



Lochaber Transport Forum

Co-chruinneachadh mu ghoireasan - siubhail Lochabair

Public & Community Transport Updates

Updated 25th May 2020

All operators are asking the public to only make journeys which are absolutely necessary. Here are some details of changes, please check timetables online before you travel.

West Coast Motors have made recent changes to the 918 service from Oban to Fort William, see below.

Shiel Buses have provided an update from 30th April, see below.

The passenger ferry from Fort William to Camusnagaul are adjusting their timetable weekly to suit passengers who require essential travel. See below for details.

ScotRail have cut journeys on the West Highland Line. See below for more details.

Corran Ferry is now operating again to the regular timetable after a recent breakdown. Essential travel restrictions are still in place.

There are changes with the Citylink 919 Fort William/Inverness service from 13th April, see below.

There are recent changes with ScotRail who have improved travel options on the West Highland Lines at very short notice from 30th March. See below for more detail.

Details for the Caledonian Sleeper Train and the Jacobite Steam Train have been added below.

The Highland Council now have a helpline available. The single line number – 0300 303 1362 – will connect callers to relevant Council specialist teams and will operate Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. All calls are free. See more here - <https://www.highland.gov.uk/>

Public Transport

Buses/coaches

Shiel Buses have issued an update from 30th April. They would prefer fares are paid by Contactless cards. However, they have re-introduced their Smart Card which can be purchased for £1 from the driver and then topped up with £10, £20 £30, £40 or £50. The card can be used each time you travel and until you need to top up again.

NHS and Care Workers can travel free by showing an ID card to the driver. Check all details on their website - <http://shielbuses.co.uk/covid-19-timetable-changes>

Citylink are continuing to provide one trip each way daily between Glasgow and Skye via Fort William. From 13th April there will be just one round trip between Fort William and Inverness

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Monday to Sunday (seven days per week). This departs Fort William at 12.00 and departs Inverness at 17.15. Updated timetables are available here - <https://www.citylink.co.uk/serviceupdates.php>
Tickets can still be booked online.

West Coast Motors have changed the 918 service between Oban and Fort William. The 918 only operates between Duror and Fort William but connects with the 405 to provide a full service. To connect with the 918 in Duror take the 405 departing Oban at 09.40. The return departs Fort William at 13.30 then change in Duror. The 918 does not show as a full Oban/Fort William service when using the Journey Planner. You can see a fuller list of their changes here - <https://www.westcoastmotors.co.uk/services>

Stagecoach doesn't operate locally but have made major timetable changes in other places, see here - <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/>

Ferries

Corran Ferry has been repaired and is now operating again to the regular timetable. Essential travel restrictions are still in place. You can also check ferry updates here - <https://twitter.com/CorranFerry>

All ferries are operating very restricted services for essential journeys only. You can see specific details at these websites;
<https://www.calmac.co.uk/>
https://www.highland.gov.uk/homepage/62/corran_ferry
<https://westernislescruises.co.uk/>

The latest update from The Fort William/Camusnagaul Ferry is;

Our timetable for the week starting **25.05.2020**

Mondays	Depart Fort William	no crossings	
	Depart Camusnagaul	no crossings	
Tuesdays	Depart Fort William	10.30	
	Depart Camusnagaul	10.15	
Wednesday	Depart Fort William		16.15
	Depart Camusnagaul		16.30
Thursday	Depart Fort William	10.00 11.20	16.15
	Depart Camusnagaul	10.15 11.30	16.30
Friday	Depart Fort William		16.15
	Depart Camusnagaul		16.30

There are no crossings on Saturdays or Sundays

Call 07468417137 to book essential travel.

Trains

ScotRail have cut back journeys on the West Highland Line. When booking, the Journey Planner shows the 08.23 and 12.24 from Glasgow to Mallaig. There is only the 06.03 from Mallaig to Glasgow. There is an 11.40 from Fort William to Glasgow.

There is only one Sunday service in each direction, departing Glasgow at 12.20 and departing Mallaig at 10.08. There is a service at 12.12 from Fort William to Mallaig and at 18.15 from Mallaig to Fort William.

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For ScotRail journeys see - www.Scotrail.co.uk click on the Changes to Train Service box or the Covid-19 Travel Advice box, click on Revised Timetable and scroll down list of journey changes. The Revised Timetable document shows a 16.05 from Mallaig to Glasgow but this is not available on the Journey Planner.

The Caledonian Sleeper Train has a revised timetable. There is no service to/from Fort William. The service is still operating to/from Inverness so travel from Kingussie, Newtonmore and Dalwhinnie is still possible. Connections with the sleeper in Glasgow or Edinburgh can also be made with ScotRail via the West Highland Line. See the full changes here - <https://www.sleeper.scot/timetable/covid-19-timetable-updates/>

The Jacobite Steam Train have delayed the start of their summer season from Fort William to Mallaig. Their website says they will operate from 1st May. It may need to be reviewed again, keep up to date with details here - <https://westcoastrailways.co.uk/>

Community Transport

Both the Community Car Scheme and Lochaber Action on Disability have reduced their services though are still available to help.

Non-essential journeys for outings/social groups, hairdressing appointments, etc. have been stopped. Shopping trips have also stopped. Both groups are helping their registered clients by shopping and delivering goods. They can also collect prescriptions and provide transport for urgent health centre appointments. If you are having difficulties due to a lack of transport options contact details are;

Lochaber Community Car Scheme – 01397 701222

Lochaber Action on Disability – 01397 701171

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