

ABOUT THIS BUS

New: January 1966

Number plate: JJD 404D

Seats: 72

Height: 14 feet 6 inches (4.42m)

RML 2404

This "Routemaster Lengthened" (RML) double decker was delivered to **London Transport's** Central area, painted London red, fitted with an AEC engine.

Its career began at West Ham garage on routes 5 and 249, staying for over 6 years. During the 1970s, it was allocated to both Chalk Farm and Muswell Hill garages (for 3 years each) finishing off with a year at Bow garage and an overseas trip to Douai, France. In the 1980s it was to be found working from Cricklewood then Willesden garages. At the latter it mostly worked on route 6 (as photo, right).



© K. Grimes

There were three overhauls (the first two occasions involved fitting the vehicle with different bodies) at Aldenham Works, Hertfordshire in 1973, 1979 and 1984. The last body fitted was number B2302.

In 1993 it was fitted with a Cummins C series engine and refurbishment (by TBP Vehicles of Birmingham) included replacement of the light bulbs with fluorescent tubes, carpeted interior downstairs walls, a new heating system and recovered seats.



© C. Lloyd

It was allocated to route 13 (Golders Green - Aldwych) from late 1993 to 2001. It was leased during this time firstly by independent company **BTS Coaches** of Borehamwood, although still actually owned by London Buses (whereas most Routemasters were sold instead). It was painted in a poppy red livery (as photo, left). The route was later taken over by **London Sovereign**, running from Edgware garage.

It was then upgraded to a brand new Cummins B series Euro 2

rated engine, with an Allison transmission and an exhaust catalyst giving much reduced emissions.

In 2001 RML 2404 found itself on lease to **London United**, and painted back in London red, at Shepherds Bush garage, on route 9 (Aldwych - Hammersmith), as seen in the picture (right). It was withdrawn from service in August 2004.



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Timebus purchased the vehicle from Transport for London storage at Fulwell garage in February 2005, for continued storage, and plans to make it available for sale in March 2017.

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