

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 all the way to Glasgow and Edinburgh. 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 Lancashire

HS2 trains will serve the current stations in Preston and Lancaster. These will become 'integrated high speed stations', where passengers can catch HS2 trains and access the high speed network to the south.

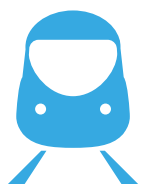
Journey times between Preston and Birmingham will be cut in half, and three trains an hour to and from London will cut the journey time by over 50 minutes. Over 50,000 passengers a day will be able to travel on the high speed network to and from Lancashire.



■ Preston Station
Image: Preston City Council

Lancashire hosts one of the world's largest aerospace clusters, supporting over 20,000 jobs. Better transport connections will help it continue to prosper.

Preston ↔ London



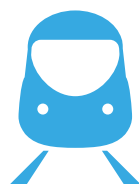
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HS2 journey time



Journey time saving

Lancaster ↔ Birmingham:

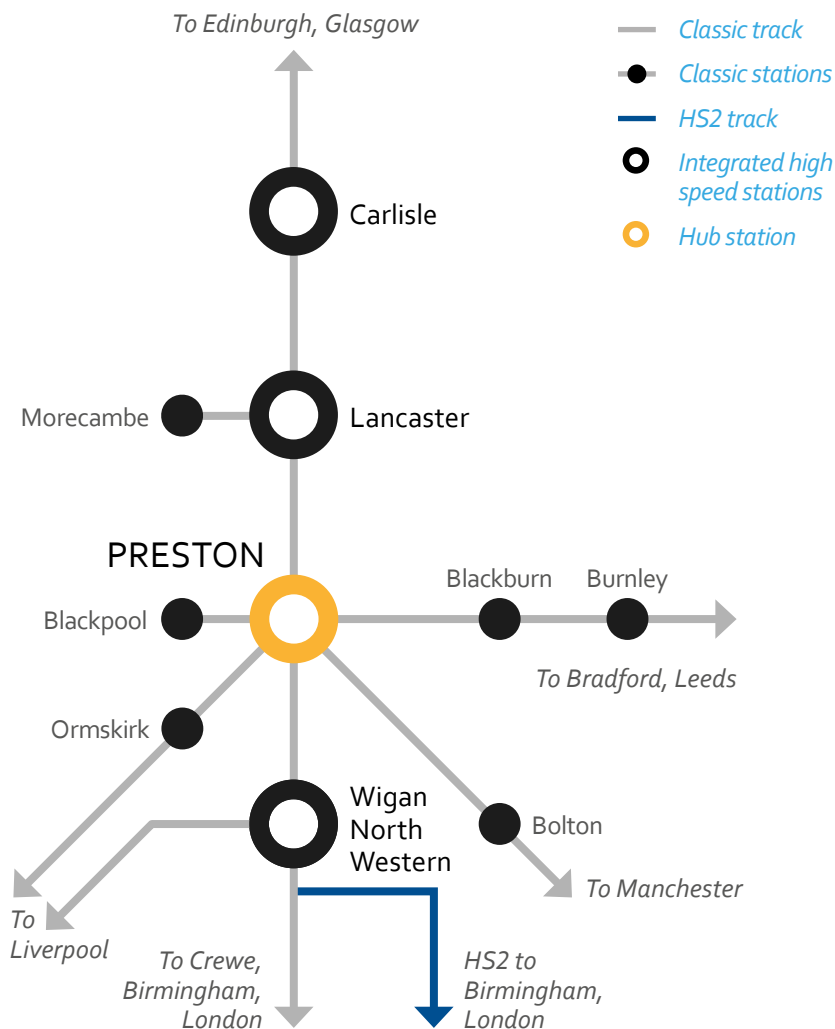


1:05

HS2 journey time



Journey time saving



“We want to make sure that Lancashire is well-placed to benefit from HS2 by ensuring that we have high-quality transport infrastructure to open up new commercial and employment opportunities.”

Jim Carter, Chair of the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal

“HS2 is a tremendous opportunity not only for Preston but for Lancashire and the wider region too. Preston is already a strategic transport hub but HS2 really takes this to the next level. It provides another major incentive to invest in Preston for office, employment and residential development.”

*CLlr Peter Rankin,
Leader of Preston City Council*

Connectivity

Preston is already the busiest station in North West England outside Manchester and Liverpool. Its role as a strategic rail hub will be reinforced by HS2 services and Network Rail’s electrification of the lines between Preston, Manchester, Liverpool and Blackpool.

Economy

The Lancashire LEP sees Preston as the engine to establish an ‘arc of prosperity’ running from Lancaster and through to Blackpool, Blackburn and Burnley taking in Lancashire’s aerospace, energy, tourism and higher education sectors. In Preston itself, HS2 could mean 75,000 extra visitors a year, adding £3.3m to the city’s economy annually.

The LEP believes that productivity gains from the impact of HS2 services to the area could help provide an extra £600m for the region, and 3,000 additional jobs in Preston and South Ribble alone.

Regeneration

Preston has also partnered with other similar-sized cities across Europe to understand how they have used their interchange stations as engines for economic growth and regeneration. A comprehensive development programme is planned in and around the station including a new business district that could provide over 7,500 new jobs and generate over £300m in added value.

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