

NEWSLINES

SWITZERLAND

As reported last month, journeys on the *Golden Pass Express* service between Montreux and Interlaken will require a change of trains at Zweisimmen until June 10 owing to technical issues. However, through journeys are expected to be restored from June 11 with four services operating in each direction (Tables 563 and 566).

SPAIN

From April 24, Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya (FGC) introduced additional services between Lleida and La Pobla de Segur (Table 653).

As mentioned last month, low-cost high-speed operator *Avlo* will introduce one service in each direction on the Madrid – Sevilla and Madrid – Málaga routes from June 1 (Table 660).

Just as we were finalising this month's edition, we received advice that services using the high-speed line between Madrid and Sevilla will be affected by planned engineering work from June 1. During the work, journey times will be extended (meaning earlier departure times and later arrivals) and certain services will not run. Full details will be published in the Summer 2023 edition.

Following the recent withdrawal of the rail replacement bus service between Aranjuez and Utiel via Cuenca, we have decided to remove Table 669 altogether.

GERMANY

Timings in the German section are currently valid until May 26 and include amended schedules following the temporary closure, from April 1, of the high-speed line between Kassel and Fulda. Readers should note that the line between Würzburg and Nürnberg will also be closed during the summer, from May 27 to September 11, resulting in further timing changes. The German section will be fully updated in time for the Summer edition with amended schedules for this period.

Work to upgrade the Elleringhauser Tunnel, located west of Brilon Wald station, will affect services in Table 804 from May 4 to August 25. During this period buses will replace trains between Bestwig and Brilon Wald resulting in extended journey times. A special version of Table 804 will be found on page 560 with the amended schedules.

All long-distance trains between Berlin and Dresden are diverted until November 10 as the latest phase of work to upgrade this important route is undertaken (Table 840). During this period, a reduced service is operating with extended journey times. Most services on the Rostock – Berlin – Dresden route do not run south of Flughafen Berlin. However, the two daily through services in each direction between Berlin and Chemnitz continue to run, albeit diverted via Riesa and so not serving Dresden. Table 835 has also been updated with the amended regional service on the Berlin to Elsterwerda route which is partially operated by bus.

Through rail services between Gerolstein and Trier were restored from April 17, nearly two years after the line was severely damaged by flooding in the summer of 2021. Services between Gerolstein and Kall continue to be operated by bus for the time being, but this section of line is also expected to reopen later this year when through rail services will return along the whole route from Köln to Trier via Gerolstein. Table 915a has been updated with the latest timings.

POLAND

Engineering work is affecting services between Szczecin and Białogard with buses replacing trains on certain dates (Table 1015).

TURKEY

Regional rail services between Sivas and Samsun were due to be reinstated from April 27 after a gap of nearly eight years. Originally constructed between 1924 and 1931, the whole route was closed from 2015 to 2020 to allow major upgrade work to take place. As the official announcement was only made shortly before our press deadline, and with intermediate timings not confirmed, we have not been able to update Table 1577. However, trains are expected to run from Sivas on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 0840 and 1637, returning from Samsun on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 0835 and 1643. These trains should provide good connections with services using the new high-speed line between Ankara and Sivas which is expected to open soon. In fact, some reports indicate that the new high-speed line may have opened by the time this edition is published. We plan to fully update the Turkish section in the Summer edition to include the latest confirmed schedules.

LITHUANIA

Local services around Šiauliai on Table 1805 have been recast so that most trains run Panevėžys – Šiauliai – Mažeikiai. Please be aware that this table continues to be subject to alteration due to ongoing electrification work, especially Tuesdays to Saturdays, so all timings should be confirmed locally.

BEYOND EUROPE UPDATE

International services between China and Laos started on Thursday April 13. Table 7120 from the Beyond Europe section is reproduced below.

Daily through *Pacific Surfliner* services between Los Angeles and San Diego resumed on April 17. Services were suspended in late 2022 as the route required emergency engineering work in the San Clemente area. A weekend service was reintroduced in February.

SUMMER INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

The latest version of our **Summer International Supplement**, with advance versions of all international tables valid from June 11, will be found on pages 571 to 609.

Table 88 (Summer): Austrian Railways' *nightjet* service between Wien and Roma (trains 40233/40294) will convey additional through cars between Wien and Ancona during the summer.

KUNMING - MOHAN - VIENTIANE											7120						
km	C85	C81	D887	C384	C91	K11	C83	C385	C382	C86	D888	C82	K12	C92	C84	C386	
0	Kunming nan	...	...	0808	0833	...	...	1400	Vientiane	...	0730	0808	0850	0920	1010	1430	...
106	Yuxi	...	...	...	...	...	...	1441	Vang Vieng	...	0831	0903	0951	1043	1117	1535	...
350	Pu'er	...	...	1036	...	...	...	1658	Luang Prabang	...	0933	0957	1053	1209	1231	1700	...
444	Xishuangbanna	...	...	1126	1145	...	...	1748	Muang Xai	...	1019	...	1202	1319	1345	...	...
	Mengja	...	...	1227	1254	...	...	1859	Boten	...	...	1107	1245	1423	...	...	...
	Mohan	...	...	1357	...	...	...	1914	Boten	...	...	1237	...	...	...	...	...
581	Boten	...	...	1309	...	...	...	...	Mohan	...	...	1349	...	...	...	...	...
594	Boten	...	...	1330	1439	...	1530	...	Mohan	...	0930	...	1519	...	...	1708	...
661	Muang Xai	...	...	1052	1413	...	1425	1632	Mengja	...	0950	...	...	...	...	1726	...
761	Luang Prabang	...	...	1148	1505	1553	1519	1748	1900	...	1056	...	1626	...	...	1821	...
877	Vang Vieng	...	...	1244	1603	1645	1643	1906	1956	...	1140	...	1710	...	...	...	...
1000	Vientiane	...	...	1341	1700	1738	1748	2027	2053	...	1352	...	1938	...	...	2122	...

◇ – Laos. Capital: **Vientiane** (GMT +7). 2023 Public Holidays: Jan. 1, Mar. 8, Apr. 14–16, May 1, July 20, Nov. 27, Dec. 2. Rail services to China are operated by China Railway Kunming Group. Services to Thailand are operated by the State Railway of Thailand (see Table 6065).

■ – Frequent services operate Kunming - Pu'er and v.v.