

So you've decided that the 2009 General Assembly in Indianapolis is an important trip to make.

Why not consider these money-saving & environmentally-friendly travel options!

General Assembly GREEN Travel Guide



After all, we Disciples only get together every other year and you wouldn't want to miss the fun and fellowship—not to mention being involved in decisions that are fundamental to our denomination and taking part in exciting learning opportunities. This event promises to be the most sustainable Assembly yet, and in order to accomplish this goal, we invite and encourage you to tread lightly as you journey to Assembly. To help you—and all of us—keep our carbon footprint low for Assembly, we offer the following travel suggestions.

CHECK OUT
www.greyhound.com
www.megabus.com
www.amtrak.com

Public Transportation

Leave the driving and route planning to someone else. Though you may have to plan ahead for a journey of this sort, you can catch a train or bus to Indianapolis from nearly any city. And since the bus or train is making the trip anyway; you'll get the luxury of sharing that environmental impact with other passengers.

Driving

When driving your personal car, the number one tip is plan ahead. Get a check-up, fill your tires, plan a route that avoids congestion and idling. Bring a reusable coffee mug or water bottle to refill rather than cluttering your car and landfill with disposables. Along the same vein, pack your own meals—even have a picnic—rather than stopping to order individually wrapped food. If you're traveling solo or your party doesn't fill a car, consider ridesharing with others in your area coming to Indianapolis at the same time. If you're renting a car, strongly consider fuel efficiency in your decision or select the smallest one that can still serve your needs. Finally, purchasing carbon offsets can help fund environmentally

CHECK OUT
www.goloco.org
www.ridester.com
www.bikeleague.org
www.hypermiling.org
www.cibaride.org (Indy only)
http://indianapolis.craigslist.com/rid
www.indygo.net (Indy only)
www.megabus.com/us
www.greyhound.com
www.amtrak.com

SLOW DOWN
 Turn off the air; Avoid sharp breaking or accelerating; Forego unnecessary electronic devices; Turn off engine while idling.

conscious projects and mitigate the effects of your journey. The offset industry is developing rapidly, and the merits of such programs are currently being debated, so we are providing the opportunity for interested Assembly-goers to donate their offsets to Disciples-initiated programs.

CONSOLIDATE
 future trips and reconsider their necessity. Opt for biking or walking when possible.

Flying

Air travel is especially hard on the environment, but as the most time efficient way to travel over long distances, many Assembly attendees will be taking their journey by air. Unfortunately most of the variables that affect a plane's fuel efficiency are out of passengers' control. But, if you are taking to the sky, select the most direct route

CHECK OUT
www.indygo.net/green_line.htm
www.indyculturaltrail.info
www.cibaride.org



to save fuel on landing and takeoff. Though you may have to pay a little more upfront, it will save you time and reduce the hassle of making multiple connections. Also, by choosing economy class, you will share the environmental burden of the trip with more passengers than you would in business class.

In Indianapolis

Once you arrive in Indianapolis, there are other great options for getting around. From the airport, look for IndyGo's Green Line Downtown/Airport Express. Alternatively use one of the city's many bike/walking paths for exploring the city.

No matter how you're getting to Assembly, pack light. The more weight you carry the more fuel must be consumed to get you to your destination. And before leaving, don't forget to travelize your home and office by turning the thermostat up or off and unplugging electronics and appliances. Above all, remember to be creative, have fun, and enjoy your trip. See you in Indianapolis!

PRINT on recycled or reused paper only if necessary.

Check out our Offset Travel Guide at www.disciples.org.