



## MTA Press Releases

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Press Release

June 5, 2008

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### LIRR Is Best Route to the Belmont Stakes and "Big Brown's" Run For the Triple Crown; Extra Train Service on Stakes Day, June 7

The potential for a Triple Crown winner in "Big Brown" is expected to be a big draw for racing fans to the Belmont Stakes on June 7 and the MTA Long Island Rail Road is ready. There will be additional trains to and from Belmont for this historic running of the Belmont Stakes. The LIRR will operate 18 trains, most direct from Penn Station, between 9:59 AM and 4:16 PM to Belmont Park. There will also be frequent westbound service back to Jamaica and Penn Station starting at 3:59 PM, continuing until 9 pm (see details below).

"We are delighted, once again, to be part of Belmont Park's history," said LIRR President Helena Williams. "Belmont Park is one of the crown jewels of Nassau County and the LIRR is the best way to get to the big race. You can avoid the hassle of parking and traffic. But we want to make sure everyone gets there safely, so plan ahead. Buy your LIRR tickets in advance and know that we will not leave without you on the return trip. There's plenty of time to make your train at the end of the race, so there is no need to rush for the exits."

The MTA Police will be enforcing a no alcohol policy on trains to Belmont Park. Bags and coolers are subject to search prior to boarding Belmont Park trains at Penn Station and at Jamaica Station. On Belmont Stakes Day, no alcoholic beverages of any kind will be permitted to be brought into Belmont Park.

#### Leaving the Park (after the Stakes race)

To ensure the safe and orderly boarding of LIRR trains, the MTA Police will employ a color-coded train queuing system to indicate approximate wait times. LIRR personnel will be assigned at key locations to assist customers. Announcements will provide customers with train departure information. Wait times can range from 15 minutes to 2 hours. Once inside the queuing area, customers can expect wait times of 15-to-60 minutes. Customers waiting to enter the queuing area can expect longer wait times for trains, possibly up to 2 hours.

Customers are encouraged to consider staying at Belmont for the two races following the Stakes race to avoid congestion at the LIRR Belmont station that is expected at the conclusion of the Stakes race. The LIRR will not leave without you. Trains will continue to depart from Belmont until 9 pm or when all customers are accommodated.

Please remember to be careful when boarding and exiting trains at Belmont.

Round trip LIRR Belmont package tickets should be purchased at ticket windows or from ticket machines prior to boarding the train. The round-trip fare from Penn Station is \$11; from Jamaica, \$8.00. The one-way fare from Penn Station and Woodside is \$6.00; from Jamaica, \$5.00. On Stakes Day, round-trip Belmont package tickets will not be sold on-board the train. Package tickets from Brooklyn and Woodside are also available with connections in Jamaica for trains to Belmont. Only Belmont Park tickets will be accepted for train service to and from Belmont Park – CityTicket, Monthly, Weekly and Ten-Trip Tickets are not valid on Belmont Park trains. Weekly and Monthly ticket holders can use their commuter tickets for travel to and from Jamaica, but must purchase a Belmont Park ticket prior to boarding at Jamaica to cover the fare between Belmont Park.

Round-trip fares from Long Island to Belmont, with a transfer at Jamaica are:

- Zone 3 (Rosedale, St. Albans, Queens Village, Hollis) -- \$8.00
- Zone 4 (Far Rockaway, Lynbrook, Hempstead, Mineola) -- \$9.75
- Zone 7 (Long Beach, Massapequa, Hicksville, Oyster Bay) -- \$11.50
- Zone 9 (Babylon, Deer Park, Huntington, Northport) -- \$14.50
- Zone 10 (Bay Shore, Sayville, Ronkonkoma, Patchogue, Port Jefferson) -- \$17.75

Belmont Park tickets are available for purchase from gray or blue Ticket Machines by pressing the "Getaways/Packages" button on the first screen, selecting "Belmont Park"; then paying with cash, ATM/debit or credit cards at both machine types and cash at gray machines.

Special admission prices are in effect for Belmont Stakes Day – general admission is \$10; clubhouse admission is \$20. The \$1 off grandstand admission will not apply for Stakes Day.

#### Belmont Stakes Service From Penn Station

- 9:59 AM, stopping at Jamaica 10:18, arriving Belmont 10:32 AM.
- 10:09 AM, stopping at Jamaica 10:31, arriving Belmont 10:46 AM.
- 10:29 AM, stopping at Jamaica 10:50, arriving Belmont 11:06 AM.
- 10:53 AM, stopping at Jamaica 11:13, arriving Belmont 11:30 AM.
- 11:01 AM, stopping at Jamaica 11:21, arriving Belmont 11:35 AM.
- 11:23 AM, stopping at Jamaica 11:42, arriving Belmont 11:56 AM.

- 11:43 AM, stopping at Jamaica 12:05, arriving Belmont 12:21 PM.
- 11:57 AM, stopping at Jamaica 12:17, arriving Belmont 12:31 PM.
- 12:23 PM, stopping at Jamaica 12:41, arriving Belmont 12:54 PM.
- 12:33 PM, stopping at Jamaica 12:52, arriving Belmont 1:06 PM.
- 12:43 PM, stopping at Jamaica 1:05, arriving Belmont 1:21 PM.
- 1:09 PM, stopping at Jamaica 1:32, arriving Belmont 1:45 PM.
- 1:33 PM, stopping at Jamaica 1:54, arriving Belmont 2:10 PM.
- 2:43 PM, stopping at Jamaica 3:07, arriving Belmont 3:21 PM.
- 2:55 PM, stopping at Jamaica 3:19, arriving Belmont 3:33 PM.
- 3:23 PM, stopping at Jamaica with 3:42 PM train, arriving Belmont 3:56 PM
- 3:37 PM, connecting at Jamaica with 4:08 PM train, arriving Belmont 4:21 PM
- 4:16 PM, connecting at Jamaica with 4:48 PM train, arriving Belmont 5:02 PM

Customers traveling from Woodside, Flatbush Avenue, Nostrand Avenue and East New York, as well as from stations on Long Island can connect with Belmont trains at Jamaica. Customers may consult the special LIRR Belmont Stakes timetable available at stations, or the LIRR's website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info) for full Belmont Stakes train schedules.

For the return trip, trains will depart Belmont beginning at 3:59 PM, then at 4:41 PM, 5:17 PM, 5:47 PM and then approximately every 15 minutes from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM to Jamaica, Brooklyn and Penn Station.

#### Accessibility

Belmont is a special event station and therefore services are limited. The station is not wheelchair accessible, and there are no elevators and only limited escalator service. It is necessary to use a staircase to and from most train platforms.

For additional information, racing fans can contact the LIRR's 24-hour Travel Information Center in New York City at 718-217-LIRR, in Suffolk County at 631-231-LIRR, or in Nassau County at 516-822-LIRR. The Travel Information Center's TDD number for the hearing impaired is 718-558-3022. Customers may also consult the LIRR's website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info). For information on races and admission to Belmont Park, please call 516-488-6000 ext 4306 or visit [www.nyra.com](http://www.nyra.com).