Flavour physics in the era of precision neutrino experiments

Travelling to The Cosener's House by train

The Cosener's House is located in the medieval market town of Abingdon, about 5 miles south of Oxford and 50 miles east of London. If you are travelling by car, please follow the instructions given on the Cosener's House website:

http://www.scitech.ac.uk/About/Find/Coseners/Introduction.aspx

This note is a set of instructions for rail transit from the airports. To check specific dates and times, consult

http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/

At time of writing, there were no engineering works in affect on the appropriate routes for the duration of the workshop. Please note, however, that such works often take place at the weekends or overnight. Please check closer to the time as the rail companies often have to make changes to their schedules.

Abingdon does not have a rail station itself; visitors instead should use Oxford to the north or Didcot Parkway to the south. Cosener's House is a 10 minute taxi ride from each station which would cost in the region of £10-15. Local buses are also available. There are 6 airports you would potentially use.

Birmingham International

Birmingham International is a 10 minute train ride from Birmingham city centre and is also served by the main line into central London, and the cross-country line that connects the Midlands to the south. Trains to Oxford run every hour during the day with a standard off-peak open return costing £28.

Bristol

Bristol airport is one of the Easyjet jet hubs and so it will have many cheap flights serving European destinations. Bristol Airport is not served by a railway station.

Instead, a 30 minute bus trip to Bristol Temple Meads is necessary. From here trains toward London will often stop at Didcot Parkway. Journey times from the airport to Didcot with be in the region of 2 hours (including waiting times) with an off-peak open return fare in the region of £35.

London airports

None of the London airports are served by the line through Didcot Parkway. For all the airports, the goal is to connect through Paddington station (north station labelled on the figure). From here, take trains with destinations Bristol, Cardiff, Swansea, Exeter, Oxford or Plymouth. These should ordinarily stop at Didcot parkway, but obviously check before boarding. Journey times to Didcot are about 50 minutes with an open off-peak return from Paddington costing around £23.

Heathrow

There are now 5 terminals at Heathrow. Terminals 1,2 and 3 are the old ones in the centre of the airfield. Terminal 4 is at the south and the new Terminal 5 is on the western edge. Please check carefully your booking for the correct terminal. Heathrow is a very cramped airport and, although connections between terminals are straightforward, connections can use up alot of time in busy periods. However, the general rules are

- Virtually all BA flights are from Terminal 5

- Long hauls are mainly Terminal 3, except United which is Terminal 1 and Qantas, Continental and Delta which are terminal 4.

- Virtually all non-BA short hauls are scattered between Terminals 1,2 and 4, except Spanish bound flights and SAS which are Terminal 3.

When connecting from Heathrow to Paddington, you have three options which vary in cost and speed. In total, the journey from Heathrow to the Cosener's House via Paddington should take 1 3/4 hours.

- **London Underground**
  This is the cheapest option but also the longest. A single journey costs £4 and will take in the region of 1 hour. The Piccadilly line (the navy blue line on the tube map) serves all 5 terminals. Take this then either change at Hammersmith, taking the Hammersmith and City line (pink) to Paddington; change at Earl's Court for the District (dark green); or at South Kensington for the Circle (yellow).

- **Heathrow Connect**
  This is stopping service, but still only takes 25 minutes, that runs every 30 minutes from terminals 1-4. If you are arriving into terminal 5, there is a free interterminal bus. Off-peak open returns to Paddington cost about £14.

- **Heathrow Express**
  This is a special dedicated airport service that is not part of the national rail network. It operates every 15 minutes from all terminals, taking 15-20 minutes to reach Paddington. Singles are £16.50 and open returns are £32.

Gatwick

Gatwick airport sits on a number of the suburban routes into London. The station is located next to check-in in the **South Terminal**. A transit monorail is available for passengers travelling through the North Terminal. Please check your booking for the terminal - a number of airlines operate from both terminals.
The options from Gatwick are

- **Gatwick Express**
  This is the equivalent of the Heathrow Express and as such is expensive. It operates non-stop taking 35 minutes to reach Victoria (the south station on the map) costing £16 for a single or £29 for an open return.

- **Services towards Luton and Bedford**
  Take First Capital connect trains towards Luton or Bedford and change at London St Pancras. From here, take the tube (Circle or Hammersmith and City) to Paddington without changing.

- **Services to Victoria - not Gatwick Express**
  Non-Gatwick Express trains to London Victoria run every 10 minutes or so and take 35-50 minutes. From Victoria, take the London Underground circle line (yellow) clockwise or the Victoria line (turquoise) and change at Oxford Circus for the Bakerloo line (brown). The second option is quicker but it you have bulky luggage, the first option is best as Oxford Circus can be very busy and awkward, especially at weekends or during evening peak.

- **Via Reading**
  Once a hour there is the option of avoiding central London. This is a stopping service operated by First Great Western and takes 1 hour 20 minutes to get to Reading. From here, one can take a short extra trip to Didcot Parkway.

Note, the tickets for all the options are different. If you buy a ticket for a given option, you must use it otherwise you will be charged the full fare on the train. An open off-peak return from Gatwick to Didcot Parkway for the non-Express options should be around £30. Buying a ticket as two singles or for each leg of the journey individually will increase the price.

Travelling through Victoria station during peak times is a bad thing to do as it is the busiest station on the network. The other stations will be busy also though.

Luton

Luton airport sits on the main line connecting London to the Midlands, and on the cross-London line that connects Luton and Bedford to Gatwick and Brighton. The station is a short bus ride from the airport for which there is a dedicated service. Tickets can be purchased from the bus conductor prior to boarding. Open off-peak returns cost around £22 with journey times to London St Pancras around 1 hour. Take the circle (yellow) or Hammersmith and City line (pink) to Paddington. If may be possible to ask for an open return from the airport to Didcot Parkway. If this is the case, the ticket will include the tube journey at no extra cost.

Stansted

Take a train with London Liverpool Street as the destination. (Note there are also trains to Liverpool *Lime* Street. Do not take these as they actually go to Liverpool, not London.) If possible, get off at Tottenham Hale then take the Victoria line to Kings Cross St Pancras. From here, follow the instructions given in Gatwick and Luton. This is the best route to take as it is not known by visitors to London who use Stansted airport. If not available, the train will terminate at Liverpool Street which is in the east of London. From here, take the Circle or Hammersmith and City line to Paddington. Going through Liverpool street might put up to 30 minutes onto the journey and can be a stressful option if you are travelling in busy periods. Return fares to Liverpool Street or Tottenham are around £28.
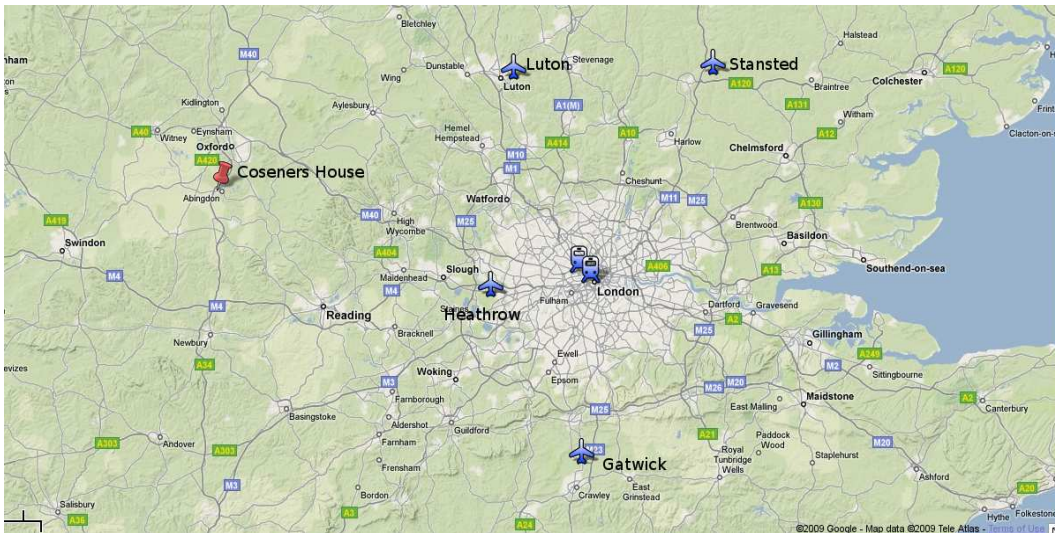
Figure 1: Greater London and surrounding area. The location of the 4 major London airports are shown, as is The Cosener's House.
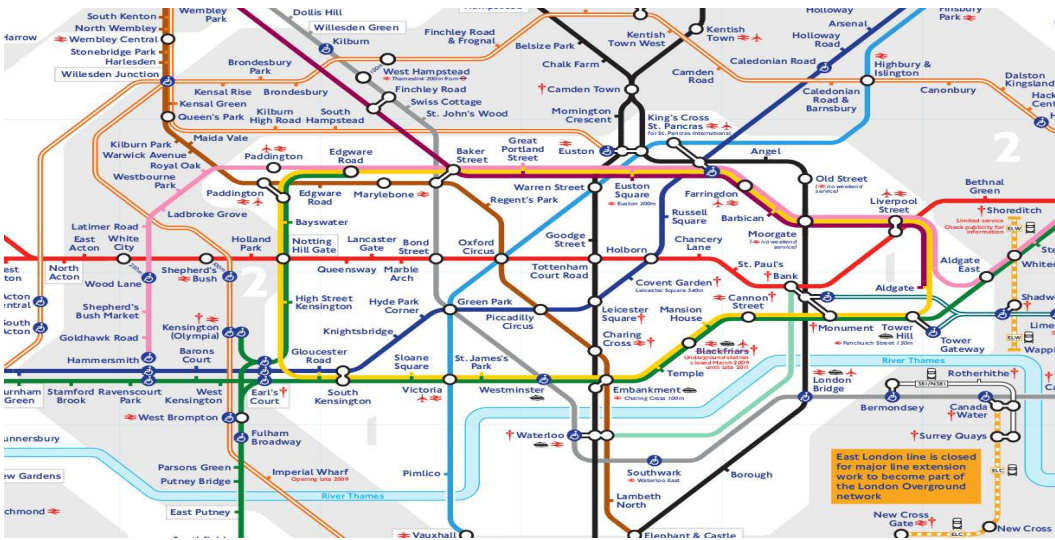

Figure 2: Tube map for Central London. Tottenham is just off the top-right of the map. Heathrow is in the bottom-left of the full tubemap (available from http://www.tfl.gov.uk/.)