

MEDIA RELEASE**Merseyrail to Operate Late Night Trains in Christmas Run-up**

9 December 2015: To enable passengers to stay in town longer on Christmas nights out, Merseyrail will be running late night trains over the last two weekends before Christmas.

These trains will leave in the early hours of the mornings of **Saturday 12, Sunday 13, Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 December**. There will be two trains on each day, one on the Northern Line and one on the Wirral Line. Both will depart from Liverpool Central at 1.30am, calling at select stops to Southport and Hooton respectively, as detailed below:

Trains to Southport

01.30 Liverpool Central
01.42 Waterloo
01.51 Formby
02.03 Southport

Trains to Hooton

01.30 Liverpool Central
01.36 Birkenhead Central
01.41 Bebington
01.46 Bromborough
01.50 Hooton

All services will be drop-off only, meaning that people will not be able to board at any station, other than Liverpool Central.

Return or Daysaver tickets bought the previous day will be valid on these trains, even though trains are running in the early hours of the following day. You can also use Railpasses and Trios, but not Saveaways. Otherwise, there will be a flat fare of £3 per person.

Notes to Editors:

- *Merseyrail carries ca 110,000 passengers per weekday*
- *Merseyrail scores for reliability and punctuality averaged over 95 per cent during the last 12 months*
- *We operate one of the most intensively used networks in the UK with more than 800 trains per weekday*
- *Merseyrail is a 50-50 joint venture between Serco and Abellio*
- *Merseytravel is the transport executive body and delivery arm of the city region's Combined Authority*
- *Network Rail is the owner and operator of most of the rail infrastructure in the UK*
- *For further information, contact Alice Owen on tel 0151 955 2131.*

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For the first time in its history, Merseyrail will also run trains on Boxing day so that passengers can get into town for Christmas shopping. For full timetable information, please go to the Merseyrail website at www.merseyrail.org

Andy Heath, deputy managing director, said: 'Running late night trains over the two weekends before Christmas means that our customers can enjoy an evening out with family or friends and have the option of leaving town a little bit later. It's great for passengers and supports the city in developing the night time economy.'

Councillor Liam Robinson, chair of Merseytravel, added: 'This is the Liverpool city region really doing something differently. The late night and Boxing day services give more travel options and we would encourage people to plan their journeys and really take advantage of as many of these services as possible.'

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