

Autism Friendly Route Guide

Manchester Piccadilly to Birmingham New Street

Our Trains

All our trains are diesel powered; this means they may be slightly noisier than an electric train. The type of train you'll be travelling on is called a Voyager: -

- Formed of four or five coaches and sometimes coupled together to give longer trains.
- Voyager trains operate most of our long-distance services.
- You can explore our Voyager fleet through our virtual tour [here](#).

Announcements and Tones

All our announcements are preceded by a high-pitched tone, these announcements are most likely to take place after the train has just left the station, or just before it arrives. Our crew call is announced by three rising tones, this is nothing to worry about and just means our team want to speak to each other.

Tunnels

Tunnels can cause a sensory change including: -

- Increasing the noise inside the carriage.
- Darkening the carriage (interior lights will remain on).
- The air pressure may change within the carriage; however this will be minimal.

To help you plan and prepare for your journey, outlined below are the time taken to arrive at the tunnel from the previous station, and how long it'll take to get through.

Non-stopping stations

Your train will pass through some smaller stations which can create a noise and pressure change. These stations will take less than a minute to pass so below is outlined the time taken to get to each of those stations from the previous station.

Further Support

If you'd like any further information, help or support, please contact our customer relations team:-

**Our
Values**



We care
passionately




We make the
difference



We do the
right thing

crosscountry





You can contact us via:

Freephone: 0800 030 9224 – Live BSL interpretation is available through this [link](#)

Textphone: 0800 030 9230

Lines are open 24 hours a day (except Christmas Day and Boxing Day)

E-mail: customer.relations@crosscountrytrains.co.uk

We aim to respond within 10 working days

Website: crosscountrytrains.co.uk

X/Twitter: [@crosscountryuk](https://twitter.com/crosscountryuk)

Our social media team are available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day (except Christmas Day and Boxing Day)

Normally, the CrossCountry Customer Relations team will respond to customers in writing, and if requested to do so will reply in large print, by telephone, textphone, or in any common audio format.

A full autism friendly guide on travelling by train more generally is available from network rail [here](#)

How to use this guide

This guide will allow you to track your journey against sensory changes, detailing stations you'll be stopping at, stations you'll pass without stopping and tunnels you'll go through along with a time since the last station stop, so you can time and prepare your journey. Any changes to this will be announced by your train crew. Stations you'll be stopping at are highlighted in **bold** and non-stopping stations will be in normal type text. Tunnels will be underlined, larger viaducts and other features of significance will be in *italics*. Disruption may change routes and timings, information about disruption on our routes can be found [here](#)

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Feature	Time since Last Stop	Duration	Type
Manchester Piccadilly			Station Stop
Levenshulme	00:07		Non-Stopping Station
Heaton Chapel	00:08		Non-Stopping Station
Stockport	00:10		Station Stop
<i>Stockport Viaduct</i>	<i>00:01</i>	<i>00:01</i>	<i>Viaduct</i>
Cheadle Hulme	00:03		Non-Stopping Station
Bramhall	00:05		Non-Stopping Station
Poynton	00:06		Non-Stopping Station
Adlington	00:08		Non-Stopping Station
<u>Prestbury Tunnel (273 yards)</u>	<u>00:09</u>	<u>00:01</u>	<u>Tunnel</u>
Prestbury	00:09		Non-Stopping Station
<u>Macclesfield Hibel Tunnel (343 yards)</u>	<u>00:11</u>	<u>00:01</u>	<u>Tunnel</u>
Macclesfield	00:12		Station Stop
Congleton	00:07		Non-Stopping Station
Kidsgrove	00:10		Non-Stopping Station
<u>Harecastle Tunnel (343 yards)</u>	<u>00:12</u>	<u>00:01</u>	<u>Tunnel</u>
Longport	00:13		Non-Stopping Station
Stoke-on-Trent	00:16		Station Stop
Wedgwood	00:05		Non-Stopping Station
Barlaston	00:05		Non-Stopping Station
Stone	00:08		Non-Stopping Station
Stafford	00:15		Station Stop
Penkridge	00:06		Non-Stopping Station
Wolverhampton	00:13		Station Stop
Coseley	00:06		Non-Stopping Station
Tipton	00:08		Non-Stopping Station
Dudley Port	00:09		Non-Stopping Station
Sandwell & Dudley	00:10		Non-Stopping Station
Smethwick Galton Bridge	00:12		Non-Stopping Station
Smethwick Rolfe Street	00:12		Non-Stopping Station
<u>Arena Tunnel (176 yards)</u>	<u>00:15</u>	<u>00:01</u>	<u>Tunnel</u>
<u>Birmingham New Street North Tunnel (751 yards)</u>	<u>00:16</u>	<u>00:01</u>	<u>Tunnel</u>
Birmingham New Street	00:17		Station Stop