

What's new this month

TOURIST RAILWAYS FEATURE

Our annual feature on tourist and heritage railways has been thoroughly updated and will be found on pages 33 to 38. Once again we have selected some of Europe's most popular and interesting lines. As well as brief descriptions, you will find contact details, dates of operation, and even timetables where space permits. As usual we have tried to include some lines not previously featured, and this year the Czech Republic and Romania make an appearance.

INTERNATIONAL

In anticipation of the Winter International Supplements, which will appear in our September, October and November editions showing advance timings from December 11, we are including provisional details of Eurostar's ski trains for the coming winter season, which will be found at the foot of this page.

Eurostar timings (Table 10) are valid from July 3 until December 10. Readers wishing to travel prior to July 3 should consult our June edition, or contact the editorial team for timings. There will be additional trains between London and Mame la Vallée - Chessy (the station for Disneyland) on certain days in July and August (Table 17a).

In Tables 40 & 73, arrival and departure times are now included at Chur for connections to and from St Moritz.

IRELAND

Bus Éireann have recast bus service 30 between Dublin and Donegal (Table 234a). By using the recently opened M3 motorway between Dublin Airport and Virginia, the journey times have reduced by up to 45 minutes. It does mean, however, that Navan has been taken out of the timetable (reducing the number of palindromic placenames in our tables to just three, we think) as the service now bypasses the town.

FRANCE

A number of lines are affected by major track renewal projects this summer, with some lines being closed for several months. Details of bus replacement services are shown in our tables where known. One such scheme sees all trains replaced by buses until September 18 between Toulouse and Tessonnières (Table 317), whilst services from Toulouse to Albi (Table 323) and Mazamet (Table 314) are entirely by bus. Chambéry to Grenoble is also wholly by bus until September 4, and a separate version of Table 364 will be found on page 543.

As usual, services in Brittany have a revised timetable between July 3 and August 28, and summer versions of Tables 280 to 288 will be found at the back of this edition.

ITALY

New schedules are shown this month, although some local trains remain subject to confirmation, as noted in relevant tables. Some additional Alta Velocità (high-speed) services have been added. Note that many trains throughout the country have restricted running dates during the peak summer period.

LeNord (formerly Ferrovie Nord Milano), which runs local passenger services under the *Trenord* name, has commenced operation on several new routes, amongst them Milano - Domodossola (Table 590), Milano - Tirano (Table 593) and Milano - Verona (Table 605).

SPAIN

The *Avant* high-speed shuttle services between Madrid and Puertollano (Table 660) have suffered some reductions. *Avant 8210* and *8201* are withdrawn, *Avant 8080*, *8180* and *8081* no longer run on Sundays, but *Avant 8220* now runs daily. There have also been some late alterations to the usual summer reductions of *AVE* services between Madrid and Barcelona (Table 650).

LONDON - BOURG ST MAURICE

Eurostar ski train	9092/3	9096/7	Eurostar ski train	9094/5	9098/9
	Ⓜ	Ⓡ		Ⓜ	Ⓡ
London St Pancras.....d.	1000	2031	Bourg St Maurice.....d.	1004	2215
Ashford International.....a.	1028	2059	Aime la Plagne.....d.		
Ashford International.....d.	1047	2115	Moûtiers-Salins.....a.	1032	2240
Moûtiers-Salins.....a.	1730	0537	Moûtiers-Salins.....d.	1045	2309
Aime la Plagne.....a.	1802	0605	Ashford International.....a.	1536	0634
Bourg St Maurice.....a.	1820	0627	London St Pancras.....a.	1611	0716

Ⓜ - Ⓡ Dec. 17 - Apr. 7.
 Ⓡ - Ⓡ Dec. 23 - Apr. 6.
 Ⓡ - Ⓡ Dec. 31 - Apr. 14.
 Ⓡ - Ⓡ Dec. 24 - Apr. 14.

Ⓡ - Ⓡ until 2400. Ⓡ after departure from Ashford. Ⓡ and Ⓡ from 0500.
 Ⓡ - Ⓡ until 2400. Ⓡ after departure from Moûtiers. Ⓡ and Ⓡ from 0500.

A direct *Alvia* service has been introduced between Madrid and Gandia for the summer, running from Madrid on Saturdays and returning on Sundays. This has been squeezed into Table 668.

The Madrid - Cádiz *Alvia* service has been recast (Tables 660, 671), whilst the daily Granada to Linares-Baeza regional train (Table 661) and the Ronda to Málaga regional service (Table 673) have both been upgraded to *Media Distancia*.

The *Avant* service between Madrid and Valladolid via Segovia Guiomar (Tables 663, 679) has been recast with additional services extending to Valladolid. This has resulted in the 1615 departure from Madrid to Bilbao and Hendaye (*Alvia* Train 4167) departing 15 minutes earlier (Tables 663, 689).

Some of the usual summer reductions between Madrid and Valencia (Table 668) have been announced but we believe more are to follow. The direct *AVE* service between Toledo and Albacete via Madrid and one *Alvia* pair between Madrid and Valencia via Albacete will not run between July 1 and August 31 (furthermore we have not yet received confirmation that these services will continue from September 1). *AVE 5120* 1240 Madrid to Valencia has been withdrawn and daily *AVE 5110* 1110 Valencia to Madrid now runs on Saturdays and Sundays only.

The daily *Media Distancia* service between Salamanca and Zaragoza (Tables 653, 689) now makes additional stops at Venta de Baños, Palencia and Miranda de Ebro, extending the end to end journey time by up to 36 minutes.

The Val de Nuria rack railway (Table 658) has introduced a revised high-season timetable with trains every half hour instead of every 50 minutes.

PORTUGAL

There are minor changes to timings on the Régua - Pocinho section of the Douro Valley line (Table 694).

SWEDEN

An extra *X2000* service has been introduced between Göteborg and København. Train 693 runs on Saturdays only departing at 0927 (previously a daily non-*X2000* train), and train 485 departs at 1002 daily except Saturdays (Table 735).

NORWAY

Engineering work in the Oslo area will affect all long-distance and regional services to and from the Norwegian capital from June 26 to August 7. Many services will terminate at or start from stations outside of Oslo, such as Lillestrøm or Drammen, which will be linked by bus with central Oslo. Further details will be found in the Norwegian tables.

GERMANY

A number of amendments were made to the German timetable on June 12, some of which were not received in time for inclusion in the June edition. Tables affected by these late changes have now been updated. The most significant alterations are between Leipzig and Zwickau / Reichenbach (Table 881) with some earlier departures / later arrivals at Leipzig. Journeys between Braunschweig and Goslar are made easier on Saturdays and Sundays with the restoration of through services via Vienenburg (Table 859).

POLAND

As anticipated in our May edition, the daily Bohumín - Kraków service (Table 1079) was withdrawn in June. Also withdrawn is one of the twice daily services between Bohumín and Katowice via Chałupki.

Engineering work is continuing on the Gdynia - Warszawa route (Table 1030) until August 31. This affects various other tables including Warszawa - Katowice (1060), Warszawa - Kraków (1065) and Szczecin - Gdańsk (1015). Track work is also affecting Table 1078, where trains are being replaced by bus between Tarnów and Stróże until August 31.

Train 7/8 Gdynia - Tczew - Kaliningrad has been retimed considerably between Gdynia and Tczew until August 31. Train 7 departs Gdynia at 0521 instead of 0751 and train 8 arrives Gdynia at 0029 instead of 2249. These trains remain at Tczew for 2 hours 20 minutes and 1 hour 21 minutes respectively (Table 1038).

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What's new this month - *continued from page 3*

ALBANIA

Minor changes have again been made to schedules (Table 1390). Tiranë is now served only by trains from/to Durrës, and trains on the Pogradec and Vlorë lines are now combined between Durrës and Rogozhinë.

GREECE

Yet another new timetable is being introduced in Greece, the latest commencing on June 19. Services on Tables 1400 to 1425 inclusive are all affected, most of which have been totally recast. Amongst the changes is the welcome reintroduction of services east of Alexandrúpoli which had previously been replaced by bus. All international trains, however, remain suspended.

It would appear that the overnight service between Athina and Thessaloniki, now train pair 500/501, no longer conveys couchette accommodation.

ESTONIA

A rail connection from Riga to Tallinn has been made possible with the retiming of both a Latvian Railways service from Riga to Valga (Table 1830) and an Estonian Railways service from Valga to Tallinn (Table 1880). The southbound journey has been possible since May 2010, however the journey still takes approximately eight hours, which is three and a half hours longer than by bus (Table 1800).

RUSSIA

The Berlin to Novosibirsk through service in trains 70 and 113 has been diverted via Moskva and Nizhni-Novgorod instead of Kazan (Table 1980), shortening the outbound journey by 1 hour 48 minutes and the inbound by one minute under 3 hours, even though the route is 30 kilometres longer.

NEXT MONTH

Having celebrated our 1500th edition last month, our next edition will also mark a significant milestone in the timetable's history with the addition of 32 pages starting with the August edition. As well as improving certain existing sections, this has enabled us to expand our coverage of rail services to include areas of the world previously the domain of the Overseas Timetable.

Each monthly edition will now contain a full section for Turkey, showing rail services throughout the country (particularly useful for holders of InterRail passes). Our Russian section will also be expanded considerably, to show principal trains throughout the country.

Furthermore, each edition will contain a new **Beyond Europe** section featuring rail services in a different area of the world outside Europe each month. There are six different areas, each of which will be included twice a year. Full details of the areas covered are shown below. As a taster, some sample pages from the new sections have been included this month at the back of this edition.

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BEYOND EUROPE

With the Thomas Cook *Overseas Timetable* having ceased at the end of last year, we have been looking at ways in which we can continue to provide some of the information for services outside Europe to our readers. With this in mind, we will be introducing a new **Beyond Europe** section to the European Rail Timetable from August 2011. Each monthly edition will cover a different area of the world, and there will be six areas, each appearing twice yearly as follows:

South East Asia, Australia and New Zealand: *August and February editions*

China: *September and March editions*

Japan: *October and April editions*

North America: *November and May editions*

Africa and Middle East: *December and June editions*

India: *January and July editions*

Each **Beyond Europe** section will include principal rail services in the areas covered. The months have been chosen so that we can bring you up-to-date information for those countries which make seasonal changes.

Sample tables from each section are included on the following pages, together with a page from the expanded Turkish section.

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