Getting from Heathrow Airport to the University of Exeter

University of Exeter
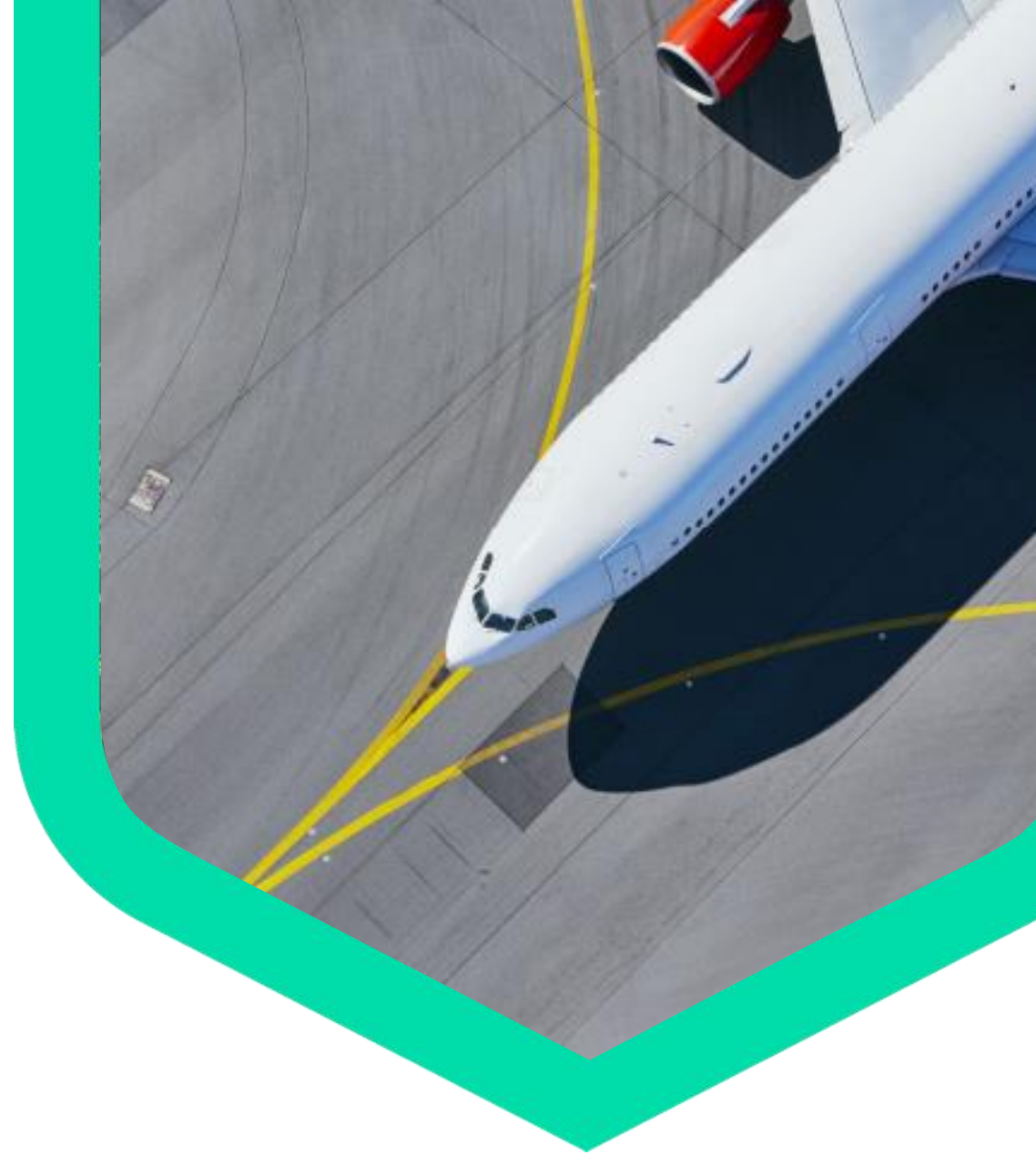
You have landed in the UK

What next?

University of Exeter

Heathrow Airport to Exeter is approx. 150 miles

So you need to plan the next stage of your journey before you arrive.

…and it is approx. 250 miles to Penryn!

So you need to plan the next stage of your journey before you arrive.

Wait! Miles?

150 miles is roughly 241 kilometres

So there's still a way to go on your adventure to the South West!

There are 4 ways to continue your journey

University of Exeter's Airport Collection Service

Rail
Catch the Heathrow Express to London Paddington

Bus
Get a bus from Heathrow Terminal 5 or Terminal 2 and 3

Air
You may be able to fly to a closer airport

There are pros and cons to each mode of transport

There are also a few things to consider when planning the next stage of your journey.

Planning in advance will minimise stress along the way.

University of Exeter

Time

What time of day will you land at Heathrow?

- Landing late at night could have an impact on your travel options

- You might need to stay overnight before you can embark on the next leg of your journey

- Give yourself enough time to get through the airport before your connecting transport leaves

University of Exeter

Accommodation

Are you staying in University Managed or Private Accommodation?

• Do you need to collect your keys before going to your new home?

• How far is your new home from the train station or coach stop?

• Are you expected to arrive at a particular time?

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER
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University
of Exeter

Information for Exeter-based students

These details cover common and suggested routes and your journey might differ slightly depending on date and time of travel

Rail

Travelling By Train

When you arrive at Heathrow Airport you will need to find the train station. Look out for this symbol:

From there, you must go to **London Paddington** station to get a train to **Exeter St. David's** in 2-3 hours.

It is advisable to pre-book your ticket due to price and availability. Here is the website for booking your train tickets online: https://www.thetrainline.com/

Most trains will go straight to Exeter St. David's train station.

There are 3 train stations at Heathrow airport:
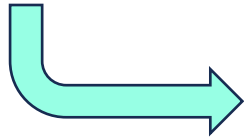- Terminal 5
- Terminal 4
- Terminal 2 and 3

Heathrow Express trains run every 15 minutes from Terminal 5 and Terminal 2 and 3. They take around 15-21 minutes to reach London Paddington. Trains start from 5am to a bit before midnight.

The **Elizabeth line** is a slower (30-40 minutes) and cheaper alternative departing every 30 minutes from Terminals 4 and 5, and every 15 minutes from Terminal 2 and 3.

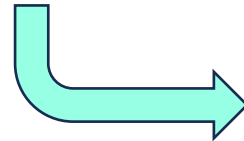# Handy Flow Chart!

University of Exeter

Heathrow Airport
From the airport terminal follow the signs for rail connections

Heathrow Express/Elizabeth line
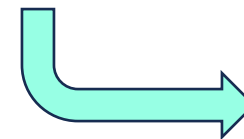Board the Heathrow Express or the Elizabeth line to London Paddington

Board the train to **Exeter St David's**
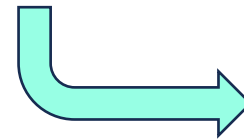
Streatham Campus
Get a taxi from outside the train station to campus

You've arrived!

Air

It might be possible for you to fly to a closer airport such as **Bristol** or **Exeter**

The advantage would be much shorter transfer time to Exeter campuses and quicker to get through customs and baggage.

Travelling By Plane

You may be able to book a flight via a European hub airport (such as Schiphol) to Bristol or Exeter Airports.

Make sure you check luggage restrictions for your onward flight – you may not be allowed as many bags as you are on your first flight!

Bristol airport is approx. 2 hours away from Exeter campuses. Catch the A1 bus from outside the airport to Bristol Temple Meads and then the train to Exeter St David's rail station.

Exeter airport is approximately 45 minutes from Exeter campuses. Catch Bus 4A from outside the airport to Exeter St David's station and then find a taxi outside the station to take you to Streatham campus.

It might take you longer than normal to get through any airport checks so make sure you leave **plenty of time** between connecting flights!

Bus

Travelling By Bus

When you arrive at Heathrow Airport you will need to find the National Express bus stop:

- Terminal 5 – stops 13-16 outside the terminal building.

- Terminal 4 – stops 13 and 14 outside the terminal building.

- Terminal 2 and 3 – at the central bus station. This is a short walk from the check in area and is clearly sign posted around the airport.

Note – If you are arriving to Terminal 1 you will have to travel to Terminal 2 and 3 to be able to board a National Express bus.

It is advisable to pre-book your ticket due to price and availability. Here is the website for booking your coach tickets online:
https://www.nationalexpress.com/en

There is strict **luggage allowance**:
1 x hand luggage and
1 x large suitcase

Buses from **Terminal 4** and **Terminal 5** often take you to Terminal 2 and 3 to get a direct bus from there. Or they might leave Heathrow and change in Bristol instead.

Buses form **Terminal 2 and 3** take 3.5-5 hours and often with no changes.

Handy Flow Chart!

University of Exeter

Heathrow Airport
From the airport terminal find the National Express bus stop (Terminal 5 at stops 13-16, Terminal 4 at stops 13 and 14, and Terminal 2 and 3 at the central bus station)
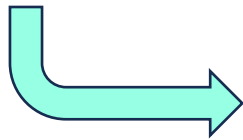
National Express
Board the National Express to Exeter Sidwell Street (City Centre)
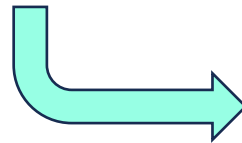
Taxi
Call a taxi from the bus station (Apple Taxi's – 01392 666666) to campus
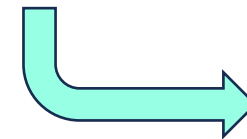
You've arrived!

Information for Cornwall-based students

These details cover common and suggested routes and your journey might differ slightly depending on date and time of travel

Rail

Whether you're going to live in **Truro**, **Penryn** or **Falmouth** you will be able to travel by train to your destination.

Travelling By Train

University of Exeter

When you arrive at Heathrow Airport you will need to find the train station. Look out for this symbol:

From there, you must go to **London Paddington** station to get a train to the South West.

Some trains go straight to **Truro**, others require you to change onto a different train at **Plymouth**.

Where you get off the train depends on where you'll be living, if you're headed to **Penryn** or **Falmouth** these stations are past **Truro**.

There are 3 train stations at Heathrow airport:
- Terminal 2 & 3
- Terminal 4
- Terminal 5

Heathrow Express trains run every 15 minutes from Terminal 5 and Terminal 2 and 3. They take around 15-21 minutes to reach London Paddington. Trains start from 5am to a bit before midnight.

The **Elizabeth line** is a slower (30-40 minutes) and cheaper alternative departing every 30 minutes from Terminals 4 and 5, and every 15 minutes from Terminal 2 and 3.

Handy Flow Chart!

Heathrow Airport
From the airport terminal follow the signs for rail connections

↓

Heathrow Express/Elizabeth line
Board the Heathrow Express or the Elizabeth line to **London Paddington**

→ Board the train to **Truro**

→ Board the train to **Plymouth** ↑

Arrive at Truro → You've arrived!

→ Board the train to **Penryn**

↓

Stay on the train to **Falmouth** stations

← Penmere (in Falmouth)

↓

Falmouth **Town**

↓

Falmouth **Docks**

→ You've arrived!
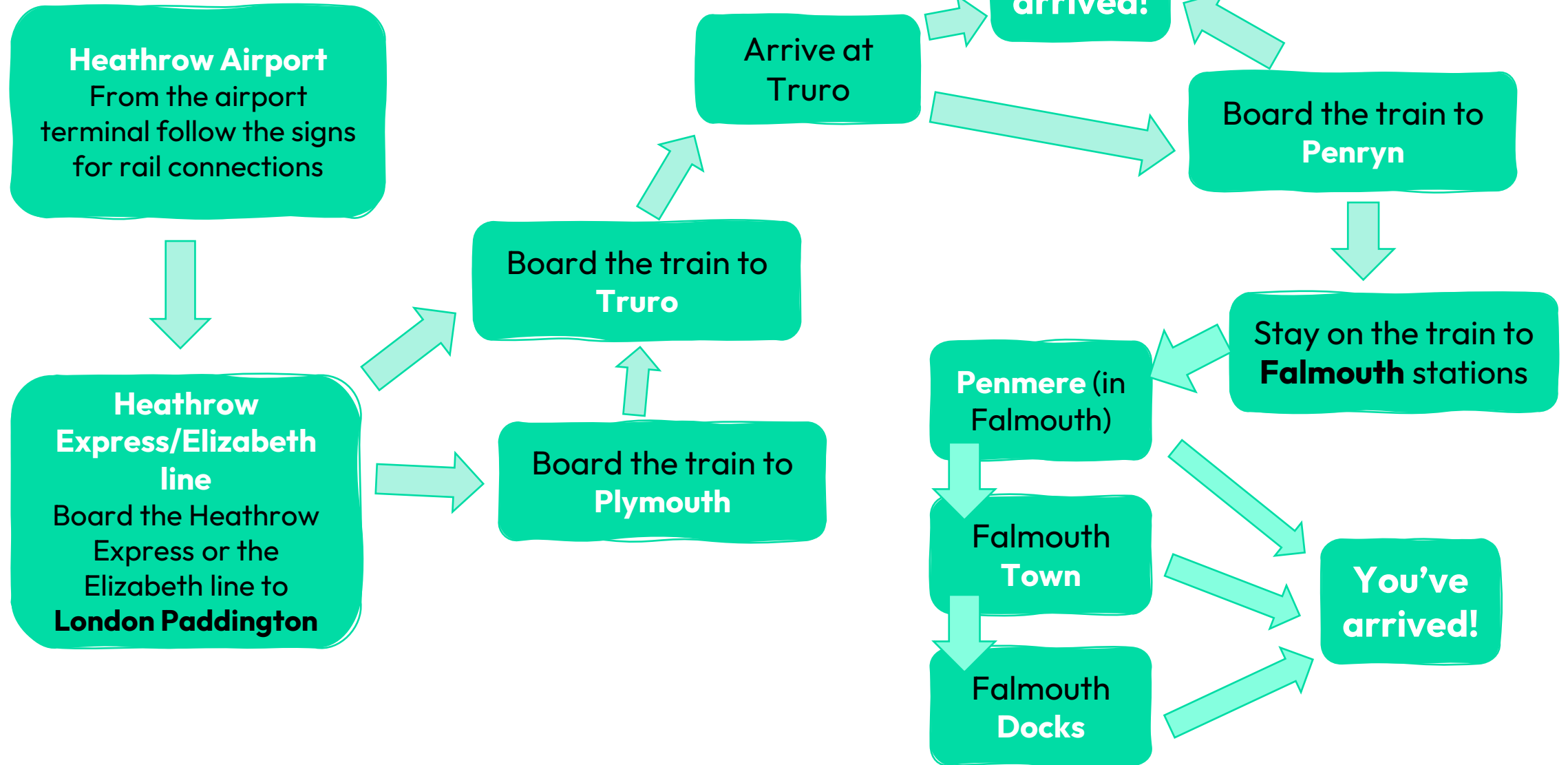
Bus

Whether you're going to live in **Truro**, **Penryn** or **Falmouth** you will be able to travel by bus to your destination.

Travelling By Bus

When you arrive at Heathrow Airport you will need to find the Bus Stands. Look out for this symbol:

There are two main bus companies that can bring you to Cornwall: National Express and Megabus

National Express runs from bus stands at the airport terminal. Some routes will go directly to Cornwall others may require you to change at **Bristol**.

Where you get off the bus depends on where you'll be living, and the route the bus takes. It might be that you can only get a bus for part of your journey.

Availability
Keep an eye on the bus companies' websites for up-to-date information and booking!

Luggage restrictions
You are permitted to bring only two pieces of luggage that you should be able to lift yourself and one piece of hand baggage.

Food & Rest Room Facilities
There won't be food services on buses, so grab a snack at the airport to take with you (hot food will not be permitted). There may not be a rest-room in the bus.

University of Exeter

Handy Flow Chart!

University of Exeter

Heathrow Airport
From the airport terminal follow the signs for bus stations

↓

National Express
Board the bus at the relevant stand

→ Board the bus to **Bristol**

↓

Board the bus to **Truro** → Stay on the bus to **Penryn** → Stay on the bus to **Falmouth**

↓

Arrive at **Truro**

↓

Arrive at **Penryn**

↓

Arrive at **Falmouth**

↓

You've arrived!

![University of Exeter logo]

Air
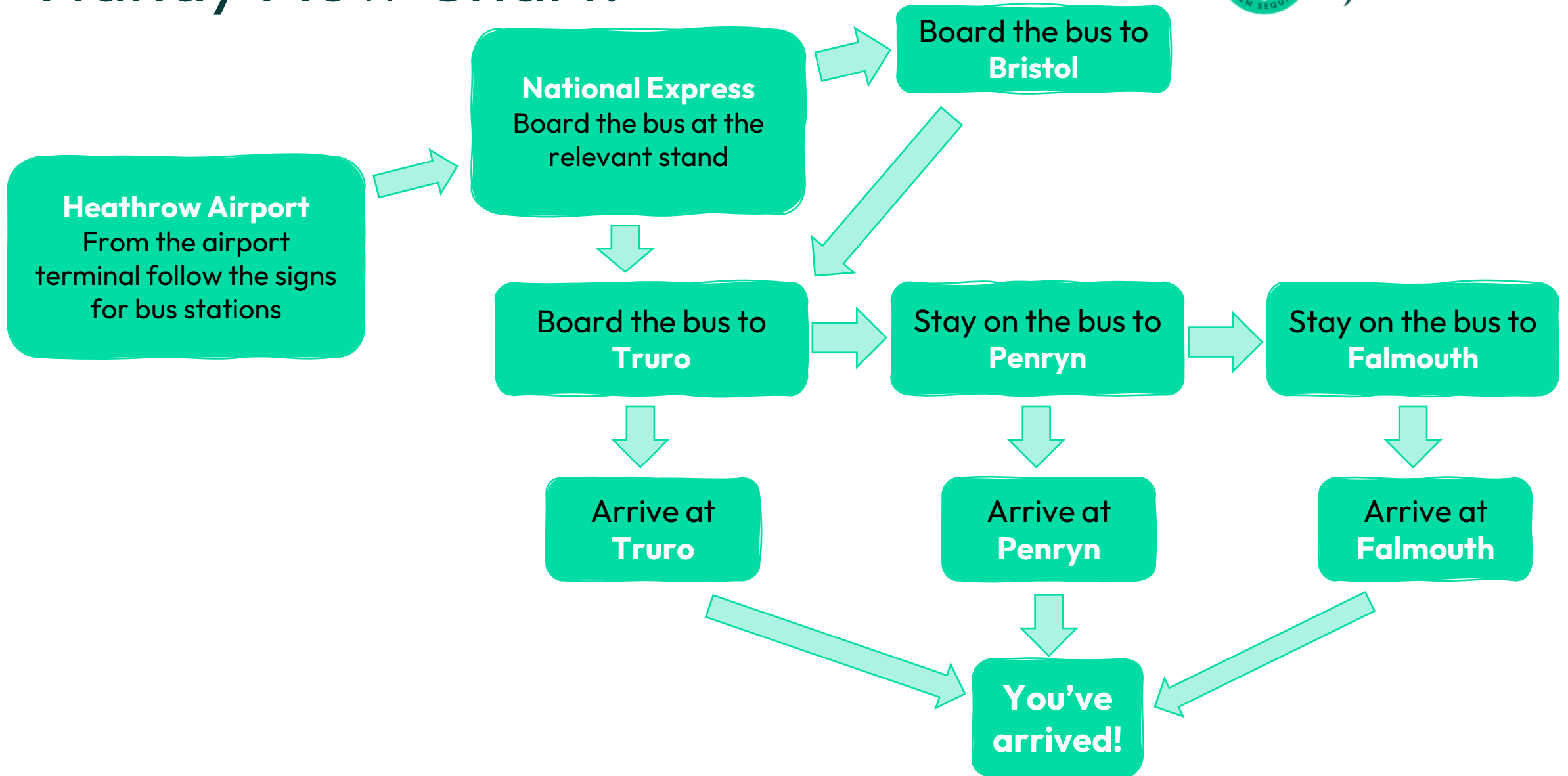
It might be possible for you to fly to a closer airport such as **Newquay**

Travelling By Plane

Follow the **purple** signs at the airport for **Flight Connections**.

There are indirect flights from Heathrow Airport to Newquay Airport.

Make sure you check luggage restrictions for your onward flight – you may not be allowed as many bags as you are on your first flight!

From **Newquay** Airport you may be able to get a bus to **Truro** bus station if services are running as normal.

It might take you longer than normal to get through any airport checks, so make sure you leave plenty of time between connecting flights!
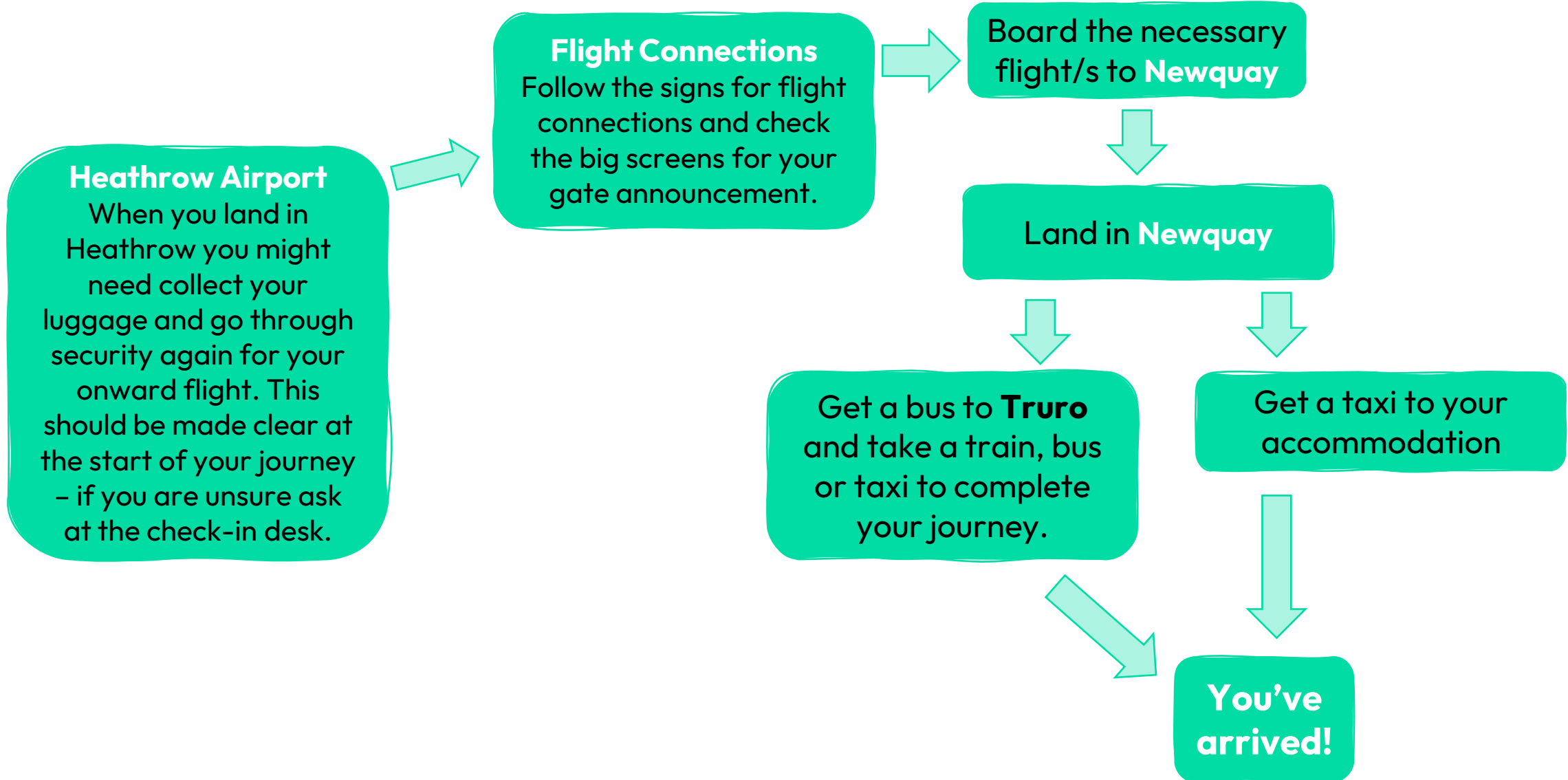
Newquay airport is approximately a 40-minute drive from Truro and 55 minutes from Penryn/Falmouth.

There are bus connections from Newquay Airport to Penryn Campus. Check here for routes.

Handy Flow Chart!

Heathrow Airport
When you land in Heathrow you might need collect your luggage and go through security again for your onward flight. This should be made clear at the start of your journey – if you are unsure ask at the check-in desk.

Flight Connections
Follow the signs for flight connections and check the big screens for your gate announcement.

Board the necessary flight/s to **Newquay**

Land in **Newquay**

Get a bus to **Truro** and take a train, bus or taxi to complete your journey.

Get a taxi to your accommodation

You've arrived!

Any Questions

Cornwall is a great place to live in because of its remote location but that means getting here can take a bit of time!

If you want to have a video chat with the **International Student Adviser** in Cornwall about planning your journey, please send an email to info.penryn@exeter.ac.uk with subject the line:

ISA Cornwall – Getting Here

We hope you have a safe journey and we look forward to welcoming you to the University of Exeter