

## Train Travel this weekend (24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August)

The following information is of importance to anyone attending the World Transplant Games in NewcastleGateshead and planning to **travel between Newcastle and London on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> or Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019.**

Unfortunately, major engineering works over the weekend at London Kings Cross station are causing significant disruption to train services between Newcastle and London. The main train operator between Newcastle and London – London North Eastern Railway (LNER) – is advising customers not to travel on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August or Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August; they are also advising that services on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August will be severely disrupted – with diversions and bus replacement coaches in operation

If you are booked to travel on an LNER train on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August or Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August, you have the following options:

You can **use your LNER tickets to travel by train via an alternative route** (eg. Newcastle to London St Pancras) but please note that there are no direct services and you will need to change en-route at Sheffield, Derby or Chesterfield. Should you decide to travel by train we **strongly recommend that you book seat reservations** as these alternative routes will be exceptionally busy. Availability and pricing can be found at [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk), the official source for UK train times and fares.

- Alternatively you can **claim a ticket refund** at [www.lner.co.uk/customer-service/refunds/](http://www.lner.co.uk/customer-service/refunds/) and **make alternative travel arrangements**. For example you could choose to:
- **Fly from Newcastle to London Heathrow with British Airways**. There are 2 flights on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August (6:05 & 19:50), 4 flights on Sunday (6:05, 11:25, 16:25, 20:30) and 5 flights on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August (7:00, 9:20, 14:25, 18:10, 21:00). Please book soon to ensure availability at [www.britishairways.com](http://www.britishairways.com).
- **Travel by coach from Newcastle to Central London and Heathrow with National Express**. Please visit [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com) for availability and pricing.
- **Hire a car from one of several car rental companies** based in Newcastle city centre or at the airport. Please visit: [www.enterprise.co.uk](http://www.enterprise.co.uk), [www.avis.co.uk](http://www.avis.co.uk), [www.hertz.co.uk](http://www.hertz.co.uk), [www.europcar.co.uk](http://www.europcar.co.uk) or visit [www.parkerschauffeurs.com](http://www.parkerschauffeurs.com) for a **chauffeur driven car**.

For those who have **not yet made any travel arrangements** and are still planning to travel over the weekend, we **strongly recommend that you book your transport as soon as possible**. Please see the options listed above.

**Should you wish to seek advice or help with making your train travel arrangements, please contact The Travel Bureau, the official travel partner for the World Transplant Games 2019:**

**[wtg2019@travelb.co.uk](mailto:wtg2019@travelb.co.uk) or 0344 847 5004.**

**This must be done before 1600 on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August.**