

UK to proceed with HS2 rail project

Britain's government has given the green light to HS2, Europe's largest infrastructure project, despite concerns that the high-speed rail link is billions of pounds over budget



HS2 IN NUMBERS

400km/h

Maximum speed of HS2 trains (250mph)

555km

Length of new high-speed track (345 miles)

9,000

Number of jobs supported by railway

£56 billion

Expected cost in 2015 (\$73 billion)

£88 billion

Estimated cost in 2019 (\$114 billion)

£8 billion

Already spent on project (\$10.4 billion)



PROJECTED JOURNEY TIMES (in minutes)

London to Birmingham

45 82

London to Manchester Airport

63 144

London to Glasgow

220 270

HS2 **Current**

Birmingham to Newcastle

118 172

Birmingham to Manchester

40 88

Birmingham to Leeds

49 118

**Expected completion date*