



## FAQs - M3 Weekend Closure

### What time, when and why are there weekend closures?

As part of the construction of the new junction 9 roundabout and bridge supports, we will be installing steel beams on the northern side of the roundabout, which will form the new bridge deck. To carry out this work a full weekend closure of the M3 in both directions between junctions 8 and 9 is required: These are planned for:

- **9pm Friday 30 January to 6am Monday 2 February 2026: Northbound bridge beam installation**
- **9pm Friday 13 February to 6am Monday 16 February 2026: Southbound bridge beam installation**

\* In case of unforeseen circumstances, the following contingency weekends have been scheduled:

- Friday 27 February to Monday 2 March 2026
- Saturday 28 February to Sunday 1 March 2026
- Friday 13 March to Monday 16 March 2026

For the latest closure and diversion information, it's best to visit our website [M3 junction 9 improvements - National Highways](#).

### What is the diversion route?

For local diversion routes, please refer to the following link: [M3 junction 9 to 8 northbound and southbound diversion](#).

If you are operating large vehicles, lorries, or freight travelling to and from the coast, please use the strategic diversion in place via the A3.

## **What are you doing to prevent traffic using local and country routes that are not the official diversion?**

---

When we have overnight or weekend closures, we always encourage all motorists to use the approved signed diversion routes.

We are aware some drivers will use satnavs which can and will divert off the routes we use. We ask that satnavs are switched off and our diversion routes are followed.

There are several roads in the area that are not suitable for diversions, so please do follow the signs.

It is never our intention to cause disruption to our customers, and we do apologise for the inconvenience this closure may cause to your journey over the weekend.

Please plan ahead and allow extra time for your journey.

You can check the latest information on our [daily closures page](#) or find live travel information on our [Traffic England](#) page. Our travel alerts give details of live incidents on our network.

## **When will the new roundabout be open?**

---

We expect that the new roundabout will be operational during summer 2026.

Please note that dates and timeframes may be subject to change.

## **Will you be working 24/7?**

---

Yes, we will be working on a 24-hour basis to ensure the beams are installed safely and successfully and that the M3 re-opens on time.

## **Can I watch the new bridge beams being installed?**

---

No, the areas will be active construction sites. For safety reasons, the work will take place within a restricted area. There will be no public viewing points.

We ask that the local community do not try to approach the works areas or bridges to view the work.

### **Will there be construction traffic on local roads during this time?**

There should be no need for construction traffic to use the local roads or the diversion routes.

### **Is there going to be noise?**

We do anticipate the bridge beam installation work will create some noise, which will be different to what you may be used to hearing.

We recognise the impact this type of work may have on residents, especially overnight, and we will do all we can to keep disruption to a minimum.

### **Is there a danger to nearby properties?**

No, we do not anticipate any impact on any properties in the area.

### **Am I entitled to compensation?**

No, National Highways is unable to provide monetary compensation. While we appreciate the weekend closure will cause some disruption the work is considered a statutory duty on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport as covered under section 278 of the Highways Act 1980.

There is no obligation or requirement to pay compensation for disruption, inconvenience, costs, or loss of business caused by roadworks.

### **What if the beam installation work overruns?**

We do not anticipate any major issues that will impact these works. The detailed plans have hold points at stages throughout the works. This means that at regular points throughout the works an assessment will be made as to whether the works are on schedule and can continue or whether the works need to be halted to ensure the motorway can be reopened on time.

## Will there be more closures in the future?

---

Yes, this is one of a series of weekend closures needed for the overall project. Further works on the project will require future weekend closures that are inclusive of but not limited to: Installation of the southern bridge beams and the demolition of the original roundabout.

## More information

---

For details on upcoming closure information please visit our website [M3 junction 9 improvements - National Highways](#).

[Subscribe to our newsletter](#)

Alternatively, if you have any questions, you can contact us by email via [m3junction9improvements@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:m3junction9improvements@nationalhighways.co.uk) or by calling the National Highways customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

You can also follow us Facebook [www.facebook.com/HighwaysSEast](https://www.facebook.com/HighwaysSEast) and X (Twitter) [@HighwaysSEast](#)