

This year, England's **National Railway Museum** will relaunch one of history's most famous locomotives – the **Flying Scotsman**. Built in 1923, it was the first train to clock 100mph on one of its Edinburgh to London runs in 1934, carrying up to 8 tons of coal and 5,000 gallons of water, on what was, until the 1930s, the world's longest nonstop rail service.

Retired by British Rail in 1963 after a working life covering two million miles, the engine went on to tour the United States and Australia (where it recorded the longest ever non-stop by a steam train, traveling 422 miles) under the ownership of various wealthy individuals. It returned to public ownership in 2004 after having received donations from the public, Sir Richard Branson, and a grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, and since 2006 has undergone a full-scale restoration to the tune of £4.2million (\$6.1million).



The Flying Scotsman Getty