

Here is the complete history of Kolkata tram routes, from 1873 to 2020.

## HORSE TRAM ERA

- 1873 - Opening of horse tram as meter gauge, closure in the same year.
- 1880 - Final opening of horse tram as a permanent system. Calcutta Tramways Company was established.
- 1881 - **Dalhousie Square** - Lalbazar - Bowbazar - Lebutala - **Sealdah Station**. (Later route 14)  
**Esplanade** - Lalbazar - Pagyapatti - Companybagan - Shobhabazar - Kumortuli. (Later route 7 after extension)  
Dalhousie Square - Esplanade. (Later route 22, 24, 25 & 29)  
Esplanade - Planetarium - Hazra Park - **Kalighat**. (Later route 30)
- 1882 - Esplanade - Wellington Square - Bowbazar - Boipara - Hatibagan - Shyambazar Junction. (Later route 5)  
Wellington Square - Moula Ali - Sealdah Station. (Later route 12 after extension)  
Dalhousie Square - Metcalfe Hall - **High Court**. (Later route 14 extension)  
Metcalfe Hall - Howrah Bridge - **Nimtala**. (Later route 19). Steam tram service was thought.

## STEAM TRAM ERA

- 1883 - Esplanade - Racecourse - Wattganj - **Khidirpur**. (Later route 36)
- 1884 - Wellington Square - Park Street. (Later route 21 & 22 after extension)
- 1900 - Nimtala - Companybagan (non-revenue service only). Electrification & conversion to standard gauge was started.

## ELECTRIC TRAM ERA

- 1902 - Khidirpur & Kalighat routes were electrified. Shobhabazar - Hatibagan. (Later route 9 & 10)  
Nonapukur Workshop opened with Royd Street - **Nonapukur** (Later route 21 & 22 after re-extension). Royd Street - Park Street closed.
- 1903 - **Shyambazar** terminus opened with Shyambazar - **Belgachhia**. (Later route 1, 2, 3, 4 & 11)  
Kalighat - **Tollyganj**. (Later route 29 & 32)
- 1904 - Kumortuli - **Bagbazar**. Kumortuli terminus closed. (Later route 7 & 8)
- 1905 - Howrah Bridge - Pagyapatti - Boipara - Purabi Cinema - Sealdah Station (Later route 15). All remaining then-opened routes were electrified.
- 1907 - Moula Ali - Nonapukur. (Later route 20 & 26 after extension)  
Wattganj - Mominpur (via direct access through Ofphanganjbazar). (Later route 31)
- 1908 - Shyambazar Junction - **Galiff Street**. (Later route 12)  
**Howrah Station** - **Ghasbagan** - **Bandhaghat**. (Later route 41 & 42)  
Howrah Station - **Shibpur**. (Later route 40)  
Hazra Park - Mominpur - **Behala** old terminus (via Majherhat old bridge). (Later route 27 & 35)

- 1910 - Sealdah Station – Mirzapur - **Rajabazar**. (Later route 12)
- 1925 - Nonapukur – **Parkcircus**. (Later route 20, 21 & 22)
- 1922 - Orphanganjbazar direct access was replaced by present alignment via Wattganj Junction.
- 1927 - **Racecourse** terminus built for race special tram service.
- 1928 - Kalighat Junction – **Ballyganj**. (Later route 24 & 27 extension)
- 1941 - Rajabazar – Shyambazar Junction. (Later route 12 & 13)
- 1943 - Howrah Bridge – Howrah Station (via Howrah Bridge). Route 11, 20, 21, 22, 30 & 32 were extended to Howrah Station.  
**Gariahat** depot opened with Parkcircus – Gariahat Junction. (Later route 25 & 26)
- 1952 - Dalhousie Square terminus redesigned, outside park tracks brought into the park.
- 1960 - Esplanade terminus redesigned.
- 1964 - Majherhat new bridge built.
- 1971 - Behala new terminus built.  
Howrah Station – **Ghasbagan** – **Bandhaghat** **closed**, Ghasbagan depot became a goods vehicle stock depot. (Route 41, 42)  
Howrah Station – **Shibpur** **closed**. (Route 40)
- 1973 - Howrah Bridge – **Nimtala** - Companybagan section **closed**. (Route 19)
- 1976 - Howrah Station terminus redesigned after closure of Bandhaghat & Shibpur route, converted to private bus terminus and opening of pedestrian subway.  
**Racecourse** terminus **closed**.
- 1978 - Esplanade – Planetarium - Hazra Park **closed** for conversion to metro line 1.
- 1979 - Esplanade – **Planetarium** reopened. (Route 12A)
- 1980 - Purabi Cinema – Mirzapur. (Route 13 diversion)
- 1981 - Lebutala – Purabi Cinema. (Route 14 diversion)  
Esplanade – Lalbazar **closed**. (Route 3, 7 & 9)  
Lebutala - **Sealdah Station** terminus **closed** for flyover, but trams continued serving Sealdah Station. (Route 13 & 14 diversion)
- 1982 - Sealdah flyover opened, with tram track on it.
- 1985 - Maniktala – **Ultadanga** old terminus. (Route 16 & 17)
- 1986 - Behala – **Joka**. (Route 37)
- 1992 - Esplanade – **Planetarium** **reclosed**. (Route 12A). Bus service introduced.
- 1994 - **Howrah Station** terminus **closed** and converted to public bus terminus. Route 11, 20 & 26 had come back to Howrah Bridge terminus.  
Metcalf Hall – Howrah Bridge terminus **closed**. (Route 15, 21, 30 & 32 diversion)  
Ultadanga new terminus opened.
- 1995 - Dalhousie Square – Metcalfe Hall - **High Court** **closed**. Route 14 had come back to Dalhousie Square terminus.
- 1998 - Gariahat Depot – Gariahat Junction **closed**. (Route 25 & 26 had come back to Gariahat Depot)
- 2002 - Mominpur – Behala **closed**. (Route 27, 35 & 37)
- 2004 - Shyambazar Junction – Galiff Street **closed**. (Route 13, route 12 had come back to Rajabazar)
- 2008 - Dalhousie Square terminus redesigned for underground car parking.
- 2011 - **Behala** – **Joka** **closed** for conversion to metro line 3.

- 2012 - **Bagbazar** terminus **closed**, Bagbazar – Galiff Street section doubled. (Route 8 had extended to Galiff Street)
- 2019 - Maniktala - Shyambazar – **Belgachhia** **closed**. Belgachhia depot became a full bus depot. (Route 1, 2, & 4. Route 11 had started from Shyambazar terminus)  
 Mirzapur – Sealdah – Moula Ali – Nonapukur **closed**. (Route 12, 17, 20, 26)  
 Wellington Square – Moula Ali **closed**. (Route 12, 17)
- 2020 - Rajabazar – Maniktala – **Ultadanga** **closed**. (Route 16, 17, 18).  
**Khidirpur** – Esplanade **closed**. (Route 36).  
 Kalighat – Wattganj **closed**. (Route 24, 29, 30).

#### Depots –

- Kalighat – 1881 to still running, tram depot. (Route 30, 31)  
 Khidirpur – 1883 to 2020, now bus depot. (Route 36)  
 Belgachhia – 1903 to 2019 = 116 years, now bus depot. (Route 1, 2, 3, 4, 11)  
 Tollyganj – 1903 to still running, now tram & bus depot. (Route 29, 32)  
 Ghasbagan – 1908 to 1971 = 63 years, now bus depot. (Route 41)  
 Rajabazar – 1910 to still running, now tram & bus depot. (Route 14)  
 Parkcircus – 1925, temporarily suspended as tram depot (?), working as bus depot. (Route 20, 21, 22)  
 Gariahat – 1943 to still running, now tram & bus depot. (No specific route originally)

#### Termini-

- Esplanade – 1881 to still running, partly converted to bus terminus, partly abandoned. (Route 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12, 15, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 35, 36, 37)  
 Dalhousie Square – 1881, temporarily suspended (?), partly converted to underground car parking & fair ground. (Route 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 22, 24, 25, 29)  
 Sealdah Station – 1881 to 1981 = 100 years, formerly converted to bus & taxi stand, now is being converted to metro station gate. (Route 14)  
 High Court – 1882 to 1995 = 113 years, converted to high court new building. (Route 14, 15)  
 Nimtala – 1882 to 1973 = 91 years, abandoned. (Route 19)  
 Shyambazar – 1903 to still running. (Route 5, 6, 9, 10)  
 Bagbazar – 1904 to 2012 = 108 years, abandoned. (Route 7, 8)  
 Galiff Street – 1908, temporarily suspended (?), partly abandoned. (Route 12, 13)  
 Howrah Station – 1908 to 1994 = 86 years, now bus terminus. (Route 11, 12, 13, 18, 20, 21, 26, 30, 32, 40, 41, 42)  
 Bandhaghat – 1908 to 1971 = 63 years, now bus terminus. (Route 41, 42)  
 Shibpur – 1908 to 1971 = 63 years, now bus terminus. (Route 40)  
 Behala – 1908 to 2011 = 103 years, abandoned. (Route 27, 25)  
 Racecourse – 1927 to 1976 = 49 years, abandoned. (Race specials only)  
 Ballyganj – 1928 to still running. (Route 24, 25, 26, 27)  
 Planetarium – 1979 to 1992 = 13 years, now park. (Route 12A)  
 Ultadanda – 1985 to 2020 = 35 years, abandoned. (Route 16, 17, 18)  
 Joka – 1986 to 2011 = 25 years, now bus terminus. (Route 37)  
 Howrah Bridge – 1995 to still running, partly abandoned. (Route 11, 18, 20, 21, 26, 30, 32)

Presently only route 5, 11, 15/12, 22, 24/29 & 25 are running.