

Getting to and from the conference, getting around in the Twin Cities, relaxation

During all of October, Metro Transit has a discount fare of \$1.00 for all rides.

This means that taking the Blue Line light rail from the Airport to downtown (get off at the Nicollet Mall stop) will cost only \$1.00. For Seniors (65+), Youth (6-12 years of age), Medicare card holders, Limited mobility customers, and TAP card [Transit Assistance Program card] holders, the fare is \$0.50. Transfers can be made in any direction (including return trips) at no extra charge within 2½ hours. If you plan on getting around a lot (light rail or bus), the Go-To card (available at the Metro Transit store at 719 S. Marquette Ave, across from the IDS center—sales only MWF until further notice) is a stored value card that needs just a tap with it on the card reader to pay your fare. Further info at <https://www.metrotransit.org/>

This compares with \$30-\$40 for a taxi from the airport.

The Nicollet Mall light rail stop is 8 blocks NE of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Busses stop at the corner of Nicollet Mall and 5th St (on which the Blue [and Green] Line light rail travels), and also stop in front of the Hyatt. Routes 10, 11, 17, 18, and 25 will all get you there, and your light rail ticket will serve as a transfer. If the weather is nice, it's a pleasant walk down the Mall. If you enter the skyway system, you can walk in a reasonably straight line as far as 9th St (the Target building) (the Hyatt is at 13th). To enter the skyway, cross 5th St and walk ½ block SW on Nicollet Mall, to RBC Plaza on your left. Take the escalator to the 2nd floor, turn left toward "50 S 6th St," cross Nicollet Mall through the skyway bridge, and turn left again. When you get to Target, exit via the escalator or elevator to Nicollet Mall.

Pick up a Meet Minneapolis Visitor Map in the airport (we'll also have a very generous supply of downtown maps—these or a somewhat different one—at the conference host table). The Visitor Maps show the route of all the downtown skyways. Once you're in the skyway system, you can get almost anywhere downtown without going outside. There are cell phone apps that show the entire Minneapolis skyway system—in the Google Play Store, search for "skyway map minneapolis"

To visit downtown St. Paul, the Green Line light rail stops at all the same downtown Minneapolis stops as the Blue Line, and then proceeds along University Ave, ultimately to downtown St. Paul. If you're arriving by Amtrak train, the Green Line stops directly in front of Union Depot (the only Twin Cities Amtrak stop), and will take you directly to the Nicollet Mall light rail stop.

Relaxation, Entertainment

- The Loring Greenway, just north of the Hyatt Regency, will take you on a pleasant walk to Loring Park. Across Loring Park and the footbridge over I-94 is the Sculpture Garden (free, and highly recommended).
- The Minnesota Orchestra has a concert scheduled for Oct. 29 and 30, with David Afkham, guest conductor, and Emanuel Ax, Piano: Chin, *subito con forza*, Beethoven, Piano Concerto #4, and Shostakovich, Symphony Nr. 10. Tickets: \$30-\$99 (+special student pricing). 612-371-5656
- Kieran's Irish Pub [downtown] has live Irish music (call 612-259-8840 for schedule)
- The Dubliner Pub (2162 University Ave W, St Paul, MN 55114 (at Vandalia)—light rail Green Line, Raymond Ave station, walk 3 blocks east. Live Celtic music most nights, Irish dance lessons weekly
- The St Paul Chamber Orchestra has a concert scheduled for Oct. 29 [Oct. 30 wait-listed]: Jeremy Denk playing Mozart's Piano Concerto #14, Mozart Quintet for Piano and Winds, and Sky Macklay, "Many, Many Cadences." St. Paul Ordway Theater, Tickets: 651-291-1144.
- The Dakota jazz club and restaurant has live jazz every night plus fine dining. 1010 Nicollet Mall, <http://www.dakotacooks.com/>
- First Avenue (701 N 1st Ave, +1-612-338-8388—call for performance info) Open Mon-Fri 10 a.m-6:30 pm, food, live rock music by many performers (Prince had his start here)