

PRESS RELEASE [ 25 AUGUST 2026 ]

## European Sleeper and RDC plan new night train from Brussels and Amsterdam to Copenhagen and Malmö

*New connection targeted for April 2028 will bring European Sleeper's growing night train network to Scandinavia.*



European Sleeper and German railway operator RDC have entered into a strategic partnership to strengthen night train travel between Western Europe and Scandinavia. The partners are preparing a new night train connecting Brussels and Amsterdam with Copenhagen and Malmö, starting operations in April 2028. The new service will create a direct overnight rail connection between the Benelux, Denmark and southern Sweden, marking European Sleeper's first route into Scandinavia.

European Sleeper is rapidly developing from a night train pioneer into a full-scale European night train operator. On 9 September 2026, its first night train between Brussels and Milan will depart, connecting the Benelux with Switzerland and northern

Italy. At the same time, preparations continue for the long-awaited Brussels–Barcelona connection, also planned for 2028.

Chris Engelsman, co-founder of European Sleeper, said: *"Our network is growing quickly, and Scandinavia is a natural next step. Together with RDC, we can create a night train that directly connects the Benelux with Copenhagen and Malmö, bringing another part of Europe within a comfortable night's journey. It also marks an important next step in our strong cooperation with RDC, which already supports our Paris and Milan services through the provision of night train rolling stock."*

Markus Hunkel, Chief Executive Officer of RDC, added: *"RDC has many years of experience operating night trains between Germany and Scandinavia. Together with European Sleeper, we can build on that experience and create a strong new connection between the Benelux, Denmark and Sweden. We see real potential in combining our operational expertise with European Sleeper's growing network and customer reach."*

### **The missing link between Western Europe and Scandinavia**

The Brussels–Malmö service significantly expands European Sleeper's network towards Northern Europe. By connecting Western and Northern Europe overnight, it brings cities such as Copenhagen and Malmö directly within reach, while destinations including London, Paris, Stockholm and Oslo can be reached with one additional change. Whether travelling for business, leisure or to visit friends and family, passengers can enjoy a relaxed overnight journey and arrive in the heart of your destination the following morning.

### **An attractive timetable and a wide range of comfort levels**

European Sleeper and RDC are working with infrastructure managers along the route to develop the timetable ahead of the formal capacity application in April 2027. Current plans foresee departures from both Brussels and Malmö at around 19:00, with arrival at the other end of the route at around 10:00 the following morning.

The service is expected to offer the familiar range of night train accommodation from European Sleeper and RDC, including comfortable seats, couchettes and sleeper compartments. Deluxe sleeper options are also being considered, potentially including double beds and private en-suite bathrooms.

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### **About European Sleeper**

European Sleeper is a 100% community-owned Dutch-Belgian railway company focussed on operating international night trains between major European destinations. Since launching its first service in 2023, the company has steadily expanded its network, connecting cities including Brussels, Amsterdam, Berlin, Prague, Paris, Cologne and Milan. European Sleeper's cooperative ownership model enables individuals and organisations to support the company's ambition to expand night train travel across Europe through community investment.

### **About RDC**

RDC Deutschland Gruppe is one of Germany's leading private railway companies, active in passenger rail, international night trains, rolling stock leasing, fleet management, infrastructure and workshops. Through RDC Asset GmbH, the group provides locomotives and passenger coaches for lease as well as full-service vehicle management. With its long-

standing experience in international railway operations, RDC has played an important role in developing cross-border rail connections, including services between Germany and Scandinavia.

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### Notes to editors

Representatives of European Sleeper and RDC are available for interviews regarding the new partnership and the Brussels - Malmö night train.

### Press contacts

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