

INTERNATIONAL

EN 443/406/407/442 *Chopin* Praha – Warszawa conveys couchette cars only during peak spring, summer and autumn periods (Table 99).

As previously reported, the Berlin – Wrocław *Kulturzug/Pociąg do Kultury* will start running again from April 19. Table 58 has been updated with confirmed timings.

Three *EuroCity* services in each direction on the München – Innsbruck – Verona corridor will be reclassified *Railjet* from April 8 (Table 70). Further services will be similarly reclassified from October 1, as indicated in our advance summer version of Table 70.

With the extension of European Sleeper **453/452** Brussels – Berlin to Praha, the four-berth couchette car has been replaced by a five-berth air conditioned couchette car.

GREAT BRITAIN

The frequency of the Isle of Wight rail service between Ryde and Shanklin has been reduced to hourly until further notice owing to a lack of serviceable trains. Extra services may operate during school holiday periods when there is higher demand (Table 106).

The Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways have published their 2024 schedules. Full details will be found in Table 135.

FRANCE

A new *Ouigo Classique* service from Paris to Rennes will be introduced from April 5. To accommodate this we have grouped together all *Ouigo Classique* services to both Nantes and Rennes in a new Table 295. This table also indicates the stations to be served by a new Paris to Bordeaux service which is expected to commence from December.

SPAIN

Owing to engineering work taking place at Madrid-Chamartín station, certain services in Tables 680, 681, 682, 684 and 689 will be amended from April 8 as follows:

- **Intercity 4088** Ponferrada – Madrid will terminate at Valladolid.
- **Avlo 5178** Madrid – Alacant will start from Valladolid.
- **Alvia 4142/4193** Santander – Madrid will terminate at Valladolid in amended timings (and will be renumbered **4342/4393**).
- **AVE 5101/5210** Alacant – Madrid will be extended to and from León.
- **AVE 4178/4149** León – Madrid will be withdrawn.
- **Alvia 4275/4484** Madrid – Vigo and **Alvia 4095/4064** Madrid – Ferrol will be combined.
- **Alvia 4114/4325** Madrid – Lugo will be withdrawn.

Spanish Railways has introduced a new early morning *AVE* service, numbered **3052**, from Barcelona (departing 0540) to Madrid (arriving 0820) with a single intermediate stop at Zaragoza (Table 650).

Engineering work between Jaén and Córdoba has resulted in extended journey times for *Media Distancia* services (Table 661). This has also affected timings of through services between Jaén and Cádiz via Córdoba and certain *Media Distancia* services between Córdoba and Cádiz (Table 671).

Engineering work at Almería station means services are currently running to and from Huelva-Viator station, located six kilometres from Almería. Passengers are conveyed by bus between Huelva-Viator and Almería, extending journey times by approximately 20 minutes (Tables 661 and 673).

The thrice weekly *Media Distancia* **13087** from Huelva to Zafra has been retimed to depart 78 minutes earlier with its overall journey time extended by 55 minutes. In the opposite direction the journey time of train **13086** is extended by 62 minutes (Table 677).

Ouigo **6504** Madrid – Alacant will be extended to start from Valladolid from a date to be announced (Table 679a).

Two *Alvia* services in each direction between Madrid and Bilbao/Irún now run combined between Madrid and Miranda de Ebro (Table 689).

AVE 5763/5792 Murcia – Madrid is extended to/from Burgos (Table 689).

GERMANY

Engineering work on the section of high-speed line between Kassel and Göttingen was due to end on February 29 and so tables published in our March edition reflected the normal service that was expected to

resume on March 1. However, further repair work is required in one of the tunnels on the route meaning services will continue to be diverted until the end of May. Unfortunately we are unable to show full details of revised schedules during this extended phase of engineering work, so readers are advised to check timings for any journeys via this section of line (we have added warnings to all affected tables).

German Railways is implementing a policy of compulsory reservation for most international journeys from/to Germany on long-distance *ICE*, *RJX*, *RJ*, *EC* and *IC* services during the summer period from June 1 to September 1 (inclusive). The only exceptions will be journeys to Salzburg and Kufstein (in Austria) and services to Switzerland via Basel or Singen. Note that domestic journeys on these trains will not require reservation, only trips that cross the border. This will particularly affect holders of Interrail and Eurail passes who may be required to make additional reservations. However, most routes do have alternative local cross-border services (which do not require reservation) so it will still be possible to make spontaneous international journeys without paying a reservation fee – it will just require some extra advance planning.

Readers should note that the German section as a whole is valid until June 8, although most tables will continue to be valid until July 15. There may be a small number of changes for the period from June 9 to July 15 so readers are advised to check any journey plans during this interim period. In addition, the 2024 European Football Championship will be taking place from June 14 to July 14. Services are expected to be busier than usual during the tournament and some additional trains will be operating to provide extra capacity.

From July 16 to December 14 the important route between Frankfurt and Mannheim will be temporarily closed so that major infrastructure upgrade work can take place. This will result in some significant changes to many long-distance services with extended journey times and different train routings. Full details of these changes will be published in the Summer 2024 edition. Readers travelling up to July 15 are therefore advised to use the Spring, April or May editions to plan their journeys in Germany.

POLAND

From March 10, two services in each direction between Sędziszów and Královec were extended to Trutnov. Two further services will be similarly extended from April 27 (Table 1082).

CZECH REPUBLIC and SLOVAKIA

Regiojet train pair **1021/1020** Praha – Košice is extended to/from Chop in Ukraine (Table 1195).

HUNGARY

Regiojet has introduced an additional daily train pair between Wien and Budapest (Table 1250).

ESTONIA

Due to engineering work, services shown in Tables 1870 and 1876 are subject to alteration on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All services are retimed and those between Tallinn and Tartu (Table 1870) are replaced by buses between Tapa and Kiltsi. Unfortunately we do not have the space to show the revised service in our tables so please enquire locally for timings.

SUMMER INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Table 18 (Summer): Major renovation work will be taking place at Amsterdam Centraal station from June 15 and the dedicated Eurostar departure area will be temporarily closed as a result. During this period the London to Amsterdam service will reduce from four to three services on weekdays with the temporary withdrawal of train **9114**, the 0816 from London St Pancras. Direct trains from Amsterdam to London will be temporarily withdrawn, but services with guaranteed connections at Brussels will still be available. The connecting time will usually be around 45 minutes, enough time for border formalities to take place.

Belgian Railways International will start running a loco-hauled *EuroCity* service between Paris and Brussels during the summer. Two daily return services are planned, running via St Quentin and Mons.

Table 89 (Summer): Train **247/246** *Citadella* Budapest – Ljubljana will once again convey a portion to Koper between June 16 and August 24. Train **1205/1204** *Adria* Budapest – Split will run three days a week to Split.