

Great Pan Pacific Harmony Convention - 2008 Pan Pacific Convention Transportation 'What You Need to Know' as of 9/7/08

Aloha! Here are a few things we think you'll need/want to know about transportation. We're very much looking forward to a wonderful convention with all of our Barbershop friends!

- Airport Shuttle Transportation - If you haven't arranged for transportation between the airport and your hotel (both arriving and departing Hawaii), please click <http://viptrans.com/airport-and-waikiki-shuttle.asp> and make your airport transportation arrangements on-line. This may be done individually or as a group. Before making individual arrangements, please be sure your chorus manager isn't making the arrangements for you.
- Contest Transportation - Your convention registration includes transportation from the Ala Moana Hotel (to be referred to as HQ hotel hereafter) to the contest venue - the beautiful Hawaii Theatre (yes it's spelled 'down-under' style!) - and back to the HQ hotel from the theater. We have a lot of people to move so we suggest you try to be at the HQ hotel at the beginning of the transportation run times. There will be lines but we'll do our best to get everyone on their way as quickly and safely as possible. If you are staying at a hotel other than the HQ hotel, it is your responsibility to get to the HQ hotel to catch the busses to the theater and back to your hotel (from the HQ hotel) after the events at the theater. When you check in to your hotel, ask for a map of Waikiki and plan your time accordingly. Even if you have rented a car, we recommend that you do not drive to the theater from Waikiki. (If you have a car and want to drive it from your hotel and park it at Ala Moana Shopping Center (right next to the HQ hotel) at no charge and ride our busses, that would be OK - but only if you'd rather not walk back and forth from your hotel to the HQ hotel. You won't be able to get in to the shopping center until 6:30 AM and you'll need to get your car out of the shopping center parking lot by midnight if you park there. The shopping center doesn't consider itself to be a parking lot for the HQ hotel. So, if you're asked where you are going (which we seriously doubt you will be), you may say you are going to Starbucks (if you're parking early in the morning) or to one of the restaurants on the third floor (Macaroni Grill for example) if your parking late in the evening.
- Quartet Contestants - On Friday, the mic testers and the first 6 competing quartets will be taken to the theater in a separate coach. The balance of the quartets will be given priority in the bus lines, ride the coaches with the rest of the audience, and still have plenty of time for warm-up at the theater prior to going on stage. On Saturday, the mic testers and all ten finalist quartets will be taken to the theater in a separate coach. All quartets (on both Friday and Saturday) will ride the busses back to the HQ hotel with the audience.
- Chorus Contestants - Each chorus will be taken to the contest in a separate coach and ride back from the theater (after the contest) with the audience members. Your chorus manager will receive the transportation schedule when the order of appearance has been decided, on or about the first week of October.
- Supplemental Shuttle Service - During the hours the events are happening at the theater, there will be two passenger vans that run between the theater and the HQ hotel every 1/2 hour.
- Special Needs - If anyone has special transportation needs (wheel chairs, props etc.), please email John Higgins (john@j-higgins.com) with your specific needs and we'll do our best to accommodate you and confirm the arrangements we've made for you via email.
- Optional Sightseeing Tours - For a great selection of fun things to do before of after the convention, click on <http://viptrans.com/?pph>, hover over the word 'Services', drag down to the event you want and book the event directly on-line with the our transportation company, VIP Trans. If you'd like to talk to VIP, their Oahu phone number is 808-836-0317. Their toll-free number (good only in the USA) is 1-866-836-0317.