

# RML 2310

## ABOUT THIS BUS

**New:** September 1965

**Number plate:** CUV 310C

**Seats:** 72

**Height:** 14 feet 6 inches (4.42m)

This "Routemaster Lengthened" (RML) bus retains its original body, since it (unusually) has never been swapped.

The vehicle was initially painted in the Country Area green livery of **London Transport** (LT), one of 100 such RMLs. It was configured without automatic gears, unlike Central area red examples. Based at Godstone garage in Surrey, it worked routes 409 to 411 (around Reigate, Croydon and Bromley), powered by an AEC engine.



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It was transferred to **London Country** (LC) on the first day of 1970, after which the centre band was painted yellow instead of cream. After a 1972 overhaul at Aldenham works in Hertfordshire, it was repainted in an experimental lighter shade of green. It was based at High Wycombe, then Windsor, garage during this time.

In 1974, it acquired the drab green of the National Bus Company, who owned LC, as seen in the photo (left, on route 339 Harlow - Warley/Brentwood).

After working from Harlow garage for most of 1977, it was transferred back to **LT** in December, overhauled and painted red. Service from Upton Park garage (East London) started in 1978, where it mostly stayed for 7 years. (e.g. route 15 [Ladbroke Grove- City- East Ham]). In 1985 route branding on routes 15A & 15 (formerly 15 & 23) entailed a yellow roof line and centre band on the front of buses.

After 18 months at Leyton garage, it joined the ranks at Holloway garage in 1987, running on routes 10 (Hammersmith to Kings Cross) and 139 (Trafalgar Square to West Hampstead/ Golders Green). London Northern sector.

A Cummins C series engine was installed in 1992. Refurbishment in 1993 included replacement of the old light bulbs with fluorescent tubes, carpeted interior walls, a new heating system and refurbished seats.

Under LT privatisation, **MTL London** took ownership from October 1994. By 1995, the bus was painted red without any centre band. Routemaster operation finished on route 139 in March 1998 (when the picture, right, was taken).

In August, MTL London was taken over by **Metroline**. '2310 was repainted corporate red with blue skirting in 2000. In



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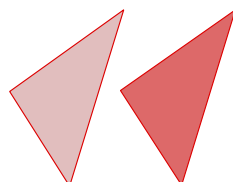
February 2003, route 390 replaced the northern half of former route 10 (Marble Arch to Archway). In March the bus became based from Kings Cross (an outstation of Holloway garage, although maintenance was still done at Holloway).

**Timebus** bought the bus in April 2004, for private hires. It was painted in our red (with grey stripes) livery, extensively re-panelled and fitted with a public address system. If you would like to hire any 1940s-1960s era London bus, please contact us.



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