

Episode 55: Train Travel Tips for Exploring the UK and Europe in 2025 and Beyond

In episode 54 of the Global Travel Planner Podcast, Doug shares train planning tips

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Tracy: In episode 54 of the Global Travel Planner Podcast, Doug and I share our, top 10 tips for planning train travel in the UK and Europe in 2025 and beyond. From booking advice and packing tips to navigating stations and choosing scenic routes, this episode is packed with practical info to help you travel smarter by train. Hi, and welcome to the Global Travel Planning Podcast. I'm, your host, Tracy Collins, who, with my expert guest, will take you on a weekly journey to destinations around the globe, providing travel inspiration, itinerary ideas, practical tips and more to help you plan your next travel adventure. Hi, and welcome to episode 54 of the Global Travel Plan Podcast. So this week I'm joined by, ah, Doug.

Tracy: Hello.

Tracy: And we're here to talk about train travel in the UK and in Europe in 2025 and beyond. now, to put some context in this, Doug is the. Our UK travel planning train expert.

Tracy: That's right. I've got many years of UK experience working and, travelling on the railways in the uk.

Tracy: That's it. And also in Europe, of course. So we have just, over the last few months, spent some time travelling, by train in Europe and we have extensive train experience of years past where we have done lots and lots of travels around Europe, backpacking around Europe, a few summers, school holidays, times where we used to go and travel a lot by train and, something you've been doing since you were quite young, isn't it?

Tracy: I have. When I was growing up, my parents, we went on a European train adventure every single year, mostly through France, Spain, Italy. but I've continued that love of trains my entire life. So there's not many European countries have not travelled by train.

Tracy: That's true. I think so. And we've travelled a lot, actually, extensively around the world as well. So if you have any, any questions about train travel, just about anywhere in the world, honestly, Doug's pretty much got been there and done it. Or, or if you haven't, it's on your bucket list to do, isn't it?

Tracy: That's right, yeah. You know, rain or shine, you know, you know, we've experienced such a lot, the highs and lows of train travel, really haven't. We've experienced a lot of difficulties, but also a lot of, great times.

Tracy: Yeah, we have. And we've done some recent, ah, great travels where we've travelled well, Eurostar, we've taken the Caledonian sleeper train, we've taken, I don't know, we went through, Germany from, we went through Poland into Hungary, I travelled in Italy through, in November this last year. and we've recently unfortunately wanted to do more train travel in Spain and Portugal, which is actually where we're recording the episode at the moment. We're actually in Portugal, but unfortunately there

was a, there was a train strike that had been forecast in Spain. So we've had to change our plans. Which was actually to go from Spain all the way to Istanbul by train. but we had a, the spanner in the work straight away really is that. Unfortunately, because of the, what we believed at the time was going to be a strike, we decided to fly. And so we're now stuck flying everywhere, rather than training. But we will be back and doing it again.

Tracy: We'll return. I mean, that's the highs and lows. You know, things happen in any travel planning. You've got to be flexible and, you know, make adjustments where necessary.

Tracy: Right.

Doug recommends train travel because it's the best way to travel

So we're gonna, in this episode we're gonna share 10 tips that we believe are things that you need to think about if you're planning train travel, in the UK and Europe this year and, and say, and beyond, because this is relevant. So the first thing I want to say is, why train travel? Because it's a good one to you. For you. Doug, why do you recommend train travel?

Tracy: Because it's the best way of travel, really. I mean, it's plain and simple. You see more, you, you, you experience life as locals. It's not just about high speed lines, it's about regional railways, slower travel and you know, it's. To me, well, for us it's really the true authentic travel experience.

Tracy: Oh, absolutely. Well, you meet so many interesting people. I was just actually thinking about our trip just before Christmas when we travelled from, I think we were in Poland and we travelled through to Hungary and we sat with a, a couple who were travelling back to Budapest for Christmas and their dog. It was travelling, it was just really good. So we had a really good chat with them. So, yeah, I mean, the thing about train travel is you, you're straight into the centre of the city. You don't have the hassles of worrying about, you know, getting into the train station, not getting to the airport, checking in or the hanging around or waiting around and that sort of thing. I think with the train you can get up, we can walk around. It's just that I think, well, for me it's a far less stressful experience.

Tracy: Me too. Definitely.

Tracy: Definitely.

You recommend that people do the homework when planning trips

So, you would recommend that people do the homework as well when they're Planning. So I guess this is our ah, tip number one, do your homework.

Tracy: Most definitely, yes. There's experts. I mean it can be expensive travel so you don't want to be wasting time and money. So the chances are likes of you and I, we've done so many different travels, it's to talk to the experts.

Tracy: Yeah, absolutely. And well you're an expert. So you do offer itinerary consults and planning services for anybody planning the trips,

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Tracy: in the UK and, and we're kind of expanding to Europe and beyond, aren't we?

Tracy: Oh, that's right. I mean I never miss an opportunity to talk about trains in any country, as you probably know.

Tracy: Absolutely.

So where do you recommend, what sort of tools do you use when planning

So where do you recommend, what sort of tools do you recommend for people to use when it comes to planning?

Tracy: Well, it's to map out your route and to be realistic in where you want to go in in that time. So it's to be certain to do your homework, to be sure exactly who the operators are in each country because still have nationalised rail industries and they like Renfe SNCF in France. You know, it's important to be aware who the principal operators are, the small operators that may just run on individual line. but also you've got to look at all the options. You know, it's that point whether the most expensive may be the fastest, but may not be the fastest, it may not be the most realistic. So you've got to look at your budget, you've got to look at how much time you have and really. Yeah, just do your homework.

Tracy: So things like using National Rail Inquiries would help with that, wouldn't it in the

uk?

Tracy: That's right. The National Rail Inquiries is in essence a government site. So that will give you your search between A and B, where you want to travel to and it'll give you a list of the operators who operate on that line.

Tracy: Yeah, okay. I think that's important to think about as well.

In mainland Europe there's more diversionary routes than in the UK

And I know one tip that you always share in the UK group is about not travelling on Sundays. Is that something really feels relevant for Europe as well?

Tracy: To a degree, yes. But in, mainland Europe there's more diversionary routes and so, yeah, you do have more flexibility than you might have in the UK particularly. I'm thinking here that, you know, west coast of Scotland, you know the one principal line, the West Highland Line, that's it. So you know, if there's engineering works there, that's it. There's no, there's no diversion of it to get you there. But in mainland Europe, there's a lot small m. There's lots more small networks.

Tracy: Okay, so that's good.

Tip number one is to consider specific points when planning your train itinerary

So now, tip number two is to consider, some specific points when planning your train itinerary. I know one thing you said is thinking about, you know, the time of time of year. You know, consider all the members in your travel group in terms of mobility and age of getting around and that sort of thing and not pushing to trying to put too much into your trip.

Tracy: That's right. I mean it's that part about whether the A to B travel is part of your holiday.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: Or just a means to get you to your destination. You know, we, we always embrace that part of it. You know, getting from here to there, you know, which side of the best side of the train to sit on. You know, we, we enjoy it, don't we?

Tracy: Yeah, absolutely. Well, for us is part of the holiday.

Tracy: It is, it is, yes.

Tracy: And I think that's worth considering. When you're planning your train travel, is it literally you just want to get, for example, from London, Edinburgh in the quickest time possible or do you want to go a little bit slower, maybe start off along the way. And it's the same for some of the European travel. I mean, we did some, we've done a, we did a fast trip from Madrid down to Seville, but actually there were some places I would have actually probably liked to have gone off and got off and seen places along the way. but unfortunately we didn't have time to do that. But again, if we was planning slower travel and potentially different time of year, then I would certainly look at doing that.

Tracy: Yeah. And I think that's all comes back to that homework side again is to look at the different routes available.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: Between those two points.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: I mean particularly on say mainland Europe, you've got new high speed lines, which is literally as straight as possible to get you there as fast as possible. But some of the old traditional lines are, you know, more convoluted and will take you longer.

Number three is to consider booking tickets in advance

Tracy: So what about, booking tickets in advance? Is that something. Is this tip number three? I know, because we've got all these tips listed out, so. And I know you've said four. Number three is to consider booking tickets in advance. So is that something that you generally recommend?

Tracy: Yeah, as a rule, general rule of thumb, the, the advanced tickets are something that's going to get you the best deal. but that could be quite often, like in the uk, tied to a specific train on a specific time, on a specific route. but it, you know, it can vary, on in mainland Europe, sometimes looking for those at best fares could be the regional, but it also could be in advance for the A to bs. But it comes back to that best fit for you, your bud budget, your time, your personal preferences for your travel experience.

Tracy: Yeah, because I mean we sometimes we just prefer to hit the slower trains because it's a bit more fun. Well, I enjoy it because that's what you want to do, you know.

Tracy: Yeah, I mean sitting on regional trains, you know, people getting on and off all the time, you know, multiple train stops, you, you know, you might have five minutes between stops. Sometimes on a high speed train you can have two hours between stops.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: So again, it all comes back to that though, your expectation of your rail journey.

Tracy: I just think though, when I think about that, the kind of regional, the fun of taking regional trains, I think about in the Dordogne when we took a regional train and somebody got on and they had a rabbit in a backpack. And I know you've mentioned about a guy getting on a train. Was it in Spain with garlic?

Tracy: Yeah. The gentleman,

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Tracy: got on the train, with a pet goat, whether it was pet goat or not. but he produced his paper bag full of garlic and proceeded to eat one for him, then one for the goat.

Tracy: So that's funny. So you wouldn't see that on a high speed.

Tracy: Never seen before or since have I seen a goat on a train.

Tracy: That's it. It's just almost fun. You make those memories, don't you?

So tip number four is to consider whether a pass or rail card is the right option

So tip number four is to consider whether a pass or rail card is the right option or not for you. So there are different passes, aren't there, that you can consider?

Tracy: Yes. I mean across Europe there's like the Eura and the Interrail passes, for multi countries. But again, you've got to weigh up the benefits for that and what the length of journeys that you're taking. In other words, you do a price comparison to how much that ticket would cost you, or you and everybody in the travel group or to buy the pass. and in the UK you've got, for example, you've got other passes like national rail cards, which will give you a third off the train tickets. but you're still buying that tickets yourself. And it's like many things with train tickets and passes, the more flexible, the more the cost.

Tracy: Yeah, yeah. You're paying for that kind of ease of use and flexibility, aren't you?

Tracy: That's right.

Tracy: Okay, so that's worth weighing up and we have got an article if you're considering travelling in the uk, we do an article, about you know, Eurail versus the brick Royal passes. So that's worth having a look at. And again, you know, if your plans are quite rigid and you know exactly what train you want to get, probably it wouldn't be

worth it. You might as well just book your trains because you know what times you're going to get. But if you want more flexibility then having the pass will give you that.

Tracy: That's right. I mean we found ourselves on this trip that we're currently on that the weather or potential strikes has, you know, interfered with those plans and you've got to, it's how much flexibility you want to build into your plans in the first place. because that's when you know problems can happen is the fact if you have no flexibility with dates, times, then.

Tracy: You can actually end up losing money.

So tip number five is to know seat reservation rules on certain services

So tip number five is to know seat reservation rules.

Tracy: Yeah, that's right. In the UK seat reservations are optional but obviously recommended during busy in peak times. But in Europe more, I think there's more on the, on the high speed lines. Seat reservations are compulsory on certain services in certain countries.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: So again back to the homework.

Tracy: You know, and check when you're booking your passes or tickets whether seat

reservations are included or not. Because outside the the UK seat reservations are, you know, something you have to pay for.

Tracy: Yeah. And yeah, I think you need to add that into your budget because if you hadn't considered it and you booked a ticket and then actually realise you've got to pay another, whatever, however many euros every single time for a seat reservation, it can add up. I know in the UK you can go to a theft station travel office for free. Yeah.

Tip number six is pack smartly for train travel

so tip number six is pac smart for train travel. And I mean this is a really good one in terms of any train travel actually you need to be able to lift your suitcase on and off the train. I know when I was in, I was travelling by train in India last year and travelled in a group and some members of the group had far too heavy suitcases and I really struggled. You know, sometimes you have to get quite a few steps with your suitcase.

Tracy: Yeah, that's right.

Tracy: I mean on, off a train in.

Tracy: All countries, you know, I'm not, you know, I'm not highlighting one particular country but all, all countries where there's lifts and elevators, they fail. You know, it can be problematic to get into your platform and you're right. What you say about being able to lift your bags, to put them to luggage racks and stacks for storage. But there's more to you know also the consideration is if there's people in your travel group that this isn't so easy for, you're gonna have to do it for several people. And when the train is full and

busy and hot, that can not fun.

Tracy: Yeah, it's not fun. It's stressful. It's really, really stressful. Yeah, for sure. And also I think take, make m sure you've got your essentials when you go on the train. Take some food and drink with you, take some snacks, have a water bottle with you, some entertainment with you. take your charging pack. Don't depend on a train to have a charging pack.

Tracy: Absolutely not.

Tracy: So you know, and think about layers so that you can, you know, if it gets too hot you can take something off. If it gets too cold you can put something on. If you're doing an overnight sleep by train again think about your luggage because you don't want to be rummaging around in a suitcase to get bits and bobs out. So we usually have a day pack with whatever we're going to use.

Tracy: Yeah. And a tiny pack within that to put specific charges.

Tracy: Yeah, exactly. You don't want to be rummaging around. So definitely do do that research thinks you know, pack smartly for train travel. I can think I took my niece for her 21st travelling around Italy and that was one thing that I stressed to her before we went. One small, small pull along suitcase that she could lift up and she actually ended up getting rid of some clothes along the way because she bought things. But you know you've got to also you know give yourself some margin if you buy some things as well. that you're going to have to have a little bit extra room but you don't want it to be too heavy because honestly getting on and off a train with every suitcase is not much fun.

Tracy: It can be particularly in in mainland Europe where

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Tracy: the platform level is pretty low and you've got to step up several steps on onto trains. Less of an issue in the UK where the platform height is, is higher.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: And you more often straight across onto onto a onto train even.

Tracy: Just think when we arrived in Porto last week you got off with a larger suitcase and I had the smaller suitcase with a backpack and I actually couldn't get, there was too many steps for me to get down. so luckily somebody they got onto the Platform and then I passed them a suitcase in the bag because I was struggling. And you got off on the other side of the. So we got separated. So you've got to think about that because honestly it is not that easy. You don't actually realise just how high some of those trains are to step down on the platform.

Tracy: That's right, yeah. Yep.

Tip number seven is to understand station layouts and this is so important

Tracy: Tip number seven is to understand station layouts and this is so important because honestly, you can miss a train, you can miss your train if you do not know

which platform you've got to get to or how to get around a train station. I was in Rome Termini Station in November and honestly we went the day before to just research where we were going to pick the train, you know, which platform or even how to get up, which part of the train station it was in and how it worked at that actual train station. because it can be different and if you're not used to it, you know, you have to go through a section to actually allow you onto the main platforms for the train from the actual train concourse. So it's, it, you've got to give yourself the time and then you wait in that area for your train, platform to be called up. And sometimes in Italy it can be literally five minutes before the train leaves. So you need to be aware of what you're doing and, and also have your wits about you for some of those train stations as well.

Tracy: Yeah. From a security point of view, that's something entirely. that's a tip on its own, yes. But it comes again back to the homework is to be aware of a station layout because the bigger stations you need to be there in good time. You've got to consider how you're going to get to the station. But also you can have multiple entrances and exits at stations and they can be quite disorientating. And so you're right, there could be different levels and to get onto the, onto the station, onto the platform and if you, everybody's waiting for a platform to be announced, it can be quite a rush and quite a panic to get onto.

Tracy: I can't believe how busy it was.

Tracy: Initially actually, particularly if it's not a non terminus station. If the train's only going to be there for a matter of minutes, it's not surprising anybody wants to get on quite quickly.

Tracy: I mean, what I did find really useful is knowing exactly, the, the carriage and the

seat number in, in Italy it was actually quite easy because you could look up and see where you exactly had to stand and that's where the train came in and you could get on. I found that quite that much easier and that was something that is something that was really important to be aware of because it just made life a lot easier. So when you actually got to find out what, what platform you're on you could find exactly where you needed to stand to get onto the train.

Tracy: Yeah, the carriage number is be very helpful.

Tracy: Yeah, it does help.

Tip number one is to consider all classes when travelling

Now tip number is to consider all classes.

Tracy: That's right. I mean basically speaking the. Just about every country has a first class and a more of a standard class of travel. Now again not notifying mentioning one country over another. Some countries first class could be the standard of a second class in other countries and vice versa. So it's best again to do your homework. I can go back to this. Doing your homework. Doing your homework is. Sometimes the first class tickets can be not a lot of difference to standard class tickets in cost wise. Particularly if you're travelling an off peak time. First class may come with some refreshments which will be cost effective if you're planning on taking some with you in the first place, which is always a good idea anyway just in case there is nothing even though they should be. So it's again looking what deals can be available. Looking around to see which different operators are. Because you might get a better deal for first class on one than the

standard class on another.

Tracy: Yeah, no, absolutely. I definitely think that's worth considering. I must admit I do like first class in quite a lot. Yes.

Tracy: Because for everything we've said before, things about the luggage storage, sometimes there's just an extra rack, just a little bit more space in the first class which can make a big difference because standard class can get pretty busy.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: and this space does fill up fast.

Tracy: Yeah. I'm just thinking, I know this is outside of Europe but we were travelling by train in Morocco in February and honestly their first class was just a far less chaotic experience.

Tracy: That's right, that's right.

Tracy: You know and I travelled in jer. Again I know we're not talking about Europe but I travelled in general third class last year. Oh my goodness. That was a, that was an experience and a half. So. So again like in Europe you still need to consider you know sometimes you also can get different things if you're a different. It did depend on the class that you're at. You might get a drink at your seat, you may get a meal at your seat, you may get active service or you Might, you know, there's all sorts of different variations to look at. But again it'll depend on the operating and the country that you're

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Tracy: travelling.

Tracy: And we look at places like the ORSA going between the between the UK and to France, obviously Belgium and into Holland as well. But there's three classes of travel.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: And that comes with different times for check ins as well. So you know, you've got to look at everything across the board as regards, you know, what's provided the, the, the cost obviously and you know, services that come with that class of travel.

Tracy: Yeah. So again lots to think about. But if you need any help with that, Doug will be here. Help with your. We can book an itinerary, planning session with him and he will help you.

Tip number nine is to consider your onward journey

Now, tip number nine is to consider your onward journey. I think this is really important actually.

Tracy: That's right. We've said about this before, if you're travelling from A to B and then you're going on to C, just consider that transfer time is the transfer from the same station. Do you need to allow more time to get between stations? I'm thinking A, good example is France or Paris or London. You know, you come in one station, you've got to

get across to another. Give yourself plenty of time, look at your options to get between those stations. Does your ticket allow for you to break up the journey a little bit longer? You know, because there's nothing worse. If you've got two or three train journeys planned and your first one's late, or you haven't got enough time to get to the second one, your entire schedule is going to be impacted.

Tracy: Also though I'm going to say it's worth thinking about, not only necessary if the onward journey is that same day, if that onward journey is the two or three days later. And I'm thinking, we've just stayed in Lisbon and I deliberately booked a hotel which was actually in the train station because I knew that was a train station that would be leaving to take the train to Porto, which made it incredibly easy.

Tracy: It did for me because I could go train spotting in the evenings and mornings.

Tracy: But it was really easy because we just built a suitcase and straight onto the train to Porto. And actually where we're staying in Porto right now is actually two minutes from the train station we arrived into in Porto, which is not the, the famous train station Porto. It's a little bit out, you know, but it's just been so much easier. So I think, and you know When I was in Florence, when I stayed in Florence in November, again, I booked a. The hotel opposite the train station. I did check it out. Yeah. Area was good. Stayed in that train station. So it meant we will the luggage out. We were in a hotel within two minutes. It, it meant the morning that we left, I, was going back to Rome and, and Shelley, who was on the podcast often, Shelly was going down a pool. Yeah. And so it meant that it was very easy for us just to wheel up luggage over at the train station and catch our respective trains. So again, it's, it's all part of that planning process where you're trying to consider or you are considering what will make it easier for you, what will work, so that you are not, you don't want to be arriving in a train station and then,

Well, you could if you want to, but you could, you know, catching a taxi over the other side of town and then thinking, I've got to get back a taxi back over again. It's just sometimes easier to look at if it's a decent area around the train station. You do have to check because some places I would not recommend staying beside the train station. but it's again, it's all part of that plan process.

Tracy: It is. I mean, in this case here, where we are near Campana Station, the main sites are Sal Bento, which is what, about, seven or eight minutes on, on the train.

Tracy: Yeah.

Tracy: But the accommodation costs of where we are is far more reasonable than it will be seven or eight minutes of the line.

Tracy: Yes. And we found it very, very easy to do that.

Tracy: It's about doing your homework. It's literally about that planning. So, you know, you consider the station area you come into, but also where you're believing from or whatever your next onward mode of transport is definitely.

Tip number 10 is to consider sleeper trains when planning your holiday

Tracy: So tip number 10 is to consider sleeper trains. Now, we love sleeper trains, don't we?

Tracy: We do and we know sleeper trains are not actually for everyone and that is true. But we, we embrace the, the whole part of it.

Tracy: I just think it's so much fun and I'd like to do more sleeper trains. We, we've done a lot of the Caledonian sleep in the last few months when I'm in the UK and we both did it a couple of times. The Lowlander and Highlander, Caledonian, sleeper. And actually we just had a, podcast out. If you listen to the UK Travel planner podcast, you know that we've got a couple of episodes about the clan, the Caledonian sleeper, a link to, to that, episode or those episodes in the show notes, for this episode of the Global Travel Planning podcast. But, Yeah, and we share a lot of tips about that. We do. We've done sleeper trains in Europe as well and they can be pricey, I, will say that. But if you think it, you're going to get yourself from A to B, so it saves you time. And also you get a night's accommodation. Now, some tips just to help you sleep.

Tracy: Yeah, yeah. Some earplugs or masks. you know, if you're in a group as well, consider who's going to be on the top bulb because some of the top bunks can be quite close to the. The roof or the ceiling of the carriage. So, you know, anybody was sort of gets a bit claustrophobic, may not be for them.

Tracy: So the issues actually climbing up.

Tracy: Just going to say that. But it's not just that. It is, yeah, the mobility, because there's not a lot of room. I'll be honest, there's not a lot of room inside a sleeper train. But there's one thing that

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Tracy: is for certain, sleeper trains are getting more and more popular. There's more and more lines and operators, in Europe who are starting services and there was a decline, but they are really coming back now because people are seeing the benefits of not just saving time, but also as an enjoyment. It's something to embrace and enjoy as part of your holiday experience.

Tracy: Absolutely right. And then we're gonna.

One bonus tip is to consider some of the scenic routes in Europe

One bonus tip, which is basically, consider some of the scenic routes, especially in Europe. I mean, my goodness, we've done. I've done so many scenic routes in Switzerland. In Norway we've done the Flom railway, but we've just done. We've done some kind of. We've done some scenic ones in the UK as well. Obviously. We've done the, the. The,

Tracy: West Highland Line.

Tracy: Yeah. Fort Williamsonic West Highland Line.

Tracy: So Carlisle, one of my real favourites.

Tracy: I mean, there's just so many. I've done the Bernina Express in Switzerland and I've got an article about that on the website. We've done the Flom Railway in Norway, which is incredibly beautiful. so, I mean, even outside of Europe we did that. We've done the, Transalpine in. In south island of New Zealand that is incredibly beautiful.

Tracy: There's several in Spain, there's ones in Germany. But it's what you personally like. I mean, I, I enjoy coastal lines like the, you know, like Northumberland coastline in the uk, from Newcastle to anyone. I Thoroughly enjoy that. I like the one in Spain, coming down the coastline from, Barcelona. I really enjoy that. Down to Valencia and then down to Alicante. you know, it's one of my favourite train journeys as well. But there's so many. It's not just about beautiful scenery. You know, what can make a great train journey is you know, the places that you're visiting and talking to people. It's the contrast, you know, countryside, even going through some towns and cities. I thoroughly enjoy it. I, I really enjoy going from different places.

Tracy: Well, I think that's, that's.

Doug: Do your homework when planning train travel, it can be expensive

Well, we're giving you 10 tips with, with an 11th bonus one we do have. If you're specifically planning train travel in the uk, we do have lots of podcasts on the UK travel planning podcast which are specifically around UK train travel. So do pop over and have a listen to those. Doug's also written a, an ebook, a uk, Guide to UK train Travel, which is extremely popular and I will link to that. So if you're planning again UK train travel, I would, I would have a look at buying that. It's been highly successful. We've had some fantastic feedback on it and again, Doug will be, open up some, some slots in a few months time to actually, offer, ah, itinerary planning and consultation around train travel in the UK and Europe and around the globe. So if that's something that you want to have some help with, that you want to have a chat to Doug with, you, have some questions, you can get back to us via speak pipe, which will be. Which is basically you

record a message and we can reply to you and we'll leave a link to that in the show notes. but we. You're also happy to talk about train travel?

Tracy: Oh, absolutely. I will always talk about trains and there's one thing I will notice, one little extra point. It's amazing talking to people on trains. I don't know what it is people will happily chat away to.

Tracy: They will, they will. It's. Yeah, I can think that many, so many times and so many people I've met on trains. So I'm going to ask you the, the one ask at the end of every episode, what would be the one tip that you would share with anybody planning train travel in the UK and or Europe this year, in 2025?

Tracy: Talk to the experts. Do your homework. Brilliant.

Tracy: Oh, that was succinct.

Tracy: Yeah, that's exactly what you need to do because it can be expensive. So do your homework. Brilliant.

All the information discussed in this podcast will be shared in the show notes

Tracy: Well, thanks, so it's been great having Doug on that episode, because it's been a while since we've talked about last time, talking about Japan, we've talked about Morocco, talking about Spain, sharing lots of our, other travels around the world. So it's great to, for you to come on the podcast again.

Tracy: Thoroughly enjoyed it.

Tracy: So, yes, I said all the information that we're chat about today will be shared in the show notes. So links to the UK Travel Planning podcast as well links to Doug's ebook will be in there and for his itinerary planning consultation services, we'll put all the links in the show notes. But that just leaves us to say for this week, happy Global Travel Planning. Thank you for joining us on this episode of the Global Travel Planning podcast. For more details and links to everything we discussed today, check out the show notes@global travelplanning.com Remember, if you enjoyed the show, please consider leaving us a review on your favourite podcast app because your feedback helps us reach more travel enthusiasts just like you. Anyway, that leaves me to say, as always, Happy Global Travel Planning Sa.

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