

How to Explore With the Megabus

A Grand Valley Students' Guide to
Safe Travel

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Photo by Jeramey Jannene

What should I know about the Megabus?

The Megabus offers a unique experience for Grand Valley students to explore the world around them. This document will explain everything you need to know to get your Megabus adventure off to a great and safe start.

Why should I learn about the Megabus?

While Grand Rapids is a wonderful place to explore, Grand Valley wants all of its students to have a full experience while studying at the university. **That's where the Megabus comes in!**

What is the Megabus?

The Megabus is a cheap, safe, and reliable form of transportation that can take you to many great cities. Although it is not associated with Grand Valley or the Rapid, it offers a wonderful experience for Grand Valley students! Just order a ticket, hop on a Megabus, and away you go!



Photo by Jeramey Jannene

How can I ride the Megabus?

Now that you know what the Megabus is, here is all the information you need to know about how to ride the Megabus!

Where can I order a ticket?

The Megabus website gives step-by-step instructions on how to order a ticket! You can input trip dates and destinations by visiting: <http://www.megabus.com>

How much do tickets cost?

The prices of Megabus tickets vary from **\$1** to **\$20** one way depending on the time of day, time of week and how far in advance you schedule your trip, so be sure to schedule early for the best price!

Where is the closest Megabus station from Grand Valley?

The closest Megabus station is in Grand Rapids on the intersection of Market Ave. and Wealthy St. You can ride a bus from Grand Valley to this station in only about an hour if you ride the Rapid!

What else should I know about the Megabus?

Although the Megabus is quite accommodating, there are a few rules and procedures that need to be observed.

What are some facts about riding the Megabus?

- Passengers must be 18 or older or be accompanied by an adult.
- No smoking.
- No animals.
- Stops will be made along the way for food and restroom breaks. Normally 1-3 stops are made per trip for this reason.
- Passengers are allowed one luggage item with a volume of no more than 62 inches (157 cm).
- Passengers are also allowed 1 small carry on about the size of a briefcase.
- Some busses are WiFi equipped.
- Some busses have electrical outlets.
- Megabusses run about 3 times a day.

What can I do in East Lansing?

Now that you know about how to ride the Megabus, let's take a look at some places you can visit!

East Lansing, Michigan

How long is the trip?

When riding on a Megabus from Grand Rapids, it takes approximately 30 minutes to arrive at the East Lansing Amtrack station.

What can I do?

The Lansing River Trail

Price: FREE

This is an 8 mile expanse filled with historical locations, as well as iconic land marks and a sports field. Take time to relax and see what Lansing has to offer.

<http://lansingrivertrail.org/>

Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum

Price: FREE

The museum showcases a broad collection of amazing works and is a great place to spend an afternoon. The building itself is even a work of art!

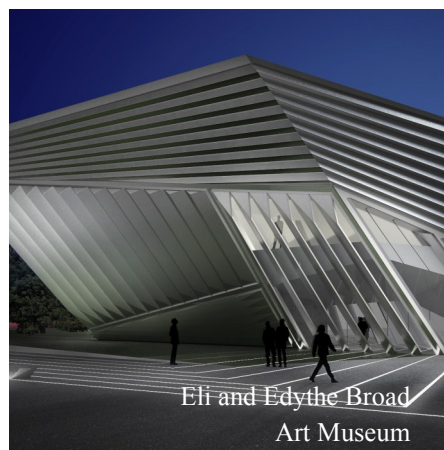
<http://broadmuseum.msu.edu/index.php?home>

East Lansing Film Festival

Price: \$7.50 - \$160

This is an annual even in the fall that shows several independent and foreign films. Tickets can be bought for as many films as you'd like to see!

<http://www.elff.com/>



Eli and Edythe Broad
Art Museum

What can I do in Detroit?

Detroit, Michigan

How long is the trip?

The Megabus route from Grand Rapids to Detroit takes about 3 hours and 15 minutes.

What can I do?

Detroit Institute of Arts

Price: \$8

This art institute is the fifth largest in the country and features over 100 galleries. It is a delightful and interesting way to spend an afternoon.

<http://www.dia.org/>

Belle Isle

Price: FREE

This island park is the largest in the country and offers botanical gardens, as well as some amazing beaches. Relax and have fun at this unique location!

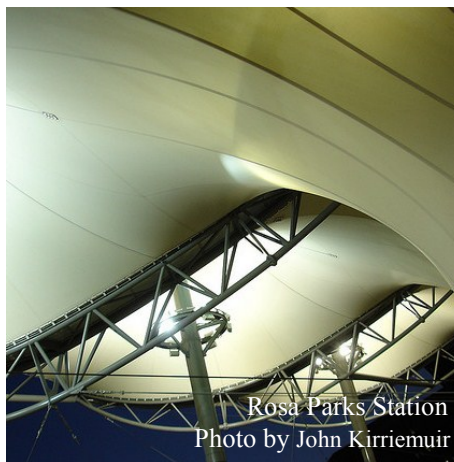
<http://www.belleisleconservancy.org/>

Ford Field

Price: \$50-\$225 per ticket

This is the home of Michigan's American football team, the Detroit Tigers. Although the tickets can be pricey, football games are a must for anyone visiting America.

<http://www.detroitlions.com/tickets/>



Rosa Parks Station
Photo by John Kirriemuir

What can I do in Chicago?

Chicago, Illinois

How long is the trip?

The Megabus takes about 3 hours and 15 minutes to arrive in Chicago after departing from Grand Rapids.

What can I do?

The Field Museum

Price: \$12 for students

The Field Museum features exhibits from around the world and has many incredible attractions such as the famous T-Rex named Sue and many other opportunities.

<http://fieldmuseum.org/>

Navy Pier

Price: FREE admission

Dozens of interesting shops and theaters line this pier. Throughout the year, different fun events are available, too! Call ahead to find out what's available when you visit!

<http://navypier.com/>

Christkindl Market

Price: FREE admission

Every winter, merchants from all around the world gather at this Americanized German Christmas Market. It is a delightful place to shop, eat, and listen to voices from all over the world.

<http://www.christkindlmarket.com/>



Navy Pier
Photo by Frank Kehren

What should I remember?

Here are some extra tips to make sure that your Megabus adventure is safe and fun from the moment you leave Grand Valley until when you return:

What are some tips for safe travel?

- **Safety first.** Be sure that you always travel with a friend. If you can't, make sure someone knows where you are and can contact you at any time of the day.
- **Call ahead.** Look for hotels and hostels before you leave. Make sure you book a room so you aren't stranded at night.
- **Be prepared.** Always bring an emergency sum of cash, just in case you get stuck without an ATM around.
- **Plan ahead.** Familiarize yourself with where you're going before you leave. Make sure you'll have time to get to do everything you want to do.
- **Leave Early.** Many public transportation systems run on a strict schedule. Make sure you arrive at your stop or platform with plenty of time to spare.

The Megabus is here to make sure you get where you need to go quickly and safely, and Grand Valley wants their students to be secure while learning. Remember to include safety precautions in your plans when you use the information you've learned in this booklet.