

DIRECTIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM HEATHROW AIRPORT TO HARLAXTON MANOR

Heathrow Airport is connected to the London Underground (the “tube”) system, which automatically leads you right to King’s Cross Rail Station, from which you will take the train to Grantham (where Harlaxton is located). Therefore, it is better to take the tube/train from Heathrow to King’s Cross Station than to take a taxi there. A taxi from Heathrow Airport to King’s Cross Rail Station would cost approximately £60-70 and would take considerably longer (due to heavy London traffic).

Here, then, is how you take the tube to King’s Cross and the train to Grantham:

1. In the airport “Arrival Hall,” look up and follow the signs to the London Underground. This will involve going down some stairs, escalators or elevators. (Luggage carts are not allowed on escalators or stairs – so look around to find the elevators.)
2. Once you find the London Underground window, purchase a ticket to King’s Cross. (Approximately £6.) No more luggage trolleys allowed at this point--another reason to travel light.
3. Keep your ticket handy, get on the tube, --you can’t go the wrong way or get on the wrong one--and settle back for lots of stops. In approximately 45 minutes, you will arrive at King’s Cross.
4. Exit the tube by inserting your ticket in the turnstile.
5. Go up the stairs and up some more stairs. (Elevators are hard to find here). Once you get to street level, follow the signs to the Brit Rail part of the station. Once there, go to the window again and purchase a 2nd class ticket to Grantham. (approximately £45)*** Ask when the next train departs and from which platform. You can use a credit card or pounds.

FROM KING’S CROSS TO GRANTHAM:

6. Look on the big board to find the right track for the train to Grantham, which should be listed as one of the destinations. Check with others in the “queue” to be sure you’re waiting for the right train. It’s probably also heading to Peterborough or Edinburgh.
7. When the train arrives and is ready for passenger boarding, walk along the outside of the train until you see a “2” on a car. It’s a very long walk – the equivalent of an American block. Board the train, stow your luggage in the luggage compartment when you enter. Find a seat and keep your ticket handy because the conductor will come by to check it. And then keep it handy again; you may need to show it in the Grantham station. Settle down for an hour’s ride. When you arrive in Grantham, exit the train promptly; the train does not stop very long at all. Be sure to stay awake, and not be asleep when the train stops in Grantham.
8. Take the overpass over the tracks, go through the train station, exit the front door where there are usually taxis waiting. Take the first one in the queue and say you want to go to Harlaxton Manor. In the unlikely event there are no taxis, here are the taxi phone numbers: Street Cars 590008, Discount 591059 or Central 575050.
9. The taxi will take you to the back of the Manor. Just ring the bell and you will be buzzed in.