

What's new this month

WELCOME

This month's edition of the European Rail Timetable includes further updates to rail and shipping schedules as we continue the process of checking our tables following the December timetable change.

On page 609 we have included extracts from the timetable news that appeared in last month's digital edition.

Next month's digital edition will feature the first appearance of this year's Summer International Supplement with 16 pages of advance timings for selected international tables valid from June 14.

INTERNATIONAL

Train **EC 85/84 München** – Bologna, which in previous years extended to and from Rimini on three days a week during the summer, will this year extend to Rimini on a daily basis from May 28 to September 5, returning a day later. Timings will be found in our international Table **70** or Italian Table **630**.

GREAT BRITAIN

As we went to press, it was possible to book journeys to and from Worcestershire Parkway station from January 26. This brand new bi-level station is located where the Oxford to Worcester line crosses the main line between Birmingham and Cheltenham Spa (Tables **117** and **130**).

We understand that TransPennine Express services on the Liverpool – Manchester – Leeds – Newcastle – Edinburgh route will continue to operate to an amended timetable until at least February 9 (Table **188**). Readers intending to use trains along this route are therefore advised to confirm timings beforehand.

SPAIN

Further to last month's report on the opening of the short stretch of high-speed line which by-passes Tarragona before joining the existing Barcelona – València main line a few kilometres west of Salou, we can now reveal that some of the new faster services are extended to run to and from Girona and Figueres. Two northbound and four southbound trains now run as through services between Figueres Vilafant and València Joaquín Sorolla. However, this does mean that certain Madrid – Barcelona AVE services no longer extend to and from Figueres. See Tables **672** and **657** for full details.

The latest estimate for the start of the new *Avant* service between Sevilla and Granada is February 3, although we are still awaiting confirmed timings (Table **673**).

On Fridays *Alvia 4165* Madrid – Pontevedra conveys a portion to Santiago de Compostela and A Coruña (Table **680**).

A landslide has occurred between Zumla and Deba on the narrow gauge *Euskotren* route between San Sebastian and Bilbao. Buses are conveying passengers around the damaged section of line with journey times increased by 30 minutes as a result. A normal rail service is not expected to resume until the end of May (Table **686**).

GERMANY

Readers planning journeys in Germany are reminded that timings shown in our German section are only valid until April 10 due to the temporary closure of the high-speed line between Mannheim and Stuttgart from April 11 to October 31. This will result in some significant alterations to services that normally use this route together with some changes to schedules on diversionary routes that will be utilised during the blockade. We will, of course, ensure that all German tables are fully updated with the revised schedules in time for the April edition. Special versions of international Tables **21** and **32**, valid from April 11, are included in this edition and will be found on pages 560 to 562.

POLAND

All tables in our Polish section have now been fully updated and are valid until March 14. The validity of the next timetable period will be from March 15 to June 13 and we hope to have all the revised timings included in time for the April edition.

HUNGARY

Buses replace trains between Székesfehérvár and Balatonfüred until April 30 and Table **1225** has been updated with the revised timings.

BEYOND EUROPE

This month's Beyond Europe section includes the latest schedules in the following three areas: India (from page 570), South-East Asia, Australia and New Zealand (from page 582) and North America (from page 594).

In December, Indonesian Railways (PT Kereta Api) reissued its timetable, the first major change since April 2017. Apart from Table **6200** (which shows services on the island of Sumatra) all tables have been heavily altered and include some significant journey time reductions (by as much as 80 minutes in some cases). Services between Surabaya and Bandung have been extended through to Jakarta (Table **6220**). However, there are no longer any direct rail services between Jakarta and Merak (the port for connections to Sumatra), but the journey is still possible using suburban and local trains with a change at Rangkasbitung.

In Australia there have been a few minor alterations to VLine services around Melbourne, although it should be noted that the recent bush fires and subsequent implementation of VLine's extreme weather schedules may mean that services differ to what we are showing in our tables.

Amtrak issued another tranche of schedule changes in January affecting services in Tables **9100**, **9210**, **9230**, **9315**, **9320** and **9325**. Amtrak has also issued temporary schedules for the North East Corridor route (Table **9215**) valid from January 25 to March 22. Although these changes are of a minor nature, affecting just five trains in each direction, we have included details in this edition. Virgin Trains USA has altered its Brightline schedules which now operate to a more clock-face timetable (Table **9248**). It has also announced the construction of a new station at Boca Raton.

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