

Take off with the train

An efficient rail link has been opened in northern Italy to serve the new Malpensa airport near Milan.

Air Europa gave the new airport line a healthy welcome by offering free train tickets to its passengers. Unlike Heathrow Express, the Malpensa Express seems much more use because it forms part of a network – and is a lot cheaper.

A return ticket costs only £6, compared to Heathrow Express's £22 for a shorter journey.

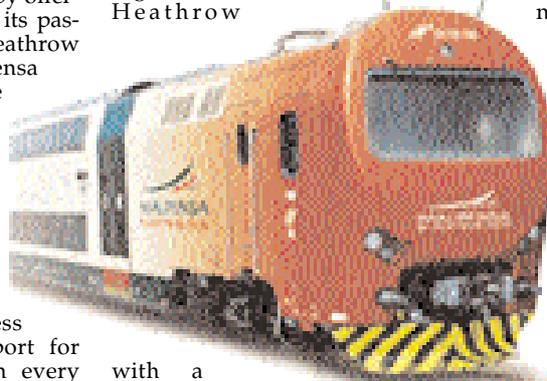
The Malpensa Express departs from the airport for Milan Cadorna station every half an hour and the travelling time is 40 minutes.

But it also stops en route at the Politechnic station to allow people to change to other trains.

By contrast Gatwick Express sails straight through Clapham Junction which offers a rich choice of onward connections.

Alitalia, BA and KLMuk all fly

to Malpensa directly from London airports, Crossair advertise flights from London City airport with a change at Basle, and Luxair advertise flights from Heathrow



with a change at Luxembourg.

More information on the Malpensa line at <http://www.ferrovienord.it/webmvp/ing/index.html>

Throughout Europe the development of railways continues apace but in America, the election of President George W

Bush is bringing back the road lobby close to decision making. The National Association of Railroad Passengers is already getting worried by hostile noises coming from the new Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta who has suggested that Amtrak should cut back its services to save money.

NARP points out that passenger services in America are already sparse. It says that because of the need to connect, cutting individual long-distance routes cuts revenue quicker than it cuts costs.

NARP calls for greater investment as a way to make Amtrak more relevant and useful, pointing out that the federal government currently invests virtually nothing to match state money.

More information on NARP: <http://www.narprail.org>

AIRPORT LINKS: New trains but high fares in Britain

SYNTAXIS
VIDEO EDITING & PRODUCTION

AVID OFFLINE/ONLINE
Award winning editors available or dry hire on site

*Attractive suites * Reasonable rates*
** 10% discount for rail companies and Railfuture members **

Library of modern railway and aviation footage

Avid familiarisation courses also available

www.syntaxisvideo.demon.co.uk

020 7278 3803
Kings Cross/St. Pancras

HAVE THEY DONE WELL?

Have They Done Well?
40-page illustrated reopenings book £3.95

Rail and the Environment.
First in new series of fact sheets

Funding Rail Projects. Second in new series of fact sheets
£1.75 each or both for £2.50.

All prices include postage.
If using a credit card, please send your card number, expiry date and name as it is on your card

Orders and enquiries to Phil Morris (Railfuture Sales),
113b Pembroke Road, Clifton,
Bristol BS8 3EU.
Fax 0117 973 4274

Email queries:
rdsbooksales@lineone.net