

What's new this month

WELCOME

Welcome to the February 2017 edition of the *European Rail Timetable* which includes the latest updates to schedules around Europe. Please note that most sections have now been fully updated since the mid-December timetable change.

On page 558 we have included a copy of our *Newsletters* that appeared in the January 2017 digital edition. This will allow our customers who prefer the printed timetable to keep fully abreast of the latest European rail developments.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to two new colleagues who have recently joined the European Rail Timetable team. Clare Bessent has taken on the role as Marketing and Advertising Manager, whilst Holly Hill is our new Social Media Manager responsible for our Facebook, Twitter and other social media channels. Reuben Turner continues to edit our weekly newsletter.

ROUTE OF THE MONTH

Journeys through spectacular mountain scenery and along scenic coastlines are always popular elements of travel itineraries and many of these routes are highlighted in our list of scenic routes on page 40. However, taking a trip through the flatlands of Europe can also be a rewarding experience and this is highlighted in this month's featured route where our regular travel correspondents, Nicky Gardner and Susanne Kries, explore the line from Berlin to Warsaw. On page 34 you will find that, whether you take a fast *EuroCity* or take your time using slower local trains, there is much to enjoy on this key international route.

TIP OF THE MONTH

On arrival in Warsaw, Nicky and Susanne take time to explore Poland's vibrant capital city. On page 35 they offer a brief overview of some notable attractions, including some tempting culinary recommendations. As in all major cities there are local transport tickets available to help you get around and details of these are also outlined here.

AIRPORT LINKS

A correspondent has pointed out that the bus link from Poznań Ławica airport to Poznań Główny rail station is now number **59** and run by MPK.

INTERNATIONAL

From January 23 to April 23 and from May 29 to July 30, engineering work is taking place on a 50 kilometre stretch of the French high speed line between Calais and Paris. This will affect southbound Eurostar services from London to Paris with arrivals at Gare du Nord 6 to 21 minutes later than usual (Table **10**). Please note that Eurostar departures from Paris and services to other destinations are unaffected.

BELGIUM

Bus substitution will affect many journeys between Lille Flandres and Mouscron from March 13 to April 17. Details are shown in Table **415**.

ITALY

On the Ligurian coast line, Diano Marina station has been replaced by a new station situated further inland named Diano (Table **580**).

SPAIN

In Table **653**, the evening service from Pamplona to Vitoria/Gasteiz (train **16017**) now runs 28 to 30 minutes later. In the opposite direction, train **16111** from Pamplona to Zaragoza Delicias now terminates at Castejón de Ebro at 2111. Passengers wishing to continue to Zaragoza should change trains at Castejón de Ebro for an onward connection.

The timings of Talgo trains **277** and **276** between Madrid and Almería have been adjusted by a few minutes (Table **661**).

The evening departure from València Nord to Teruel, train **14530**, has been retimed to leave València 14 minutes earlier, at 1857, arriving Teruel at 2211 (Table **670**).

Six *EuroMed* services between Barcelona and Alacant now call additionally at L'Aldea-Amposta at weekends (Table **672**). This has resulted in timing adjustments at València, Alacant and certain intermediate stations (including some earlier departures).

Owing to engineering work on the route between Madrid and Ávila from February 1 to May 15, four *Media Distancia* services are retimed as follows (Tables **679**, **681** and **689**):

18011 Madrid – Valladolid runs 15 to 24 minutes later.

18005 Madrid – León runs 17 to 21 minutes later.

18909 Madrid – Salamanca runs up to 11 minutes earlier.

18004 Valladolid – Madrid runs 20 minutes later.

GERMANY

Work to upgrade the line between Berlin and Bernau will affect all services in Table **845** from February 9. We previously reported that most regional services to Stralsund and Schwedt would run from/to Berlin Lichtenberg, instead of Berlin Hbf. However, the latest published schedules now show that most trains will continue to run from/to Berlin Hbf, but diverted via Lichtenberg with extended journey times. Please note, however, that there will be variations to timings at Berlin Gesundbrunnen and Hbf at certain times of the year. Revised timings will be found on a special version of Table **845** on page 562.

Engineering work taking place on the main line between Nürnberg and Würzburg will affect services using the route from March 6 to June 25. Most long distance services will be affected in some way, particularly those running to and from München. To help readers plan their journeys in this area during the work, we have included special versions of Tables **900**, **905** and **920** which will be found on pages 602 to 607.

There are numerous other locations around Germany where engineering work will affect long-distance services over the coming months and, to help readers plan their journeys, we have included a summary of the most significant alterations on page 367. Please note that this list is not exhaustive and other alterations may occur, particularly at weekends and during holiday periods.

CZECH REPUBLIC

From February 13, Praha to Brno train *Ex573* leaving Praha at 1619 on Mondays to Fridays (Table **1150**) will be extended to Břeclav and will now run daily.

TURKEY

Our Turkish section has been updated with the latest available schedules. High-speed services in Table **1570** remain unchanged, but all other tables have had alterations made to them. The most notable change is that, according to the Turkish Railways on-line system, all services to and from Izmir in Table **1571** now serve Basmane station rather than Alsancak.

CRIMEA

Crimean Railways tend to make frequent changes to their timetables, the latest being from January 26 as shown in Table **1790**. Most journey times are reduced thanks to a general increase in speed limits to 100 km/h.

BEYOND EUROPE

We have included three separate areas in this month's Beyond Europe section: India (from page 564), South East Asia, Australia and New Zealand (from page 576) and North America (from page 588).

Malayan Railways (KTMB) has issued a new timetable, effective from February 1, and all our tables have been updated accordingly.

There have also been a few minor alterations to tables in the Thailand section, the most notable of which is that trains **35/36**, from Bangkok to Padang Besar, have been renumbered **31/32** and now use new Chinese sleeping cars.

In Australia, Melbourne based operator *V/Line* introduced a new timetable from January 29 with a significant increase in the number of services running. This is the next stage in a longer-term plan to enhance the service provision on the *V/Line* network which will result in an additional 172 services a week. The Minister stated "The 80 new regional train services are the first of more than 170 announced as part of the 2016/17 Victorian Budget, and are on top of the 340 new services introduced last year. Another timetable change is scheduled for mid-next year, which will introduce even more regional services".

Please note that the Indian pages are those shown in our January digital edition.

RAIL PASSES

Our International Rail Pass feature has been fully updated this month. In general, there has been a small increase in 2nd class prices, but significant reductions in 1st class for both *Interrail* and *Eurail* tickets.

The principal change sees the upper age limit for *Interrail* and *Eurail* youth passes raised from 25 to 27 years. Another positive move is that the *Eurostar* passholder fare is reduced considerably to £26 in 2nd class and £33 in standard premier (for first class ticket holders).

An *Interrail Premium Pass* is now available for Italy or Spain which gives free seat reservations if booking in advance, as well as offering further benefits, although these are available only direct from www.interrail.eu.