

HS2 is a new high speed railway that will form the backbone of Britain's rail network. HS2 will run between London and Birmingham from 2026, extend to Crewe by 2027 and then link to Manchester and Leeds from 2033.

Trains will continue on up the East and West Coast Main Lines, serving towns and cities in the north of England and Scotland. This will provide millions of people with access to the new high speed network.

HS2 will help unlock Britain's economic potential by bridging geographic divides and delivering a better connected and more balanced economy. It will provide more capacity for local, regional and freight services on existing lines, relieving congestion and providing people with better travel options.

Towns, cities and regions across Britain are planning to use the arrival of HS2 services as a catalyst for growth, with schemes to regenerate urban areas, create jobs and provide greater opportunities for local people.

HS2 services in Leeds

With new HS2 lines and platforms reaching directly into the existing Leeds station, the HS2 service in Leeds will offer easy access to the city centre, South Bank and the Waterfront. This will help to make the revamped station an integral part of the city, as well as a new prime public space for retail and service facilities.

Journey times will reduce significantly, with 50 minutes off the time to London, and the journey to Birmingham more than cut in half.

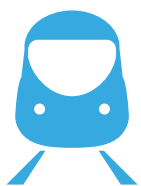


■ River Aire, Canal Regeneration, Bridgewater Place
Image: HS2/Bob Martin

"I believe this is a once in a generation opportunity to contribute not just to local prosperity but to make a significant contribution to the national economy and as such we must ensure no one is left behind."

*Gerald Jennings President,
Leeds Chamber of Commerce*

Leeds ↔ London



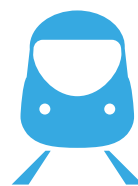
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HS2 journey time



Journey time saving

Leeds ↔ Birmingham:



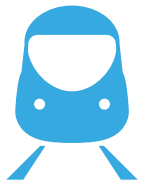
0:49

HS2 journey time



Journey time saving

Leeds ↔ East Midlands:



0:27

HS2 journey time



Journey time saving

Connectivity

Leeds station is already the busiest station in the North of England. HS2 will provide a step-change in rail connectivity along the east coast corridor, bringing together the city regions centred on Leeds, Sheffield, Nottingham and Birmingham into an integrated economic zone of over ten million people, five million jobs and some of the UK's most significant manufacturing clusters.

The HS2 station will also provide local services with the capacity to grow as plans for east-west Northern Powerhouse Rail links develop.

Economic growth

Leeds City Region has a population of three million, 1.5 million jobs, and an annual economic output in excess of £60 billion – over 4% of the UK economy. HS2 will build on these economic strengths; maximising the benefits of connectivity, new jobs and skills; and integrating into the City Council's vision for Leeds South Bank.

South Bank regeneration

Plans for the redevelopment of Leeds South Bank will double the size of Leeds City Centre. The City Council is working closely with the public, private and third sectors to transform the area.

Since the announcement of Phase Two of HS2, £500 million of investment has been attracted to Leeds, including Sky's technology hub, which opened in 2016. Burberry has decided to locate its new manufacturing facility in the city and Vastint is acquiring the 22 acre Tetley Brewery site, its only UK investment outside London.

Over the next 30 years, South Bank is expected to provide 35,000 jobs across the financial, professional, creative and digital sectors. It will also be a sustainable place to live, with a new city park and 4,000 homes.

"HS2 offers transformational opportunities for the local, regional and national economy."

*Cllr Judith Blake,
Leader of Leeds City Council*

"HS2 will be the largest single investment in transport ever in north of England and it will deliver a transformational change to growth and jobs in West Yorkshire and the Leeds City Region economy."

*Councillor Keith Wakefield, Chair of the
West Yorkshire Combined Authority's
Transport Committee*

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