

Transportation

Batavians use planes, trains, automobiles...
and bikes to get around

Early Batavia settlers got around by horse or by walking — without the benefit of roads. Worn prairie grass paths gave way to today's familiar roads named after Indians, presidents and historic events. The 35 mile trip to Chicago and back by horse and wagon took three days.

A streetcar line started in 1896 and ran 20 times a day from Geneva to Aurora. Later, passenger trains and streetcars stopped running through Batavia and busses replaced the streetcars.

Twentieth century travel brought Interstate 88, which provides convenient access to Chicago and the surrounding areas. In addition, Routes 38 and 64 also provide easy travel options.

The first significant 21st Century transportation project is the totally reconstructed Wilson Street Bridge completed this year, 2008. This important crossing in Downtown Batavia was facilitated with unique cooperation between the City of Batavia, State of Illinois, MainStreet, Chamber of Commerce and the patience of downtown businesses and residents. The future of the downtown bridge includes public art and more.

People traveling to Batavia for work are able to take advantage of the modern transportation offerings. Others — like several employees of Fermilab — choose to commute to work using bicycles, even in the harshest of winter conditions.

For residents heading to downtown Chicago for work or for weekend events, commuter trains are an easy option. Geneva and Aurora provide full schedules of Metra commuter trains. PACE bus service offers convenient transportation to neighboring cities. Chicago's two international airports — O'Hare and Midway — are an easy drive and the DuPage County Airport in West Chicago as well as the Aurora Municipal Airport provide services for corporate and private aircrafts.

Door-to-door Dial-A-Ride service provides transportation for senior citizens and those with disabilities.



HISTORICAL FACT: The first car came to Batavia directly from Detroit in 1900. If Batavians think bridge construction was difficult in 2007 and 2008 — imagine the fact that the only way to cross the river was by boat until the first wooden bridge was built in 1843.

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Expressways: Interstate 88

Other Major Thoroughfares:
IL Route 25, Route 31

Airports:

O'Hare International, Chicago
Midway International, Chicago
DuPage County Airport, West Chicago
Aurora Municipal Airport, Aurora

Driving time to:

O'Hare International Airport — 45 minutes
Midway International Airport — 1 hour
Chicago Loop — 1 hour

Commuter Railroad System:
Metrarail.com

P.A.C.E.— *pacebus.com*
Dial-a-Ride — 630-892-1999