

Essential maintenance on the Brighton Main Line this weekend

October 28, 2021



Passengers travelling between Three Bridges and Gatwick Airport are advised to check before they travel this weekend as Network Rail continues work on a major upgrade of the Brighton Main Line.

Network Rail are upgrading the line between Three Bridges and Gatwick Airport which will improve track and signalling and provide faster and more reliable journeys on the Brighton Main Line.

While this essential work takes place, a limited train service will be running between these stations on the following weekends:

- Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 October
- Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 November
- Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 November

Passengers are advised to plan their journeys, as no Southern services will run between Three Bridges and Gatwick Airport on these dates. One Thameslink service each way per hour will run between Brighton and London, with an additional service each way every two hours.

A limited replacement bus service between Three Bridges and Gatwick Airport will supplement the reduced train service.

Katie Frost, Sussex route director for Network Rail, said: "I'm sorry for the disruption to passengers' journeys from this work, but only by doing this kind of job can we continue to offer reliable journeys for passengers. I'd encourage passengers to take every opportunity to plan for their journey to make sure they can get to their destinations on time or make alternative arrangements."

David Coates, Govia Thameslink Railway's head of customer service improvement, said: "Service changes and reductions on these weekends will mean that most journeys through Gatwick Airport and Three Bridges stations will take considerably longer than normal, so we are encouraging customers to check service routes and times, and plan ahead before they travel. Together with Network Rail, we thank our customers for their patience during this vital work."

Additionally, all lines between Three Bridges and Brighton, Lewes and Hove will be closed on Saturday 13 November. This is to allow Network Rail to carry out routine maintenance work.

Train service changes on the Brighton Main Line – details

On the weekends of 30/31 October, 6/7 November and 20/21 November, a very limited train service will operate between Three Bridges and Gatwick Airport:

- One Thameslink service will run between Brighton and London each hour in each direction, supplemented with another service in each direction every two hours
- No Southern services will run between Three Bridges and Gatwick Airport
- Services from Littlehampton via Hove, and from Eastbourne via Lewes, will be altered and will terminate at Three Bridges; Southern services from Victoria, and a reduced Thameslink service from London Bridge will terminate at Gatwick Airport
- A limited replacement bus service will supplement the reduced Thameslink service between Three Bridges and Gatwick Airport; journey planners will show the best option for each journey
- Southern services to/from Southampton/Portsmouth/Bognor Regis via Horsham will be diverted at Horsham to run non-stop via Dorking to/from London Victoria
- Thameslink will provide a shuttle service between Three Bridges and Horsham

On Saturday 13 November:

- Southern and Thameslink services will be reduced and amended
- Southbound trains will terminate at Three Bridges or Haywards Heath, or be diverted via Littlehampton
- Replacement buses will run between Three Bridges and Brighton/Lewes

Photo credit: Network Rail