

Line from Algiers to Skikda

Algerian railway line



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Line from Algiers to Skikda



The Iron Gates

- [See the line map.](#)
- See illustration.

Country

 [Algeria](#)

Cities served

[Algiers](#) , [Boumerdes](#) , [Thénia](#) , [Lakhdaria](#) , [Bouira](#) , [Bordj Bou Arreridj](#) , [Sétif](#) , [El Eulma](#) , [Teleghma](#) , [Khroub](#) , [Constantine](#) , [Skikda](#)

Historical

Commissioning

[1870](#) – [1886](#)

Electrification

[2008](#)

Dealers

[CFA](#) ([1860](#) – [1863](#))
[PLM](#) ([1863](#) – [1907](#))
[EA](#) ([1875](#) – [1907](#))
[CFAE](#) ([1907](#) – [1937](#))
[SNCF](#) ([1938](#) – [1938](#))
[OCFA](#) ([1939](#) – [1960](#))
[SNCFFA](#) ([1960](#) – [1963](#))
[SNCFA](#) ([1963](#) – [1976](#))
– _ since [1976](#))

Technical characteristics

Length

[551km](#) –

Gauge

[standard](#) ([1.435m](#))

Electrification

[25 kV](#) – [60 Hz](#)
from [Algiers](#) to [Thénia](#)

Number of

channels

[Single track](#) ([270 km](#)) and [Double track](#) ([281 km](#))

Traffic

Owner

[SNTF](#)

Operator(s)

[SNTF](#)

Traffic

Main line from [Algiers](#) to [Constantine](#), from [Algiers](#) to [Annaba](#),
Regional train from [Algiers](#) to [Béjaïa](#), from [Algiers](#) to [M'Sila](#), from [Algiers](#) to [Sétif](#)

to modify (https://translate.google.com/website?sl=auto&tl=en&hl=en&u=https://fr.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title%3DLigne_d%2527Alger_%25C3%25A0_Skikda%26action%3Dedit%26section%3D0) [archive]



The line from [Algiers](#) to [Skikda](#) is one of the two main horizontal lines of the Algerian railway network. It connects the station of Algiers to that of Skikda. Open between Skikda and [Constantine](#) on ^{September} 1 , 1870, it will remain an isolated line for a long time until the construction of the continuation of the line between Algiers and Constantine from 1879 until the total opening on [November 3 , 1886](#).

Story

The decision to create the first passenger line was taken in 1857 . In 1860 , the [Compagnie des chemins de fer algériens](#) obtained the concession for the line between Philippeville ([Skikda](#)) and Constantine over 50 km , but it did not succeed in carrying it out.

In 1863 , the concession was transferred to the [PLM](#) which inaugurated it on ^{September} 1 , 1870.

The rest of the line was conceded to the [Compagnie de l'Est Algérien](#) in sections between 1875 and 1880 ^[1] .

The easiest sections starting from Algiers and Constantine are the first delivered, namely Maison-Carrée ([El Harrach](#)) - L'Alma ([Boudouaou](#)) open on [August 5 , 1879](#) and the Alma - Ménerville ([Thénia](#)), the [September 25 , 1881](#) on one side and Constantine - [Sétif](#) on [May 21 , 1879](#) and Sétif - [El Achir](#) the [November 1 , 1882](#) .

This left the most mountainous central part which took much longer. Ménerville - Palestro ([Lakhdaria](#)) the ^{June} 1 , 1885, Palestro - [Draa el Mizan](#) the ^{January} 1 , 1886, [Iron Gates](#) - El Achir le [February 19 , 1886](#), [El Adjiba](#) - [Iron Gates](#) [August 16 , 1886](#), Bouira - El Adjiba the [October 1 , 1886](#) and finally the last section, Draa el Mizan - [Bouira](#) le [November 3 , 1886](#).

the [February 27 , 2002](#), a new 5,202 meter double-track tunnel at El Achir is put into service ^[2] ; it is the largest railway tunnel in Africa.

The modernization of this line is undertaken on the parts located between Constantine and [Bordj Bou Arreridj](#) with the doubling of the number of tracks since the mid- [2000s](#) and electrification of the Algiers - [Thénia](#) section in 2008 .

Line

The section from Algiers to Thénia

Between Algiers and [Thénia](#) over 53.5 km (including 10 in common with [Algiers-Oran](#) , it constitutes one of the two lines of the Algiers suburban train, a double track electrified in [2009](#) with a voltage of 25,000 V.

It is the busiest line of the Algerian rail network with no less than 63 passenger trains per day and 130 on the 10 km sub-section Algiers - El Harrach shared with the eastern suburban lines as well as the main lines Algiers - Oran, as well as the regional lines Algiers - Chlef.

The Thénia section in Constantine

Between Thénia and Constantine the line is not electrified, the route is single track over 230 km between [Thénia](#) and Bordj Bou Arreridj and between Ramdane Djamel and Skikda. It is being modernized between Sétif and [El Guerrah](#) .

Plot and Profile

The central part of the route between [Thénia](#) and El Achir (172 km) is very steep with the crossing of the [gorges of Lakhdaria](#) and the [Iron Gates](#) .

Location	(PK)	Information
Algiers station	PK 0	Main lines, regional trains, suburban trains of Algiers
Agha Station	PK 1.5	Main lines, regional trains, suburban trains of Algiers
Workshops station	PK 3	Algiers commuter trains
Hussein Dey Station	PK 6	Algiers commuter trains
Carob station	MP 8.5	Algiers commuter trains
El Harrach Station	MP 10.5	Main lines, suburban trains of Algiers
Oued Smar station	MP 15.5	Algiers commuter trains
Bab Ezzouar Station	MP 16.5	Algiers commuter trains
Dar El Beida Station	PK 19	Algiers commuter trains
Rouiba Station	PK 26	Regional trains, Algiers suburban trains
Rouiba ZI Station	PK 28	Algiers commuter trains
ZI SNVI	KP 29.3	
Reghaïa ZI station	KP 30.4	Algiers commuter trains
Reghaïa Station	PK31	Regional trains, Algiers suburban trains
Boudouaou Train Station	MP 38.5	Algiers commuter trains
Corso Station	MP 41.5	Algiers commuter trains
Boumerdes Station	KP 45	Main lines, regional trains, suburban trains of Algiers
Tidjelabine station	MP 48.5	Algiers commuter trains
Thenia Station	KP 53.5	Main lines, regional trains, suburban trains of Algiers
Souk El Had station (ar)	KP 60	<i>Not served</i>
Beni Amrane station (ar)	PK 64	Regional trains
Ammal station (ar)	KP 67	<i>Not served</i>
Lakhdaria Train Station	KP 76.5	Main lines, regional trains
Aomar (Draa El Mizan)	KP 98	Main lines, regional trains

Bouira Train Station	KP 122.5	Main lines, regional trains
El Esnam	KP 142.5	<i>Not served</i>
Ait Mansour	MP 165.5	Main lines, regional trains
Mansoura	KP 208.5	Main lines, regional trains
El Achir	KP 225	
Bordj Bou Arréridj	KP 236.5	Main lines, regional trains
El Annasser	KP 244.5	<i>Not served</i>
Tixter	MP 270.5	<i>Not served</i>
Mzelug	KP 295.5	<i>Not served</i>
Setif Train Station	KP 307	Main lines, regional trains
El Eulma	KP 338	Main lines, regional trains
Tadjenant	KP 366	Main lines, regional trains
Teleghma	PK 402	Main lines, regional trains
El Guerrah (El Gourzi)	KP 425.5	Main lines, regional trains
Ouled Rahmoun	KP 434.6	Regional trains, Constantine commuter trains
El Khroub	PK 446	Main lines, regional trains
Oued Hammimine	MP 450.5	Constantine commuter trains
Sidi Mabrouk	KP 459.5	Regional trains, Constantine commuter trains
Constantine	KP 461.5	Main lines, regional trains, suburban trains of Constantine
Bekira	PK 466	Constantine commuter trains
Hamma Bouziane	KP 469	Constantine commuter trains
Zighout Youcef	PK 488	Regional trains, Constantine commuter trains

Ain Bouziane	MP 500.3	
El Harrouch	KP 517.6	Broad outlines
Salah Bouchaour	KP 523.1	<i>Not served</i>
Ramdane Djamel	PK 532	Broad outlines
Skikda	KP 550.8	<i>Not served</i>

Traffic

Passenger traffic between Algiers and Constantine takes 7 hours, there is only one departure per day. Passenger traffic between Skikda and Constantine was not very profitable, it was often suspended except during the summer season.

A single mainline train *connects* the stations of Algiers and Constantine daily, to which must be added the night train Algiers - Annaba. There is also a daily regional train line between Algiers and Sétif.

In addition, this line is used by the regional trains Algiers - Béjaia and Algiers - M'Sila.

Limit speeds

The average speed on the whole line varies between 70 and 80 km/h, except between Bordj Bou Arreridj and Sétif where it exceeds 100 km/h.

Notes and references

1. The development of railways in Algeria (<https://translate.google.com/website?sl=auto&tl=en&hl=en&u=http://jean.salvano.perso.sfr.fr/Blida/train/Dev%2Bcarte.pdf>) [archive]
2. Commissioning of the El Achir tunnel. A work of more than 5,000 meters, Expression, June 2, 2002 (<https://translate.google.com/website?sl=auto&tl=en&hl=en&u=http://www.lexpressiondz.com/actualite/5727-Un-ouvrage-de-plus-de-5-000-m%25C3%25A8tres.html>) [archive]

See as well

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- [List of railway lines in Algeria](#)
- [History of Algerian Railways](#)



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