

7 ways to save



Money saving tips and deals for
Virgin rail passengers travelling
on the West Coast route



1 Your win

Sam from Preston wanted to travel to London – by travelling on the 8.49am instead of the 7.18am, she saved **£37**.

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2

Your win

Instead of buying a **£222** standard open return from Carlisle to Euston, Jilly found two single tickets for a total cost of **£142**, saving herself **£80**.



Your win

Ben got a bargain first class ticket from Euston to Glasgow by travelling during the day. He paid just **£39.50** for a **first class** ticket, instead of **£93.10 standard** at 5.30pm.

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4

Your win

By booking four weeks in advance, Andrew paid just **£15.50** for a single trip from Holyhead to London. Buying his ticket on the day, his friend had to stump up **£65.50**.



Your win

When travelling from Macclesfield to Euston, Sarah bought one ticket from Macclesfield to Rugby and another from Rugby on to Euston, costing **£61** instead of the **£78** fare to travel directly.

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Your win

By booking himself on a particular train, Neil paid just **£12.20** for his Warrington to Milton Keynes journey. If he'd turned up to travel on any train, it would have cost him **£43.80**.



Your win

By purchasing a Young Person's Railcard for **£20**, Anna was able to travel on the 8.30am train from Crewe to London for just **£51.10** instead of paying **£78** or waiting until 9.30am.

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Tip 1

Avoid travelling at peak times – between 6.30am and 9.30am in the morning and 3.30pm and 6.30pm in the evening.

Tip 2

Buying two one way tickets (one to your destination and one back again) can work out cheaper than buying a return ticket.

Tip 3

If you travel outside peak times you can get some great first class travel deals.

Tip 4

Book as far in advance as possible to get a better deal. It is normally possible to book up to three months in advance. You can also save if you travel in a group of ten or more and book at least seven days in advance.

Tip 5

Try combining tickets for two halves of your journey instead of buying one straight-through ticket – you may be able to stay on the same train but could pay less.

Tip 6

Book on a specific train (note, you can only travel for the reduced price on the particular train you've booked on).

Tip 7

If you have a railcard, you can use a Saver ticket at any time and you can use the railcard for discounts on even the cheapest advance tickets.

"Let us know if you've used these tips and saved money by logging onto the 'your experiences' section of our website. All replies will be entered into a prize draw every month between September 2006 and March 2007 for a bottle of Champagne or a bouquet of flowers.

Also let us know if you have any of your own tips and we'll share them with other passengers. Happy travelling!"



What is Passenger Focus?

Passenger Focus is the independent national rail consumer watchdog. Our mission is to get the best deal for Britain's rail passengers. We have two main aims: to influence both long and short term decisions and issues that affect passengers, and to help passengers through advice, advocacy and empowerment.

With a strong emphasis on evidence-based campaigning and research, we ensure that we know what is happening on the ground. We use our knowledge to influence decisions on behalf of rail passengers and we work with the rail industry, other passenger groups and government to secure journey improvements.

Contact us

If you want to know more about the work we are doing on your behalf to ensure you get a better deal when you travel by rail, contact us:

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