

## What's new this month

### WELCOME

This month's digital edition of the European Rail Timetable includes various updates to European rail schedules. In particular, our pages covering western France have been fully updated with autumn schedules and, along with the rest of the French section, are now valid through to the mid-December timetable change.

The first version of this year's Winter International Supplement will be found on pages 585 to 600 showing advance versions of selected international tables valid from the December timetable change. It will be updated and expanded further in both the October and November editions as more information becomes available.

### INTERNATIONAL

The proposal to run through WESTbahn services between München and Wien, originally planned to start in April this year and then subsequently delayed, has now been dropped completely (Table 65). It is still possible to purchase special tickets for journeys between München and Wien using a combination of Meridian and WESTbahn services (Tables 890 and 950).

*EN 301/300 Berlin Night Express* will run three times in the Autumn between Stockholm and Berlin via Malmö in conjunction with various events in Berlin, namely the Berlin Marathon in late September, events marking the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall in early November and a service for those wishing to visit Berlin's popular Christmas markets (Table 50).

### FRANCE

Our tables covering western France (including most services radiating from Paris Austerlitz and Montparnasse stations) have been fully updated to show schedules valid from September 2. Readers travelling until September 1 should refer to the August edition for correct timings.

### BELGIUM

Engineering work until December 13 in the Verviers area is affecting the Spa – Pepinster – Verviers – Aachen service on Mondays to Fridays and the revised pattern of service is shown in Table 438. Spa is served by a shuttle service from Pepinster, connecting with Oostende – Brussels – Eupen trains (Table 400) which are making a special stop at Pepinster. Aachen is served by a shuttle from Welkenraedt, so passengers changing from the Brussels train need to alight there (for an immediate connection) rather than at Verviers.

### SWITZERLAND

Tunnel renovation work on the Rhätische Bahn line between Susch and Scuol Tarasp, originally planned for completion on September 7, will now continue until October 6. Existing bus replacement services, which are shown in a special version of Table 545 on page 562, will remain in place until the work is complete.

### ITALY

High-speed operator Italo has introduced a daily through service in each direction between Udine and Roma. The southbound train (8903) is a completely new service which departs Udine 0555 and arrives Roma Termini 1128. The northbound service is an extension of existing train 8920 from Napoli to Venezia which, after calling at Venezia Mestre, now heads north to Udine (arriving 2037) instead of terminating at Venezia Santa Lucia. Full timings can be found in Tables 600 and 601.

### DENMARK

Engineering work in the Ringsted area is planned for certain periods between September and December affecting services on the main line between København and Odense (Table 700). The work will take place on the following dates: September 20–22, 27–29, October 4–27 and November 23–December 1.

### SWEDEN

All rail services between Berga and Oskarshamn have been withdrawn (Table 738). An alternative bus service has been introduced, operated by Länsbuss.

### GERMANY

From September 7 the service between Bad Kleinen and Szczecin via Pasewalk will be disrupted with buses replacing trains between Teterow and Reuterstadt. Table 836 has been updated with the revised schedules from this date.

The latest phase of work to electrify the Südbahn route between Ulm and Lindau will take place from September 16 to November 3. During this period buses replace trains on the sections Ulm – Laupheim West and Friedrichshafen – Lindau resulting in extended journey times. A special version of Table 933 showing the revised schedules will be found on page 584 of this edition. Work on the route will continue from November 4 to December 20 when replacement bus services will remain in place between Friedrichshafen and Lindau whilst further north buses will replace trains between Biberach and Aulendorf.

### GEORGIA

The overnight seats service between the capital Tbilisi and Batumi on the Black Sea coast (Table 1995) is now operated by the modern Stadler KISS double deck units which also operate the day trains. Now numbered 811/2 and running daily, the new train pair replaces 859/60 which ran on alternate days. Departure times are unchanged although the faster service means that arrivals are now a little earlier.

### FERRIES

The once-weekly Valletta – Catania – Salerno ferry service operated by Grimaldi Lines has been added to the Ferry section (Tables 2690 and 2693).

### BEYOND EUROPE

From August 1 MTR, the operator of high-speed services to and from West Kowloon (Hong Kong), amended four of its short-haul Shenzhen services (Table 7085) to serve destinations further afield. These four additional long-distance train pairs will provide through services to and from Chongqing, Nanning, Tianjin and Zhaoqing. Timings can be found in Table 7065.

From the same date the number of journeys between Guangzhou and Kowloon Hung Hom was decreased from twelve to nine in each direction (Table 7085).

### WINTER INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

**Table 50 (Winter):** Services between Hamburg and København will cease running via Puttgarden and the Rødby Ferry. Three daily services will run instead via Padborg and Odense.

**Table 60 (Winter):** International service *EC 259/258* Leipzig – Dresden – Děčín – Praha is withdrawn, although it will continue to run between Děčín and Praha as a domestic Czech Railways service (numbered *Ex 579/578*). *RJ 77/76* Graz – Praha will be extended to run to and from Berlin with new train numbers *RJ 257/256*.

**Table 82 (Winter):** *EC 34* Milano – Genève will run one hour later.

**Table 86 (Winter):** We understand that overnight service *EN 40465/414* Zürich – Zagreb – Beograd may be cut back to run only between Zürich and Zagreb.

**Table 99 (Winter):** *EC 104* Wien – Gdynia will run two hours earlier as *EC 106* and the return working *EC 105* will be renumbered *EC 107*. *EC 131/130* Budapest – Warszawa will be extended to Brest, running as *EC 137/136*. *IC 205/204* Wien – Kraków will be extended to Przemysł and renumbered *EC 105/104* (*EC 105* will run two hours later from Kraków to Wien). There is a proposal for the *Leo Express* service Praha – Bohumin – Kraków to run twice daily, with one extending to and from Przemysł.