

Imagining a Europe connected by high-speed rail

The revision of TEN-T is a chance to promote the creation of an interoperable European high-speed network linking European capitals and major cities, connecting urban nodes and airports and supporting the development of international passenger services.

With a cohesive high-speed master plan and adequate investment, the rail timetable of the future has the potential to offer passengers very attractive journey times between major cities and a further incentive to choose sustainable travel.

We imagined the results by calculating what the travel times could be between 68 pairs of capitals if they were connected by high-speed rail.

Potential travel times of the future...*

	Origin	Destination	Distance (km) <small>Source: Google maps</small>	Travel time at 200km/h average speed *
1	Amsterdam	Berlin	656 km	3h17
2	Athens	Skopje	698 km	3h29
3	Athens	Tirana	730 km	3h39
4	Belgrade	Podgorica	468 km	2h20
5	Belgrade	Bucharest	596 km	2h59
6	Belgrade	Sofia	392 km	1h51
7	Belgrade	Skopje	432 km	2h10
8	Belgrade	Pristina	468 km	2h20
9	Berlin	Bern	956 km	4h47
10	Berlin	Warsaw	573 km	2h52
11	Berlin	Prague	349 km	1h45
12	Berlin	Copenhagen	588 km	2h56 <small>Connected via bridge across Baltic sea</small>
13	Berlin	Luxembourg	762 km	3h49
14	Bern	Paris	571 km	2h51
15	Bern	Vienna	840 km	4h12
16	Bratislava	Budapest	200 km	1h00
17	Bratislava	Warsaw	684 km	3h25
18	Brussels	Amsterdam	210 km	1h03
19	Brussels	Berlin	757 km	3h47
20	Brussels	Luxembourg	224 km	1h07
21	Brussels	London	373 km	1h56 <small>Based on currently existing high-speed rail connection</small>
22	Bucharest	Sofia	384 km	1h55
23	Bucharest	Chisinau	435 km	2h11
24	Budapest	Zagreb	343 km	1h43
25	Budapest	Bucharest	835 km	4h11
26	Budapest	Belgrade	379 km	1h54
27	Copenhagen	Stockholm	654 km	3h16
28	Helsinki	Stockholm	1770 km	8h51 <small>Only land connections</small>
29	Kiev	Warsaw	778 km	3h53
30	Kiev	Chisinau	472 km	2h22
31	Kiev	Bratislava	1293 km	6h28
32	Kiev	Budapest	1117 km	5h35
33	Lisbon	Madrid	625 km	3h08
34	Ljubljana	Rome	752 km	3h46

* The estimated travel times are calculated based on existing land connections between the cities and a 200km/h average speed.

	Origin	Destination	Distance (km) <small>Source: Google maps</small>	Travel time at 200km/h average speed*
35	Ljubljana	Budapest	462 km	2h19
36	Ljubljana	Zagreb	140 km	0h42
37	Luxembourg	Paris	374 km	1h52
38	Madrid	Paris	1276 km	6h23
39	Paris	Brussels	311 km	1h22 <small>Based on currently existing high-speed rail connection</small>
40	Paris	Berlin	1053 km	5h16
41	Paris	London	480 km	2h17 <small>Based on currently existing high-speed rail connection</small>
42	Podgorica	Pristina	274 km	1h22
43	Podgorica	Skopje	358 km	1h47
44	Prague	Bratislava	328 km	1h38
45	Prague	Vienna	309 km	1h33
46	Pristina	Tirana	260 km	1h18
47	Riga	Tallinn	309 km	1h33
48	Rome	Paris	1421 km	7h06
49	Rome	Bern	924 km	4h37
50	Rome	Vienna	1121 km	5h36
51	Sarajevo	Podgorica	230 km	1h09
52	Sarajevo	Belgrade	293 km	1h28
53	Skopje	Pristina	93 km	0h28
54	Skopje	Tirana	228 km	1h08
55	Sofia	Athens	793 km	3h58
56	Sofia	Ankara	994 km	4h58
57	Sofia	Skopje	242 km	1h13
58	Stockholm	Oslo	526 km	2h38
59	Tirana	Podgorica	155 km	0h47
60	Vienna	Bratislava	80 km	0h24
61	Vienna	Budapest	243 km	1h13
62	Vienna	Berlin	682 km	3h25
63	Vienna	Ljubljana	384 km	1h55
64	Vilnius	Riga	294 km	1h28
65	Warsaw	Prague	637 km	3h11
66	Warsaw	Vilnius	465 km	2h20
67	Zagreb	Sarajevo	401 km	2h00
68	Zagreb	Belgrade	393 km	1h58

* The estimated travel times are calculated based on existing land connections between the cities and a 200km/h average speed.

