

A different way to travel



Cyclo in Hanoi, Vietnam, is a tricycle taxi. Tourists can get a tour of the city, while locals use them to get through the chaotic traffic. They are often faster than a car – and greener, too.



Funicular in Zagreb, Croatia, will take you up to the old part of the town. The ride is short and doesn't cost much, so natives take it, too, when they need to go uptown quickly.



Gondola in Venice, Italy, is a traditional type of boat made of wood. Sometimes the gondolier will also sing while he takes you along Venetian canals. It can be very expensive.



Nori or bamboo train is very popular in Cambodia. It is a platform made of bamboo with an engine, which goes on railway tracks. It can speed up to 40km/h, but it is not very comfortable or safe.



Reindeer sled in Lapland, Finland, is an ancient part of the Sami culture. It is also the oldest means of transport in the snowy north. It is not very dangerous or uncomfortable, so people of all ages can try it out.



Rickshaw in Delhi, India, is a small cart for two or three people. In the past, a man pulled it by a pair of handles but today rickshaws are usually motorized or have a bicycle in front. They are quite cheap.



Toboggans in Funchal, Portugal, were first used in the 19th century to go downhill. They were sleds made of wooden branches. Today, it is mostly a tourist attraction and not a local means of transport.



Totora boats in Peru look a little bit like dragons. People make these boats from reeds, a type of plant that grows on the Titicaca lake. They are fast, light and easy to use, so both tourists and locals enjoy them.

Answer the questions.

- 1 Divide the means of transport according to whether they go on the ground, on the rails, or on water.
- 2 Sort the means of transport into more and less dangerous.
- 3 Look at a map: Where are the countries mentioned in the text?
- 4 Which vehicles are more popular with tourists and which ones with locals?
- 5 Which of these types of transport sounds like most fun?
- 6 Have you ever travelled in an unusual vehicle?