

FLORIDA

Brightline orders more coaches as demand for seats increases on Miami-Orlando trains



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Brightline has ordered more coaches to meet the increasing demand for seats on its Miami-Orlando service, according to the high-speed rail company's monthly ridership report for February.

Trains can have a maximum of 10 coaches, Brightline spokesperson Katie Mitzner told TCPalm. Trains running through the Treasure Coast currently have four coaches — one first class and three coach class, with about 240 seats total — and each train has a locomotive at each end.

The first new Siemens coaches will start arriving by summer, Mitzner said.

Brightline trains from Miami-Orlando

In February, one of every three trains was at capacity or close to it, according to the report. Brightline can accommodate about 7,680 passengers daily among its five South Florida stations and its 16 roundtrips between Miami and Orlando. In February, 7,887 passengers exceeded capacity and set a record, the report states.

Brightline had 228,138 total passengers in February 2024 — including short-distance and long-distance — which is 50% more than February 2023, before the Miami-Orlando route began service on Sept. 22.

The Miami-Orlando route has had over 540,000 passengers since it began:

- 17,578 in September
- 79,686 in October
- 93,184 in November
- 115,683 in December
- 122,703 in January (a record)
- 113,874 in February

January report: Brightline's long-distance ridership increased between Miami-Orlando

Brightline trains in South Florida

Short-distance ridership has decreased by 25%, to 114,264 in February 2024 from 151,654 in February 2023.

Since the Miami-Orlando route started, short-distance ridership has gone up and down each month:

- 125,475 in September
- 126,059 in October
- 112,423 in November
- 121,386 in December
- 113,560 in January
- 114,264 in February

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