



Back-on-Track.eu

European network to promote
cross-border night trains

FOR A VIABLE EUROPEAN NIGHT TRAIN NETWORK

Back-on-Track is committed to more, better, and more affordable night trains, which are by far the most climate-friendly way to travel long distances across Europe comfortably.

☑ **FOR THE CLIMATE**

28x less greenhouse gas emissions than
from airplanes

☑ **FOR PASSENGERS**

Reaching your destination overnight saves
time and accommodation costs

☑ **WHAT WE WANT**

0% VAT on international train tickets
as is already the case for flights

Fewer required track access charges
make longer routes profitable

WHY WE NEED MORE NIGHT TRAINS



- Trains are the most climate-friendly mode of transport. Actual greenhouse gas emissions are 28 times higher for air travel than for long-distance trains (EU average for the same journey, according to figures from the International Energy Agency, 2019).
- The aviation lobby promotes "green" flying, but sustainable aviation fuels will remain very limited in supply for the foreseeable future and require extremely high amounts of energy to produce. And even with – theoretically – 100% sustainable fuels, flying remains many times more harmful to the climate due to other effects (e.g., cloud formation in the atmosphere).

Night trains: a solution to replace medium-haul flights

For most short- and medium-haul flights, night trains are a better alternative to spending many hours on a train during the day. An overnight stay in comfortable carriages saves time and hotel costs.

We advocate for a Europe-wide network of night trains as an alternative to flying. According to our study, this would save 3% of the EU's gross climate emissions. Routes of over 2,000 km are also realistic if the trains use existing high-speed lines.

Our long-term goal

We want trains that are cheaper than planes. International air travel is exempt from most taxes, especially VAT and kerosene tax. Trains, on the other hand, which even generate energy and VAT revenues, have to partially refinance their infrastructure.

Without countermeasures, emissions from European air travel will continue to rise by around 3% annually. Even with a lower growth rate, air travel alone is expected to emit more greenhouse gases than any other sector by 2040.



LET'S BRING NIGHT TRAINS BACK ON TRACK

We therefore demand **an end to the tax advantages enjoyed by air travel over rail travel**. Environmentally friendly travel should be cheaper than flying!

About

Back-on-Track is an independent, volunteer-run network with groups in 12 countries. We advocate for a European night train network – with attractive and affordable connections as a genuine alternative to air travel.

At the European level, Back-on-Track AISBL is organised as an association based in Brussels. Back-on-Track Germany and Back-on-Track Switzerland are registered non-profit organisations; the group in Austria is currently working towards this status.

Join us

We would be delighted if you became a member of the corresponding association in your home country and actively supported us in bringing more night trains back to the tracks. You can also support Back-on-Track at the European level.



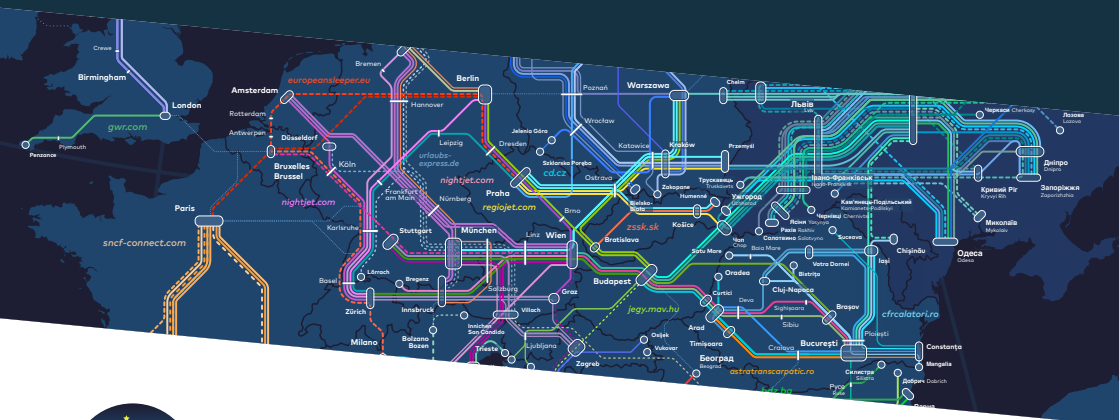
back-on-track.eu/groups

Night Train Map

For planning your own trips across Europe, we recommend our night train map with all connections. The online version is always up-to-date with further details about the trains and booking options. It is also available as a printed A2 poster!



back-on-track.eu/night-train-map



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