

How do Uber, Lyft, and taxis compare?

	Uber	Lyft	Taxi
Cost (to get from San Carlos to San Francisco Airport)	\$35	\$35	\$40
Cost (how that fare is calculated)	Base Fare: \$2 Per Minute: \$0.22 Per Mile: \$1.21 Service Fee: \$2	Base Fare: \$2 Per Minute: \$0.22 Per Mile: \$1.15 Service Fee: \$2	Base Fare: \$3 Per Mile: \$3
Cost (to get from Livermore to San Carlos)	\$56-\$71	\$53	\$115
Cost (how that fare is calculated)	Base Fare: \$1.50 Per Minute: \$0.15 Per Mile: \$0.91 Service Fee: \$2 Toll: \$5	Base Fare: \$1.50 Per Minute: \$0.15 Per Mile: \$0.85 Service Fee: \$2 Toll: \$5	Base Fare: \$2.50 Per Mile: \$2.50 Toll: \$5
Surge Pricing (raising the price of service during times of peak demand, like rush hour or rainy weather)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Surge Pricing can be as high as 7X – 8X normal price ❖ Area of Surge Pricing is usually larger than Lyft 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Prime Time (Lyft's version of Surge Pricing) is usually only as high as 3X – 4X normal price ❖ Area of Prime Time is usually smaller than Uber 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ No Surge Pricing
Ease of Requesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Can request rides through an app in 1-2 minute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Can request rides through an app in 1-2 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ You can always call the taxi company ❖ Many companies let you reserve in advance using an online form ❖ Some companies now are connected to apps (like Curb or Flywheel)
Wait Time (at places where there aren't taxis lined up, the time between requesting a ride and getting in the car)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ About the same wait time as Lyft ❖ 90% of passengers are picked up within 10 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ About the same wait time as Uber ❖ 90% of passengers are picked up within 10 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ "Significantly slower and less reliable" than Uber or Lyft, reports a San Francisco-based study in 2014 ❖ Less than 40% of passengers are picked up within 10 minutes
Wait Time (at airports and other busy places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ride-hailing cars are not lined up at airports or along busy streets, unlike taxis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ride-hailing cars are not lined up at airports or along busy streets, unlike taxis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ At busy locations like airports and downtown streets, taxis are lined up or easy to flag down, so you don't have to request anyone to pick you up and you don't have to wait for them to arrive

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Reserving a Ride in Advance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Can reserve an Uber ride up to 30 days in advance ❖ If you cancel a reservation more than 5 minutes after booking, you are charged \$5 ❖ The exact cost of the ride (using Surge Pricing) will be determined when you're riding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Can reserve a Lyft ride up to 7 days in advance ❖ If you cancel a reservation, you will be charged \$5; if you cancel within 30 minutes of the scheduled pick-up time, you will be charged \$10 ❖ Lyft predicts how much the ride will cost (using Prime Time) and this price is locked in upon booking—even if the cost is higher or lower when you're actually riding, the price is locked in from when you scheduled the ride 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Usually no limit on how early you can reserve a ride ❖ No cancellation fee ❖ Cost of ride does not change depending on when you ride
Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Uber is larger than Lyft (it's in 84 countries and over 700 cities globally) ❖ Uber tends to stay in cities ❖ In smaller towns, it may be hard to find ride hailing services at night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lyft is only in the United States, and has over 300 cities ❖ Lyft tends to stay in cities ❖ In smaller towns, it may be hard to find ride hailing services at night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Taxis are usually available 24/7, anywhere around the world, in each city, even in non-metropolitan areas
Passenger Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Uber drivers undergo less training than taxi drivers and do not go through as thorough a background check ❖ Number of assaults done by ride hailing drivers is higher than those done by taxi drivers ❖ 3 Years of Driving Experience required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lyft drivers undergo less training than taxi drivers and do not go through as thorough a background check ❖ Number of assaults done by ride hailing drivers is higher than those done by taxi drivers ❖ 1 Year of Driving Experience required, and less than 3 auto violations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Because taxi drivers must pass more requirements than Uber or Lyft drivers before becoming licensed, a ride in a taxi is safer
Driver's Knowledge of City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ride hailing drivers usually follow a GPS to get to a destination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ride hailing drivers usually follow a GPS to get to a destination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Taxi drivers are required to take a class to familiarize themselves with local laws and city layouts ❖ Taxi drivers usually know more about the area that they are driving through, which can mean that taxis can navigate detours or traffic accidents better