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## Travel advice for Aston Villa supporters on Saturday 26 April

Rail operators in the West Midlands have issued collective travel advice for Aston Villa supporters heading to Wembley for the FA Cup semi-final on Saturday 26 April.

Customers are advised that rail travel is expected to be very busy and there will be limited rail services in operation from London towards Birmingham post-match due to the late afternoon kick off time of 5.15pm. There will be even fewer services heading back to the West Midlands if the match goes into extra time and penalties.

Customers heading back to the West Midlands are strongly advised to return on Sunday 27 April as there will be more choice of return travel.

Operators in the region are also reminding customers to check their journeys, plan ahead and purchase tickets in advance of travelling.

For Aston Villa supporters travelling to the match by rail:

- London Northwestern Railway and Avanti West Coast will operate services from Birmingham New Street to London Euston, where supporters can get onward travel to Wembley
- Chiltern Railways will operate direct services from Warwick Parkway to Wembley Stadium

Chiltern Railways' services to Wembley Stadium will start at Warwick Parkway, calling at Leamington Spa and Banbury. No Chiltern train services will be in operation from Birmingham Moor Street, Solihull, Dorridge, Hatton, Lapworth or Warwick. Free parking will be available at Warwick Parkway, Leamington Spa and Banbury throughout the day.

The same routes will be available for Aston Villa supporters heading back to the West Midlands for their return journeys, however services will be limited due to the match finishing in the evening.

**Lucy Wootton, Head of the Grand Railway Collaboration, which represents the rail industry in the region, said:**

“It is great for the region to have another West Midlands team playing at Wembley this season but I would like to remind Aston Villa supporters that rail travel to and from the match will be extremely busy.

“The kick off time of 5.15pm means that there will be limited rail services after the match for supporters returning to the West Midlands. Please plan your trip in advance of travelling and you may want to consider extending your stay into the following day.”

Finalised train timetables will be loaded to online journey planners later this week.

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## About West Midlands Trains

For further information on this release, email [press.office@wmtrains.co.uk](mailto:press.office@wmtrains.co.uk)

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 Main Line to and from London Euston.
- **West Midlands Railway** services operate to destinations across the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street and Birmingham Snow Hill.

For more information on these services visit [westmidlandsrailway.co.uk](http://westmidlandsrailway.co.uk) or [londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk](http://londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk)

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