

What's new this month

Welcome to the **1500th** edition of the European Rail Timetable! You can read more about this special milestone on page 39. We are also including this month some sample tables from our new **Beyond Europe** section, which starts from the August edition. Page 545 has more details, and you can find the sample tables on pages 546 to 559.

Where possible, this edition shows the new summer schedules from June 12. Note, however, that some countries start on different dates. British timings are valid from May 22, whilst those for Russia, Belarus, Ukraine and the Baltic States start on May 29. Other exceptions include Finland, valid from June 6, whilst the Swedish tables are valid from June 19 to August 13.

INTERNATIONAL

Summer versions of Tables **10** to **99** appeared in our April and May editions as usual (also selected tables in February and March) and these have now moved into their normal positions. A summary of the principal changes to International services appears below:

Table **10** – Eurostar will be running the usual additional trains in summer. Two Paris-bound services running during July and August are **9016** 1000 Mondays to Fridays and **9026** 1300 on Fridays only, whilst daily train **9044** at 1730 will reduce to running on Saturdays and Sundays. In the opposite direction trains **9025** at 1143 and **9037** at 1443 will run on Fridays only, whilst **9033** at 1343 will run on Sundays only. Train **9035** at 1413 will increase from running three days a week to daily during July and August.

On the London - Brussels route, train **9112** (0734 from London) calls additionally at Lille Europe to improve connections into **TGV 5164** for Marseille and Nice, and train **9181**, the 1129 Saturday departure from Brussels, will call additionally at Ebbsfleet.

Table **18** – *Thalys* will withdraw certain peak hour services over the summer period.

Table **20** – From August 29, *Thalys* **9412/9453** Köln - Paris will be extended to and from Essen calling at Düsseldorf and Duisburg. This service will be increased from December with three trains each way.

Table **22** – Engineering work between Hannover and Berlin from June 12 until August 27 will affect international trains between Amsterdam and Berlin. Services will be diverted, not calling at Wolfsburg, Stendal and Berlin Ost, with journey times extended by up to 60 minutes.

Table **28** – From July 23 until August 28, services between Amsterdam and Köln are diverted via Eindhoven, Venlo and Mönchengladbach. A temporary table has been created to show the altered timings, located below Table **30**.

Table **44** – The railway operated bus service between Lyon and Torino has been added to this table.

Table **73** – *IC 2009/2008* Basel - Frankfurt has been withdrawn and *IC 2003/2000* Frankfurt - Köln - Hamburg has been cut back to Köln - Hamburg. However the connection is maintained by the provision of additional seating accommodation (reservation not compulsory) on *CNL 478/479* between Basel and Duisburg via Köln as *IC 60478/61419*, with good connections at Köln to and from Hamburg.

Table **82** – Problems with the ETR 470 tilting trains have caused Swiss Railways to introduce loco hauled trains on some services between Zürich and Milano with longer journey times incurred.

Table **98** – Train **59/60** *Bulgaria Express* Moskva - Sofiya is retimed from June 12 and no longer has different summer and winter timings between Moskva and Kyiv.

Three international trains which traditionally have run on summer Saturdays will return to action this summer as usual. Eurostar will be running train **9084/9087** from London to Avignon (Tables **11**, **17a**), *Thalys* will be running **9928/9954** *Thalys Soleil* from Amsterdam and Brussels to Marseille (Tables **11**, **18**) whilst German Railways (DB) will run train **1280/1281** *Grossglockner* from München to Zell am See.

Elipsos have announced further alterations and cancellation of some services in May, June, July and August due to engineering works. See Tables **13**, **46**, **49**, **90a**.

GREAT BRITAIN

The new summer timetables in this edition are valid from May 22 until December 10. The principal change is a fully recast timetable (known as *Eureka*) for the East Coast Main Line from London to the north-east of England and Edinburgh (now renumbered from **185** to **180**). Several other tables have been recast and renumbered, whilst London to Hull services now have their own table, numbered **181**.

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 details are known. One such scheme sees all trains replaced by buses until September 18 between Toulouse and Tessonnières (new Table **317**, now split from **316**), 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. The recently introduced extension of a Paris - Nancy *TGV* to and from Toul (Table **390**) has been withdrawn.

Following last year's landslide, it has now been decided that there will be no service at all this year on the Chemin de Fer de la Mure tourist line (Table **397**).

BELGIUM

As we closed for press, updated schedules valid from June 12 were received, incorporating changes on a number of routes. We have included these in the tables where possible but readers should be aware that further minor changes may be made next month.

ITALY

Changes to timetables are expected from June 12, but few details had been received as we went to press. Further minor changes are anticipated, mainly to local services.

SPAIN

From May 1, some retimings were made on the Madrid - Aranjuez - Alcázar de San Juan corridor (Table **661**), whilst trains **17008** and **18047** (Table **668a**) no longer serve Madrid Chamartin. Train **17040** from Alcázar de San Juan to Ciudad Real now runs up to 55 minutes earlier. Train **630/633** Salamanca to Burgos (Table **689**), previously operated by Talgo trains, is now a Media Distancia (*MD*) service.

Major engineering work is in progress in Zaragoza until August 19 with many services unable to call at Zaragoza El Portillo. This is affecting the following services: Zaragoza - Huesca - Canfranc (Table **654**), Zaragoza - Lleida and Zaragoza - Caspe - Barcelona (Table **652**) and València - Teruel - Zaragoza (Table **670**).

PORTUGAL

The heritage steam train in the Duoro Valley (Table **694**) will run for a shorter season this year, operating on Saturdays July 23 to October 1.

SWEDEN

New summer schedules valid from June 19 to August 13 are shown this month. Readers wishing to travel prior to June 19 should consult our May edition, or contact the editorial team for timings. Our August edition will show services from August 14.

Much engineering work is taking place throughout the country during the remainder of the year, and we will endeavour to highlight this in the relevant tables wherever possible, but disruption is of a varied nature so travellers may wish to confirm their specific journey times locally.

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

Engineering work is affecting many lines over the summer. Two major projects are currently in progress and will affect services throughout the summer period. The first involves all services along the east-west corridor Köln - Hannover - Berlin/ Leipzig, also Frankfurt - Braunschweig - Berlin, which are operating to an amended timetable until August 27. There are also extensive alterations between Hamburg and Hannover that will remain in place until October 29. All affected tables currently show the amended schedules and these will be updated when the timetable returns to normal. A list of other principal engineering work alterations will be found on page 361.

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What's new this month - continued from page 3

AUSTRIA

The regular service between Krems an der Donau, Spitz and Emmersdorf was withdrawn in December 2010. However, Niederösterreichische Verkehrsorganisationsgesellschaft (NÖVOG) are now operating three return trips over this scenic route on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays until October 26. Timings will be found in Table 991. Please note that special fares are payable on these trains.

CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA

There are minor amendments for both countries from June 12. Certain Praha - Brno IC trains (Table 1150) have been retimed to leave Praha 3 minutes earlier, whilst changes in Slovakia affect only Table 1171.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The service between Tuzla and Brčko has been reduced from three train pairs to two (Table 1358).

CROATIA

Some changes have been made to local services.

In response to a reader suggestion, Gunja has replaced Drenovci in Table 1358. Trains from Vinkovci actually continue beyond Drenovci to Gunja, which is the last station in Croatia and the easiest crossing point for anyone wishing to travel into Bosnia, the daily cross-border rail service having been withdrawn last December.

SERBIA

Minor amendments have been made this month.

We are advised that two services shown as temporarily suspended for some months are still not running, consequently they have been removed from our tables. These are Novi Sad - Zrenjanin (Table 1362) and Pančevo - Vršac (Table 1365). To compensate for the latter, local services operating through Beograd between Novi Beograd and Pančevo glavna are expanded; most journeys now require a change of train at Pančevački Most, which has been added to the table.

GREECE

The temporary suspension of all international trains to and from Greece was still continuing as we went to press.

ROMANIA

Summer timetable amendments had not been received by press date. This particularly affects trains to the Black Sea coast (Table 1680).

BALTIC STATES

The annual timetable change takes place from May 29 and tables have been updated accordingly.

A new overnight service between Minsk and Riga will commence on June 1. Running directly from Belarus to Latvia, it avoids Lithuania by crossing the border at Daugavpils and Polatsk. It will run daily until August 31 and then on Fridays and Sundays only. Full details are shown in new Table 1932.

Additional services have been introduced between Vilnius and Turmantas (Table 1820).

RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

Tables have been updated with new timings from May 29. This includes the *Sapsan* high speed service between Moskva and St Peterburg (Table 1900) which has a revised timetable, despite the recent change on April 11.

In Table 1950, train 79/80 St Peterburg - Kaliningrad will run daily during the summer period as usual (instead of alternate days), but will do so for a shorter period this year, whilst outside the summer period train 29/30 Moskva - Kaliningrad will reduce from daily to running on alternate days.

In Table 1990 train 20 Moskva to Beijing via Harbin is now departing weekly on Saturdays instead of on Fridays.

Russia is proposing to abolish changing its clocks twice yearly, but rather than waiting until it is back on winter time, it plans to remain on 'summer' time or daylight saving time permanently by not putting its clocks back in October. Moskva and St Peterburg will therefore stay at GMT +4 hours all year round, with sunrise and sunset next winter being an hour later than before.

As mentioned below, our Russian section will be expanded from the August edition to cover principal services which were previously shown in the Overseas Timetable.

NEXT MONTH

As well as the latest updates to the summer timetables, the July edition of the European Rail Timetable will contain our special feature on **Tourist Railways**, showing an extensive selection of heritage and steam railways throughout Europe, including details of timetables and running dates where possible.

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 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.

From the August edition we will also be expanding our tables for **Turkey, Russia** and the **Ukraine**.

As a taster, we are including some sample tables from each **Beyond Europe** section on the following pages, together with some sample tables from the expanded sections for Turkey and Russia.