

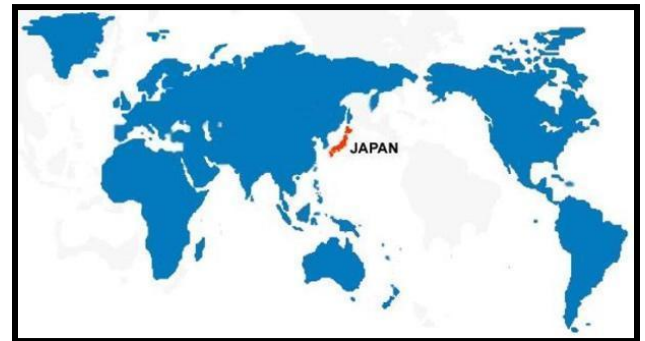
#1 Chūō Shinkansen



Location: Between Tokyo and Nagoya, Japan

Date of Opening: 2027

Operating Speed: 315 mph



Background:

- When the train is built it will be the world's longest floating track.
- It can carry over 88 million people each year.
- The train is called "Chou", which in Japanese means central because the train will go through the center of one of Japan's islands.
- The ride will only take 67 minutes to go from the big cities of Tokyo and Nagoya.

Pros:

- The Chūō Shinkansen will provide fast transportation to the thousands of people who travel daily between the two cities for work.
- The train will bring in money from tourists and inspire creation of new technologies.
- The train will go through an area with lots of mountains so 86% of the track will be in underground tunnels. Some people think that putting the train underground will mean less trees will be cut down and cause less noise pollution.
- Japan has lots of earthquakes. Since the train floats above the track it can survive the frequent large earthquakes that have destroyed other types of trains and train tracks.

Cons:

- Many people don't want the train to be built because it is very expensive.
- These people feel that it's not worth the cost because it's not much faster than the old train.
- For many people and cultures mountains are valuable, beautiful and provide hiking and nature activities.
- People are concerned that digging the tunnels for the train may pollute the Oi River—which is a major source of drinking water and water for farming.

#1 Train Card Vocabulary:

Technologies: New tools or devices

Tourists: People are called tourists when they travel to other places for fun

Noise Pollution: Excessive sounds/noises that can be harmful for our hearing as well as animals

Notes:

Benefits:

Issues:

Who and what is impacted?

#2 Kuala Lumpur-Singapore

Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to Singapore

Date of Opening: 2026

Operating Speed: 168 mph

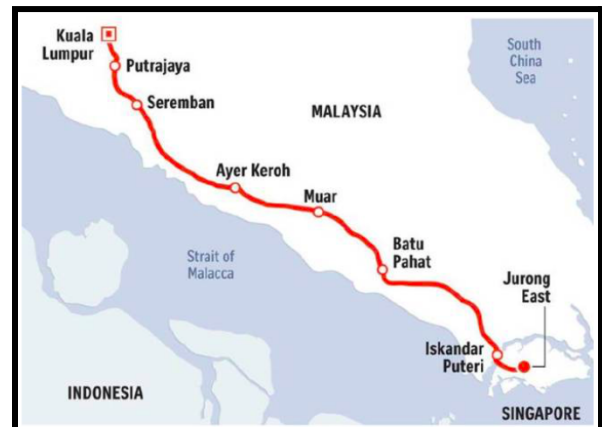
Background Information:

- This train should open in 2026 and when it does it will be the first floating train in the world to connect two different countries, Malaysia and Singapore.
- The train is being built because the current train system is not large enough to handle the thousands of people who go to Singapore from Malaysia to work each day.
- The construction of this train was paused in 2020 so that scientists and engineers could hear from different people on if the train should be built and make improvements to their plans.



Pros

- The current train trip can take between five and nine hours but the new train will take 90 minutes.
- Some people believe that building this train will help grow Malaysia's economy by providing more jobs and attracting new businesses.
- Some people think the train will help with climate change because people will not use cars as much.



Cons

- One worry is that this high-speed train will be very loud or cause accidents on tracks near cities.
- Others are worried that building the long track and bridge will destroy natural forests and waterways. Many feel that it is wrong to blow up mountains just for human gain.
- The project is very expensive. Two countries are sharing the cost but don't have enough money yet. Malaysia will have to stop other projects and borrow money to pay for the train.

#2 Train Card Vocabulary:

Economy: How money is made and spent in an area

Notes:

Benefits:

Issues:

Who and what is impacted?

#3 Shanghai Transrapid

Location: China

Date of Opening: 2004

Operating Speed: 268 mph

Background: Current Train

- This train is the first high-speed floating train in the world. It opened to the public in 2004.
- The train runs from Pudong Airport to Longyang Road, which is 19 miles long.
- At full speed, the train takes 7 minutes and 20 seconds to go 19 miles.
- It is the fastest commercial electrical train in the world.



Construction Plans for the Train

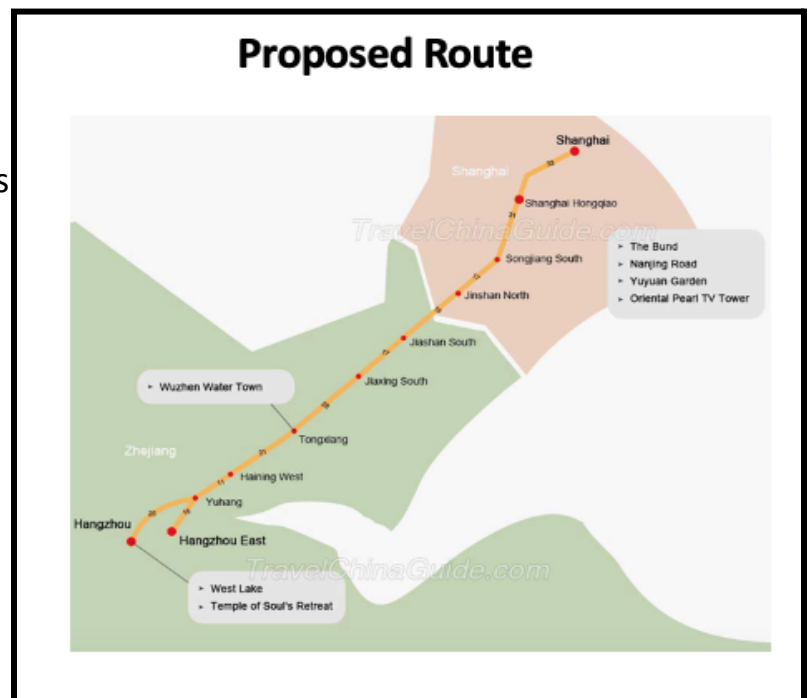
There are plans to extend the floating train route to go from Shanghai to Hangzhou which is 108 miles. That means lengthening it by 89 more miles! There are 20.38 million people in Shanghai and 10.36 million people in Hangzhou. This means the train will connect two large cities.

Pros:

- The train's speed would be 450 m.p.h. and it would take 27 minutes to travel between the two cities.
- It will be quicker to go to cities along the 108 mile distance. People will save time traveling and will have more time to do other things.
- Also, other transportation will be used less. This will reduce the pollution and traffic.

Cons

- The cost of the train is expected to be around 5 billion dollars.
- One worry that the people have is that the noise from the train would be very loud.
- The distance between the trains and their homes is only 22.5 meters away (a little less than a basketball court), but other countries say that the houses should be 300 meters away (length of 3 football fields).
- Another worry that people have is that there may be pollution from the train.
- The area it will be built will also have impacts on nature and communities.



#3 Train Card Vocabulary:

Route: A path something takes to get somewhere.

Notes

Benefits:

Issues:

Who and what is impacted?

#4 Incheon

Location: South Korea

Date of Opening: 2016

Operating Speed: 68 mph



Background:

The train is on Yeongjong-Yongyu Island. It connects the airport to 6 different stops and is 3.8 miles long. The Incheon Airport is a very important place because about 73% of all people visiting South Korea come through this airport.

Construction Plans for the Train:

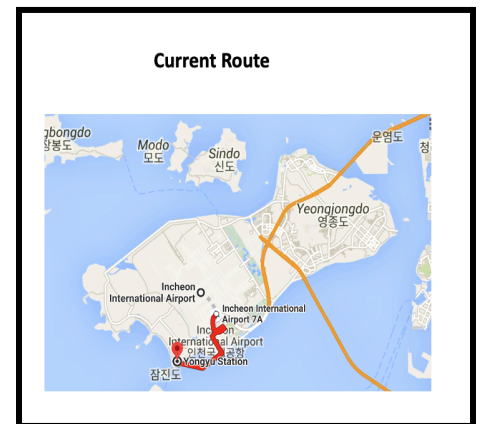
There are plans to build 2 additional routes for floating trains to increase travel and tourism around Yeongjong-Yongyu Island.

Route 1:

- Add 6 miles to train route, with 5 extra stations, including Yongyoo-Muui Tourist Complex.
- This stop is very important because it has lots of businesses, entertainment and tourism that bring money into South Korea.

Route 2:

- Adds 24 miles, with 16 extra stations.
- These stations loop around the island and connect back to the airport. This will help people get to the different cities around the island.



Cons:

- Cost: Construction of each route is expensive. The first route was supposed to be done by 2014 but they didn't have enough money to finish.
- The construction of the train routes will impact the environment. Yeongjong-Yongyu Island has many small villages, farms, and beaches.
- Some people are moving out of their homes because they are too close to the floating train. People don't want to be next to the noise and traffic from the train.

#4 Train Card Vocabulary:

Route: A path something takes to get somewhere.

Tourism: The money that places get from people when they travel.

Notes

Benefits:

Issues:

Who and what is impacted?
