

What's new this month

Further updates have been made to many of our tables this month, including some significant changes in Portugal and a complete recheck of our Swedish pages.

On page 562 we have included a copy of the timetable news that appeared in last month's digital edition. This will allow readers who prefer our printed publication to keep fully up to date with the latest developments.

INTERNATIONAL

The twice daily Villach – Tarvisio – Udine MICOTRA services are extended to Trieste on Saturdays and Sundays (Tables **88** and **601**).

GREAT BRITAIN

From the British timetable change on May 20, operators Thameslink and Great Northern introduced a completely revised timetable with new through journey opportunities such as Cambridge to Brighton and Peterborough to Horsham via central London and Gatwick Airport. Many readers will be aware of the well-publicised problems that followed resulting in an unreliable service with frequent cancellations. To give passengers more certainty, a revised interim timetable commenced on July 15 and will remain in place until further notice. A number of services have been temporarily withdrawn on Mondays to Fridays and there are currently no through services on the Cambridge to Brighton and Peterborough to Horsham routes on Saturdays and Sundays. We have updated Tables **103** and **185** to reflect the revised schedules although readers should be aware that further alterations could occur at any time. A statement by Thameslink/Great Northern indicated that more services will be added to the timetable once the current interim version has bedded in and that the complete timetable, as originally planned in May, will ultimately be provided.

Major work to upgrade the area around Derby station has commenced and will affect services until October 7. The work is being completed in phases with the most disruptive period being until September 2. A summary of how services are affected during the work will be found on page 117.

A special version of Table **170** showing the amended Midland Main Line service between London and Sheffield until October 7 will be found on pages 608 and 609. On Mondays to Saturdays all trains between London and Sheffield will avoid Derby. However, it has been confirmed that a limited number of trains will be able to run via Derby on Sundays. We have updated our long-distance cross-country tables to show the amended timings during the busy holiday period (coinciding with the most disruptive phase of the work). The affected cross-country tables will revert back to show the regular schedules next month. Readers wishing to plan journeys from September 3 should refer to our June or July editions.

FRANCE

Due to poor state of the track, all journeys between Abbeville and Le Tréport are now by bus, and revised timings are shown in Table **261a**.

Most of our French section is valid until the end of the current timetable period on December 8. However, schedules in western France vary considerably during July and August meaning tables covering services that radiate from Paris Montparnasse and Austerlitz stations are only valid until August 26. The affected tables are clearly marked and will, of course, be fully updated in time for the September edition.

SWITZERLAND

Readers are reminded that major engineering work is taking place on the main-line between Lausanne and Palézieux until August 26 with part of the route completely closed to rail traffic thus affecting all journeys between Lausanne and Bern. During the work there are no direct *IC* or *IR* services from or to Lausanne via Fribourg. However, a regional shuttle service operates every 30 minutes Genève – Lausanne – Palézieux – Fribourg running via Vevey (where the train has to reverse) to avoid the closed section of line. Passengers travelling between Bern and Lausanne/Genève are advised to travel via Biel/Bienne or Neuchâtel, whilst direct journeys to and from Zürich are still possible using existing services via Biel/Bienne. Journey times in the area may be extended by up to 40 minutes during the work, although services east of Fribourg should run as normal.

PORTUGAL

A major timetable change from August 5 sees the *AP* and *IC* trains between Lisboa and Porto (Table **690**) in revised timings for the first time for several years. Lisboa – Faro (Table **697**) is also affected, along with connecting trains. Amongst the many changes is that the afternoon through *AP* train from Porto to Faro via Lisboa will run one hour earlier at 1440. This edition shows the new timings from August 5, although there may be further changes to local trains.

SWEDEN

Our Swedish section has been fully updated and is now valid until December 8.

Readers travelling in the Stockholm area are reminded that services are subject to alteration until August 19 with many long-distance trains serving Stockholm's Södra station instead of Central.

GERMANY

Independent operator *Flixtain* appears to have enjoyed some success developing its rail operation since taking over the former *Locomove* service between Stuttgart and Berlin and then more recently the former *HKX* services between Köln and Hamburg. Extra journeys have now been added to both routes and, to enable us to clearly show the current schedules, we have created a dedicated summary table on page 369.

SLOVENIA

Slovenian Railways issued a new timetable valid from July 19 and we have updated the relevant tables. The main change involves engineering work between Celje and Rimske Toplice which is affecting services on the Ljubljana – Zidani Most – Maribor route (Table **1315**). International services *EC 151/150* and *EC 159/158* continue to run, although certain timings have been adjusted. Other journeys along the route may involve partial bus replacement.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Train **715/714** Sarajevo – Banja Luka has been extended to Bihać via Novi Grad with a sleeper car added to the Talgo train (Table **1350**).

SERBIA

Following the recent transfer of services to Beograd Centar, revised timings of some local services in Table **1360** had still not been confirmed as we went to press with this edition. Therefore we advise readers planning journeys in this area of Serbia to check timings locally.

Engineering work that recently commenced in the Beograd area means that trains **335/334** *Hellas* Beograd – Skopje – Gevgelija and **1491/1490** *Balkan* Beograd – Sofia currently serve Beograd Topčider station instead of Beograd Centar. In addition, train **1137** *Panoniya* Subotica – Beograd – Bar has been retimed to depart Subotica 15 minutes earlier and Beograd Centar 45 minutes earlier (Tables **1370** and **1380**). These alterations will remain in place until further notice.

BEYOND EUROPE

This month's Beyond Europe section covers three areas: India (from pages 570), South-East Asia, Australia and New Zealand (from page 582) and North America (from page 594).

VIA Rail's latest timetable changes came into effect on June 17 and these have been incorporated into our Canadian tables. The most significant change is to the *Canadian* which runs to an amended summer schedule until October 7 (Table **9050**). These new timings should address significant delays that have affected the service in recent months thus providing passengers with a more reliable schedule. There have also been some minor amendments to certain services on the Toronto – Ottawa – Montréal corridor (Table **9015**).

Amtrak has issued a new timetable effective from early June and the relevant American pages have been updated. One change worthy of note is the increase in the number of Springfield – New Haven shuttle services in Table **9215**. Readers are reminded that the temporary timetable changes affecting services to and from New York (caused by work on the Empire Connection route and Spuyten Duyvil Bridge) are due to remain in place until September 2.