



GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

PRESS INFORMATION

Date: 11th Jan 2010

2010 FARES REVIEW AT THE GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Some fares increase – some come down in price and generous benefits for members of ‘Friends of the Great Central Main Line’ continue.

The GCR has held a New Years fares review. However unlike some of the main line train operators, some of the fares are coming down!

Many of the ticket prices at the GCR have remained substantially unchanged for a number of years, despite rising overhead costs, not least of which is the price of coal per ton.

- The standard all day runabout ticket which currently costs £12 for an adult rises to £14. This ticket still allows as much mileage as is possible during the day. However, recognising times are tight economically, a £12 adult fare has been introduced for a single round trip. Child discounts (take £5 off) and senior fares discounts (take £2 off) are available on both of the above.
- Family tickets (for one adult and three children and two adults and three children) still remain in operation and each increase by £2 to £22 and £32 respectively.
- The good news for members of the "Friends of the Great Central Main Line" is ticket prices remain unchanged. On a normal weekend an adult runabout is just £5 and a child ticket just £3. Friends membership remains an extremely good value way of experiencing the GCR. Given the increase in the day runabout fare it could be said being a member of ‘Friends’ is now even better value!
- Short hops between stations are coming down in price. After the new fares are implemented a return between Quorn and Loughborough will be just £5 and £3 for children. Similar reductions apply for journeys between other stations. It's hoped the new lower fares will encourage visitors who might just have an afternoon to spend with us to travel. They can of course also be used

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with the new 'Walks from the line guide' with lower fares forming the backbone of a good value walking day out. Single short hop fares between stations are also reducing, for people who like to walk one way and ride the other.

- The other exceptionally good value fare is the early bird rate. This is just £5 for passengers who travel northbound to Loughborough on the DMU first train of the day (and then return by any other train).

Disabled passengers are offered senior rate fares, registered carers travelling with them go for free!

The new fares come into affect on the 16th of January 2010 and may be suspended during special events.

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NOTES

Voted number 12 on the list of the 50 greatest railway journeys in the world the Great Central Railway is the UK's only double track, main line heritage railway. It's the only place in the world where full size steam engines can be seen passing each other – just as it was when steam ruled the rails. The preserved railway celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2009, and is manned by around 700 volunteers and a small team of permanent staff. Preservation of this section of the Great Central Railway began in 1969. The route was originally part of a main line from Sheffield to London. The 8 mile preserved section between Loughborough and Leicester is fully operational and the 4 stations reflect a different period of the railways 111 year history. Around 100,000 visitors a year come to the railway from all over the world.

Trains run every weekend of the year, bank holidays and daily in the summer. In addition, First Class Restaurant Car Services provide famous dining experiences course, whilst passengers travel between Loughborough and Leicester. Childhood engine driver dreams can come true with a Drive a Train Experience. We also run a number of family events, including Santa Specials.

The railway has won a number of awards including "independent railway of the year", and a gold award for the East Midlands best visitor experience and is a quality assured visitor attraction as designated by Enjoy England.