

# traintaxi™ data

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XML and JSON via key-protected API on a Linode server (99.98% uptime), accessible using typical syntax:

[http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020?access\\_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244](http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020?access_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244)

[http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020.json?access\\_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244](http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020.json?access_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244)

where **4400HO0020** is an example **code** (see below) and **740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244** an API key

field name	characters	description/rules
<b>code</b> *	≤12	unique alpha, numeric or alphanumeric code for the name
<b>shortname</b> *	<65	non-unique short name corresponding to the <b>code</b> ; will always match a <b>shortnameterm</b> in the traintaxiddmmmyyyy.csv file
<b>longname</b>	<65	unique long name corresponding to the <b>code</b> ; will always match a <b>uniquenameterm</b> in the traintaxiddmmmyyyy.csv file
<b>commentline</b> *	<270	comments to be shown (or annunciated) to the user
<b>firm1name</b>	≤16	name of the first taxi/PH operator listed [spaces included in character limit]
<b>firm2name</b>	≤16	name of the second taxi/PH operator listed [spaces included in character limit]
<b>firm3name</b>	≤16	name of the third taxi/PH operator listed [spaces included in character limit]
<b>firm4name</b> \$	≤16	name of the fourth taxi/PH operator listed [spaces included in character limit]
<b>firm1phone</b>	≤13	phone number to match <b>firm1name</b> [presented with standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm2phone</b>	≤13	phone number to match <b>firm2name</b> [presented with standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm3phone</b>	≤13	phone number to match <b>firm3name</b> [presented with standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm4phone</b>	≤13	phone number to match <b>firm4name</b> [presented with standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm1phoneCOMP</b>	≤11	phone number to match <b>firm1name</b> [compressed without standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm2phoneCOMP</b>	≤11	phone number to match <b>firm2name</b> [compressed without standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm3phoneCOMP</b>	≤11	phone number to match <b>firm3name</b> [compressed without standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm4phoneCOMP</b> \$	≤11	phone number to match <b>firm4name</b> [compressed without standard spacing(s)]
<b>firm1accessibility</b>	≤1	flag to indicate if wheelchair icon should be shown for <b>firm1phone</b> ; Y=yes
<b>firm2accessibility</b>	≤1	flag to indicate if wheelchair icon should be shown for <b>firm2phone</b> ; Y=yes
<b>firm3accessibility</b>	≤1	flag to indicate if wheelchair icon should be shown for <b>firm3phone</b> ; Y=yes
<b>firm4accessibility</b> \$	≤1	flag to indicate if wheelchair icon should be shown for <b>firm4phone</b> ; Y=yes
<b>GOTO1name</b>	≤16	name of first alternative destination (cannot be populated if <b>firm1name</b> populated); might be abbreviated (e.g. "New Mills" rather than "New Mills Central")
<b>GOTO2name</b>	≤16	name of second alternative destination (cannot be populated if <b>firm2name</b> populated); might be abbreviated (e.g. "New Mills" rather than "New Mills Central")
<b>GOTO3name</b>	≤16	name of third alternative destination (cannot be populated if <b>firm3name</b> populated); might be abbreviated (e.g. "New Mills" rather than "New Mills Central")
<b>GOTO4name</b>	≤16	name of fourth alternative destination (cannot be populated if <b>firm4name</b> populated); might be abbreviated (e.g. "New Mills" rather than "New Mills Central")
<b>GOTO1link</b>	≤12	<b>code</b> to match <b>GOTO1name</b>
<b>GOTO2link</b>	≤12	<b>code</b> to match <b>GOTO2name</b>
<b>GOTO3link</b>	≤12	<b>code</b> to match <b>GOTO3name</b>
<b>GOTO4link</b>	≤12	<b>code</b> to match <b>GOTO4name</b>
<b>copyright</b> *	41	standard statement "© Copyright, Traintaxi Limited, 2000-20xx"
<b>helpsystem</b> *	32	hyperlink to . . . <a href="http://www.traintaxi.co.uk/faq.php">http://www.traintaxi.co.uk/faq.php</a>

This table has around 2.7 million unique records

\* field is always populated for any single record

\$ typically only included when a place has at least three significant cab firms — but none of which offer wheelchair-accessible cabs — and the fourth is a smaller firm with a wheelchair-accessible cab or cabs

- entries in the **code** field are:
  - 900000001...900099999 National Coach Service Database (NCSD) codes for coach destinations
  - 9100AAA...9100ZZZZZZZ codes for all *National Rail* stations
  - 9200AAA0...9200ZZZ9 codes for airports (and airport terminals at the few multi-terminal airports)
  - 9300AAA...9300ZZZ codes for ferry ports, ferry piers and ferry landings
  - 9400ZZAAAA...9400ZZZZZZZ codes for underground, metro, tram, light rail, heritage rail
  - 800TX101... 800TX999 codes for bus and coach *interchanges* — mainly bus stations and coach stations  
*these are codes created by taintaxi and are not used elsewhere in the public transport information industry*
  - CRS codes as used in the passenger rail industry
  - NLC codes as used in the passenger rail industry
  - TIPLOC codes as used in the passenger rail industry
  - bus stop codes (Atco codes)
  - bus stop short codes (mainly used for SMS services)
  - Locality codes: Great Britain is divided into about 44,500 Localities in the National Public Transport Gazetteer (Nptg); these are in three ranges: E0000001 to E0060000; ES000001 to ES005000; N0000001 to N0090000
  - Locality codes: we have assigned Locality codes in the range NI000001 to NI0000900 for places in Northern Ireland and RI000001 to RI000050 for places just over the border into the Republic of Ireland for bus services starting in Northern Ireland
  - compressed full postcodes (for example, TN11AB), deprecated postcodes (for example, BL90PS) and postcode sectors (for example, SK12); for postcodes, information is shown for the nearest Locality or (when less than 100m away) the nearest parent interchange (excluding those that are unrealistic — for example, *Polesworth: Rail Station* because it is only served by one train a day and only in one direction).
- we map to every **code**, even if there are no local cab firms, a railway station is not accessible by road or only has a “phantom” service, since otherwise in a search a user could be misled that (for example) there is no *Berney Arms: Rail Station* when there is: it’s just tiny, few trains serve it and a taxi couldn’t get to it
- names of operators are nearly all abbreviated to avoid using descriptive words such as “taxi” (so avoiding any implied promise that a firm necessarily offers taxis in the legal sense of “hackney carriages”) and to stay within the self-imposed limit of 16 characters
- operators listed are carefully selected for each code using a combination of automatic tools and human judgement; many (especially for rural areas) will not be found in internet searches since the owners consider their markets essentially local and do not promote or even list themselves nationally
- operators known to offer only airport, chauffeur-drive, long distance, contract, minibus-only or school services are regularly excluded; regular & extensive semi-automatic deduplication is run
- “goto” references (where used) are always to an interchange of the same type; for example, a London Underground station will only ever have a “goto” reference to another London Underground station; “goto” references are currently only included for some 9100 (rail) and some 9400 (metro) codes.
- entries in the **shortname** field:
  - for a Locality, the (not necessarily unique) name
  - the name shown for every interchange is in a uniform format; for example, *Barton: Ferry Terminal, Barchester: Rail Station* or *Snodgrass: Bus Station*
  - for all bus stops and most coach stops, the **name** shown is that of the parent Locality or the parent interchange: for example, *Sopwithton* or *Windgrass: Bus Station*
  - in the **longname** field, the name will be unique

## Mapping file

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Single data table in the form “traintaximapping`ddmmyyyy.csv`”

<b>field name</b>	<b>characters</b>	<b>description/rules</b>
<b>code *</b>	≤12	unique code for interchange or Locality.
<b>uniquename<b>*</b></b>	<65	unique name of an interchange, in uniform format (for example <i>Blackpool: Coach Station</i> ) or unique name of a Locality; for example <i>Orton Wistow (Peterborough)</i> ; will always match one or more <b>longname</b> in the main datafile
<b>shortame<b>*</b>term</b>	<65	non-unique name of an interchange or a Locality; for example <i>Orton Wistow</i> will always match one or more <b>shortname</b> in the main datafile
<b>nametype *</b>	1	i = an interchange name; l = Locality name in nameterm field
<b>easting *</b>	≤6	easting of the interchange or Locality (OSGB)
<b>northing *</b>	≤6	northing of the interchange or Locality (OSGB)
<b>latitude *</b>	<15	latitude of the interchange or Locality (WGS84)
<b>longitude *</b>	<15	longitude of the interchange or Locality (WGS84)

\* field is always populated

each **easting-northing combination** and each **latitude-longitude combination** is unique; eastings and northings for places in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are on the GB grid rather than the Irish grid

codes for interchanges that are rarely used or impracticable are **omitted** from this table; for example *Corrour: Rail Station* (because it has no public road access)

Our tests have shown that few places in England, Scotland and Wales are more than 5km away from a Locality centre or an interchange, and none more than 12.5km. All such places are in highly remote areas, mainly in the Scottish Highlands where a Locality may cover a large area.

The **uniquename**\***** is loosely derived from the Nptg. However, other than for specific key localities (for example, Bristol, Sheffield, Glasgow), brackets after the main Locality name give more context and also help differentiate between Localities of the same name — especially important where these are in the same county or even in the same district council area. Some examples appear below.

locality code	locality name	traintaxi unique Locality name
E0023929	Four Ashes	Four Ashes (near Brewood, Staffordshire)
E0035208	Four Lane Ends	Four Lane Ends (Blackburn, Lancashire)
E0015790	Four Lane Ends	Four Lane Ends (near Chorley, Lancashire)
E0016485	Four Lane Ends	Four Lane Ends (near Skelmersdale, Lancashire)
E0030172	Four Lane Ends	Four Lane Ends (Sheffield)
E0032701	Four Lane Ends	Four Lane Ends (Bradford)
E0031550	Four Oaks	Four Oaks (Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands)
E0031551	Four Oaks	Four Oaks (near Coventry, West Midlands)
E0025141	Friday Street	Friday Street (near Brandeston, Suffolk)
E0025142	Friday Street	Friday Street (near Rendlesham, Suffolk)
E0025143	Friday Street	Friday Street (near Saxmundham, Suffolk)
E0018278	Fritton	Fritton (near Long Stratton, Norfolk)
E0048509	Fritton	Fritton (near Great Yarmouth, Norfolk)

Those Nptg localities that relate to fixed points rather than Localities (for example, E0015471 *Beltring Hop Farm*) are *not* assigned a **uniquename**\*****. In the case of Northern Ireland, most locality names are suffixed by the old County name; for example, *Bromhill (County Armagh)* except for Belfast and Londonderry/Derry. We have been advised that that is widely acceptable in Northern Ireland even though those Counties no longer formally exist.

## **possible ways of obtaining cab information using our mapping**

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### (i) directly by **code**

Search against any valid **code** in the XML or JSON data using the syntax:

[http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020?access\\_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244](http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020?access_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244)  
[http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020.json?access\\_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244](http://data.traintaxi.co.uk/4400HO0020.json?access_key=740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237244)

where **4400HO0020** is an example **code** and **740b28ff09921e48c5b733809a237240** is an API test key

### (ii) indirectly by **geocodes**

Search for the nearest easting-northing or latitude-longitude combination in the traintaximapping`ddmmmyyyy.csv` file to return the matching **code** and then search against that **code** as in (i) above.

### (iii) indirectly by **interchange name** or **Locality name**

Search against any interchange name or Locality name in the traintaximapping`ddmmmyyyy.csv` file to return the matching **code** and then search against that **code** as in (i) above.

*Using any of the above approaches will give optimum results for the vast majority of places. An unusual exception might be two Scottish islands A and B separated by just a narrow channel. The small island A where the user is standing is a single Locality, but she is looking over at the main town of Island B which is one of six Localities on the larger Island B. Results for the town on Island B might then well be returned. But again this would be pretty unusual.*

For an API test key, please contact Paul Bakker at [paul@traintaxi.co.uk](mailto:paul@traintaxi.co.uk)

*examples of XML and JSON outputs appear on the following two pages*

ENDS

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```
--<station>
  <GOTO1link/>
  <GOTO1name/>
  <GOTO2link/>
  <GOTO2name/>
  <GOTO3link/>
  <GOTO3name/>
  <GOTO4link/>
  <GOTO4name/>
  <code>270000008961</code>
  <commentline>is served by the following local cab operators: </commentline>
  <copyright>© Traintaxi Limited, 2000-2019</copyright>
  <created-at type="datetime">2019-08-20T07:49:37Z</created-at>
  <firm1accessibility/>
  <firm1name>Clapham</firm1name>
  <firm1phone>01780 764161</firm1phone>
  <firm1phoneCOMP>01780764161</firm1phoneCOMP>
  <firm2accessibility/>
  <firm2name>Silver</firm2name>
  <firm2phone>01780 482800</firm2phone>
  <firm2phoneCOMP>01780482800</firm2phoneCOMP>
  <firm3accessibility/>
  <firm3name>ABC</firm3name>
  <firm3phone>01780 755550</firm3phone>
  <firm3phoneCOMP>01780755550</firm3phoneCOMP>
  <firm4accessibility/>
  <firm4name/>
  <firm4phone/>
  <firm4phoneCOMP/>
  <helpsystem>http://www.raintaxi.co.uk/faq.php</helpsystem>
  <id type="integer">23796834</id>
  <longname/>
  <shortname>Stamford</shortname>
  <updated-at type="datetime">2019-08-20T07:49:37Z</updated-at>
</station>
```

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```
▼ station:
  updated_at: "2019-08-20T07:49:37Z"
  firm2accessibility: ""
  firm1name: "Clapham"
  created_at: "2019-08-20T07:49:37Z"
  GOT02name: ""
  firm4name: ""
  GOT04link: ""
  firm3phone: "01780 755550"
  firm1phone: "01780 764161"
  GOT03link: ""
  shortname: "Stamford"
  longname: ""
  copyright: "© Traintaxi Limited, 2000–2019"
  GOT01name: ""
  helpsystem: "http://www.traintaxi.co.uk/faq.php"
  firm2phone: "01780 482800"
  firm2name: "Silver"
  firm4phone: ""
  GOT02link: ""
  firm4accessibility: ""
  firm3phoneCOMP: "01780755550"
  firm3name: "ABC"
  firm1accessibility: ""
  commentline: "is served by the following local cab operators: "
  id: 23796834
  firm4phoneCOMP: ""
  firm3accessibility: ""
  firm2phoneCOMP: "01780482800"
  GOT01link: ""
  firm1phoneCOMP: "01780764161"
  code: "270000008961"
  GOT04name: ""
  GOT03name: ""
```