. Travelling to Bangkok as the PA to Federal Minister Barry O Jones, my wife was in Business, BOJ was in First. He arranged for her to come forward to the pointy end because “Business Class IS Cattle Class”

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Turkey

