**Transport in Belarus**

There are several ways of moving between towns in Belarus.

Certainly, if you arrived to Belarus in your own car this problem is solved for you. All you need then is a road map that you can buy in a book store.

For those visitors that did not bring their vehicle with them there is an option to rent one. There are offices of Avis and Europcar in Belarus as well as some other local renting companies. What regards public transportation there are the following options: bus, train and air.

There are very few local flights in Belarus and they are not very frequent. That means that you can only get to some oblast centers once or twice a week.

More useful are bus and train. There is a quite dense network of railways in Belarus.

If you are going to a location in Belarus away from railways and airports your option will be a bus. Bus routes cover all the territory of the country.

**Moving between towns**

Major cities in Belarus have a developed public transportation systems. The capital of the country is covered by buses, trolley-buses, trams (street cars), metro, shuttle mini-buses and taxis. Most other larger towns have at least buses and taxies, some of them have shuttle mini-buses and trolley-buses. Public transportation hours normally are from 6 am to 1 am. Taxies are available 24 hours a day.

Tickets for buses, trolley-buses and trams are sold in newspaper kiosks and are valid for any of these transports for any distance one way. Passengers should punch their tickets upon entering vehicle. Tickets can be also purchased from drivers at some extra cost.

Tokens for metro are sold at the entrance to the stations.

Payments for shuttle mini-buses are collected by the driver.

**Moving inside cities**

In Minsk and several other major towns in Belarus taxi service is available 24 hours a day. There are both state-run and private taxi companies. All of them should have a special checkered marking or a special taxi light on top.

Taxies have meters installed in them and show fares in Belarusian rubles. Tips are not necessary but are welcomed. Taxi can be ordered by the following numbers: 061, 081, 084, 057, 007.

**Answer the questions:**

1. What transport can we use to move between towns in Belarus?
2. Is it possible to rent a vehicle for those visitors that didn`t bring their own with them?
3. Are there any flights in Belarus? How often?
4. What transport is more useful? Why?
5. What transportations system do the major cities have?
6. How can the passengers pay for the trip by bus?
7. How can the passengers pay for the trip by metro?
8. How can the passengers pay for the trip by mini-buses?
9. What taxi companies are there in Belarus?
10. What transport do you prefer?