

## What's new this month

### WELCOME

This edition of the European Rail Timetable covers schedules up to the next major timetable change which this year takes place on December 15. Most European railways will introduce revised schedules from this date and these will be shown, where possible, in the expanded Winter edition. Schedules in Russia, Belarus and Ukraine change a week earlier, on December 8. Pre-orders for the Winter edition can now be made and the printed version will be available for dispatch from Wednesday December 18.

As well as the final few updates to current rail schedules, this month we have included advance versions of all our international tables valid from the December timetable change and these will be found in our Winter International Supplement on pages 585 to 624. A summary of the key changes are included in this news section.

### GREAT BRITAIN

Last month we reported on the introduction of additional through services between London Kings Cross and Lincoln on Mondays to Fridays from October 21. It has now been announced that regular Saturday services will commence from December 7, a date chosen just before the official timetable change as it coincides with Lincoln's popular Christmas Market event.

### BELGIUM

The Belgian coastal tramway, which runs for 67 kilometres linking all of Belgium's coastal resorts, has a new winter timetable from the beginning of November. Normally at this time of year it would run every 20 minutes during the day, but in a change of policy the autumn frequency of every 15 minutes continues to apply at weekends, with only the Monday to Friday timetable switching to 20 minute intervals. Full timings are shown in Table 406, but are only confirmed until the end of December.

### NETHERLANDS

Following successful testing of Rotterdam's metro line B extension between Hoek van Holland Haven and Schiedam, public services started running from September 30. The official opening ceremony will take place on November 1. The service frequency has been enhanced and Table 497 has been fully updated with the new schedules. Please note that the fast rail replacement bus service 711 has now been withdrawn.

### GERMANY

The Harz Narrow Gauge Railway's winter timetable started on October 27 and Table 867 has been updated with the revised schedules. The railway uses the month of November to carry out annual maintenance and so this year there will be no rail services from November 4 to 29. The only exception is on the popular Wernigerode to Brocken section where four services will continue to run in each direction during this period.

The latest phase of work to electrify the Ulm – Friedrichshafen – Lindau route will take place from November 4 to December 19. During this period buses will replace trains over the sections Biberach – Aulendorf and Friedrichshafen – Lindau and Table 933 has been updated with the amended schedules. Work on this project will continue during 2020 with further periods of disruption planned.

### HUNGARY

Engineering work has resulted in minor retimings to most trains in Table 1270. Additional services between Budapest Nyugati and Szolnok have been added during the early hours of the morning, improving access to Ferihegy airport. Departure times of these services are shown in a footnote.

Services between Debrecen and Hortobágy reverted to rail operation from September 30, earlier than originally planned (Table 1278).

### TURKEY

After an absence of several years the *Goller Express* has started running once again, providing a daily overnight journey in each direction between Izmir and Isparta. A bus connection is also provided between Gümüşgün station and the sizeable city of Burdur. The service started running from October 25 and full timings will be found in Tables 1572 and 1587. At present we understand that it is operated by a diesel multiple unit train set rather than a traditional long-distance train with sleeping and restaurant car facilities.

### ESTONIA

The service of four trains per day linking Tallinn with the border town of Narva has a revised timetable from October 27, as shown in Table 1870. A novelty of the route is that during the recent Estonian Language Week it was possible to take Estonian language lessons in a special section of the carriage on one journey each way.

### BEYOND EUROPE

This month's Beyond Europe section covers North America and will be found on pages 570 to 583.

VIA Rail has revamped their selection of rail passes and details can be found on page 571.

Amtrak has introduced a new timetable although most of the changes are of a minor nature. However, there are a few significant alterations along the Northeast Corridor route (Table 9215) including a pair of new weekday non-stop *Acela* services between New York and Washington. Also in Table 9215, certain services on the Springfield to New Haven line have been extended to and from Greenfield and given the name 'The Valley Flyer'.

In California, Amtrak has introduced another pair of *Pacific Surfliner* trains between Los Angeles and San Diego (Table 9320). Metrolink has revised several of its services whilst Altamont Corridor Express has added two Saturday services in each direction between San Jose and Stockton (Table 9352).

We have added some more thruway bus connections to Tables 9295, 9300 and 9310.

### WINTER INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

**Table 13 (Winter):** The two afternoon *TGV* services from Paris to Barcelona (9715 and 9717) will both run one hour later, whilst the first northbound service will run one hour earlier, departing Barcelona at 0600, and will be renumbered 9700. Northbound services 9702 and 9704 will run up to 53 minutes later.

**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 53 (Winter):** *NJ 421/420* Wien/Innsbruck – Köln – Düsseldorf will be diverted to serve Brussels twice a week from mid-January. The northbound service will run Innsbruck/Wien – Köln – Brussels on Wednesdays and Sundays from January 12, returning from Brussels the following day. On all other running dates the train will continue to run to and from Düsseldorf.

**Table 60 (Winter):** International service *EC 259/258* Leipzig – Dresden – Děčín – Praha will be withdrawn, although it will continue to run between Děčín and Praha as a domestic Czech Railways service (numbered *Ex 579/578* and shown in Czech Table 1100). *RJ 77/76* Graz – Praha will be renumbered *RJ 257/256* and will extend to and from Berlin from early May.

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

**Table 99 (Winter):** *EC 104* *Sobieski* 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 Terespol. *IC 205/204* Wien – Kraków will start back at Graz and will be extended to Przemyśl and renumbered *EC 105/104* (*EC 105* will run two hours earlier from Kraków to Wien). A new train *301/300* *Galicja* Ostrava – Katowice – Kraków – Przemyśl will be introduced. There is a proposal for the *Leo Express* service Praha – Bohumin – Kraków to run twice daily, with one extending to and from Przemyśl.