

## NEWSLINES

Rail services across Europe are gradually returning to pre-pandemic levels and we are continuing to update our tables based on the latest information available. Services that remain suspended are indicated by either a note and/or a shaded column. International travel restrictions are also easing although readers are still advised to consult official government advice before making international journeys.

Our **Winter International Supplement**, which will be found on pages 601 to 627, has been expanded and updated further with advance timings for selected international tables valid from December 12.

### INTERNATIONAL

From October 22 Eurostar will add a second service between London and Amsterdam on Mondays to Fridays. Additional services will also be added between London and Paris during November (Table 10).

*Berlin Night Express* has revised the running dates of its Stockholm – Berlin service during the autumn period (Table 50).

### GREAT BRITAIN

The service between London and Uckfield has been reduced to running every two hours during the middle part of the day (Table 102).

The much delayed reopening of the Isle of Wight railway between Ryde and Shanklin is now expected to take place on November 1 (Table 107). This is subject to the final round of safety tests involving the Class 484 trains being successfully completed. These are refurbished former District Line underground trains which will replace the 83 year old Class 483 trains which were withdrawn in January. Hopefully we will be able to confirm the rail service is up and running in the November edition.

The Nuneaton – Coventry – Leamington Spa timetable has reverted to a combination of rail and bus services (Table 142).

Last month we added a new table showing the proposed schedules of the new open-access *Lumo* service between London and Edinburgh from October 25 (Table 183). However, shortly after publication it was confirmed that, initially, only two return services will run Sundays to Fridays with a single train in each direction on Saturdays. The remaining services are expected to start running early next year.

### FRANCE

The line between Marseille and Manosque-Gréoux will fully reopen from October 3 following a four month blockade to allow route upgrade work to take place. This is the final phase of a major project to upgrade the railway infrastructure in the Aix en Provence area. Table 358 has been updated with the normal schedules along the route between Marseille and Briançon. Note that the rail replacement bus services shown between Veynes-Dévoluy and Valence will continue to operate until the December timetable change.

### SPAIN

A late evening *AVE* journey has been added in each direction between Madrid and Sevilla. Both services depart at 2100 (Table 660).

### AUSTRIA

Not previously reported in *NewsLines*, the Pinzgauer Lokalbahn narrow gauge line between Zell am See and Krimml was damaged in places following the extreme weather conditions experienced during the summer. As a result, rail services are currently replaced by bus between Niedernsill and Krimml (in similar timings). The amended service will remain in place until further notice (Table 957).

### CZECH REPUBLIC

We understand that services in Table 1162 have returned to normal and so have updated schedules in the table to reflect this.

### SERBIA

From October 1 train 433/432 Beograd – Bar will serve Beograd Centar station instead of Beograd Topčider (Table 1370).

### GREECE

Trains IC50/51 between Athina and Thessaloniki have been reinstated meaning the full daytime IC service between the two cities is now fully restored (Table 1400). The full service has also been reinstated between Paleofársalos and Kalambáka (Table 1408).

### TURKEY

Last month's news item reporting on plans to inaugurate services along the new high-speed lines Ankara – Sivas and Konya – Karaman turned out to be premature. However, we will continue to monitor the situation.

### ROMANIA and MOLDOVA

Unofficial reports have indicated that the Chişinău – Bucureşti overnight service may resume from early November following its 18 month suspension due to the coronavirus pandemic (Tables 1650 and 1720). Initially it is expected to run three times a week with a journey time of about 13 hours. Departure from Chişinău will be late afternoon on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, arriving Bucureşti around 0600 the following morning. The return journey will depart the Romanian capital early evening on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

### UKRAINE and MOLDOVA

The Ukrainian Railways service between Odesa and Chişinău has restarted (Table 1720).

### LITHUANIA, LATVIA and ESTONIA

There are a number of minor alterations to national services in this region, but all international rail services remain suspended.

### RUSSIA and BELARUS

International services St Petersburg – Homel (Table 1920), Moskva – Polatsk (Table 1935), Moskva – Orsha – Homel (Tables 1920/1950) and Moskva – Minsk – Brest (Table 1950) have been restored. All other international services remain suspended.

### BEYOND EUROPE

This month's Beyond Europe section includes the latest schedules for China, Japan, South America and South Korea.

### WINTER INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

**Table 9 (Winter):** In an exclusive arrangement with Eurostar, ski holiday specialist Travelski will be running its own dedicated train this winter between London St Pancras and Bourg St Maurice. Branded *Travelski Express*, it will only be available to passengers who purchase a Travelski holiday package which includes rail travel, resort transfers, accommodation and a seven-day ski pass. A Eurostar train has been hired and will run from London overnight on Fridays and return daytime on Saturdays in roughly the same timings and dates as Eurostar's own service operated in previous years.

**Table 10 (Winter):** Eurostar has published a cautious advance timetable but may add further trains depending on how the travel market develops. From December 12 to January 8 Eurostar is initially planning to operate two or three services per day on the London to Paris route. Between London and Amsterdam it plans to operate a daily service supplemented with an additional service to Brussels on certain dates. From January 9 to February 5 it plans to operate two daily services to Paris and one to Amsterdam. We also understand that Eurostar will not be serving Ebbsfleet or Ashford stations until 2023.

**Table 11 (Winter):** All TGV services in this table have been updated with provisional timings.

**Table 13 (Winter):** French Railways plan to run two daily TGV services between Paris and Barcelona, with a third journey added during the peak summer period.

**Table 32 (Winter):** Austrian Railways will operate a new *Nightjet* service between Paris and Wien, running three nights a week.

**Table 60 (Winter):** EC 173/172 *Hungaria* Hamburg – Berlin – Praha – Budapest will be split, running Hamburg to Praha and Praha to Budapest, with no connection between the two. Overnight NJ 457/456 Berlin – Wien will be extended to Graz from June 12.

**Table 61 (Winter):** EN 347/346 *Dacia* Wien – Budapest – Bucureşti will be rerouted through Romania via Timişoara and Craiova instead of via Braşov.

**Table 73 (Winter):** A new *Nightjet* will run between Amsterdam and Zürich via Frankfurt (Main).

**Table 75 (Winter):** Most EC trains between München and Zürich have been accelerated in both directions by about 30 minutes with revised timings in Austria and Switzerland. A seventh daily service along the route has not yet materialised to plug the four hour gap in an otherwise two-hourly service. Until April 10, two services in each direction will not run between St Margrethen and Zürich.

**Table 82 (Winter):** The three Zürich – Milano services which extend to Venezia, Bologna and Genova will be switched around.

**Table 99 (Winter):** Overnight NJ 40456/407 Warszawa – Wien will be extended to Graz from June 12.