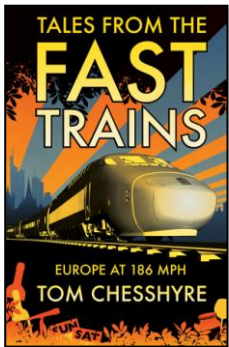


Summersdale Press Release

Perfect for anyone who's interested in mini-breaks in Europe, hates airport queues, likes a bit of leg-room, prefers greener forms of transport or simply has the urge to try something different next weekend...

PUBLICATION DATE: 4TH JULY 2011



TALES FROM THE FAST TRAINS

EUROPE AT 186 MPH

TOM CHESSHYRE

ISBN: 978 1 84953 151 1 Paperback 320 pages £8.99 4th July 2011

"It's as if Europe is shrinking by the day ... we can zip about at vast speeds to places that would have been days away a century ago, major journeys, without taking to the skies. A few hours in a comfortable carriage can get you a very long way..."

Tired of airport security queues, delays and all those extra taxes and charges, Tom Chesshyre embarks on a series of high-speed adventures across the continent on its fast trains instead.

From shiny London St Pancras, Tom travels to places that wouldn't feature on a standard holiday wish-list and discovers the hidden delights of mysterious Luxembourg, super-trendy Rotterdam, much-maligned Frankfurt and lovely lakeside Lausanne, via a pop concert in Lille. It's 186 mph all the way – well, apart from a power cut in the Channel Tunnel on the way to Antwerp.

Potential feature angles:

- Why are European trains so much better than ours?
- How far can you get by train in a weekend?
- Trains vs Planes vs Cars: which one is cheapest and which one is quickest to various European destinations?
- Is the British view of Europe changing as its destinations become easier to reach?
- Environmentally friendly travel – plus enough leg room!
- Mini-break features for each destination
- Inter-railing is no longer just for students

Media opportunities: Extracts/serialisation; Great photos available – see next sheet. The author (a professional travel journalist) is available for interview and to write articles.

'If you've "done" Paris and Bruges and are wondering, "Where next?", then this may be a quiet revelation' **Andrew Marr**

'splendid twenty-first-century railway adventure. At last, this IS the age of the train' **Simon Calder**
'compulsory reading' **Mark Smith, THE MAN IN SEAT 61**



Author, Tom Chesshyre is based in London and is the author of *To Hull and Back: On Holiday in Unsung Britain* (Summersdale, 2010) and *How Low Can You Go?: Round Europe for 1p Each Way (Plus Tax)*. Currently staff travel writer for *The Times*, he has previously worked for *Cambridge Evening News*, *Sporting Life*, *Sky Sports* and *The Daily Telegraph* and writes frequently for *The Mail on Sunday*



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See over for photos >>>>

