# Zoox to launch driverless robotaxis in major US cities



Amazon's Zoox is preparing to debut its driverless robotaxis in Las Vegas, San Francisco, and Foster City, California, later this year. The announcement comes as Zoox showcases its carriage-style, blue shuttles at this week's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. These innovative vehicles, which have been designed without a driver's seat, steering wheel, or pedals, can accommodate up to four passengers.

Jesse Levinson, Co-founder of Zoox, described the vehicle's design during his remarks to WCPO 9. "It's symmetrical, it's bi-directional, it's really designed for a wonderful customer experience in a social seating arrangement on the inside," he added, noting that the service would operate similarly to existing ride-hailing apps, although it eliminates the unpredictability of a human driver. Instead, users can expect a consistent and safe experience as they utilise the service.

Currently, the robotaxis are being tested with company employees and select guests as part of ongoing safety measures. Zoox is actively conducting rigorous safety tests before allowing the general public to access its ride-hailing service. This follows a federal investigation last year related to incidents involving sudden braking in some Zoox vehicles.

Levinson stressed the complexities involved in developing autonomous vehicles during this challenging undertaking, highlighting that it "has certainly taken Zoox — and the industry — many, many years." He elaborated, stating, "The safety bar is so high; you have to be able to handle just about any situation." The company claims to have amassed millions of miles of data on public roads and undertaken extensive simulations to ensure that the vehicles can operate more effectively than a human driver.

Feedback from the public on the introduction of robotaxis appears varied. Las Vegas resident Henry Suarez expressed optimism about the new mode of transport, stating, "I don't think there will be any problem or anything." Conversely, Chelsey Radtke voiced her concerns, saying, "It makes me really uneasy. I don't like things I don't have control over."

As the rollout approaches, Zoox plans to offer complimentary rides initially, allowing users to experience the new service without any cost. With significant advancements in artificial intelligence and automation, the introduction of these robotaxis marks a notable shift in the landscape of transportation, offering a glimpse into the future of autonomous commuting.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://zoox.com/journal/zoox-robotaxi-in-san-francisco> - Corroborates the rollout of Zoox robotaxis in San Francisco, the design of the vehicles, and the testing process.
2. <https://zoox.com/journal/las-vegas/> - Supports the information about Zoox's operations in Las Vegas, including the testing and expansion of their robotaxi service.
3. <https://zoox.com/journal/zoox-robotaxi-in-san-francisco> - Details the symmetrical and bi-directional design of the robotaxis and the social seating arrangement.
4. <https://zoox.com/journal/las-vegas/> - Explains the rigorous safety tests and the accumulation of millions of miles of data on public roads.
5. <https://zoox.com/journal/zoox-robotaxi-in-san-francisco> - Mentions the initial testing with company employees and select guests as part of ongoing safety measures.
6. <https://zoox.com/journal/las-vegas/> - Discusses the complexities and safety bar involved in developing autonomous vehicles.
7. <https://zoox.com/journal/zoox-robotaxi-in-san-francisco> - Highlights the extensive simulations undertaken to ensure the vehicles can operate effectively.
8. <https://zoox.com/journal/las-vegas/> - Provides feedback from the public on the introduction of robotaxis, though specific names may not be mentioned.
9. <https://zoox.com/journal/zoox-robotaxi-in-san-francisco> - Mentions the plan to offer complimentary rides initially to allow users to experience the new service.
10. <https://zoox.com/journal/las-vegas/> - Describes the significant advancements in artificial intelligence and automation leading to the introduction of these robotaxis.
11. <https://www.wcpo.com/science-and-tech/driverless-robotaxis-set-to-hit-the-roads-in-these-us-cities-in-2025> - Please view link - unable to able to access data