AIRPORT EXIT

Cork Airport (ORK)

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THE ANSWER

Take Bus Eireann 225/226 from the rank in front of the terminal to Parnell Place and Kent Station in about 25 minutes - since 20 July 2026 it carries Cork's flat TFI 90-minute fare: EUR 1.70 on a Leap card (EUR 2.40 cash), with unlimited transfers on any city bus for the next 90 minutes.

The NTA folded the airport routes into Cork's city fare system, so the airport hop is priced like any other bus trip - no 'airport surcharge' exists any more, and tap-and-go validators mean you just board and touch.
Tight budget? The bus at EUR 1.70 with a Leap card; buy or top one up at WHSmith inside the terminal. In a hurry? Cork Airport's own page pegs a rank taxi to the city centre at EUR 20 - split between two people that is within euro cents of double bus fare, door to door in 10-15 minutes.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

Bus Eireann 225 / 226 to the city *BEST FOR MOST* EUR 1.70 Leap / EUR 2.40 cash

Stop A outside the terminal for city-bound buses; terminus is Parnell Place Bus Station and Kent Train Station, average journey 25 minutes per the airport. The TFI 90-minute flat fare took effect 20 July 2026: EUR 1.70 adult on Leap (Young Adult/Student 85c, child 55c, under-8s free), EUR 2.40 cash, unlimited transfers within 90 minutes, daily/weekly Leap capping. The 226 alone runs roughly hourly from about 05:50 to past midnight (last Kent departure 23:50); with the 225, weekday frequency is closer to every 30 minutes. Tap your Leap on the on-board validator.

Taxi (official rank) EUR 20

The airport's own taxi page states the fare from Cork Airport to the city centre and the main bus and rail stations is approximately EUR 20, and the rank sits directly outside the terminal - one of the best-value airport cabs in Ireland, and the obvious play for two or three people with bags (10-15 minutes).

Citylink 251 to Limerick & Galway online-priced

Eight daily express services stop at bus stop C and connect the airport directly with Limerick (Henry Street) and Galway Coach Station - no change in Cork city needed if the west is your destination. Book online in advance.

Car hire rental rates

Rental providers hold desks in the Arrivals Hall - the practical pick for West Cork and Clare itineraries where the bus network ends.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

'EUR 8-10 airport coach' pages are flat wrong

Aggregators still sell the airport bus as a premium shuttle at EUR 5-10. On 20 July 2026 the NTA made Bus Eireann's Cork city services a single flat fare - airport included - so the correct adult price is EUR 1.70 on Leap with free transfers inside 90 minutes. **Do this:** pay the city fare; refuse to hand over coach money for a city bus

Cash costs 41% more

Without a Leap card the same hop is EUR 2.40 and you forfeit the 90-minute transfer window and fare capping. The card itself is on sale at WHSmith inside the terminal, according to the airport's own bus page. **Do this:** buy or top up a Leap card in the arrivals shop before walking to Stop A

The wrong stop letter goes the wrong way

At the airport forecourt, Stop A is the city-bound 225/226, Stop B is the southbound services (226 toward Kinsale, 225 toward Carrigaline and Ringaskiddy), and Stop C is the Citylink coach to Limerick and Galway. Boarding B thinking it is A puts you on the N71 to Kinsale instead of the M28 to town. **Do this:** check the stop letter: A city, B south, C Citylink

There is no direct bus to Dublin

The airport's page is explicit: no bus runs directly from Cork Airport to Dublin - every Dublin service departs from the city. The real link is the Intercity train from Kent Station, the last stop of your EUR 1.70 bus ride. **Do this:** ride the 226 to Kent Station and change to rail, or pre-book a city-centre coach

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- The EUR 1.70 fare covers transfers, not just one ride - within 90 minutes you can change onto any Cork city bus and finish the journey without tapping again.
- Daily and weekly fare capping on Leap applies in Cork from July 2026 - if you make several hops, the card auto-trades singles for a day cap.
- Young Adult/Student Leap pays 85c and children 55c; under-8s ride free with a Child Leap Card.
- The 225 shares its airport run with Carrigaline and the Ringaskiddy ferry terminals - one bus links plane, town and car ferry.
- 226 reaches Kinsale on the same vehicle that serves the airport - the seafood-town lunch is a one-ticket trip.

Flat EUR 1.70 Leap / EUR 2.40 cash, 85c and 55c concessions, 90-minute transfers and capping from the NTA's own TFI 90-minute fare announcement for Cork (20 July 2026) and Transport for Ireland's press page; routes, stop letters A/B/C, 25-minute average journey, Parnell Place/Kent terminus, WHSmith Leap sales, Citylink 251's eight daily westbound runs and the no-direct-Dublin rule from Cork Airport's official by-bus and by-taxi pages (the EUR 20 taxi figure is the airport's own published estimate); 226's roughly hourly 05:50-23:50 pattern from Bus Eireann's published timetable.
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