

Ability Guidebooks
presents

Explore Portland!



I Am Going Up on the Portland Aerial Tram!

A Step-by-Step Guide On How To Use The OHSU Tram

by
Brett Bigham

Oh boy! I am going to go UP on the Portland Tram. It is fun to go on the Portland Tram. It goes high into the air but it is super safe.



by Cacophony

The lower Tram Terminal is located in the South Waterfront district at SW Moody and Gibbs.



To get to the Tram Terminal you can walk, take a bike, car, bus, boat or the street car.

This is the lower terminal. These people want to go up on the tram. They are standing in line to buy tram tickets.



Tickets to go UP on the Tram are \$4.00. You buy the tickets from a machine. The machine takes debit cards, credit cards or silver-colored coins. It does not take pennies.



Here is what the ticket looks like. Don't lose your ticket, you need to show it to the tram operator. This ticket is for eight dollars. Can you guess why?



This ticket is for two fares. This is a ticket for two people.

Remember, you must buy a ticket for the ride up.

After you get your ticket get in line and walk up to the tram. Line up to the right. The left side is for people to exit off of the tram.



When the tram gets into the terminal the doors will open and people will exit. Wait until everyone is off before you get on the tram.



Remember to have your ticket ready to show them!

There will be a person working in the Tram who takes your ticket. That person will have an ID tag around their neck. People who work on the Tram are safe people. You can trust them.



When you get on the Tram pick a spot to stand and hold on to the railing. It is very fun to ride on the Tram!



The Doors will close and the Tram will start moving up very quickly! It is exciting and fun. Don't be scared. See this man? He isn't worried, he knows it is very safe to ride on the tram.

**When the tram goes over the big tower it really bounces!
Don't be scared! It is fun!**



Hold on tight! Here comes the bump!

The Tram goes high in the air. Look! It goes right over the highway! If you get scared hold on tight. But, look how small the cars are! This is fun!



And look over there! You can see all the tall buildings downtown. This is how Portland looks to a bird!

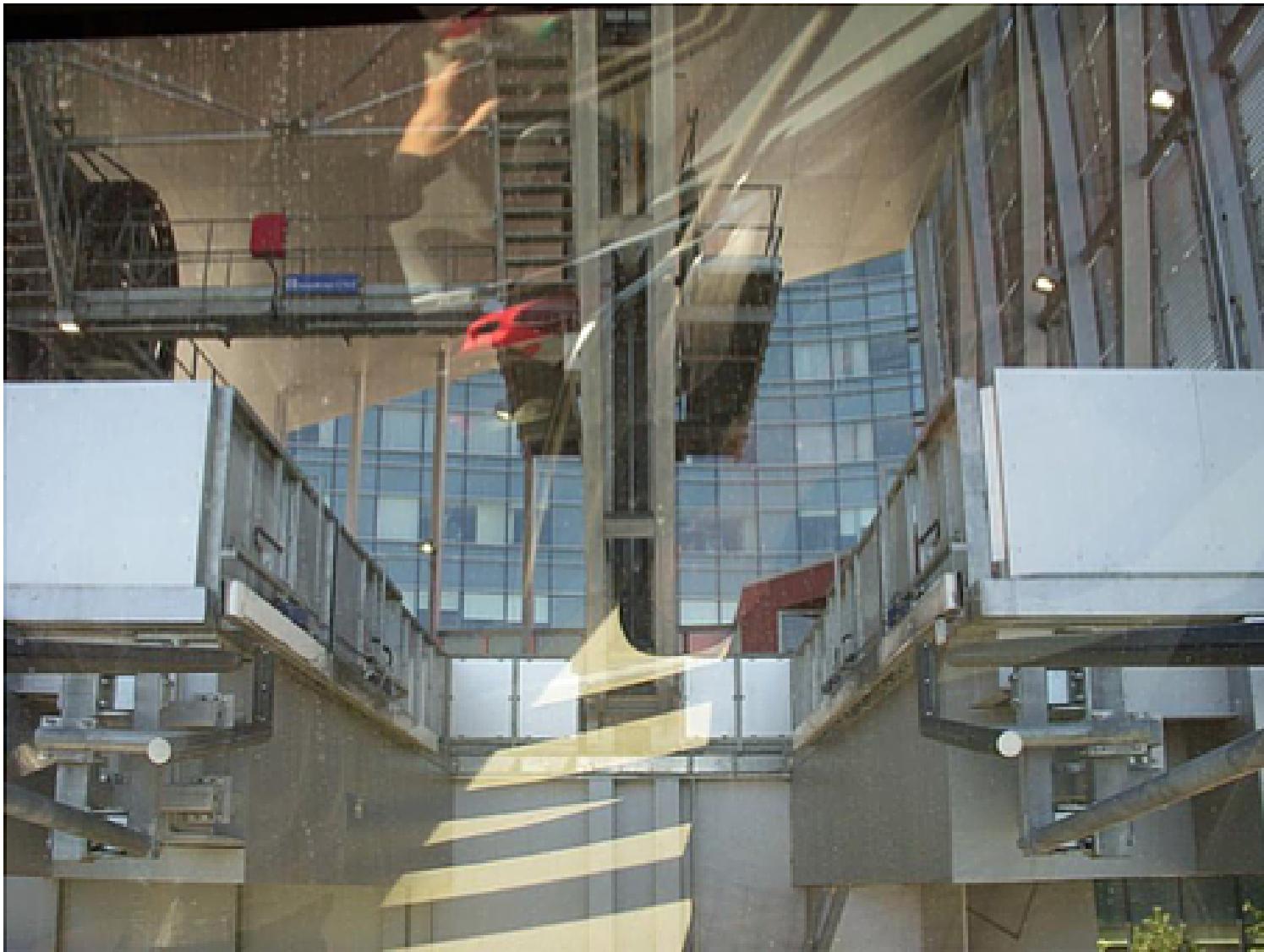


People come from all over the city to ride the tram. They come because of the amazing views of the city. They also come because it is fun to ride the tram!

Look over there! We are passing the other tram as it is going down! If you look fast you can see people in the other tram. They are following the rules and having a fun time riding up in the air.



We are almost at the top. The tram is kind of wiggly as it pulls into the upper terminal at OHSU. Hold on tight! It is still super safe!



When the Tram stops the doors will open. Walk out onto the platform. You are now at OHSU Hospital. This is a serious place where we have to use an indoor voice. How will you get back down? In a car? On the bus? In a van? Or... you can ride the Tram back down for Free!



To ride back down look for the Enter sign. But first take a minute to look at the amazing view of Portland!

Things to know about riding the Portland Tram:

This is not the outing for people who are scared of heights. The tram trip is over relatively quickly, but then you have to go back down! If the tram ride was too much and a return trip isn't possible, there are bus lines and taxi service that can take you back to your car.

The hospital is a surprisingly great cheap outing! You can take the tram up, walk across the Skybridge, eat lunch at the (very reasonably priced) cafeteria and then take the tram back down for free. If you have a child who is afraid of the doctor, this is a chance for the hospital to be fun! Riding the tram could even be the reward for going to the doctor at OHSU or Doernbecher's Children's Hospital.

The Tram can be bouncy. It is my experience that young people like to make the tram bounce. I'd talk about this in advance and talk about how fun it is when the tram moves to get them prepared.

The hospital is a bit of a maze but there are tram signs everywhere to help you find your way. Since the trip down is different than the trip up, there is a book on how to ride DOWN on the tram available.



Ability Guidebooks are step-by-step instructions on how to access community destinations. For many people with autism new situations can cause stress and discomfort. Ability Guidebooks help to prepare people for new experiences.

This book will also help teachers prepare their students on how to ride the tram for field trips.

Brett Bigham is the 2014 Oregon State Teacher of the Year and is a recipient of the NEA National Award For Teaching Excellence.. Bigham is the first Special Education teacher to win these awards.

Special Thanks to the Oregon Education Association and the NEA Foundation Global Fellowship Program. By naming me a 2015 Global Fellow I was able to travel to Peru and create my first international Ability Guidebook for the Inca Museum in Cusco. Since then I have added books for Italy and Greece with more international books coming!

Special thanks to Mike for giving up part of his weekend for proofreading.

Can you translate? I am working on access for everyone and it would be a pity if there were students in Portland who need this book but can't read it in English.

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