

What's new this month

The new summer schedules are generally valid from June 9 until December 14, but exceptions are noted in the introductory text to each country or in individual tables. In Russia, Belarus, Ukraine and the Baltic States the new timings are valid from May 26, whilst our tables for Finland start on June 3. The summer timings for Great Britain commenced on May 19.

The new schedules for Sweden start on June 30 and are shown in this edition. Readers requiring timings before this date should use the May edition or contact the Editorial office for the relevant pages.

ROUTE OF THE MONTH

Continuing the theme of our cover picture (on the monthly edition), our Route of the Month is entitled *Table 765: Lapland by Train*, written by Nicky Gardner and Susanne Kries, Editors of *hidden europe* and of our *Europe by Rail* guidebook. It will be found on page 35.

AIRPORT LINKS

Two further airports in the United Kingdom have been added to our list of Airport Links (Table 5), namely Norwich in East Anglia and Manston near Ramsgate in Kent.

Aeropuerto de Jerez station has been added to Spanish Table 671 to show the additional trains which now call there.

INTERNATIONAL

Further to last month's report concerning the introduction of through TGV trains between Paris and Barcelona (Tables 13 and 49), we understand that this has been further delayed due to technical problems and will not now happen until late in the year. In the meantime, the change of train at Figueres will still be required. When through services do start, there will be two daily trains with a third operating on three days a week between the two cities (Table 13). Additionally, two S100 AVE train pairs will operate daily between Barcelona and Toulouse (Table 49), and there will also be through trains linking Barcelona with Marseille, Lyon and Genève.

The cross-border route between Feldkirch (Austria) and Buchs (Switzerland) will be closed June 3–28 so that engineering work can take place. A reduced number of through international services to and from Zürich will operate via St Margrethen (both overnight services and two EC trains in each direction). Other services will be provided by bus between Feldkirch and Sargans, with a replacement train running between Sargans and Zürich. Other express and stopping bus services will operate between Feldkirch and Buchs. Full details of the revised schedules will be found in a special table on page 563.

It has been reported that train 491/490 Bucureşti - Istanbul is currently running through only to Çerkezköy, 115 kilometres from Istanbul (Tables 61, 98). Previously trains were terminating at Halkalı, 28 kilometres from Istanbul. Replacement buses are available to enable passengers to complete the journey.

Other International items, some of which were previously reported in our Summer International Supplement, are as follows:

Table 10 – Eurostar London - Brussels services are valid from June 2 until December 14, but London - Paris services are valid only until September 23. This is because major engineering work is planned on the high-speed line between Calais and Paris from September 24 until October 23, and one service each way on Mondays to Fridays will be cancelled for the five and a half weeks. Also, work is being carried out in the same area from October 24 until November 11 which will affect Eurostar services to a lesser extent.

Table 17 – Eurostar 9087/9084 London - Avignon - London will not run on August 17 due to engineering work between Valence and Avignon blocking access to Avignon Centre.

Table 42 – The usual summer weekend extensions of *Lyria* Paris - Lausanne services to Brig will not take place this year.

Table 44 – *italo* 9939 1342 Torino to Salerno and *italo* 9951 1642 Torino to Salerno, which form connections from TGV 9241 and TGV 9245 from Paris, have been withdrawn. Passengers may now change at Milano Porta Garibaldi for *italo* 9943 for Napoli and 9955 to Roma to arrive one hour later. Also, *italo* 9907 0628 Milano Porta Garibaldi to Salerno, which formed a connection from *Thello* EN 221 Paris - Milano - Venezia, has been withdrawn.

Due to engineering work, *Thello* 222/221 Paris - Venezia will call at Milano Lambrate instead of Milano Centrale from September 1 until December 14. This will affect connections as cross town journeys will

now have to be made.

Table 88 – ÖBB (Austrian Railways) has introduced an *IC Bus* between Venezia Mestre and Lido di Jesolo. Forming a connection to and from EN 237/236 Wien - Venezia, the onward journey takes 55 minutes. We understand that rail passes are not valid on this service.

Table 95 – The days of running of the Praha - St Peterburg sleeping car have changed. The irregular pattern of dates sees it running approximately four times every two weeks in summer, changing to a more regular twice-weekly pattern in winter.

Table 96 – Train 170 Lviv - Kyiv has been retimed to depart Lviv 70 minutes earlier at 0550 and therefore fails to make a connection from train 36 Kraków - Lviv, which arrives at 0603. Travellers from the latter train should now use train 74 which arrives Kyiv at 1824.

Table 99 – EC107/106 *Comenius* Warszawa - Břeclav, which was introduced in December, has been withdrawn. On its busiest stretches it is replaced by domestic services: in Poland by EIC1440/4140 Warszawa - Katowice, and in the Czech Republic by Ex 532/3 Bohumín - Břeclav, but there is no replacement on the cross-border section between Katowice and Bohumín.

GREAT BRITAIN

The summer timetables are valid from May 19 to December 14.

Network Rail has found paths to allow the Mondays to Fridays 1121 London Kings Cross to Hartlepool and 1447 Hartlepool to London Kings Cross *Grand Central* services to be extended to and from Sunderland (Table 183).

Services on Tables 192 and 193 continue to be affected by the landslide at Hatfield and Stainforth. There is still no news as to when services will return to normal.

With the introduction of the summer timetable we have taken the opportunity to recast some tables, whilst Tables 168 and 195 (previously displaced due to space constraints) have been renumbered to 155 and 180a respectively. We have also managed to squeeze in details of some services not previously shown: Table 101 now shows the *South West Trains* services London Waterloo - Twickenham - Ascot - Reading and London Waterloo - Twickenham - Windsor and Eton. Table 220 now includes Edinburgh - Glasgow services via Airdrie as well as the service via Falkirk (also trains via Motherwell formerly shown in Table 180a).

FRANCE

A new avoiding curve has been constructed at Folligny, allowing the introduction of a new through service from Caen to Granville during the high-season timetable July 7 to August 25 (Table 272). For space reasons the Granville to Rennes portion of this table has been split off into a new table numbered 272a.

As usual, services in Brittany have a revised timetable in high-summer, and separate versions of Tables 280 to 288 will be found at the back of this edition on pages 558 to 562.

Track reconstruction work is affecting services in many parts of France and readers should be aware that it is not always possible to show short-term changes in our tables.

ITALY

From June 9 there are retimings to the trunk high-speed network owing to the opening of the new Reggio Emilia AV station and completion of works at Bologna (Table 600).

Other changes from June 9 are anticipated, mainly to local services, but few details had been received as we went to press, and further details will be shown in subsequent editions.

SPAIN

Alvia 4085, the Saturdays only Madrid to A Coruña and Pontevedra service, has reverted back to its former timing departing Madrid at 1500, making this a daily departure as *Alvia* 4155/4355.

AVE 3945/3944 Barcelona - Sevilla, which run six days a week, will run on Fridays only from Barcelona and Sundays only from Sevilla between June 3 and July 21.

Early morning and late night timings have been adjusted on the Málaga - Fuengirola route (Table 662).

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SPAIN - continued

We understand that the high-speed line between Alcabate and Alacant (Table 668) is expected to open on June 25, but at the time of going to press we had not received any new timings.

Trenhotel 932/931 Pío Baroja Barcelona - Gijón (Tables 681/685) is understood to be withdrawn from June 1, but we had not received official confirmation at the time of going to press. However, *Trenhotel 752/751 Atlántico* Madrid - Ferrol will be withdrawn from June 22 (Table 681/682).

Alaris 697/694 García Lorca Barcelona - Sevilla and Málaga (Tables 661/672) is retimed, rebranded *Talgo*, has its Málaga portion withdrawn, and is extended to Barcelona Estació de França. *IC 10696/10695* forms the Córdoba - Málaga connection. We also understand that *IC 18330/18331* Alcázar de San Juan - Badajoz (Table 678) is retimed, that *MD 18334/18335* Linares - Baeza - Granada connection will run daily and *MD 18332/18333* Linares - Baeza - Almería connection will be withdrawn, with the Madrid - Almería *Talgo* picking up the connection. These changes are expected from June 2.

MD 13068/13067 Córdoba - Bobadilla (Table 661) and *MD 13079/13079* Ronda - Algeciras (Table 673) have been withdrawn.

Services between Madrid and Segovia via Villalba (Table 679) have altered and a change of train is necessary at Cercedilla. Accordingly Villalba has been replaced by Cercedilla in the timetable.

ICELAND

Thanks once again to a correspondent, we have been able to show the rather complex summer schedules enabling a circuit by bus of this fascinating country (Table 729).

SWEDEN

Swedish schedules will change on June 30, and our tables in this edition have been updated in readiness for this. Readers travelling before this date are invited to contact the editorial office, or consult our May edition.

As is usual, many lines are affected by engineering work this summer. The line via Nyköping is closed until July 22, although this will not affect fast services which travel via Katrineholm (Table 730). Buses will continue until September 8 between Åstorp and Hässleholm (Table 734), and Göteborg to Mölndal is replaced by bus between July 20 and 27 (Table 735). Furthermore, major work will see buses operating between July 29 and September 25 from Linköping to Rimforsa, for the Kalmar route, and to Åtvédaberg for Västervik services (Table 738).

More positively, a Stockholm to Malmö via Göteborg *Snabbtåg* (Sn) train pair has been reintroduced (Tables 735/40). Running dates are June 30 to July 19 and July 28 to August 9 from Stockholm, and July 1 to 19 and July 28 to August 10 from Malmö.

NORWAY

The Lillehammer to Bergen bus route, previously shown in Table 786 has now been moved to Table 782. The space available in Table 786 has now been used to show bus services between Bergen and Stavanger.

POLAND

Retimings are expected from June 9, but only limited information was available as we went to press.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Two Praha - Bohumín trains operated by *Leo Express* were extended to and from Karviná from April 23 (Table 1160).

From July 1, a number of long-distance trains will be reduced in their days of running (or withdrawn in some cases), affecting early morning and late evening services. In addition, some weekend relief trains will be cancelled during the high-summer period. Details are shown in relevant tables.

HUNGARY

Details of the additional summer services which run from June 15 to August 25 have been received and incorporated into the tables.

IC trains in Hungary already require a supplement to be paid, but from May 15 a new fast train supplement was introduced, required for most other long-distance trains. The supplement does not apply to international tickets or passes, and is purchased for a specified route rather than for individual trains.

SERBIA & MONTENEGRO

It has been reported that the direct Beograd to Nikšić through coach has ceased, although this is not confirmed. The Podgorica - Nikšić route is expected to see revised timings from July 1 when new multiple units take over local services (Tables 1370/1).

ALBANIA

New schedules have been issued by Hekurudha Shqiptarë (HSH). There is little change compared to the previous timetable period, but one return service between Tiranë and Vorë has been withdrawn (Table 1390).

GREECE

Minor alterations have been made to the Pírgos area local service. There are currently three trains serving Olimbia and just one to the coastal town of Katákolo (Table 1455).

ROMANIA

Summer schedule changes have been included where possible, but only partial information was available at press date. CFR Călători are currently in a state of flux and passenger services are frequently changed; this includes train curtailments and cancellations for which advance information is rarely available in time for us to publish. Readers should consult the latest local information before travelling.

UKRAINE

The new annual timetable commences on May 26. Inter City services between Kyiv and Kharkiv have increased by a third with the introduction of a pair of afternoon services (Table 1780). A new *IC* service has also been introduced between Dnipropetrovsk and Simferopol (Table 1790), whilst that between Kharkiv and Donetsk has doubled with the introduction of a second train. However, *IC* services between Donetsk and Luhansk and from Donetsk to Mariupol have been withdrawn (Table 1705).

Train 68/67 Warszawa - Kyiv is rerouted in Ukraine between Kovel and Korosten via Sarny instead of via Rivne (Table 1700).

LITHUANIA

A third service between Vilnius and Minsk has been added, with the timing reduced by thirty minutes to two and a half hours (Table 1950).

LATVIA

The new timetable is valid from May 26 and the only item of note is the withdrawal of the 0602 departure from Riga to Sigulda (Table 1830).

RUSSIA

The new Russian timetable from May 26 sees major changes to services on the Trans-Siberian Railway (Table 1990). This includes the retiming by about 10 hours of train 2 *Rossiya* Moskva - Vladivostok, which now leaves at 1350 instead of 2345. Its westbound equivalent, train 1, now leaves Vladivostok at 0425 (Moskva time) instead of 1530. The other principal Moskva - Vladivostok train is renumbered from 239/240 to 99/100.

Services to Kazakhstan and beyond in Table 1975 have also been partially reorganised, whilst the Simferopol to Yekaterinburg train in Table 1977 now takes a longer route to include Rostov na Donu. The Kharkiv to Baki train, on the other hand, now takes a considerably shorter route via Rostov rather than Saratov.

SHIPPING

TransEuropa Ferries has entered administration and all services on its route between Ramsgate and Oostende are currently suspended (Table 2190).

BEYOND EUROPE

The Beyond Europe section in the June edition covers **Africa and the Middle East**, whilst purchasers of the seasonal *Summer* edition will find all six of our Beyond Europe sections, reproduced from the relevant monthly editions and updated where possible.

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.