



TABLE TALK

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RAIL & TRAM NEWS

NEW SOUTH WALES



Blue Mountains recommencement

Updating last month's 'Blue Mountains: Passenger train working' item, Blue Mountains line services recommenced operating to the regular timetable from Saturday 19 January. **NSW TRAINLINK**

VICTORIA



Planned network disruptions

METRO TRAINS MELBOURNE - JANUARY

City Loop

Flagstaff, Melbourne Central and Parliament stations were to be closed from 21:00 Monday 2 January until last service Sunday 15 January. Southern Cross and Flinders Street stations remained open, with trains running between these stations.

Hurstbridge

Buses replaced trains between Parliament and Heidelberg from 20:30 Monday 2 January to Friday 6 January and Monday 9 January to Friday 13 January (weekdays only). Trains instead operated only between Heidelberg and Hurstbridge.

Alamein lines

Buses replaced trains between Camberwell and Alamein from 20:30 Monday 2 January to last service Sunday 15 January.

Cranbourne, Pakenham, Frankston and Stony Point lines

Buses replaced trains at various times for Wednesday 4 January to Friday 27 January.

Ross Morrison adds: This actually means on the Frankston line there were no trains between Flinders Street and Moorabbin from January 4 until January 27. The buses were to be extended to Mordialloc on Sundays January 8 and 22 between 7am and 7pm. On the Pakenham/Cranbourne lines, there were no trains between Flinders Street and Dandenong from January 4 to January 13 and between Flinders Street and Westall from January 14 until January 27.

PTV adds: To prepare Melbourne's train network for Metro Tunnel services in 2025, critical upgrades and track realignment works will take place on several train lines in the south east in January.

No trains will run through Caulfield Station between 4 January and 27 January. Crews will separate the Frankston Line and Cranbourne/Pakenham Line at Caulfield Junction, eliminating unnecessary train crossover to allow for future Metro Tunnel services every 2 to 3 minutes at Caulfield Station. Buses will replace trains on sections of the Cranbourne, Pakenham, Frankston, Stony Point, Sandringham and Gippsland lines during this time.

While buses replace trains in the south east in January, other critical network upgrades will take place between Richmond and Dandenong. These works include: Installing new track, sleepers, overhead structures, ballast and drainage connecting the new South Yarra substation to the rail network to deliver the power needed to drive the Metro Tunnel's new High-Capacity Metro Trains installing signalling infrastructure for the new High-Capacity Signalling (HCS) system switching on and testing the High Capacity Signalling system's reliability and performance between South Yarra and Clayton.

From Monday 30 January, Cranbourne and Pakenham lines also run to a reduced service during the AM and PM peaks due to ongoing Metro Tunnel works.

METRO TRAINS MELBOURNE - FEBRUARY

Belgrave and Lilydale lines

Buses replace trains between Camberwell and Box hill from Friday 17 February to late May.

YARRA TRAMS - FEBRUARY

Routes 57, 58 and 59 (Parkville/North Melbourne)

Service changes from Wednesday 1 February to last tram Sunday 5 February.

Routes 11, 12, 109 and City Circle

Service changes from Friday 24 February to Saturday 4 March.

V/LINE - JANUARY

Gippsland Line

Coaches were to replace regional trains until 31 January due to Gippsland Line Upgrade works and V/Line driver training.

V/LINE - FEBRUARY

Geelong/Warrnambool lines

Coaches replace trains between Geelong and Warrnambool from 02:00 Saturday 18 February to last service Sunday 26 February.

Swan Hill Line

Coaches replace regional trains between Bendigo to Swan Hill from Wednesday 15 February to last service

Monday 20 February.

Bendigo, Echuca and Swan Hill lines

Coaches replace trains from Southern Cross to Bendigo, Echuca and Swan Hill from 02:40 Tuesday 21 February to last service Sunday 5 March. **ROSS MORRISON, STEVEN HABY, PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA**

V/Line: Albury temporary alterations

V/Line issued a Circular to provide for additional journey time on Albury line services until further notice.

Since Monday 9 January, a maximum 100 kilometre per hour speed restriction has been in place along the parts of the route, with impacts of up to 20 minutes anticipated. The Circular did not provide any further information on the speed restrictions.

The Circular added 20 minutes to the arrival time of each trip at the destination (e.g. 8605 07:07 trip ex Southern Cross to now arrive at Albury at 11:03) with no intermediate timing changes provided. **LEN REGAN, V/LINE**

INTERNATIONAL

Qatar: World Cup

Al Jazeera reported ahead of the Football World Cup in Qatar that the national government's biggest challenge would be the movement of people across the small country.

Ahmed Albinali, World Cup Mobility Operations Director, said that spectators were given multiple options for travel. The government said it now had 12,700 kilometres of major roads, 2,100 kilometres of bicycle and pedestrian paths, and two airports to take on the increased demand.

Free travel was available only for Hayya Card holders between 10 November and 23 December on the Metro, public buses, special tournament/shuttle buses and light rail. Local officials were expecting between 33 and 50 per cent of spectators to take advantage of the free public transport.

On the **Doha Metro**, three lines operate, with services running as often as every three minutes. The Metro is reported to have the capacity for 1,000 passengers every 165 seconds on some lines, based on the number of trains operating. Five stadiums were within walking distance of a Metro station.

According to the Qatar 2022 website, Metro trains were to operate between 06:00 and 03:00 daily throughout the tournament (except on Fridays, where services instead were to commence at the later time of 09:00).

Gulf News reported that the operating hours for the Doha Metro had again been altered for the Quarters, Semis, Third Place and the Final of the competition, with up to 90 minutes of additional operation at stations. Services on these days

were now reportedly scheduled to conclude 45 minutes after the completion of matches:

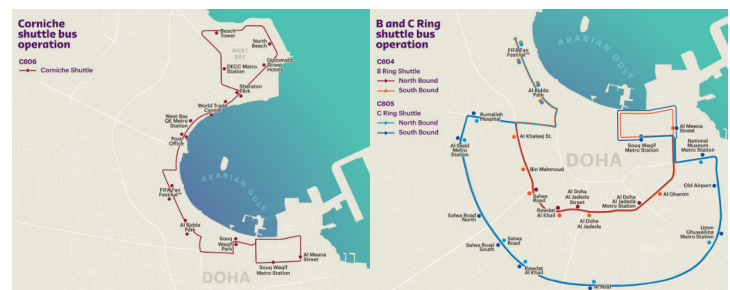
- Fri 9 and Sat 10 Dec - 05:00-02:30.
- Tue 13 and Wed 14 Dec - 05:00-02:30.
- Sat 17 Dec - 05:00-01:00.
- Sunday 18 Dec - 08:00-01:00.

Free "**Stadium Express Buses**" or **tournament buses** were planned to get spectators to/from stadiums and the bus hubs (FIFA Fan Festival, West Bay, Souq Waqif-North, Barwa Madinatna, & Barwa Barahat Al Janoub), operating on match days to alleviate Metro demand. These buses were planned to operate from four hours before match kick-off until 90 minutes after the final match finished. Trips appear to have no intermediate stops and run between 22 and 60 minutes in length. There were dozens of these services, not listed herein.

Three additional **shuttle loops** were to operate at frequencies of as high as every 7.5 minutes, operating 09:00-23:00 (1-19 Nov), 24/7 operation (20-24 Nov, 26 Nov-18 Dec), & 07:00-03:00 (25 Nov only).

- **C804**: Corniche shuttle (map below, left)
- **C805**: B Ring Shuttle (map below, right)
- **C806**: C Ring Shuttle (map below, right)

The above three services had four shared stops - Al Bidda Park, FIFA Fan Festival, Al Meena Street, & Souq Waqif Metro Station, as seen in the maps below.



A **Park & Ride shuttle, C802**, was to operate for users between Jelaiah Car Park and FIFA Fan Festival every 10 mins during operating hours (09:00-23:00 14-19 Nov, 09:00-03:00 20-24 Nov & 26 Nov-18 Dec, and 07:00-03:00 25 Nov only). A third stop was provided at State Grand Mosque for access to Central Doha.

Additional **Accommodation Shuttle** service, **D821**, was to run a loop from the Cruise Ship Hotels at Doha Port to Souq Waqif Bus Hub (South) from 1 Nov to 20 Dec operating 24/7 at frequencies of as high as a bus every five mins. Availability was restricted to fans staying at the Hotels area.

Mowasalat operates 62 public bus routes across Qatar, as of Thursday 2 November. The timetables provided on its website are simple tables in PDF format, with separate links and pages for 'Sundays to Wednesdays', 'Thursdays', 'Fridays' and 'Saturdays'. The majority of routes radiate out from Al Ghanim Bus Station. The map

appears to be dated 2017, going by the file name. The map is provided on page 13.

According to Al Jazeera, Qatari residents meanwhile were asked to drive for their mobility needs to free up space on public transport for the spectators. **AL JAZEERA, GULF NEWS, QATAR 2022**

Eurostar

European intercontinental passenger rail operator, Eurostar, reports that its passengers are facing longer passport check times courtesy of Britain's exit from the European Union, dubbed "Brexit", and the reversal of border restrictions post-COVID.

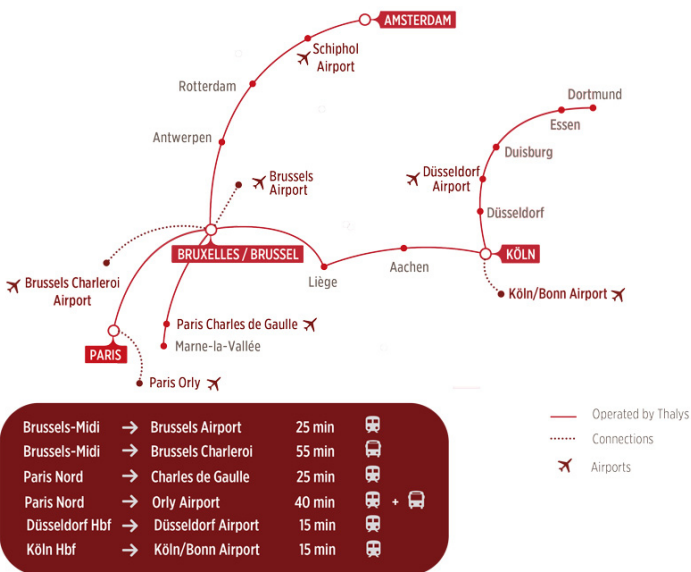
To keep its trains running to time, Eurostar says that it has been forced to run up to one-third of its seats empty. *Evening Standard* reports that the operator is running 14 out of 18 trips a day between Paris and London.

A Eurostar spokesperson said the bottleneck caused by manual passport checks means it is even more important that the trains running at the start of the day run on-time - "If you delay the first train, then you delay the second and then it's a very bad customer experience. Our customers say it's awful."

Evening Standard reports that border check times are three times as long as they were pre-pandemic with passengers now being asked to arrive up to 90 minutes ahead of departure time.

Euro News reports that in 2022, Eurostar carried just over 8.3 million passengers, well under the record of 13 million-odd set in 2019.

Meanwhile, Eurostar has completed its merger with Thalys to form Eurostar Group. Thalys services, which operate between Belgium, Netherlands, Germany and France (line overview below), will rebrand to Eurostar later in the year. **EURO NEWS, EVENING STANDARD**



ENDS

BUS & COACH NEWS

QUEENSLAND



Gold Coast disruption

Planned industrial action was to cause widespread disruption for Surfside Gold Coast (Kinetic) services all day Tuesday, 31 January.

Meanwhile, **Kinetic** has confirmed that it has commenced rebranding its extensive bus operations under the Kinetic name. **TRANSLINK**



Kinetic's extensive ANZ public transport operations (Kinetic).

NEW SOUTH WALES



Sydney: Service reductions

Some Sydney route bus services are running to reduced service levels due to driver shortages.

Ongoing since at least **Wednesday 14 December**, Busways North West's region 7 and Transit Systems' region 6 bus services have been annotated online by a Transport alert saying that "buses may be operating at reduced service levels, please check Trip Planner before you travel".

In a statement, Busways said "The bus industry is currently experiencing a bus driver shortage and high degree of absenteeism which is impacting the ability to maintain services. Busways is working hard to preserve service coverage across the bus network and minimise gaps, however, some services are having unplanned changes to trips that can impact your journey, and morning-of cancellations on some services should still be expected by customers. Customers are advised to check trip apps or

transportnsw.info daily for up-to-date information, as timetables at bus stops are not being updated. We regret the impact on customers and apologise for this unavoidable situation which is likely to continue until the driver shortfalls ease." Busways concluded its statement with a call to arms for trainee drivers - "Busways is currently recruiting for over 100 drivers in Willoughby and Ryde Depots. If you are interested in becoming a bus driver or know someone who is, please visit careers.busways.com.au for details."

Similar service impacts have been ongoing with Forest Coach Lines' region 14 bus routes since at least **Friday 16 December**.

"From **Monday 19th December until Thursday 26th January 2023**, Keolis Downer, in coordination with Transport for NSW" ran a "summer timetable for the Northern Beaches and Lower North Shore... aimed to avoiding service cancellations and improving bus reliability. Routes impacted will mostly be express services to the City, which will have a reduced frequency."

Route	155		156		182	
ex	Bayview	Frenchs Forest	Mona Vale	McCarrs Creek	Mona Vale	Narrabeen
	0540 *	0639 *	0632	0624	0748	0757
	0645 *	0724	0702	0654	0818	0857
	0745 *	0824	0732	0724	0948	0957
	0820	0922	0802	0754	1045	1057
	0929	1022	0832	0824	1115	1157
	1029	1122	0902	0854	1215	1257
	1129	1224	0932	0924	1315	1357
	1229	1324	1002	0954	1415	1457
	1329	1424	1032	1024	1515	1557
	1429	1524	1102	1054	1618	1657
	1529	1624	1132	1124	1718	1757
	1629	1724	1202	1154	1818	1857
	1729	1822	1232	1224	1918	1957
	1829	1924	1302	1254	-	-
	1929	2024	1332	1324	-	-
	2045 *	2106 *	1402	1354	-	-
	2145 *	2206 *	1432	1424	-	-
	2245 *	2306 *	1502	1454	-	-
	2345 *	-	1532	1524	-	-
	0045 *	-	1602	1554	-	-
	-	-	1632	1624	-	-
	-	-	1702	1654	-	-
	-	-	1732	1724	-	-
	-	-	1802	1754	-	-
	-	-	1832	1824	-	-
	-	-	1902	1854	-	-
	-	-	1932	1924	-	-
	-	-	2002	1954	-	-
	-	-	2032	2024	-	-
	-	-	2102	2054	-	-
	-	-	2132	2124	-	-
	-	-	2202	2154	-	-
	-	-	2232	2224	-	-
	-	-	2302	2254	-	-
	-	-	2332	2324	-	-
	-	-	0002	2354	-	-

* - Shortworkings, trip commences at a location closer to the destination.

Additionally, on **Sunday 8 January**, at least three of Keolis Downer Northern Beaches' Sunday route services ran to a significantly reduced schedule. The table (provided below-left) provides the timetabled Sunday times for each 155, 156 and 182 trip from their origin. The services removed from service on the day are struckthrough in the table. This shows that the majority of the day's normally timetabled services on these three routes did not operate. As there was no direct notification of these cancellations anywhere, the accurateness of this information appeared to be backed up by various bus trackers not showing live vehicles at multiple times throughout the day.

Numerous region 7 routes commenced operating to reduced timetables effective from **Friday 27 January**, with Busways saying in another statement that the changes were "based on customer feedback and monitoring of travel and boarding patterns".

Busways said that "the new timetable" includes changes "based on customer feedback and monitoring of travel and boarding patterns". Focusing on high-frequency route corridors, reduced service frequencies are in effect on routes **115, 120, 288, 292, 500X, 501, 533, 545, and 550**.

Meanwhile, by contrast, a total of five additional morning peak services are being added for route **120** "to assist customers travelling to the CBD" over two stages. Each trip commences from North Willoughby. From 27 January, two trips were to be added, then the other three "by the end of February".

However, Busways also said that full service levels were restored for routes **203, 207, 251, 252, 254, 255, 261, 265, and 267** effective from the same date.

Meanwhile, school services have not been affected, while remaining timetabled route bus trips "may still be operating at reduced service levels on any given day due to driver absences. Please check the Trip Planner before you travel."

Busways went further, saying that it has been working with "a scheduling expert engaged by Transport for NSW to work with operators on efficient timetable adjustments and we will continue to adjust timetables if required based on driver availability. We are also working closely with Transport for NSW: To ensure suspended services are reinstated as soon as possible; on strategies to address the shortages including depot open days, information stalls, providing bonuses and increased marketing and media; and redesigning shifts to improve operational efficiency and reduce the overall number of drivers required.

Several bus operators across Greater Sydney are making temporary service changes to deal with unprecedented driver shortages across the industry, in Australia and overseas. **TRANSPORT FOR NSW, KEOLIS DOWNER, BUS AUSTRALIA FORUM, BUSWAYS**

Lismore timetable adjustments

Bus network changes for the Northern Rivers city of Lismore commenced operating from Monday 16 January.

Unlike changes implemented in Tweed Heads, Wagga Wagga, Bathurst, Nowra, and Orange, where many route alterations took place, the Lismore alterations maintain the existing network intact, although the 684 South Lismore service now extends into a new area.

Transport for NSW said in its announcement *"There will be new weekend and Public Holiday services to connect you more reliably to where you need to go. The B-ConX On Demand service will also receive improvements to weekend services."* There is also equalised spacing between services across most routes.

- **650 (Nimbin-Lismore via Nimbin Road)** - The pre-existing midday service on Mondays and Thursdays now operates on all weekdays. Some trips ex Nimbin extend "on request" from Molesworth Street to Lismore Square.
- **661 (Lismore-Ballina via Goonellabah, Wollongbar & Alstonville)** - Longer operating hours Mondays to Saturdays courtesy of an extra trip ex Ballina at 18:06 weekdays/17:39 Saturdays, and extra trips ex Lismore Transit Centre at 16:25 & 18:05 weekdays/18:50 Saturdays. Temporary SSPH (Saturday, Sunday and public holiday) flood recovery services become permanent in the new timetable (extra to the ones reported in *Table Talk*, May 2022, p. 9), with better spacing between services "to operate at more regular intervals".
- **682 (Lismore-Goonellabah via Southern Cross University [SCU])** - Extended SSPH operating hours, better spacing between timetabled services daily and improved connections with B-ConX at Goonellabah.

The timetable is no longer structured as a loop service, with separate sections per direction. An extra two weekday/four Saturday/one Sunday trips ex Lismore Transit Centre, and extra one weekday/three Saturday/one Sunday trips ex Goonellabah Village.

- **683 (Lismore-Lismore Heights via SCU loop service)** - Weekday timing adjustments to provide better spacing between services. An additional three Saturday trips to now provide a regular hourly service. The two Sunday afternoon trips now operate 90 minutes later, enhancing operating hours.
- **684 (Lismore-South Lismore via East Lismore loop service)** - Additional three weekday and five Saturday trips enabling an hourly daytime frequency. Adjusted Saturday operating hours, with the first trip now starting short ex Lismore Town 08:06 and a later final trip ex Lismore Transit Centre 17:48 (shortworking to Lismore Town).

- **685 (Lismore-Goonellabah via Lismore Base Hospital & Lismore Heights)** - The timetable is no longer looped, with separate sections per direction.

An additional one weekday/five Saturday trips ex Lismore Town Centre to provide a fixed hourly daytime frequency and increased Saturday operating hours. Ex Goonellabah, there is more consistent spacing between weekday trips to provide an hourly daytime service frequency, and an additional four Saturday trips enable an hourly daytime service with an extra 30 minutes of services in the AM and PM. Transport for NSW advises that there should be improved connections with B-ConX at Goonellabah.

Meanwhile, the **B-ConX On Demand** service has its operating hours on Saturdays extended from 07:30-13:30 (Goonellabah area)/09:00-14:00 (Alstonville area) to now finish at 18:30, while it is now available on Sundays (operating 09:00-18:00).

According to Transport for NSW, these adjustments provide for "more bus services". *With HILAIRE FRASER, source TRANSPORT FOR NSW*

Queanbeyan network changes

Bus network changes, including two new bus routes, commenced operating across the greater Queanbeyan area from Monday 23 January, coinciding with a rebrand of Qcity Transit and Transborder Express buses, now known as 'CDC Canberra'. The timetables replace those dated variously between 2019 and 2021.

As part of its ongoing "Better Bus Services" program, Transport for NSW said in its announcement *"There will be more buses more often, faster and more direct routes, and new weekend services to connect you more reliably to where you need to go. The new bus network includes better cross-border connections with Canberra and the ACT, as well as improved services to Queanbeyan Station, Canberra Airport, Service NSW and TAFE. Every day, customers travelling from Jerrabomberra and Googong to Canberra will save up to an hour in journey time under the new changes, and residents in the growing suburb of Tralee will receive town bus services for the first time."*

New routes **840X (Googong-Canberra via Russell & Barton express)** and **844X (Bungendore-Canberra via Q'yan express)** provide direct peak hour services in/out of Canberra helping to reduce interchanging between buses.

Adjustments to pre-existing routes are as follows:

- **830 (Googong-Canberra City via Q'yan & Karabar)** - Route extended to Googong via Karabar, replacing old route 837. Googong residents now have access to direct trips into Canberra as well as improved weekend services. Also, trips now run via Wentworth Avenue, providing more direct services between Queanbeyan (hereby condensed into Q'yan) and Canberra.

Additional trips are scheduled for SSPHs to now provide an hourly service frequency. Weekday peak trips now extend to/from City West.

- **831 (Karabar-Woden via Q'yan & Fyshwick)** - Route extended to Karabar via Donald Road, replacing old route 839 and providing direct services without interchange for more people to access Canberra DFO and Hospital, and Woden. Patronage between Newcastle Street and Q'yan now instead captured by route 834.

Additional Saturday services, and the introduction of services on Sunday/ Public Holidays.

- **832 (Q'yan-East Q'yan)** - Additional weekday services to provide a two-hourly service, and the introduction of two-hourly services on Saturdays, and improved connections with routes 830, 831 and 834.
- **834 (Q'yan-Brindabella Business Park loop service)** - Additional weekday services, introduction of services on Saturdays, improved connections at Q'yan Interchange, and direct service via Canberra Airport.
- **835 (Q'yan-Tralee via Q'yan West) and 836 (Q'yan-Jerrabomberra loop service)** - Additional weekday trips, introduction of services on Saturdays, and improved connections with 830 and 831 buses to enable direct travel between Q'yan and Canberra. Route 835 extends to serve Tralee residential area, while the routes no longer provide combined services with each other to enable 835 to instead provide faster trips from Tralee to Q'yan via Jerrabomberra and Q'yan West, while 836 instead provides direct trips between Jerrabomberra and Q'yan.
- **838 (Q'yan-Oaks Estate loop service)** - Additional weekday trips, introduction of services on Saturdays, and improved connections with NSW TrainLink Regional trains at Q'yan station.
- **844 (Q'yan-Bungendore Elmslea Drive)** - Additional weekday trips, along with improved connections at Q'yan Interchange. Replaces the Bungendore LocalLink.

Withdrawn routes are 833X (replaced by additional 830 and new 844X services, while the new 840X may also cover some passengers between Googong, Jerrabomberra and Canberra), 837 (replaced by extended 830), and 839 (replaced by extended 831, while Cooma Street is instead serviced by 830).

The locality demand services have also been withdrawn. **Queanbeyan LocalLink** (D840) is instead covered by the enhanced 830, 831, 832, 835, 836 and 838 routes. **Bungendore LocalLink** (D841) is instead covered by the enhanced 844 and the new peak 844X.

There are no advertised changes for routes **842** (Yass-Canberra via Woden) and **843** (Yass-Canberra via Belconnen).

According to Transport for NSW, these adjustments provide for an additional 90 weekly trips for the area. *With HILAIRE FRASER and TRANSPORT FOR NSW*

Albury network changes

As part of the NSW state government's 'Better Bus Services' program, bus network changes for the border city of Albury commenced operating from Monday 23 January.

According to Transport for NSW's announcement, *"There will be more buses more often, faster and more direct routes, easier trips to Wodonga, and new weekend and Public Holiday services to connect you more reliably to where you need to go. The new bus network includes more services for growing suburbs, better connections between Thurgoona, Lavington, Albury and Wodonga, as well as improved services to Albury Station, Albury Base Hospital and Albury Airport."*

- **901 (Dean Street-West Albury & Albury Private Hospital)** - A more direct route with the introduction of five services operating on Sundays and Public Holidays (SPH), with service gaps ranging from 80 to 120 minutes.

The new timetable also appears to show a looped route, with the same origin and destination provided. The new timetable provides an extra weekday morning trip, some trip timing adjustments on all operating days and the final two weeknight services now only operate on Thursday and Friday nights (19:15 & 21:00 ex QEII Square).

- **902 (Dean Street-South Albury)** - Introduction of five trips on SPHs. The route also now operates via Albury station to provide "better opportunities to interchange" with NSW TrainLink Regional and V/Line train/coach services, while adding five to 10 minutes in end-to-end journey time.

The new timetable appears to show a looped service, with the same origin and destination at QEII Square. On weekdays, the first service, previously a shortworking, now operates along the whole route and operates 70 minutes earlier. The final two weeknight trips now only operate on Thursdays and Fridays.

- **903 (Dean Street-East Albury & Albury Base Hospital)** - Introduction of five trips on SPHs. A more direct route to improve travel times, and also now operates via Albury station to provide "better connections" with NSW TrainLink Regional and V/Line train/coach services.

On weekdays, the 18:30 ex QEII Square is withdrawn, while AM peak services are tripled with two new trips - 06:20 and 08:55 ex QEII Square. The final two weeknight trips now only operate on Thursdays and Fridays. Some Saturday trip times are adjusted by up to 35 mins.

- **906 (Lavington-Albury via North Albury)** - The route is more direct, providing better connections with services



Albury & Wodonga bus network map

Bus Route Index

New South Wales Services
For further information on these routes, including ticketing, visit transportnsw.info

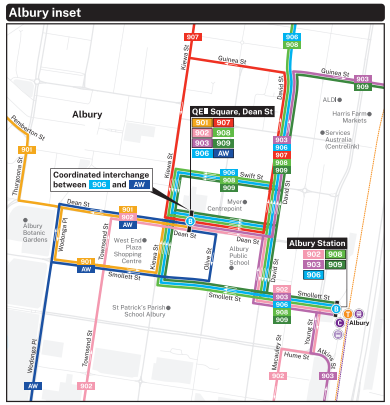
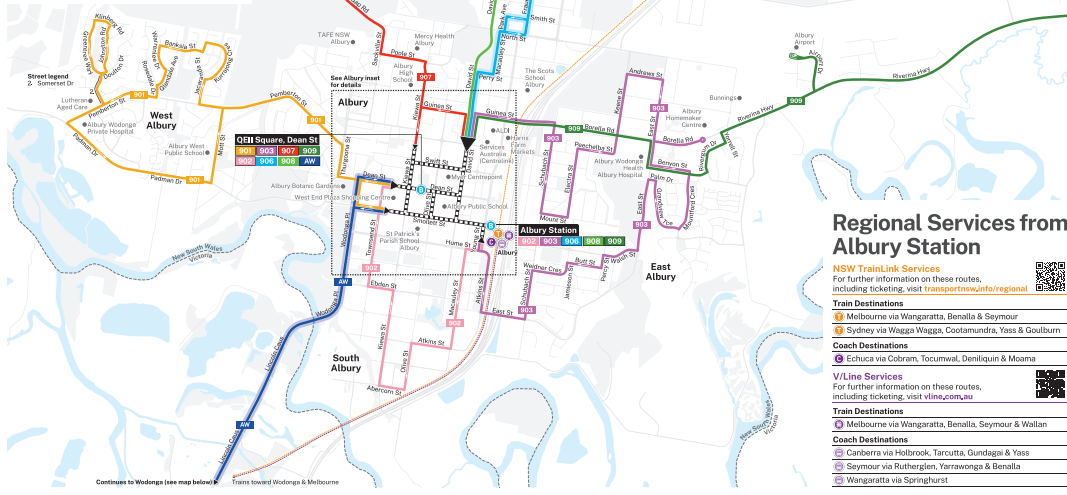
Dyson Group Routes

- 907 Albury to West Albury via Private Hospital
 - 908 Albury to South Albury
 - 909 Albury to East Albury via Albury Base Hospital
- Martin's Albury Routes**
- 904 Albury to Lavington via North Albury
 - 907 Albury to Quicks Hill via TAFE & Lavington
 - 908 Albury to Thurgoona via Lavington & University
 - 909 Albury to Thurgoona via Albury Base Hospital & Airport

Victoria Services
For further information on these routes, including ticketing, visit ptv.vic.gov.au

Dyson Group Routes

- AW Albury to Wodonga
- WWS Wodonga to Baranduda
- BWS Birrallee Village to Wodonga via Chiffley Street
- WWS Wodonga to Wodonga East
- WWS Wodonga to Birrallee Villages via Fallimber Creek Road
- WWS Wodonga to West Wodonga via Birrallee Village, Gayvies Drive, Mayfair Drive & Wodonga Plaza
- WWS Wodonga to West Wodonga via Wodonga Plaza, Mayfair Drive & Birrallee Village
- WWS Birrallee Village to West Wodonga via TAFE, University & Mayfair Drive
- WWS Wodonga to Wodonga South
- WWS Wodonga to West Wodonga via Wodonga Plaza, TAFE, University & Birrallee Village
- WWS Wodonga to Birrallee Village via Wodonga Plaza
- WS Saturday-only service (see inset)
- WS Saturday-only service (see inset)



Regional Services from Albury Station

NSW TrainLink Services
For further information on these routes, including ticketing, visit transportnsw.info/regional

Train Destinations

- Melbourne via Wangaratta, Benalla & Seymour
- Sydney via Wagga Wagga, Coolamburra, Yass & Goulburn

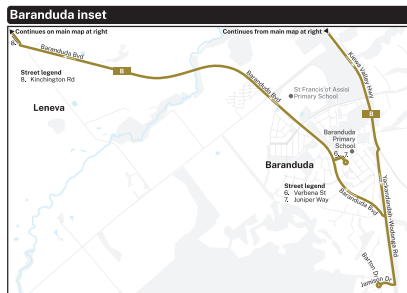
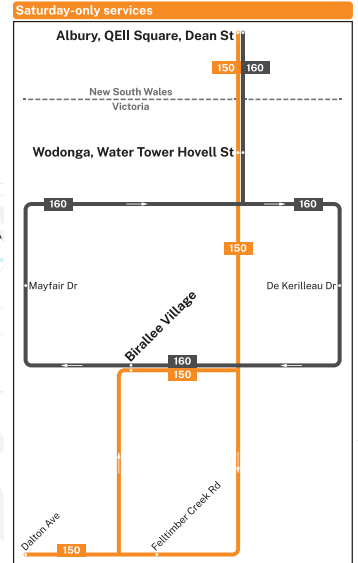
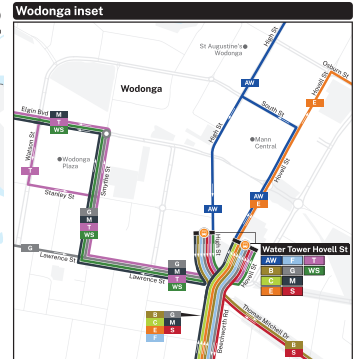
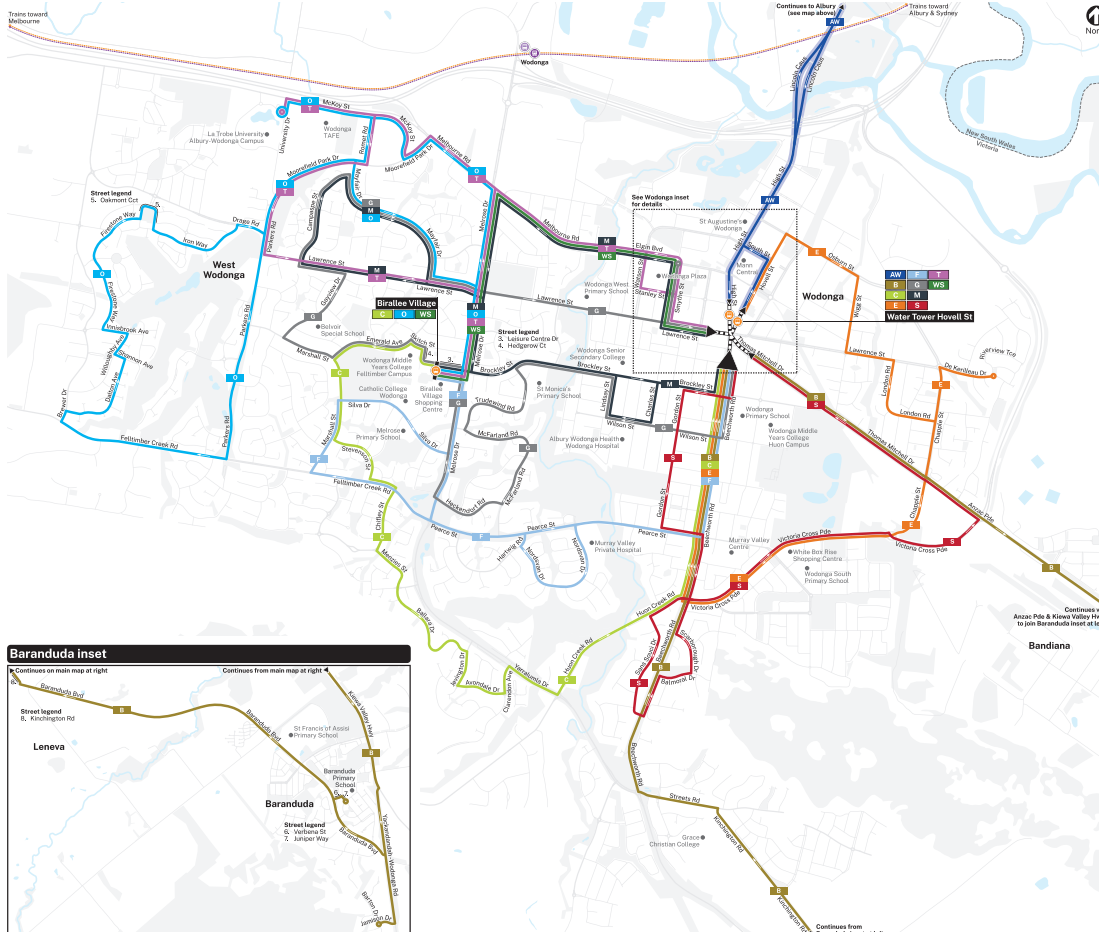
Coach Destinations

- Echuca via Cobram, Tocumwal, Deniliquin & Moama

V/Line Services
For further information on these routes, including ticketing, visit vline.com.au

Train Destinations

- Melbourne via Wangaratta, Benalla, Seymour & Wallan
- Canberra via Holbrook, Tarcutta, Gundagai & Yass
- Seymour via Rutherglen, Yarrawonga & Benalla
- Wangaratta via Springhurst



Legend

- Bus route
- Common bus route
- Bus interchange (NSW)
- Bus interchange (VIC)
- 30-minute weekday frequency
- Train line & station (NSW)
- Coach stop (NSW)
- Coach stop (VIC)
- Train line & station (VIC)
- Coach stop (VIC)

Plan your trip at transportnsw.info (New South Wales) & ptv.vic.gov.au (Victoria)

to/from Wodonga; and extends to Albury station to provide "better opportunities to interchange" with NSW TrainLink Regional and V/Line train/coach services.

Saturday operating hours are extended with three additional trips per direction for a consistent hourly service, while five trips per direction are introduced for SPHs (two-hourly frequency). Services on weekdays operate every 30 minutes courtesy of nine extra trips ex Albury and seven ex Lavington. Weekday services now commence almost three hours earlier ex Albury, and over an hour earlier ex Lavington.

- **907 (Glenrow & Quicks Hill-Albury via Lavington TAFE & Mercy Hospital)** - On weekdays, trips now operate to a consistent hourly frequency, while early AM peak trips are added with two additional trips ex Albury and one ex Lavington.

On Saturdays, an additional trip per direction enables a consistent hourly service throughout the day. On SPHs, four trips per direction are introduced for a two-hourly daytime frequency. SSPH services are potentially all operated by the one bus, with what are likely looped trips ex Albury.

- **908 (Thurgoona-Albury via CSU, Lavington & North Albury)** - The route is more direct to improve travel times, and it now operates via Albury station to provide "better connections" with NSW TrainLink Regional and V/Line train/coach services.

Trips on weekdays now operate to a mostly consistent hourly frequency, with one extra trip ex Albury and an extra three ex Thurgoona. The Thu/Fri 17:45 trip ex Albury departs a minute earlier, but now operates on all weekdays. On SPHs, four trips per direction are introduced providing a two-hourly daytime service. Daily, all trips run the entire route, with previously express/shortworking trips now instead operating along the entire route. Saturdays have an extra two trips ex Albury, and an extra three ex Thurgoona to enable a consistent hourly frequency without impacting the width of operating hours.

Most 908 buses ending at Thurgoona Plaza form route 909 services.

- **New route 909 (Thurgoona-Albury via Airport & Albury Base Hospital)** - The route services growing residential areas along Thurgoona Drive and Kerr Road, with hourly services Mondays to Saturdays and two-hourly on SPHs for a combined 154 new weekly services. Daily operating hours match those of other nearby routes.

Most 909 buses ending at Thurgoona Plaza form route 908 services.

The old route 909 (East Albury-Aware Industries Wodonga via Lavington & Albury), also operated by Martins Travel Group and consisting of one trip Mondays to Thursdays at 07:00, has been withdrawn.

Routes **904** (Albury-Wodonga) and **910** (Wodonga-Albury via Lavington) are not impacted.

The new Transport for NSW network map (page 8) provides a combined view for Albury and Wodonga services, with the websites for both NSW's transportnsw.info and Victoria's ptv.vic.gov.au provided at the bottom of the document. The previous map for routes 906-908 has been provided on the *Table Talk* Front Cover.

According to Transport for NSW, these adjustments provide for an extra 300 weekly trips for the area. **TRANSPORT FOR NSW**

NSW TrainLink coach trials extended

The following regional coach trials were extended by a further twelve months to now run until 30 June 2023:

- **Broken Hill-Adelaide** (Monday/Tuesday and Friday/Sunday return service)
- **Broken Hill-Mildura** (day return Wednesdays and Fridays)
- **Canberra-Goulburn** (day return weekdays)
- **Coffs Harbour-Forster** (day return on Fridays)

There is a 'Regional Coach Trials' webpage on the TransportInfo website, however the above four trials are not shown, only three trials from the Riverina/South-east Tablelands region are listed: Conargo-Echuca (**999**), Tumut-Wagga Wagga (**998**), and Wyangala-Canberra (**899**). A check of online trip planning data suggests that these three trials continue to operate, however the existing planned end date(s) has/have been unable to be identified by the Editor at the time of publication (the last known end dates were '998 - 23 June 2022'; '999 - end of 2021'; '899 - 24 June 2022'). **NSW TRAINLINK, TRANSPORT FOR NSW, MP WENDY TUCKERMAN**

Tamworth Country Music Festival

The Tamworth Country Music Festival returned to January, after being held in April last year (*Table Talk*, June 2022, p. 5). Buslines Group again provided extra bus services to transport patrons between Friday 13 January and Sunday 22 January. The Festival Express bus routes were:

- **3** Country Music (loop service)
- **4** Country Music (loop service)
- **5** City Lights (loop service)
- **6** Country Music (loop service)
- **430** Oxley Vale (loop service)
- **431** North & East (loop service)
- **433** South Tamworth 2 (loop service)
- **435** South Tamworth 1 (loop service)
- **428** Quirindi to Tamworth

- **428** Quirindi Town Loop (loop service)
- **443** Manilla to Tamworth
- **444** Bendemeer to Tamworth

Route 3-6, 430, 431, 433 and 435 trips were provided on a Tamworth Festival Timetable within a one-page timetable, while 428, 443 and 444 trips were provided on a Tamworth Rural Timetable within one page. A Tamworth Festival Map was also provided, using a UBD map of the city, with the Festival Timetable routes shown.

The Festival services ended early on Sunday 22nd at around 22:00 after the closing Concert In The Park event, while the Rural services did not operate on that day. **PAUL BROWN, HILAIRE FRASER, TRANSPORT FOR NSW, BUSLINES GROUP**



Adelaide: Selected service changes

From Monday 29 January, selected routes have updated timetables. Adelaide Metro advises that

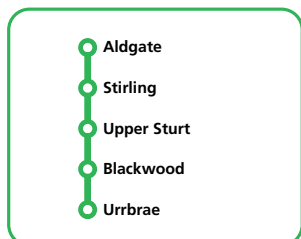
the changes are as follows:

- **202:** The 14:12 Wed and 15:09 Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri trips ex Walkleys Road no longer travel via Roma Mitchell Secondary College - the alternative is school bus 943.
- **682:** Timing adjustments to improve connections with trains at Hallett Cove Beach station.
- **719, 720, 721, T721, N721, 722 & T722:** More evenly timed services.
- **723F & 733:** More evenly timed services. The 733 trip ex Colonnades 15:40 now instead commences from Cardjin College at 15:33 on school days (except Wednesdays).
- **741, 750 & 751:** Timing adjustments to improve connections with trains at Seaford Interchange. The 750 07:05 trip ex Perth Street now extends to Colonnades (all days) and Cardjin College (school days only). The 750 15:50 trip ex Colonnades now instead commences from Cardjin College on school days (except Wednesdays) replacing school route 779. The 751 14:59 trip ex Noarlunga Hospital now instead starts from Cardjin College on Wednesdays only, replacing school route 779.

Routes 721, T721, N721, 722, T722, 723F, 733, **734, 741, 745, 747, 750 & 751** now depart from a different zone at Colonnades. **J7 & J8** have a minor route alteration around Marion Centre Interchange. Selected school bus routes

892
893
894

Effective 29 January 2023



- 892** Urrbrae to Aldgate
- 893** Aldgate to Blackwood
- 894** Aldgate to Blackwood



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Disclaimer
This timetable is correct at the time of publication. Adelaide Metro reserves the right to make amendments when necessary. Refer to adelaidemetro.com.au for latest timetable versions.



Is someone breaking the law on board?

See it?

REPORT IT!



Fast and anonymous
Your reports help make public transport safer for everyone

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Route descriptions

892 Urrbrae to Aldgate via Belair Road, Upper Sturt Road & Mount Barker Road. Service operates school days only.

893 Aldgate to Blackwood Station via Mount Barker Road, Upper Sturt Road & Main Road. Service operates Monday-Friday.

894 Aldgate, Stirling & Crafers West to Blackwood Station via Mount Barker Road, Upper Sturt Road & Hawthorndene Drive. Service operates Monday-Friday.
894H - via Heathfield. Service operates school days only.
894s - Blackwood Station to stop 36 Mount Barker Road, Stirling.

892 Timetable | V10 | 29-Jan-23

Bus routes 892-4 updated timetable front cover (source: Adelaide Metro).

also have some alterations. **HILAIRE FRASER**,
ADELAIDE METRO

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Lakelands bus services

In light of the upcoming opening of the new Lakelands railway station, located between Warnbro and Mandurah stations on the Mandurah line, Transperth has undertaken community consultation for Lakelands region bus services.

The **Transperth proposals** have been summarised by ATA member Hilaire Fraser as follows:

- 558 Rockingham-Mandurah would be split into new **558** Rockingham-Warnbro via Read St, new **574** Warnbro-Lakelands and new **585** Lakelands-Mandurah via Mandurah Rd.
- 559 Rockingham-Secret Harbour would be discontinued, with the **559** route number instead allocated to Rockingham-Warnbro via Willmott Drive, previously 562.
- **561** Rockingham-Secret Harbour West would become Warnbro-Secret Harbour West
- **577** Lakelands-Lakelands East would be a new route.
- **584** Mandurah-Madora Bay would be extended to Lakelands Station.
- **586** Mandurah-John Tonkin High School & Murdoch Uni would be extended to Lakelands Station via Meadow Springs, also replacing 587 Mandurah-Lakelands.
- 587 Mandurah station-Lakelands would also be discontinued.

Report by **HILAIRE FRASER**, source **TRANSPERTH**

Perth: Timetable adjustments

From Sunday 29 January, the following services had timing adjustments to selected trips:

24, 83, 85, 96, 111, 114, 115, 148, 158, 160, 210, 211, 219, 220, 233, 254, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 290, 291, 344, 347, 371, 376, 378, 402, 407, 421, 423, 425, 441, 442, 444, 447, 465, 466, 467, 483, 518, 523, 555, 558, 565, 569, 584, 587, 910, 940, and **998.**

In addition, Transperth says that route **512** has undergone both timing and route changes.
TRANSPERTH

NEW ZEALAND



Wellington: Reduced timetable

Some Wellington and Porirua bus routes ran to the Saturday timetable on weekdays during January.

In a statement, Metlink said it had done this "to give customers certainty because of the national bus driver shortage, and at a time when many of us, including drivers, are taking leave. The reduced schedules will help operators meet demand and minimise unplanned cancellations."

The exceptions to this rule were routes **13, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 12e, 30x, 31x, 52, 56, 57, 58, 60** and **60e** which maintained their weekday timetables throughout January. Meanwhile, routes **26, 39, 32x, 81** and **84** were suspended outright during this period.

Hospital Express services only operated for weekday morning services. A special shuttle service operated between Houghton Bay and Island Bay for AM and PM peak periods to a 10-minute service frequency. **After Midnight** services, which operate late Friday and Saturday nights, were not impacted.

Regular weekday timetables across the network were planned to resume on Monday 30 January.

*Update: Route 26 services returned to the full timetable on 16 January, while some route 32x trips operated on weekday mornings in the later weeks, although these were not reflected in real-time data. Metlink also said that they had some other extra trips operating dependant on driver availability. Source supplied by **ANDREW JAMES**, source **RADIO NEW ZEALAND, METLINK***

ENDS

FERRY & SHIP NEWS

NEW SOUTH WALES



F3 Parramatta: Temporary alterations

F3 Parramatta ferry services (Parramatta-Circular

Quay) will only operate between Rydalmere and Circular Quay from Thursday 2 February until Thursday 30 March for Alfred Street bridge works being undertaken by the local council.

Replacement bus route 60F3 will again be operated by CDC Hillsbus to operate between Parramatta and Rydalmere to link with the truncated ferry service during this time.

TRANSPORT FOR NSW

New Lane Cove contract awarded

Existing operator, Captain Cook Cruises has been awarded a new 15-year contract to operate the Lane Cove ferry service. Under the contract, which commenced from 1 January, the operator will at some stage begin providing one additional peak service while there will be some integration with Opal network ticketing, although this has yet to be clarified. **TRANSPORT FOR NSW**

NEW ZEALAND



Wellington: Route changes

Metlink announced that from Sunday 29 January, the Wellington Harbour Ferry (Queens Wharf-Days Bay - some direct, others via Somes Island) will be split into three new distinct routes:

- **QDF** - Queens Wharf to Days Bay Ferry
- **QMF** - Queens Wharf to Matiu/Somes Island Ferry
- **DMF** - Days Bay to Matiu/Somes Island Ferry

Metlink said in its announcement that the change "makes it easier to accommodate seasonal changes in visitor-centred services with lesser effect on the timetable for the regular commuter route across the harbour. This change will also make it easier to add other ferry routes and timetables in the future."

Metlink said an extra QDF route trip now operates on weekdays, while a new trial 20:00 Friday sailing has also been added. Trips to Somes Island also now operate more frequently on weekdays, with trips increased from every 120 mins to now run every 90 mins. **METLINK**

ENDS

AIR NEWS

DOMESTIC



Bonza gears up

After multiple delays, new budget-fare start-up, Bonza has received its Air Operator Certificate from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.

In what was meant to be a 2022 launch, it was pushed back until the necessary regulatory approvals were received.

The airline plans to deliver short-haul flights at an average of \$50 and longer-haul flights averaging \$75-100 per ticket. It will fly along 25 routes reaching 16 destinations across the country using its new Boeing 737 Max-8s, which it says will make them the first commercial airline to use that model in the country.

With joint bases at Melbourne Airport and the Sunshine Coast (in Queensland), the cities it will fly between are Albury, Avalon (in Melbourne's outskirts), Bundaberg, Cairns, Coffs Harbour, Gladstone, Mackay, Melbourne, Mildura, Newcastle, Port Macquarie, Rockhampton, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba Wellcamp, Townsville and the Whitsunday Coast. It says 80 per cent of its routes are currently not served by the airline industry (consisting of Qantas, Jetstar, Virgin and Regional Express).

Dismissing profitability concerns from other industry players, the airline's chief executive, Tim Jordan, said the superior fuel economy of the aircraft would reduce fuel costs, and it was also going to operate with "a 'new route' model with most services flying two, three or four times a week. We're about stimulating a new market, not taking market away". He said the airline's target market is "tradies, teachers, kids and carers", primarily competing with car travel, rather than other airlines.

"We will give Aussies more options at ultra-low fares to explore their own backyard. With destinations ranging from Albury to the Whitsundays, travellers will now be able to fly, instead of impossibly long road trips as well as fly direct without a stopover in a major city. Aussies can look forward to enjoying more time at their destination and spending less of their hard-earned cash getting there in the first place."

Tim Jordan, Bonza CEO

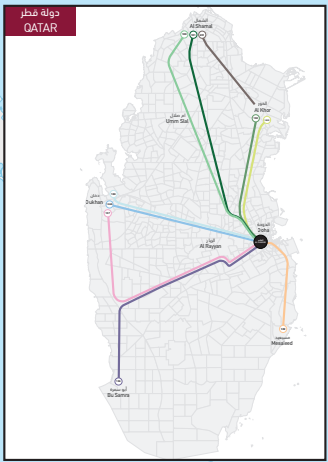
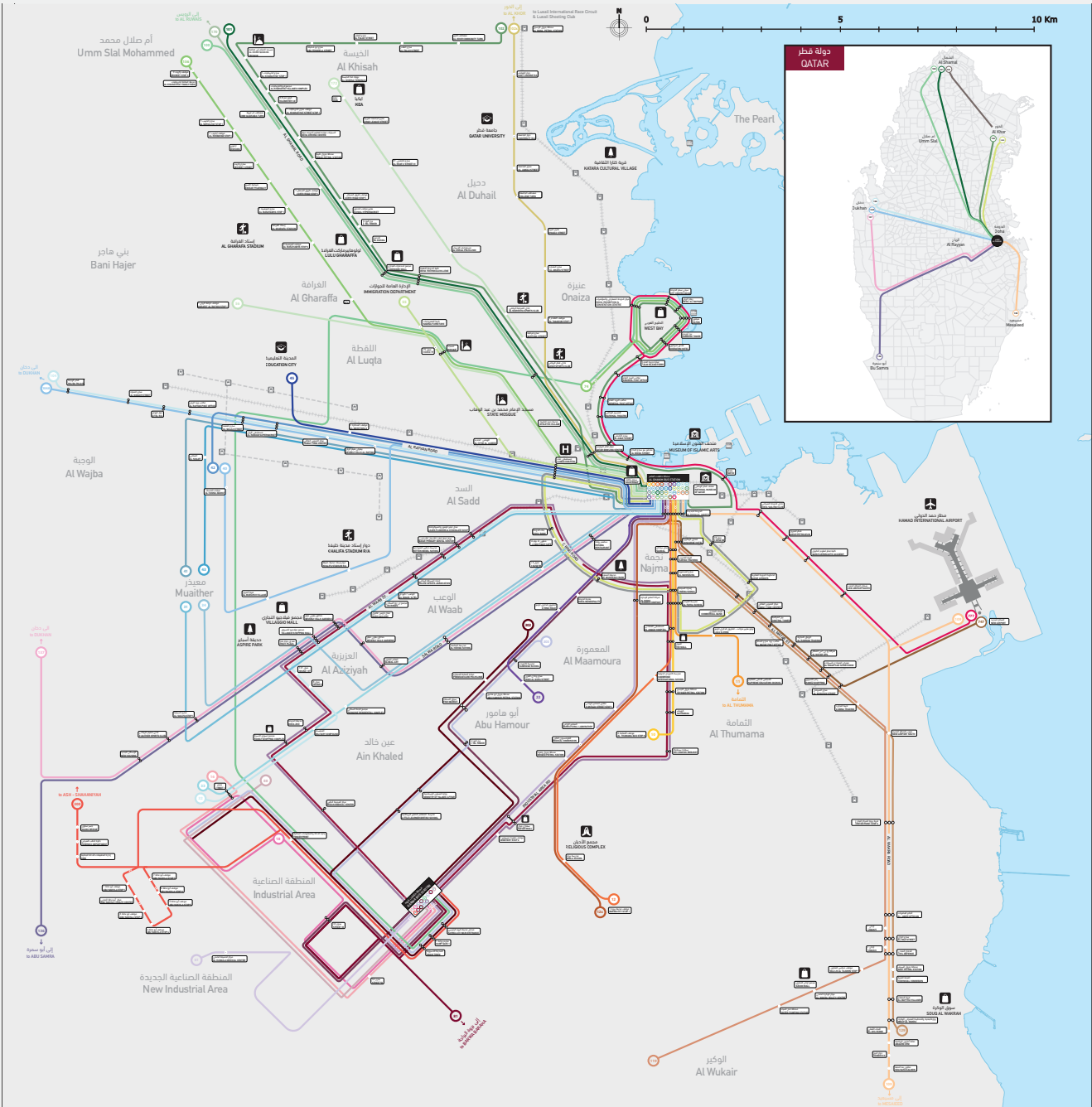
The airline is backed by American disruptive equity player '777 Partners'. According to 777 Partners, certain segments of the industry have consistently overperformed while others underperform - "Our aviation strategy focuses on disruption and value creation in those areas where profitability and unit economics are proven through the business cycle, and where our

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حافلات النقل العام المشغلة من قبل شركة مواصلات
PUBLIC BUSES OPERATED BY MOWASALAT

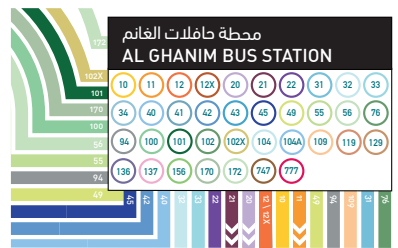


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R16	R43	R102	R201
R18	R45	R102X	R300
R20	R49	R104	R301
R21	R55	R106A	R302
R22	R56	R109	R303
R31	R61	R119	R304
R32	R74	R129	R747
R33	R81	136	R777

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Bus Stop
- محطات تغيير مسارات
Transfer Stops
- خط ترام
Tram Line
- مطار
Airport
- محطة العبارة
Ferry Station
- مستشفى
Hospital
- مسجد
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- مترو
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integration of airlines, technology and aircraft give us a real advantage over our competitors." *SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, AUSTRALIAN AVIATION, 777 PARTNERS*

ENDS

ODD SPOT

A report of a recent trip by train from Melbourne to Sydney by a traveller who doesn't normally travel by train.

Thought I would go by train from Yea to Sydney. Train stops at Seymour - much easier than driving to Tullamarine to go by plane.

All went well till Cootamundra where we stopped for a while - walked around the station when the loudspeaker told us than we had a small

malfunction with the motor.

Another 10 minutes the message was - we have lost the front motor.

Next message 20 minutes later - we have lost the back motor too.

Next 20 minutes - we are going to bus you to Sydney.

Next 20 minutes - unfortunately - we can't find any buses.

Next 20 minutes - we have found buses but they are 3 hours away.

Next 20 minutes - we have found the buses but can't find any drivers.

3 hours later the buses arrived with drivers but not decent touristy buses - school buses!!

So, the next 5 hours on a school bus was not pretty.

Tis funny now - but not then.

Supplied by LEN REGAN

Front Cover: Previous bus map for Martin's Travel Group route services 906-908 in Albury (Martin's Travel Group). Item 'Albury network changes' on pages **7-9**.

About Table Talk

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