



## 2018 New York to Paris - Celebrating the 110th Anniversary

### February 2018 Update

February 12, 2018 marks an important anniversary in automotive history. It was 110 years ago a race began which changed the perception of the "horseless carriage" from a novelty for the rich, to a viable means of transportation for everyone. The [1908 New York to Paris Race](#) was considered so impossible, Henry Ford and Ransom Olds declined to enter. However, when President Teddy Roosevelt heard French, Italian and German Teams were going to race from Times Square to the Eiffel Tower there would be an American Team!

Just days before the February 1908 start the Buffalo built "Thomas Flyer" was entered. The race was an epic challenge of men and machines with three of the six entries actually making it to Paris. More importantly, everyone survived the competition in spite of blizzards, bandits, bad food and no roads along the 22,000 mile route. 169 days after the start, the American Thomas Flyer entered Paris and it's driver George Schuster won the race with records that still stand today. The legendary victory went on to inspire the 1965 movie "The Great Race" starring Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, Natalie Wood and Peter Falk. George has since been inducted into the [Automotive Hall of Fame](#), and the Thomas Flyer has been entered into the [National Historic Vehicle Register](#).

In celebration of the victory, a group of intrepid vintage car enthusiast will be making the [2018 New York to Paris](#) run along the original route. The itinerary is divided into two legs. The first will be the US beginning June 19, 2018 in New York heading west to Oakland/San Francisco arriving July 5. The second Asia/Europe leg has been postponed. As you know from recent reports the Asia situation (particularly North Korea), has become unstable and necessitated postponing that leg until events improve.

There will be special planned stops along the way, including Buffalo, NY with a joint start at the [Pierce Arrow Museum](#) alongside the [2018 Great Racers](#) They will be headed east for Halifax,NS. while we head west for San Francisco. Next Cheyenne, WY with a special lunch at the [Plains Hotel](#) . Then it's on to the [Cheyenne Depot](#) where the Union Pacific Railroad played a key role in helping the Flyer cross the upper mid-west. As we continue west a visit to the [National Automobile Museum](#) home of the restored [Thomas Flyer](#), and on to [Death Valley National Park](#) with a grand finish in San Francisco. These are just some of the places we will be visiting along the way with spectacular views, historic venues and some great people.

This is not a race, but rather a relaxed tour covering an average of about 300 miles per day with three days of rest and recreation mixed in. There are no "entry fees", it's just your own expenses along the way! Vintage car enthusiast, and history buffs are welcome from start to finish or may join in for any part of the trip. A great way to cross the continent and celebrate the 110th Anniversary of the legendary race, while making some history of your own in your favorite automobile!

Complete details including the US itinerary can be found by visiting: [2018nytoparis.com/news.html](http://2018nytoparis.com/news.html)