

NEWSLINES

INTERNATIONAL

Eurostar schedules valid until September 2 have been confirmed and Table 10 has been updated accordingly. Capacity on the London to Brussels route has been enhanced with an additional service operating in each direction.

Timings and days of running of Spanish Railways' soon to be reinstated AVE international services between Spain and France have now been confirmed and so we have updated the relevant entries in Table 13. The Barcelona – Lyon service will make its inaugural out and back journey on Thursday July 13 and will then run four days a week (Fridays to Mondays) in both directions from July 14 to August 28 before becoming a daily service from September 1. The Madrid – Barcelona – Marseille service will initially run three days a week from July 28 to September 25 (Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from Madrid; Mondays, Saturdays and Sundays from Marseille) before becoming a daily service from late-September. Tickets went on sale from June 21, including a special €9 launch fare for domestic journeys within France. Note that timings of both services are similar to those that were in place before the service was withdrawn last December.

GREAT BRITAIN

Island Line services will return to Ryde Pier Head station from July 10 following the completion of essential maintenance work on Ryde Pier (Table 107).

FRANCE

The line between Chagny and Nevers via Le Creusot will be temporarily closed from July 10 so that major route upgrade work can be undertaken. All services will be replaced by bus during the work and Table 373 has been fully updated with the revised timings. Note that this latest version includes various adjustments to the table published in the Summer edition.

SWITZERLAND

The latest information regarding the GoldenPass Express service between Montreux and Interlaken is that the 0935 from Montreux and 1408 from Interlaken are now running as through trains. As we closed for press, the other services shown in Tables 563 and 566 still required a change of trains at Zweisimmen, although through running of all services is expected to be restored at some point during July.

ITALY

We have checked and updated the entire Italian section for this edition. High-speed and other long-distance services are currently valid until September 12, whilst local trains are generally valid until the December timetable change.

Services to Malpensa Aeroporto T2 have now resumed (Tables 606 and 607).

SPAIN

From July 1, the morning *Media Distancia* service from Madrid to Jaén, which previously ran to a different schedule at weekends compared to the Mondays to Fridays service, will now run in the same timings every day of the week. Timings of the mid-afternoon return service will be similarly standardised (Table 661).

Two sections of line have been temporarily closed so that major long-term engineering work can take place. The 30-kilometre stretch of line between Torrelavega and Santander (Table 684) will be closed until December whilst the entire route between Huesca and Canfranc (Table 670) will be closed until May 2024. Rail replacement bus services are provided on both routes for the duration of the closure periods.

GERMANY

As mentioned last month, the line between Stuttgart and Singen is affected by engineering work until October 26 with rail replacement bus services operating between certain stations. We are currently showing two versions of Table 940 with confirmed timings until July 28. Further updates will be published in subsequent editions. The connecting line between Eutingen im Gäu and Freudenstadt is also closed to rail traffic from July 1 to September 8 and Table 942 has been updated with revised timings during this period.

SLOVAKIA

There are updated timings in a number of tables, especially Table 1180 where most IC trains have been retained (in some cases by up to an hour) with many also having station calls at Liptovský Mikuláš inserted.

TURKEY

A third daily high-speed service is now running in each direction between Ankara and Sivas (Table 1570).

From June 16, the *Ege Express* from Eskişehir to Izmir was retimed to depart Eskişehir at 0830 (previously 1350), arriving Izmir 1914. Timings in the opposite direction remain unchanged (Tables 1571 and 1581).

A new regional service has commenced between Malatya and Sivas to connect with high-speed services to and from Ankara. This means it is now possible to complete a daytime journey between Malatya and the Turkish capital. However, the existing overnight *4 Eylül Mavi Express* has been reduced to running just two days a week in each direction (Tables 1575 and 1582).

Timings for the restored Sivas to Samsun service have now been confirmed. The northbound service departs Sivas at 0840 on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays with the return service departing Samsun at 0835 on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. The overall journey time is just over eight hours (Table 1577).

BEYOND EUROPE UPDATE

NORTH AMERICA

Construction of the Brightline railway from West Palm Beach to Orlando Airport has finished and services are expected to commence later this summer (Table 9380).

The recently reinstated *Adirondack* service from New York to Montréal has, at least temporarily, been cut back to Albany NY owing to the imposition of severe speed restrictions on the Canadian portion of the journey (Table 9210).

ARGENTINA

The service between Buenos Aires and Justo Daract, operated by SOFSE, is extended to and from Palmira (Mendoza) on certain dates (see extract from Table 9960 below).

SOFSE		BUENOS AIRES - JUNIN - JUSTO DARACT - PALMIRA				9960
km		583 A	570 B		572 C	584 D
0	Buenos Aires Retiro.....d.	1220	2115	Palmira (Mendoza).....d.	...	1000
	José C. Paz.....d.		2217	Lib. G. San Martín.....d.	...	1030
	Pilar.....d.		2238	La Paz.....d.	...	1350
111	Mercedes.....d.		2345	Beazley.....d.	...	1820
	Franklin.....d.		0001	Justo Daract.....d.	1850	2245
	Rivas.....d.		0038	Vicuña Mackenna.....d.	2036	0054
	Castilla.....d.		0053	General Levalle.....d.	2134	0213
	Rawson.....d.		0111	Laboulaye.....d.	2301	0319
209	Chacabuco.....d.	1630	0152	Rufino.....d.	0020	0454
	O'Higgins.....d.		0221	Iriarte.....d.	0212	0644
255	Junin.....d.	1730	0259	Alberdi.....d.	0231	0705
	Alem.....d.		1826	Vedia.....d.	0312	0744
310	Vedia.....d.	1843	0405	Alem.....d.	0326	0802
336	Alberdi.....d.	1929	0446	Junin.....d.	0427	0904
	Iriarte.....d.		1949	O'Higgins.....d.	0457	
421	Rufino.....d.	2134	0706	Chacabuco.....d.	0527	0954
485	Laboulaye.....d.	2301	0820	Rawson.....d.	0608	
535	General Levalle.....d.	0012	0843	Castilla.....d.	0625	
590	Vicuña Mackenna.....d.	0140	1041	Rivas.....d.	0640	
663	Justo Daract.....d.	0350	1226	Franklin.....d.	0707	
	Beazley.....d.		0815	Mercedes.....d.	0735	
	La Paz.....d.		1255	Pilar.....d.	0850	
965	Lib. G. San Martín.....d.	1615	...	José C. Paz.....d.	0812	
	Palmira (Mendoza).....a.	1640	...	Buenos Aires Retiro.....a.	1005	1420

A – July 14, 28. B – July 7, 21. C – July 9, 23. D – July 2, 16, 30.

Howard Jones MBE
1952 - 2023

It is with great sadness to hear news of the passing of Howard Jones who, together with his brother Trevor, was responsible for running the popular *Wolsztyn Experience* which offered unique steam locomotive footplate experience courses in Poland.