

# GBRf extend contract with Belmond for Royal Scotsman, A Belmond Train, Scotland's haulage

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GB Railfreight (GBRf) has announced that it has reached an agreement with Belmond to extend its existing contract to haul Belmond's prestigious Royal Scotsman luxury sleeper train.

The partnership will last for an additional five years and will see GBRf continue to operate the train's luxury journeys through spectacular Scottish scenery. The train holds up to forty guests and offers two, three and four night routes through the heart of the Highlands.

Today's announcement is continued proof of GBRf's strength and resilience as one of the country's leading transport companies. Despite the disruption due to COVID-19, GB Railfreight has continued to provide first class services to all its commercial partners and is seeing business flourish despite the uncertain economic outlook.

Gary Franklin, Vice President, Trains & Cruises, Belmond, said: "We are pleased to continue our relationship with GBRf who have been excellent partners since 2015. We look forward to commencing the

Royal Scotsman's operations again in 2021 – offering truly exceptional journeys through the heart of Scotland.”

John Smith, Managing Director at GB Railfreight, said: “We are absolutely delighted to be signing this contract extension with Belmond. As one of the UK's preeminent luxury travel brands, we are honoured to continue working with them. Our existing relationship goes back to 2015 and to see it continue is a sign of how well we have cooperated over the years.

“This is also a good sign given the economic uncertainty businesses face in light of the third national lockdown in England. Rail freight has been one of the drivers of economic activity throughout this period and will be needed now more than ever to ensure we recovery quickly. By strengthening partnerships such as the one with Belmond we are doing our bit to put our economy back on track.”

*Photo credit: GB Railfreight*