

About the Severn Tunnel

The Severn Tunnel is a main part of the railway between England and South Wales, with around 200 trains a day passing through it.

The tunnel, which is 7km long, was built by the Great Western Railway between 1873 and 1886. It was the longest mainline railway tunnel in the UK until 2007, only to be superseded by the opening of a new section of line between the Channel Tunnel and London St Pancras International.

With the Severn Estuary above, ground water is continuously drained between the tracks before being pumped to the surface. Around 50 million litres of fresh spring water is pumped every day from the tunnel and released back into the estuary - equal to 20 Olympic size swimming pools.

New trains are on the way

From summer 2017 our new Super Express Trains will start to be introduced to the Great Western network. These trains, which can use both electric and diesel power, will have up to 10 carriages, vastly improving the capacity between London Paddington and South Wales - up to a 27% increase in standard seats per train.



Upgrading the Severn Tunnel

**Monday 12 September to
Friday 21 October 2016**



From Monday 12 September to Friday 21 October 2016 the Severn Tunnel will be closed. This will result in no trains between Patchway and Severn Tunnel Junction, with London services diverted and buses replacing trains between Newport and Bristol.

This is for Network Rail to electrify the Severn Tunnel, and the Patchway Tunnels.

More information can be found at
GWR.com/SevernTunnel2016



