

What's new this month

WELCOME

As well as various updates to current European rail schedules, this month we have also included advance versions of all our international tables valid from the December timetable change and these will be found in our **Winter International Supplement** on pages 577 to 619. A summary of the key changes will be found at the end of our news section on page 36.

ROUTE OF THE MONTH

Nicky Gardner and Susanne Kries, our regular roving travel writers, head to northern Spain and enjoy a ride on Inter City train 283 *Camino de Santiago* from Irún to Santiago de Compostela. This train provides a daily through service from the French border to the port of A Coruña on the north coast of Galicia, passing through great scenery and a number of historic cities along the way. The description of this journey will be found on page 34 and current timings are shown in Tables **680**, **681**, **682** and **689**.

TIP OF THE MONTH

For our *Tip of the Month*, which will be found on page 35, Nicky and Susanne explain the various options available for those wishing to explore Spain using a rail pass.

AIRPORT LINKS

A correspondent has pointed out that a bus journey is required from Terminals 1, 2 and 3 of Madrid Barajas airport to access the suburban rail service from Terminal 4 to Madrid Chamartín and Atocha stations.

INTERNATIONAL

On Saturday February 11, 2017, the 0945 Eurostar service from London St Pancras to Bourg St Maurice (train **9092**) and the return 0934 from Bourg St Maurice (train **9095**) sold out within 17 minutes of going on sale in July. Therefore, the 1942 overnight service from London to Bourg St Maurice (train **9096**) will now run additionally on Saturdays February 11 and 18, returning as a daytime service from Bourg St Maurice at 0934 (train **9095**) on Sundays February 12 and 19. This will be the first time since 2007 that Eurostar has added additional trains on this route during the British half-term school holiday period.

GREAT BRITAIN

A number of Southern services, which were temporarily withdrawn on Mondays to Fridays due to an ongoing dispute, have now been reinstated. These include rail services to and from Seaford (Table **102**) and a limited number of trains running on the East Croydon to Milton Keynes route (Table **141**).

Readers intending to travel to and from South Wales this month are reminded that the Severn Tunnel will be completely closed until October 23 as work continues to prepare the tunnel for electrification. Amendments during the work have been incorporated in the relevant tables and, for main line services between London and South Wales, we have included two separate versions of Table **132** with schedules from October 24 being shown on pages 638 and 639.

FRANCE

The cross-border combined rail / bus route between Pau and Canfranc (Spain) has new timings from September 26 (Table **324**).

ITALY

Further information has been received regarding engineering work which will affect services between Ventimiglia and Genova from November 2. Apart from a couple of local trains between Ventimiglia and Imperia Oneglia, there will be no rail service between Ventimiglia and Alassio. Eastwards from there, local trains will run to Genova, but *IC* and *EC* trains will start and terminate at Albenga. It is not yet clear whether alternative bus services will be provided over the closed section. A second version of Table **580** showing the amended timetable can be found on page 640.

Trentino Trasporti has opened a short extension on its metre gauge Trento – Marilleva line from Marilleva to Mezzana; popular as a winter sports resort (Table **595a**).

GERMANY

Services between Immenstadt and Lindau (Table **935**) have been disrupted since April to allow tunnel renewal work to take place, with buses replacing trains over the affected section. The timetable was due to return to normal on October 21 but, owing to some difficulties encountered during the work, it has now been announced that the reopening of the route will be delayed by a few weeks. Therefore the current arrangements are now expected to remain in place until the mid-December timetable change.

POLAND

A full update of tables has been completed this month following further schedule changes from September 4.

Since completion of a short extension of the Kraków Airport branch, the station at Kraków John Paul II Airport (Balice) is now known as Lotnisko (Table **1099**).

SERBIA

Work has recommenced between Niš and Preševo necessitating the suspension (at least until the end of the current timetable) of international trains from Beograd to Skopje and Thessaloniki. Travellers are advised to use scheduled bus services (Table **1380**).

TURKEY

As well as making minor updates to various tables, we have adjusted Table **1571** to include the recently reintroduced service between Kütahya and Ballikesir.

RUSSIA and BELARUS

Russia and Belarus do not change their clocks on October 30 when daylight saving time finishes in most of Europe. As a consequence, all cross-border services linking Russia or Belarus with Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine and beyond will have revised timings from October 30. All relevant tables in this edition show the revised times in a separate column or footnote.

BEYOND EUROPE

Our Japanese pages have been updated with the latest information available. Please note that services in Tables **8230** and **8235** are currently subject to cancellation owing to recent typhoons in the area. We understand that Kagoshima Chuo services operated by JR Kyushu could be altered at any time.

In South America, Argentinian operator *Ferrobaires* has withdrawn all its own passenger services, although those on shared lines operated by SOFSE are still running.

Our North American section includes all Amtrak schedules shown in its latest timetable, dated September 9, as well as the latest available VIA Rail schedules in Canada.

On page 636 we have included details of amended services in Malaysia which we received too late to include in our August *Beyond Europe* section. To enable us to show these changes Table **6000** has been recast to show timings between Hat Yai Junction and Gemas. Journeys between Gemas and Johor Bahru / Woodlands can now be found in a new Table **6001**.

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

CLOCK CHANGE

Daylight Saving Time will end during the early hours of October 30 with clocks moving back one hour in all European countries, with the exception of Iceland, Russia and Belarus.

WINTER INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

German Railways will cease running all its *City Night Line* services from December 11. However, Austrian Railways has announced that it will take over the operation of certain trains and, together with its existing *EuroNight* services, will run them under a new *nightjet* brand. A summary of the various changes are listed below.

Table 28 (winter): *CNL 419/418 Pollux* Amsterdam – München will be withdrawn. A new *nightjet* service **421/420** Düsseldorf – Frankfurt – Nürnberg – München – Innsbruck will run, together with a portion Düsseldorf – Nürnberg – Wien (numbered **40421/40420**).

Tables 20, 54, 56 (winter): *EN 447/446 Jan Kiepura* Köln – Berlin – Warszawa and *CNL 40447/40458 Kopernikus* Köln – Berlin – Praha will be withdrawn.

Table 52 (winter): *CNL 458/40470 Canopus* Zürich – Frankfurt – Leipzig – Praha will be diverted to run via Innsbruck and is conveyed in the rebranded *nightjet* **467/466 Wiener Walzer** between Zürich and Linz (Table 86).

Tables 54, 73 (winter): *CNL 479/478 Komet* Hamburg – Basel – Zürich and *CNL 471/470 Sirius* Berlin – Basel – Zürich will be combined as a new *nightjet* service **471/470** running Hamburg – Berlin – Basel – Zürich.

Table 64 (winter): *EN 491/490* Hamburg – Nürnberg – Passau – Wien becomes a *nightjet* service, also conveying a portion Hamburg – Nürnberg – München – Innsbruck (numbered **40491/40490**).

Table 70 (winter): *CNL 485/484 Lupus* München – Innsbruck – Roma and *CNL 40485/40481 Apus* München – Innsbruck – Milano will be diverted to run via Villach and Tarvisio as *nightjet* service **295/294, 40463/40236 Pictor** München – Villach – Tarvisio – Venezia will be renumbered **463/236**.

Table 73 (winter): *CNL 40419/40478 Pegasus* Amsterdam – Zürich will be withdrawn.

Other news from the mid-December timetable change is listed below.

Tables 10, 17 (winter): Eurostar services London – Paris/Brussels are valid until February 4. In Table 17, the London to Mame la Vallée-Chessy (station for Disneyland) service is valid until July 7 and London to Marseille until November 4, 2017. Due to engineering work taking place on the high-speed line between Calais and Paris, Eurostar services will depart Paris up to 12 minutes earlier and arrive up to 12 minutes later from January 23 to February 4, 2017.

Table 20 (winter): The 1155 Thalys service from Paris to Köln (**9437**) is extended to Düsseldorf on Saturdays, and to Essen on Mondays to Fridays and Sundays. In the reverse direction, train **9448**, the 1245 from Köln, starts back at Essen.

Table 21 (winter): We have incorporated the additional */ICE* services, which are expected to be introduced between Brussels and Frankfurt from December.

Table 56 (winter): Russian Railways will introduce a new twice weekly sleeper service between Moskva and Berlin using Talgo stock.

Tables 61, 62 (winter): **293/292 Nusic** Beograd – Sofia will be withdrawn. Train **491 Balkan** Beograd – Sofia is retimed to run two hours later, departing Beograd 0925. Unfortunately, the later Sofia arrival (at 2010) breaks the connection with train **491 Balkan Express** to Istanbul. A similar situation occurs in the opposite direction with train **490 Balkan** Sofia – Beograd running almost 2 hours earlier, departing Sofia at 0940, thus breaking the connection with train **490 Balkan Express** from Istanbul.

Table 62 (winter): **411/410 Ljubljana** – Zagreb – Beograd will be withdrawn.

Table 68 (winter): *EC 111/110* München – Klagenfurt will be formed of *Railjet* coaches.

Table 82 (winter): The Gotthard Base Tunnel will open for regular passenger services on December 11 and Swiss Railways has published a provisional timetable. The number of Zürich to Milano services will increase from 7 to 8 per day with a reduced journey time of 3 hours 36 minutes (37 minutes faster than current timings). There will also be a new Basel – Arth-Goldau – Milano service.

Table 95 (winter): The twice weekly Moskva – Cheb sleeping car, which is conveyed in train **22/21 Vltava** Moskva – Terespol – Praha, will be withdrawn.

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