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Visitors to Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre are advised to plan ahead and allow extra time this weekend

Visitors travelling by train to Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre this weekend, are advised to plan ahead and allow extra time for their journeys.

The annual festive market opens on Thursday (29 November) and runs until Sunday (2 December).

West Midlands Railway is advising customers to prepare for trains and

stations to be busier than usual, by allowing plenty of time and planning their journey options before heading out.

At Worcester Foregate Street, the closest station to the market, a queuing system will be in place during the busiest times. This will help keep people moving safely on and off trains.

Ticket gate lines will also be staffed throughout the event. To avoid additional delays, passengers are reminded to make sure that they have a valid ticket for their journey before getting onto trains.

Ticket purchasing facilities are usually available at all stations, either from a staffed ticket office and/or ticket vending machine (TVM). Tickets can also be purchased via the West Midlands Railway app.

Richard Brooks, customer experience director for West Midlands Railway, said: "Travelling by train is a great way to get to and from the city's festivities this weekend. Trains and stations will be busier than usual, but by using queuing systems and providing additional staff on hand to assist, we are confident that we will be able to keep everyone moving.

"We advise anyone travelling to plan their journey options, allow some extra time and to make sure that they know when their last train home is departing. We don't want anyone to get caught out or left behind!"

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For further information on this release, call our press office on 03300 955150 or email press.office@wmtrains.co.uk

About Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre

The Victorian Fayre was first started back in 1992 by traders from picturesque New Street and Friar Street. Now in its 26th year, the Fayre may have grown a lot but it has stayed true to its traditional roots with plenty of Victorian themed characters, festive treats and a wonderful atmosphere. This year there will be almost 200 stalls across the city centre, selling local arts and crafts, delicious street food and gifts.

As well as a wonderful array of stalls, there will be a fantastic programme of entertainment to celebrate the event's special anniversary. This will include Victorian characters in Gin Lane, lofty entertainers on stilts, brilliant musicians on stages and buskers on every street corner.

Opening times

- Thursday 29 Nov: 12:00 – 21:00
- Friday 30 Nov: 11:00 – 21:00
- Saturday 1 Dec: 10:00 – 20:00
- Sunday 2 Dec: 11:00 – 17:00

For more information visit www.worcesterchristmasfayre.co.uk

About West Midlands Trains

West Midlands Trains operates both West Midlands Railway and London Northwestern Railway services.

- **London Northwestern Railway** services operate between Liverpool and Birmingham, and on the West Coast mainline to and from London Euston.
- **West Midlands Railway** services operate to destinations across the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street.

For more information on these services visit westmidlandsrailway.co.uk or londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk

The West Midlands Trains franchise started on 10 December 2017 and will run until 2025/26.

West Midlands Trains operates 1,300 services a day, manages 150 stations and provides over 70 million passenger journeys a year. Over the course of the franchise, West Midlands Trains will be investing £1 billion into the rail network to deliver new trains, improved routes and station upgrades. This will include 400 new train carriages across the network and space for an extra 85,000 passengers into Birmingham and London at peak times.

The franchise is a joint venture between Abellio (70.1% share) and East Japan Railway Company / Mitsui & Co., Ltd (29.9% share in a 50:50 split). Abellio is the international passenger transport subsidiary of the Dutch national railway company, Nederlandse Spoorwegen. In the UK, Abellio operates ScotRail and Greater Anglia train services, Merseyrail services in a joint venture with Serco and buses through Abellio London. For more information visit www.abellio.com

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