

Inauguration of the first IZY train

Launch of the first low-cost train between Brussels and Paris

Brussels, 3 April 2016 –Agnès Ogier, CEO of Thalys, inaugurated today at the train station Brussels-South the first IZY heading to Paris. The new low-cost train will allow passengers to travel between Paris and Brussels in 2h15 starting from 19 euros.



Inauguration of the very first IZY train by **Agnès Ogier**, CEO of Thalys, in the presence of Philip Cordery, Representative of French citizens outside of France, Michel Jadot, Head of SNCB Europe and Axelle Pollet, spokesman for Mrs. Jacqueline Galant, Federal Minister for Mobility. The IZY-services are provided by 100% Thalys staff, in customized uniforms.

Agnès Ogier, Thalys' CEO, said: *"Today more than ever, we all stand with Brussels and Paris. Our two capitals have a strong historical link, made out of a shared love for culture, arts, as well as out of solidarity. With IZY, we want to convince even more travellers to take the train and discover these two cities. Thalys is fully committed to getting our two countries closer, and IZY will contribute to this goal."*

Jacqueline Galant, Belgian Minister of Mobility, also expressed her support for this new train: *"The low-cost train IZY responds to the expectations of travellers who wants to travel on a different way. It is a new experience of a train journey in favour of a sustainable mobility combined with low fares."*



IZY is a new service from Thalys, specially designed for the leisure travellers, and which meets the demand for fast, sustainable and low-cost travelling. With two to three daily round trips, the new green and purple trains will connect the two cities in an average traveling time of 2h15 at very competitive prices. Tickets will be sold two months in advance, starting from 19 euros. They offer a great alternative until the last moment as their prices will not go over 59 euros (options excluded).

For more informations and for reservations: www.izy.com / [@izy_eng](https://twitter.com/izy_eng) / [Facebook.com/izy](https://www.facebook.com/izy)

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TECHNICAL DATA SHEET	
Destination	Brussels-South < > Paris Gare du Nord
Price	<p>IZY has lowered the price of the train between Brussels and Paris in an unprecedented way for advance purchases starting at € 19 (tickets sales start two months before departure), while providing an attractive last minute alternative since the guaranteed maximum price of the ticket is € 59 in Standard and € 69 in Standard XL (without options).</p> <p>IZY also offers a wide variety of "good deals".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For families: children travel for € 10 ("Kid" fare: -12 years). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For the more adventurous: in each train, 10 tickets without guarantee of a seat¹ are sold online at only € 10, and 25 "folding seat" tickets at € 15
Service	<p>It's a simplified service: no bar car and luggage limited to one item of larger luggage and one item of small hand luggage. Along the same lines distribution is 100% digital and customer service is only handled online.</p> <p>To complement their trip, customers have the opportunity to add several optional services, for example a "Standard XL"² seat or extra luggage³, sold at € 10, or the Text Message option sold at € 2 (passenger and traffic information).</p> <p>The quality of service is guaranteed since trains are operated by 100% Thalys personnel, which are in line with the company's values, where the customer comes first.</p>
Journey time	With journeys averaging 2h15 based on the selected hours (between 2h08 and 2h30), IZY is offering a competitive solution compared to driving - according to Mappy.be the same itinerary is estimated between 3h and 3h30, not including the time to find a parking space.
Frequency	IZY is offering a new direct connection between Brussels-South and Paris Gare du Nord, two to three daily round trips starting April 3rd . IZY is offering the public three departures on Friday and three returns on Sunday especially designed for leisure customers to spend a weekend in Paris or Brussels.
Distribution	The IZY tickets are put on sale two months before the train's departure. Distribution is exclusively online on izy.com and via the sites of distribution partners.
Trains	The IZY service is operated with two trains with the ability to run internationally. Each train carries the colours of IZY (green and purple), on its interior as well as on its exterior livery.
Flexibility	IZY tickets are not exchangeable or refundable.
Information	www.izy.com / @izy_eng / Facebook.com/izy
Reservation	
First rides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Departure from Paris, Sunday 3 April at 13h44, 17h28, 19h46; Monday 4 April at 9h49 and 19h58 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Departure from Brussels, Sunday 3 April at 14h46, 16h29, 20h31; Monday 4 April at 10h28 and 18h59.

¹ Travellers are invited to find an available seat, or to travel standing in car 4 (bar car not used as such) equipped with sciatica supports and high tables.

² The "Standard XL" seats (larger and equipped with individual electrical sockets) are those that are found in 1st class trains.

³ € 10 for pre-registered extra luggage, € 30 if it is registered at the last minute on the platform or during the on-board inspections.