Trainline partners with WESTbahn: Europe’s leading independent train ticket retailer expands its coverage into Austria

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- **Trainline announces first partnership in Austria: tickets for leading private rail operator WESTbahn are now available**
- **Trainline is the first independent booking platform to offer WESTbahn tickets**
- **All ticket options and connections available, with great prices to and within Austria**
- **For the first time, WESTbahn routes can be combined with other rail operators’ offers**

Paris, 10 May, 2017– Trainline, Europe’s leading independent train ticket retailer and train travel app, expands its inventory by partnering with Austria’s most important private rail operator WESTbahn. Customers can now book WESTbahn tickets, including special deals and offers, through Trainline. Trainline enables users to book and combine tickets for 86 different rail operators in 24 European countries. Trainline is the first independent booking platform to integrate WESTbahn tickets into its booking system.

WESTbahn is Austria’s leading private long distance rail operator. It operates hourly trains on the most important and busiest rail route of the country, Wien - Linz - Salzburg, which plays a significant role in rail services throughout Europe. This partnership creates new possibilities for cross-border journeys, as Trainline is the first booking platform to enable users to combine WESTbahn tickets with those of other rail operators, making it easy to book European rail trips on one single platform. For the traveller, this means more options, customised connections and cheap prices – for example on the popular route Munich – Vienna, tickets from German rail operator Deutsche Bahn and Austria’s WESTbahn can be combined and booked together as one ticket.

WESTbahn is an innovative rail company that offers quality service and travel comfort at cheap prices. A single journey on the route Vienna – Salzburg costs 26,90 Euros. All trains are equipped with free WIFI as well as comfortable leather chairs. Customers who book the tariff WESTbahn Plus get an additional seat for additional comfort, a complimentary newspaper and a special welcome gift; drinks and snacks are served at the seat. WESTbahn tickets are valid for a whole year (except for special offers) and therefore offer a great deal of flexibility for travellers. Through Trainline, WESTbahn tickets are available as mobile tickets, so customers don’t have the hassle of printing out tickets.

“Trainline and WESTbahn share the goal of making rail more attractive” says Dr. Erich Forster, CEO of WESTbahn. “With our focus on international travellers, Trainline is our ideal partner. Our approach of offering rail journeys with a great quality service and Trainline’s philosophy of simplifying cross-border ticket booking for many different rail operators complement each other perfectly. Both our goals vastly contribute to improving rail travel in Europe.”

With this new partnership, Trainline continues to expand its offer in Europe. “WESTbahn’s philosophy is to offer the best possible service at a low price. The company makes rail travel more affordable, more comfortable and therefore more attractive to customers. Our goal is to convince even more people to use the most sustainable and environmentally-friendly way of travelling.”, says Daniel Beutler, General Manager of Trainline International. He adds: “Austria, the country in the heart of Europe, is a popular holiday destination and hence a very important market. This new partnership makes travelling to and through Austria even easier and cheaper by enabling customers to combine WESTbahn’s tickets with those of other rail operators.”

ENDS

About Trainline

Trainline is Europe's leading independent retailer of train tickets and train travel app. We sell tickets worldwide on behalf of 86 train companies, helping our customers make more than 125,000 smarter journeys every single day in and across 24 countries. We are a one-stop shop for train travel, bringing together all major train companies onto one platform and providing our customers with a complete set of travel options. We make it easy for our customers to find the best price for their journey.

About WESTbahn

WESTbahn is an integral part of Austria's long-distance transport between Vienna and Salzburg. Founded during the liberalisation of European rail, WESTbahn started operating in December 2011. Shareholders consist of Haselsteiner Privatstiftung (49.9% shares), Augusta Holding (32.7% shares) and SNCF (17.40% shares). In the fiscal year 2015, WESTbahn's seven double-stock vehicles covered around 3.5 million rail kilometres and conveyed 4.8 million passengers. Additionally, 2015 was the first year that a positive operative result (EBIT) was made. Through an investment of 180 million Euros, the company's fleet is being expanded by ten additional units.

Additional information can be found at www.westbahn.at

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