



Twinning Visits - Travel and Transport

There are obviously several methods of travel to our twin communities depending on distance, location and duration of the visit, not to mention cost. Living in Devon we do not have the range or number of options enjoyed in other parts of the country.

Here are some considerations; there may be others:-

1. Take our own coach all the way.

- For: Convenience, with luggage etc.
Coach is available during the stay for any excursions.
- Against: Cost...hire of coach and driver(s) over a weekend or longer.
Length of journey in some cases.

2. Take coach only as far as the British port/airport and rely on hosts to provide transport on the other side.

- For: Might be cheaper.
- Against: Luggage has to be "lugged" on and off the ferry and deposited somewhere on board
Hosts might feel it necessary to make a charge for any onward travel they provide.
Cost of coach to do two return journeys on this side, outward and inward.

3. Take private cars to the port/airport. Same considerations as in 2 above plus cost of parking on this side

4. Take private cars all the way.

- For: Convenience
- Against: Not usually viable for a whole group.
Expensive for each individual.

5. Whole group go by air.

For: Speed of travel, giving a longer time with hosts.
Against: Cost.
Distance from airports.
Transport to and from airports on each side.
Rarely feasible for a whole group.
Cost of parking on this side

6. If, as has been the experience of some of our Associations, part of the group elects to go by air or by private car and the remainder all the way by coach it would only seem fair to ask for a contribution from the former towards the coach cost if they use it on excursions while abroad.
Conversely if a coach is oversubscribed twinnors who have to take their cars or go by air as a result might be compensated.
Admittedly these scenarios do not often occur.
7. Finally, some Associations have explored the possibility of sharing a coach if they find that their travel dates coincide and their itineraries are broadly similar. Close cooperation needed.