

What's new this month

WELCOME

Welcome to our expanded Summer 2016 edition of the European Rail Timetable which includes updated schedules for most countries valid until December 10. As always, there are a number of exceptions and readers are advised to consult individual country headings to confirm the validity of timings in each section.

At the front of this edition are an extra 24 pages (numbered i–xxiv) which include useful country by country information on subjects such as embassies, tourist offices and public transport. Our full seven page rail passes feature will also be found in these pages.

As well as the African and Middle Eastern Beyond Europe section on pages 558 to 569, this edition also has an additional 72 pages, found at the back of the timetable, containing all of the other Beyond Europe sections that are published throughout the year.

Readers are reminded that, in addition to our regular printed timetable, there is now a digital version available for you to download onto your smartphone, tablet, eBook and to view on your computer. Please check our website for further information regarding this new way to obtain the European Rail Timetable (www.europeanrailtimetable.eu).

EUROPE BY RAIL

Any idea what it might be like to ride over the Lika Railway as it climbs through formidably barren terrain on its way to Split? Or what you might see as you take the Torre del Oro Talgo train all the way from Barcelona to Seville? You can find out in our brand new guide book, *Europe by Rail: The Definitive Guide for Independent Travellers*. Written by Nicky Gardner and Susanne Kries, authors of our regular *Route of the Month* feature, this fourteenth edition of the much loved title (previously published by Thomas Cook) has been entirely reworked in a completely new format. Two sample page layouts of this exciting new publication will be found on page 517.

ROUTE OF THE MONTH

Nicky Gardner and Susanne Kries, our regular roving travel writers, join the eastbound EuroCity service *Transalpin* at Feldkirch for a spectacular trip over the Arlberg route to Innsbruck. The description of their journey will be found on page 35 and the latest timings for services along the route are shown in Table 951.

TIP OF THE MONTH

Small groups of two to five people wishing to explore Austria on a budget by train can do so by investing in an *Einfach-Raus-Ticket*. In our *Tip of the Month*, which will be found on page 36, Nicky and Susanne offer some advice on how to use this popular product and also explain the restrictions that apply to it.

INTERNATIONAL

There are a couple of additional stops to report on trains between France and Russia. Train **24/23** Paris – Moskva makes an extra stop at Épernay (Table 24) and train **18/17** Nice – Moskva calls additionally at Zell am See (Table 25).

From July 9 to 24 *ICE* services between Amsterdam and Frankfurt are diverted via Venlo and Mönchengladbach and amended timings are shown in a special table on page 62. The overnight service between Amsterdam and Zürich / München is also affected during this period.

As reported in the French entry below, the TGV Est high-speed line extension to Strasbourg is due to open on July 3 affecting services between France and Germany. This month we have produced two versions of Table 30 (Paris - Frankfurt) and Table 32 (London - Paris - Stuttgart - München). A summary of the service until July 2 can be found on page 68 whilst fully updated versions of Tables 30 and 32, valid from July 3, can be found on pages 64 and 65 respectively.

TGV services **9241**, **9245** and **9249** from Paris to Milano will leave the French capital up to 60 minutes earlier until August 31 (Table 44).

During the summer season, *EC 85* München – Bologna is extended to Rimini on Fridays and Saturdays with the return train, *EC 84*, starting from Rimini on Saturdays and Sundays (Table 70).

On Mondays to Fridays from July 4 the Marseille to Milano *EC* service, operated by *Thello*, will run approximately four hours earlier (Table 90). This change means that, on Mondays to Fridays, train **148/147** will no longer have a connection from London, but the earlier departure from Marseille of train **146/147** will mean connections can be made at

Milano for onward journeys to Venezia and Roma. Please note that the service on Saturdays and Sundays remains unchanged, as does the daily service in the opposite direction.

GREAT BRITAIN

Services operated by *Southeastern* are currently valid until August 27, after which services to London Charing Cross and London Cannon Street will be revised as work continues to upgrade the area around London Bridge station. Precise details of the service from August 28 are not yet available, but readers should be aware that all *Southeastern* services are subject to change, even those that do not pass through London Bridge (Tables 101 and 102).

South West Trains has introduced a summer Saturday service from London Waterloo to Weymouth via Yeovil (Tables 113 and 139).

Most journeys to and from stations on the Windermere branch now require a change of trains at Oxenholme (Table 158).

Arriva Trains Wales has extended a number of its services between Manchester and North Wales to serve Manchester Airport (Table 160).

On Mondays to Fridays *Virgin Trains East Coast* has added four additional through services in each direction between London and Edinburgh, achieved by extending services that previously ran only between London and Newcastle (Table 180). This means there is now almost a half-hourly service between London and Edinburgh throughout the day.

FRANCE

Timings in the French section are generally valid until December 10 although there are a number of tables which are valid for a shorter period. These are clearly indicated in the applicable tables or at the top of the page.

The high-speed line extension to Strasbourg is due to open on July 3 and timings of most *TGV* services to and from Strasbourg will be altered. In the French section we have taken the decision to show the new timings in this edition and so readers intending travel up to July 2 are advised to consult the May edition. From July 3 the fastest journey time between Paris and Strasbourg will be just 1 hour 46 minutes. However, other journey times do vary considerably as a temporary single track section is currently in use.

Engineering work will affect services using the Lyon to Chambéry route until August 31. *TGV* services between Paris and Chambéry, Anney and Milano that are routed via Lyon St Exupéry are retimed or cancelled during this period (Table 341). The local service is completely recast from June 23 to August 31 with services diverted and journey times extended (Table 344).

The 2016 European football championship takes place in France from June 10 to July 10 and during this period there may be alterations to certain *TGV* services and some additional trains will also be provided. Readers intending to travel in France during this period are advised to check their reservation for confirmed *TGV* timings.

SPAIN

We have received the proposed new timetable for the Lleida to La Pobla de Segur line (Table 655) but unfortunately a start date had yet to be announced at the time of going to press. Therefore both versions of the timetable have been included on page 323.

The Madrid to Cadiz service increases to five daily trains with an additional journey on Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays during the summer season (Tables 660 and 671).

Journey times on services between Madrid and Alacant and València have increased by a few minutes (Table 668).

We understand that the engineering work taking place between Antequera-Santa Ana and Granada via Antequera-Ciudad will not now be completed by the end of June as originally planned. The amended timings, including bus replacement services, will now remain in place until further notice (Table 673).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

What's new this month (continued from page 3)

ITALY

New schedules come into effect from June 12. Information was unavailable at press date, although only minor alterations are expected. However, readers should be cautious of any exception dates if travelling on or around public holidays, or during August.

SWEDEN

Tables have been updated following receipt of further information; most schedules are now valid until August 14.

FINLAND

Our Finnish section has been updated with timings for the summer period from June 20 to August 14. This latest timetable change includes significant alterations on many long-distance routes.

The daytime service between Helsinki and Oulu now consists of five *InterCity* trains in each direction, evenly spaced to run approximately every three hours (Table 794). An additional *Pendolino* service also runs twice a week in each direction between these cities. Only a single through service remains between Helsinki and Rovaniemi with the northbound departure from Helsinki considerably later than before, at 1527. Other journeys are still possible to the far north by changing trains at Oulu. Overnight services remain unchanged, apart from some minor timing alterations.

The number of through trains between Helsinki and Vaasa has increased from three to five in each direction. An additional connecting service is also provided (Table 794).

All services via Jyväskylä (Table 795) now run to/from Helsinki meaning that journeys to and from Turku require a change of train at Tampere. Through services via Jyväskylä to Kuopio and beyond have also been withdrawn (apart from one *Pendolino* train pair on Sundays).

The service between Kouvola and Oulu (Table 798) has been recast with numerous train category changes and retimings. Please be aware that some trains are replaced by bus between Kajaani and Oulu on Mondays to Fridays from July 11 to August 12.

GERMANY

During the Summer period (until mid-September) engineering work will affect many long-distance services at a number of key locations around the country. It is not possible to show all variations in our tables so we have included a special shaded panel on page 367 with a summary of locations, dates and brief descriptions of how services are affected. Readers travelling in Germany during the summer are strongly advised to consult this panel and check timings of services that may be affected.

AUSTRIA

Journeys on the Linz to Selzthal route are disrupted from June 20 due to engineering work taking place between Spital am Pyhrn and Selzthal. All regional trains are replaced by bus over the affected section with journey times extended by a few minutes. *IC* trains between Linz and Graz are replaced by a fast bus between Kirchdorf and Selzthal with overall timings unaffected. Table 974 has been updated with the revised timings from June 20.

POLAND

Retimings are expected from June 12, but unfortunately information was not available as we went to press. We hope to show updated tables next month.

CZECH REPUBLIC

The Praha – Ostrava – Žilina line has a number of minor changes from June 12 and Table 1160 is therefore valid from that date. *Leo Express* has recently withdrawn the first journey in each direction (0611 from Praha and 0355 from Bohumin), whilst the 0811 from Praha and 1239 Karvina – Praha no longer run on Tuesdays.

SLOVAKIA

The three trains each way between Bratislava and Košice operated by *RegioJet* are retimed by a few minutes from June 12; the revised times are shown in Table 1180. These trains no longer call at Považská Bystrica, and one train each way now omits Štrba. *RegioJet's* overnight Praha – Košice train is also retimed between Žilina and Košice, arriving 27 minutes earlier at 0614.

HUNGARY

Summer timings for services in the Lake Balaton area will apply from June 18 to August 28, mostly affecting Tables 1220, 1225 and 1232. Unfortunately timings were not available in time for this edition but will appear in the July edition.

SERBIA, MONTENEGRO, FYRo MACEDONIA and GREECE

Normal service is reported to have resumed between Beograd and Bar following repairs to the weather damaged infrastructure (Table 1370).

Readers are reminded that international services between Beograd and Skopje (trains 334–337) are suspended until mid-June owing to engineering work between Niš and Preševo. Work will be halted for the summer season but is expected to resume in early September (Table 1380). No replacement bus service is provided.

ROMANIA

Details of seasonal summer trains to the Black Sea coast have been received and relevant tables updated accordingly. This year sees through coaches to Mangalia from Arad, Craiova, Deva, Oradea, Reșița, Satu Mare, Sibiu, Sighetu Marmărei, Suceava, Târgu Mureș and Timișoara.

Journey time on CFR Călători operated București – Constanța non-stop services is reduced to two hours (Table 1680).

RUSSIA

Although the main timetable change in Russia is in December, there are certain minor changes from the end of May which have been incorporated into the tables. *Go Rail's* Tallinn – St Peterburg – Moskva train (Table 1870) is retimed from May 29 to leave at 1709, approximately 30 minutes later than before.

BEYOND EUROPE

In this expanded edition of the European Rail Timetable, we are able to show all eight of the latest Beyond Europe sections. A list of the areas included and their locations within the timetable will be found on page 577. There have been some major alterations to services in Malaysia, North America and Japan since these areas last appeared in previous monthly editions and we have made sure that all the relevant tables have been updated with the latest timings for this edition.

In the African section we have added a new Table 4345 which includes timings of the recently restored passenger services in Botswana. In the Algerian table 4020 we have added the reinstated service between Mohammadia and Mostaganem.

European Rail Timetable Subscription

Keep up to date with the latest changes to European rail schedules with a 12 month subscription.

Receive 12 issues for the price of 10! Subscription rates for 12 issues (including postage and packaging):

UK £187 Europe £230 Rest of the World £259–£265 Digital subscription £119.99

Order on-line at www.europeanrailtimetable.eu

☎ +44 (0) 1832 270198 (Monday to Friday 0900–1700)